



MARKET OVERVIEW AND THE VIEW ON THE GROUND

- Despite what the official house price growth data is indicating, the housing market in 2019 has actually been more positive than much of last year. We have seen an upturn in activity across the board with an increase in more serious buyers, particularly following a very cautious 2018. Vendors are also more realistic in their pricing which has now stabilised and in some cases has resulted in some competitive bidding which we have not seen for quite some time in this market.
- A similar sentiment which we have seen in many of our other regional locations also abounds across Cambridge so far this year. After trying to 'wait out' Brexit, purchasers are now heading back into the market as Brexit worries cannot last forever and they are growing tired of waiting. Therefore we have seen more deals crossing the line as confidence returns and buyers know they will be in the home for a decade or more. This has had a knock-on effect, with slightly more properties coming onto the market this year as cautious vendors regain confidence knowing that they cannot put lives and moves on hold for much longer.
- The lettings market in Cambridge has recently been affected by increased legislation and financial regulations and as such we have seen investors and private landlords leaving the sector. The result, while being a really busy 2019 to date, there have been fewer lettings compared with the same time last year.
- Lettings activity has been most prevalent in town, although the villages around Cambridge are becoming increasingly popular rental destinations. Activity in the upper-end of the market (£1,600 pcm +) has been particularly strong this year as demand for high-end, highly specified units continues. We have seen some rents already increasing across the area as landlords factor in the ban on some agency fees which came into effect 1 June.

Figure 1 House price index

Cambridge / South Cambridgeshire
England & Wales / Base

Annual House Price Index (Base = Jan 2009, 100)

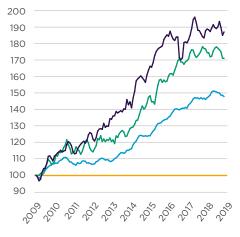
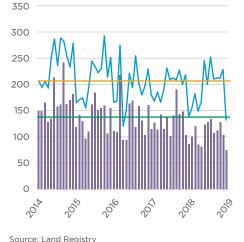


Figure 2 Monthly sales volumes

Cambridge monthly transactions / Cambridge long-term average / South Cambridge monthly transactions / South Cambridge long-term average Monthly transaction volumes



Source: Land Registry

in (O)

Figure 3 Forecasts

		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	5 year growth
İ	Population (thousands)	124.5	124.4	124.1	124.0	124.0	-0.4%
Â	Households (thousands)	44.4	44.1	43.9	43.9	43.9	-1.0%
Frenters	Average household size	2.80	2.82	2.83	2.82	2.82	
ρ	Unemployment rate (%)	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	
E	GVA (%)	1.4	1.6	1.9	1.9	1.9	

Sources: ONS (2016-based forecasts), Experian (March 2019) Note: Data refers to Cambridgeshire

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UK REGIONAL RESIDENTIAL DATA DASHBOARD

1 BATH	
Average House Price	£356,390
Average Rent	£1,100
Gross Yield (%)	3.8%-4.6%

2 CAMBRIDGE			
£436,255			
£1,350			
3.4%-4.2%			

3 HARROGATE	
Average House Price	£278,498
Average Rent	£775
Gross Yield (%)	3.2%-3.8%

4 LEEDS	
Average House Price	£184,517
Average Rent	£770
Gross Yield (%)	5.0%-6.0%

5 MARLBOROUGH			
Average House Price	£427,041		
Average Rent	£775		
Gross Yield (%)	3.3%-3.9%		

6 NEWBURY	
Average House Price	£332,643
Average Rent	£995
Gross Yield (%)	3.1%-3.7%

7 NORTHAMPTON			
Average House Price	£215,176		
Average Rent	£750		
Gross Yield (%)	4.2%-5.0%		

8 OXFORD	
Average House Price	£414,972
Average Rent	£1,300
Gross Yield (%)	3.6%-4.4%

ONDON
1,037,899
3,180
5.1%-3.7%

10 SOUTH WEST LONDON			
£635,171			
£1,880			
3.3%-3.9%			

11 SUFFOLK (LONG	MELFORD)
Average House Price	£242,580
Average Rent	£725
Gross Yield (%)	3.3%-4.0%

12 WINCHESTER	
Average House Price	£426,859
Average Rent	£1,000
Gross Yield (%)	2.7%-3.2%

13 YORK	
Average House Price	£251,507
Average Rent	£800
Gross Yield (%)	3.8%-4.5%



Sources: Front page dashboard and back page map: ONS, VOA (Q1 2019), HM Land Registry (March 2019).

Notes: Unless otherwise stated, average rents, prices and sales volumes are for the Local or Unitary Authority. Average rents are 2-bed, upper quartile

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The information given in this publication is believed to be correct at the time of going to press. We do not however accept any liability for any decisions taken following this report. We recommend that professional advice is taken.

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