CONSTRUCTION PRICE INDEX

(Cost Price Index for the construction of a single storey house - Input Price Index)

2nd Quarter 1998

1. Introduction

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents the monthly Construction Price Index (residential) for the 2nd quarter of 1998. An overview of the evolution of the index since July 1997 is also included. A detailed description of the model dwelling used for constructing the index is given at the Annex. It is to be noted that the figures in the report are presented at one decimal place although they have been calculated to many decimal places.

2. Changes in the Construction Price Index

At the end of June 1998 the Construction Price Index stood at 115.6 compared to 115.3 at the end of March 1998. It is observed that no change has been registered for the month of April. The index increased marginally to reach 115.5 in May and 115.6 in June.

The increase of 0.2% noted in May is attributable mainly to increases in the prices of panel lock, stop cork, brass tap and sand. Higher costs of some electrical items and manhole cover used for drainage caused the index to rise by 0.1 % in June.

The index for each month of the second quarter compared with the corresponding month of 1997 shows increases of 2.8% for April, 3.0% for May and 3.3% for June.
3. Changes by input categories

Movements by input categories are shown in Tables A1 to A5 and Chart 1. No change was observed in the “Labour”, “Hire of Plant” and “Transport” categories during the 2nd quarter of 1998. The index for the “Materials” category which remained unchanged for the month of April (116.1), moved up to reach 116.6 in May and 116.7 in June.

The increase in May is attributable mainly to higher prices of panel lock (10%), stop cork (5%), brass tap (5%) and sand (2%). The rise in June was the result of a 10 - 12% increase in the prices of some electrical items and a 10% increase in the price of manhole cover used for drainage.

The net contributions of the input categories that have affected the index from month to month during the period July 1997 to June 1998 are shown in Table A4.

Quarterly averages of the monthly indices by input categories and the percentage change from quarter to quarter are shown in Table A5.

4. Changes by work categories

Changes by work categories are shown in Tables B1 to B5. There has been no change for the month of April. In May, the index for the work category “Steel windows and doors” increased by 2.7% due to higher prices of panel lock. In the same month, increases in the prices of stop cork and brass tap caused the index for “Plumbing/Sanitary Installation” to rise by 0.4%, while an increase in the cost of sand moved up the index for the work category “Bed and screed to floor and roof” by 0.3%. 
Higher prices of some electrical items in June caused the index for "Electrical Installation" to increase by 0.3%. During the same month the index for the work category "Drainage" moved up by 1.1% due to a rise in the cost of manhole cover.

Table B4 shows the net contributions of the work categories that have affected the index from month to month during the period from July 1997 to June 1998.

Quarterly averages of the monthly indices by work categories and the percentage change from quarter to quarter are shown in Table B5.

Central Statistical Office
Ministry of Economic Development and Regional Cooperation
Port Louis

August 1998
### Cost Price Index for the construction of a single storey house (Input Price Index)
(Base: 4th Quarter 1993 = 100)

Table A1: Monthly sub-indices by input categories, July 1997 - June 1998

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<th>1998</th>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jul</td>
<td>Aug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LABOUR</strong></td>
<td>32.8</td>
<td>114.6</td>
<td>114.6</td>
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<td><strong>HIRE OF PLANT</strong></td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>104.0</td>
<td>104.0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MATERIALS:</strong></td>
<td>58.7</td>
<td>113.9</td>
<td>114.8</td>
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<td>102.9</td>
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<td>12.0</td>
<td>107.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sand</td>
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<td>108.0</td>
<td>110.5</td>
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<td>125.8</td>
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<td>126.3</td>
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<td>108.7</td>
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<td>(b) Joinery</td>
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<td>108.0</td>
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<td>115.6</td>
<td>115.9</td>
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<td>115.0</td>
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<td>113.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paint</td>
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<td>130.4</td>
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<td>Sanitary installation</td>
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### Cost Price Index for the construction of a single storey house (Input Price Index)

(Base: 4th Quarter 1993 = 100)

Table A2: Percentage change from previous month by input categories, July 1997 - June 1998

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<th>Input Categories</th>
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<td>Jul to Aug</td>
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<td>Hire of Plant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cement</td>
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<td>0.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sand</td>
<td>5.3</td>
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<td>2.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aggregates</td>
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<td>Steel sections &amp; ironmongery for metal</td>
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<td>4.5</td>
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</table>

OVERALL CHANGE                         | 1.8    | 0.4        | 0.4        | 0.1        | 0.0        | 0.1        |            |                    | 0.0        | 0.1        | 0.0        | 0.0        | 0.2        | 0.1
Cost Price Index for the construction of a single storey house (Input Price Index)  
(Base: 4th Quarter 1993 = 100)

Table A3: Percentage change from corresponding month of previous year by input categories, January 1998 to June 1998

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Input Categories</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<th>Feb 97 to Feb-98</th>
<th>Mar 97 to Mar-98</th>
<th>Apr 97 to Apr-98</th>
<th>May 97 to May-98</th>
<th>Jun 97 to Jun-98</th>
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<td>(b) Joinery</td>
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<td>Glass,putty and oil</td>
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</table>

Table A4: Net contributions of input categories that have affected the index from month to month, July 1997 - June 1998

Cost Price Index for the construction of a single storey house (Input Price Index)
(Base : 4th Quarter 1993 = 100)
### Cost Price Index for the construction of a single storey house (Input Price Index)
(Base: 4th Quarter 1993 = 100)

Table A5: Quarterly average of monthly indices and percentage changes by input categories, July 1997 - June 1998

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Input Categories</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<th>% change from previous quarter</th>
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<td>3rd Qr</td>
<td>4th Qr</td>
<td>1st Qr</td>
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<td>114.6</td>
<td>114.6</td>
</tr>
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<td>4.0</td>
<td>104.0</td>
<td>104.0</td>
<td>104.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials:</td>
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<td>114.7</td>
<td>115.8</td>
<td>116.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hardcore (rempillage)</td>
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<td>102.9</td>
<td>102.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cement</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>107.3</td>
<td>107.3</td>
<td>107.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sand</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>109.7</td>
<td>110.5</td>
<td>110.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aggregate</td>
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Chart 1: Monthly sub-indices for the main input categories, July 1996 - June 1998
## Cost Price Index for the construction of a single storey house (Input Price Index)
(Base: 4th Quarter 1993 = 100)

Table B1: Monthly sub-indices by work categories, July 1997 - June 1998

<table>
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<th>1998</th>
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<td>Sept</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>Feb</td>
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<td>Apr</td>
<td>May</td>
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<td>&amp; disposal, hardcore filling</td>
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Cost Price Index for the construction of a single storey house (Input Price Index)  
(Base: 4th Quarter 1993 = 100)

Table B2: Percentage change from previous month by work categories, July 1997 - June 1998

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<th>Work Categories</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Jun to</td>
<td>Dec-97 to Jan 98</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jul</td>
<td>Jul</td>
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<td>0.3</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Temporary works</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Site preparation, excavation &amp; disposal, hardcore filling</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Concrete</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Reinforcement</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>0.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Formwork (coffrage)</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>0.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Blockwork</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2.4</td>
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<td>9. Softwood joinery</td>
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<td>10. Ironmongery</td>
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<td>0.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Steel windows &amp; doors</td>
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<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Rendering to wall/ceiling (crepissage)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Bed &amp; screed to floor/roof</td>
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<td>15. Glazing</td>
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<td>1.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>16. Painting</td>
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<tr>
<td>17. Plumbing/sanitary inst.</td>
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<td>1.2</td>
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<td>18. Electrical installation</td>
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<td>19. Drainage</td>
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<td>1.9</td>
<td>0.7</td>
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</table>

OVERALL CHANGE  

| 1.8 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
Cost Price Index for the construction of a single storey house (Input Price Index)
(Base: 4th Quarter 1993 = 100)

Table B3: Percentage change from corresponding month of previous year by work categories, January 1998 to June 1998

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<th>Feb 97 to Feb-98</th>
<th>Mar 97 to Mar-98</th>
<th>Apr 97 to Apr-98</th>
<th>May 97 to May-98</th>
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<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.4</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>4. Site preparation, excavation &amp; disposal, hardcore filling</td>
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<td>3.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<td>7. Formwork (coffrage)</td>
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<td>1.9</td>
<td>1.9</td>
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Cost Price Index for the construction of a single storey house (Input Price Index)  
(Base : 4th Quarter 1993 = 100)

Table B4 : Net contributions of work categories that have affected the index from month to month, July 1997 - June 1998

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work Categories</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>1998</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jun to Sep to Oct to Nov to Dec</td>
<td>Dec to Jan to Feb to Mar to Apr to May to Jun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Setting up</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>+0.03 +0.01 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Setting out</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>+0.01 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Temporary works</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>+0.01 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Site preparation, excavation &amp; disposal, hardcore filling</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>+0.17 +0.01 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Concrete</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>+0.51 +0.20 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Reinforcement</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>+0.18 0.00 +0.24 0.00 -0.02</td>
<td>0.00 +0.02 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Formwork (coffrage)</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>+0.16 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Blockwork</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>+0.13 +0.21 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Softwood joinery</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>+0.03 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Ironmongery</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>+0.01 0.00 0.00 0.00 +0.02</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Steel windows &amp; doors</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>+0.03 +0.02 +0.16 +0.05 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 +0.03 0.00 0.00 +0.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Rendering to wall/ceiling (crepisage)</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>+0.32 +0.02 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 +0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Bed &amp; screed to floor/roof</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>+0.08 +0.02 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 +0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Tiling</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>+0.03 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Glazing</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>+0.02 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Painting</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>+0.10 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 +0.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Plumbing/sanitary inst.</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>+0.08 0.00 +0.01 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 +0.02 0.00 0.00 +0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Electrical installation</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>+0.08 0.00 0.00 +0.05 0.00 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 +0.01 0.00 0.00 0.00 +0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Drainage</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>+0.06 +0.02 0.00 +0.02 +0.01 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 +0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>+2.04 +0.51 +0.41 +0.12 +0.02 +0.15</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.00 +0.08 0.00 0.00 +0.26 +0.06</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cost Price Index for the construction of a single storey house (Input Price Index)  
(Base: 4th Quarter 1993 = 100)

Table B5: Quarterly average of monthly indices and percentage changes by work categories, July 1997 - June 1998

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work Categories</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Quarterly average</th>
<th>% change from previous quarter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Setting up</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>119.1 119.2</td>
<td>119.3 119.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Setting out</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>114.4 114.4</td>
<td>114.4 114.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Temporary works</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>113.9 113.9</td>
<td>113.9 113.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Site preparation, excavation &amp; disposal, hardcore filling</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>111.2 111.3</td>
<td>111.3 111.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Concrete</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>113.0 113.4</td>
<td>113.4 113.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Reinforcement</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>119.5 121.3</td>
<td>121.4 121.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Formwork (coffrage)</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>110.3 110.3</td>
<td>110.4 110.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Blockwork</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>118.9 119.8</td>
<td>119.8 119.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Softwood joinery</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>109.1 109.1</td>
<td>109.1 109.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Ironmongery</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>116.0 116.6</td>
<td>117.3 117.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Steel windows &amp; doors</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>116.8 119.7</td>
<td>120.1 122.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Rendering to wall/ceiling (crepissage)</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>112.3 112.3</td>
<td>112.3 112.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Bed &amp; screed to floor/roof</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>110.2 110.3</td>
<td>110.3 110.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Tiling</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>114.9 115.3</td>
<td>116.1 116.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Glazing</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>114.3 114.3</td>
<td>114.3 114.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Painting</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>121.9 122.9</td>
<td>124.8 124.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Plumbing/sanitary inst.</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>116.3 115.4</td>
<td>115.6 116.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Electrical installation</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>116.0 116.9</td>
<td>117.1 117.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Drainage</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>112.8 114.2</td>
<td>114.3 114.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall index and change</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>114.5 115.1</strong></td>
<td><strong>115.3 115.5</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description of the model used for establishing the Construction Price Index

The model used is a single storey (ground floor) detached house of 108.75 square metres (1,171 square feet) in floor area measured at plinth level to the external face of the external walls.

It comprises two bedrooms, a living-dining room, a kitchen, w.c. and bathroom. The building has concrete block walls, reinforced concrete flat roof, internal flush plywood doors, glazed metal openings, screeded floor and roof, tiling to floor and walls of w.c. and bathroom and kitchen worktop; the ceilings and walls are rendered and painted both internally and externally. Plumbing, sanitary installation and electrical installation are included as well as drainage which is to be connected to the sewerage system. Site works are restricted to spreading and levelling surplus excavated material around the site.

The Index excludes the cost of the building permit and the draughtman's fee; these two items represent 0.2% and 1.0% of the total cost respectively.

It is assumed that although the house is not constructed by a contractor, the client has recourse to the services of a foreman.