

The failure to regulate in the interests of people is w...

Published: January 15, 2026, 11:30 am

Inflation data is out this morning. As everyone who knew anything already knew would happen, inflation has increased. The [Office for National Statistics has said](#):

- * The Consumer Prices Index (CPI) rose by 2.3% in the 12 months to October 2024, up from 1.7% in September.
- * On a monthly basis, CPI rose by 0.6% in October 2024, up from being little changed in October 2023.
- * The largest upward contribution to the monthly change in both CPIH and CPI annual rates came from housing and household services, mainly because of electricity and gas prices; the largest offsetting downward contribution came from recreation and culture.
- * Core CPI (excluding energy, food, alcohol and tobacco) rose by 3.3% in the 12 months to October 2024, up from 3.2% in September; the CPI goods annual rate rose from negative 1.4% to negative 0.3%, while the CPI services annual rate rose from 4.9% to 5.0%.

So, the government's failure to regulate gas and electricity prices in a way that guarantees massive and exploitative profits for the energy companies at cost to the people of this country is now leading to inflation and, in turn, will result in interest costs remaining high for too long, meaning that the misery will go on, and on, and on.

What we have is a system designed to perpetuate that misery as a consequence of failed regulation that is totally informed by neoliberal dogma, and apparently, no one has the wit to break this cycle.