UKMOD Change Log

Summary of changes between B1.12 and B2024.14

Date: 04 July 2024

This document provides a summary of the changes implemented since the preceding public release of UKMOD. For further technical detail, please consult the Excel log file reported in the 'Log' directory of the model.

Special Notice

The current model update includes two non-standard changes to the model.

- Release names have transitioned to a new standard. Releases names will now take the form XYYYY.NN, where X is a character denoting major structural changes to the model, YYYY identifies the (calendar) year of the model release, and NN identifies the order of the release in the respective year.
- Statistics Presenter template files will now be provided in a directory along with the other files of the respective model release. A pdf file is also included in the directory that provides directions for making use of the template files.

Parameter Updates

- Updates to uprating indices to reflect most recent data published by ONS and Bank of England
- Updated LHA rates to reflect reported rates for 2024/25
- Update take-up rates assumed for Scottish benefits to reflect most recently available data and projections assumed by Scottish Fiscal Commission.
- Update parameters for Scottish Child Winter Heating Assistance, Council Tax Reduction, Best Start Grant, Free School Meals, and School Clothing Grant.

Data Revisions

- Adjusted indexation of council tax from 2023/24 to 2024/25 to reflect freeze imposed by Scottish Government.
- Model updated to make use of 2022/23 data by default for system years from 2022.

Policy Reforms

- None

Code Corrections and Amendments

- Omit extension "UKP" from the model
    - Corrected error preventing report of UK poverty line calculated by policy "ukpovertyline_uk".
    - The policy "ukpovertyline_uk" remains in the policy spine and should be turned on manually as desired.