

The October data from Land Registry's flagship House Price Index shows a positive monthly house price change of 0.6 per cent, which is the fifth month in a row in which the movement has been above nought per cent.

The annual change stands at minus 3.4 per cent. This is the sixth month in a row in which the fall in annual change has decreased, with the average house price in England and Wales now standing at £159,546.

All regions in England and Wales experienced a decrease in their average property values over the last 12 months. The region with the most significant annual price fall was the West Midlands with a movement of minus 6.3 per cent. The North West experienced the greatest monthly rise with a movement of 1.9 per cent. Wales was the region with the most significant monthly price fall with a movement of minus 2.3 per cent.

The most up-to-date figures available show that during August 2009 the number of completed house sales in England and Wales rose by 11 per cent to 53,236 from 48,109 in August 2008. Transaction volumes, while no longer falling at 2007 rates, remain relatively low.

□ **Source: Mortgage Introducer**