



## Cyclone delayed CPI shows 2.3 percent increase for Tokelau

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**Press Release: Tokelau National Statistics Office**

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The consumer price index (CPI) rose 2.3 percent for the December 2012 quarter, the Tokelau National Statistics Office said today.

“The increase in the CPI reflects higher food and non-alcoholic beverage prices, higher miscellaneous goods and services prices, and higher transport prices,” National Statistician Kele Lui said.

“These increases were partially countered by lower alcoholic beverages and tobacco prices, particularly cheaper spirits.”

Prices for food and non-alcoholic beverages rose 5.3 percent in the December 2012 quarter, reflecting higher prices for lamb and mutton (up 17.3 percent).

“Tokelau sources many of its meat products from either New Zealand, or Samoa,” said Mr Lui. “A change in the origin of the lamb and mutton sold in Tokelau can have a significant influence on its price.”

In the December 2012 quarter, prices were lower for washing powder (down 38.3 percent), spirits (down 7.5 percent), and eggs (down 21.9 percent).

The CPI measures the rate of price change of goods and services purchased by Tokelau households.

Tokelau’s second ever CPI release had to be delayed because of the significant damage caused to the Tokelau Apia Liaison Office by Cyclone Evan.

“While it was disappointing to delay our second ever release, ensuring the successful transfer from our flooded office to the new office in the Samoa National Provident Fund Plaza was the primary objective of the Tokelau Government,” said Mr Lui.

Further information on the CPI, including tables and technical notes, is available from <http://TokelauNSO.tk>

### Ends

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