March 2018 Quarter CPI Figures Released

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The Australian Bureau of Statistics released the Consumer Price Index figures for the March 2018 quarter today (for the period 1 January 2018 to 31 March 2018).

Both landlords and tenants may wish to:

- check their leases to see whether a CPI rent review is due using the March quarter CPI; and
- if a rent review is due, apply the correct Index number for that review.

We highlight the key areas of interest for landlords and tenants.

Key areas of interest

All Groups - Brisbane

The new All Groups Index number for Brisbane for the March 2018 quarter is 112.40. The Index number for the March 2017 quarter was 110.5, so the new Index number represents an increase of 1.7% over the corresponding quarter for the previous year.

All Groups - Perth

The new All Groups Index number for Perth for the March 2018 quarter is 110.00. The Index number for the March 2017 quarter was 109.0, so the new Index number represents an increase of 0.9% over the corresponding quarter for the previous year.

All Groups - Weighted average of eight capital cities

The new All Groups weighted average Index number for the eight capital cities for the March 2018 quarter is 112.6. The weighted average Index number for the March 2017 quarter was 110.5, so the new Index number represents an increase of 1.9% over the corresponding quarter for the previous year.

All Groups - Capital cities comparison

At the All Groups level, the CPI rose in all capital cities during the March 2018 quarter when compared to the March 2017 quarter. Canberra recorded the largest increase in that regard (2.4%) closely followed by Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney (2.3%, 2.2% and 2.1% respectively), while the increases for the other capital cities ranged between 0.9% to 2.0%.

A summary of the percentage changes for the capital cities is listed below:

City	Index for March 2017	Index for March 2018	Percent change
Sydney	111.3	113.6	2.1
Melbourne	110.9	113.3	2.2
Brisbane	110.5	112.4	1.7
Adelaide	109.1	111.6	2.3

City	Index for March 2017	Index for March 2018	Percent change
Perth	109.0	110.0	0.9
Hobart	108.9	111.1	2.0
Darwin	108.5	109.7	1.1
Canberra	108.6	111.2	2.4

A detailed breakdown of CPI figures is available at the <u>Australian Bureau of Statistics website</u>.

For more information or discussion about applying CPI figures to your leases, please contact HopgoodGanim Lawyers' Property team.

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