

A very UK private sector health check

Amongst the treasure trove of timely sector data now being released monthly by the ONS, we now have free access to the fortunes of UK “paid for” human health care services, in which the likes of Spire Heath (still publicly listed) and Circle (once but no more on the FTSE) “freely operate”.

To make the case the data is most useful to man and beast, I would point to the fact the ONS also provides the same timeliness, frequency and reliability of figures that relate to UK veterinary services; a market currently generating circa £7bn in annual sales. The latter sector was indeed considered in [Take Note 7](#), with its tear-sheet reproduced in this extremely short piece.

It is to the tear-sheet capturing figures for the UK’s human health care sector, with its c£54bn in annual turnover, that this piece chooses to focus, its data the first to appear overleaf.

What we see in the tear-sheet for **SIC 86** is impressive pricing power, such that average annual inflation has been running at c6.5%, which an element of volume growth has combined to generate a c7.5% pace of revenue growth, which if sustained would double the size of the sector in less than a decade.

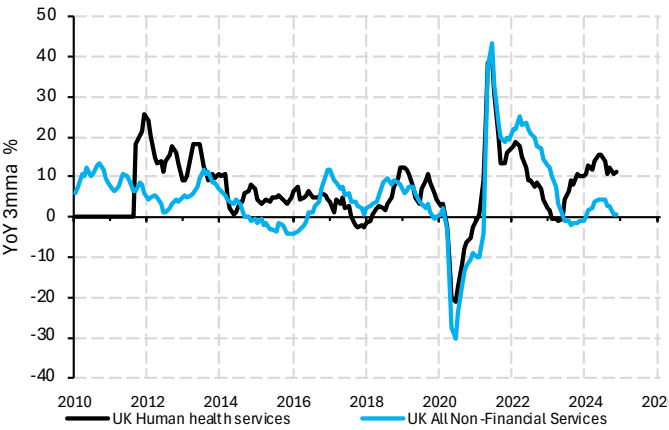
True, the **UK’s private veterinary practices (SIC 75)** can be seen to have been generating c8.5% annual revenue growth; in their case price inflation averaging 6% the rest coming from growth in annual volume.

So, there you have it, a very quick private health check.

UK Human health services (86)

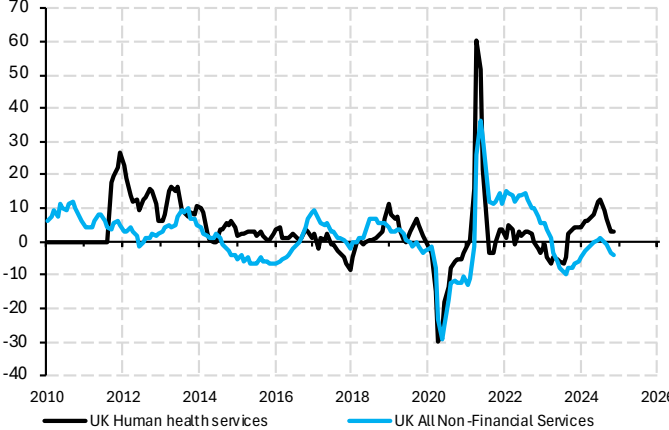
Sector turnover of £54.5bn (1.9% of all Non-Financial Services) - in the calendar year Nov2023 to Oct2024

Chart 1. Operating Sales, £



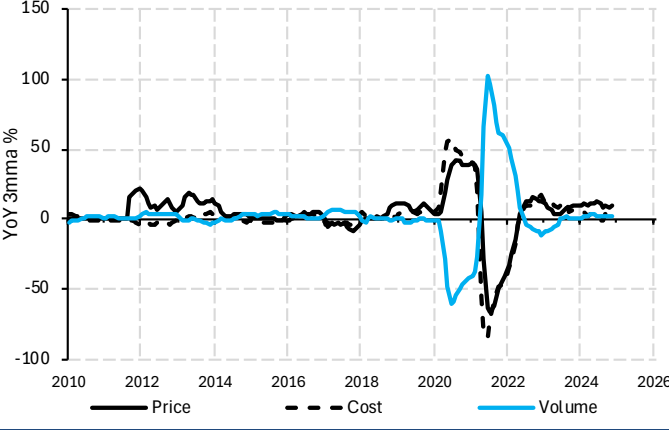
Annual Growth Averages (%) and Inverse Coefficient of variance* in brackets
UK Human health services 7.6 (0.9)
UK All Non-Financial Services 5.2 (0.5)

Chart 2. Operating Margin



UK Human health services 3.9 (0.4)
UK All Non-Financial Services 1.9 (0.2)

Chart 3. Price, Cost & Volume



Price 5.3 (0.3)
Cost 1.3 (0.1)
Volume 2.2 (0.1)

Chart 4. Detailed price & cost dynamics

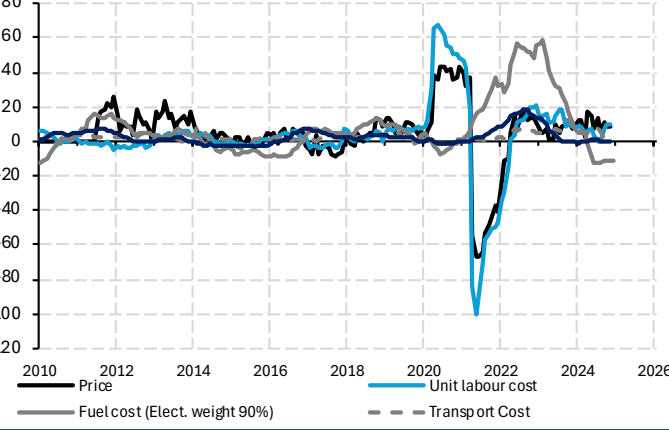
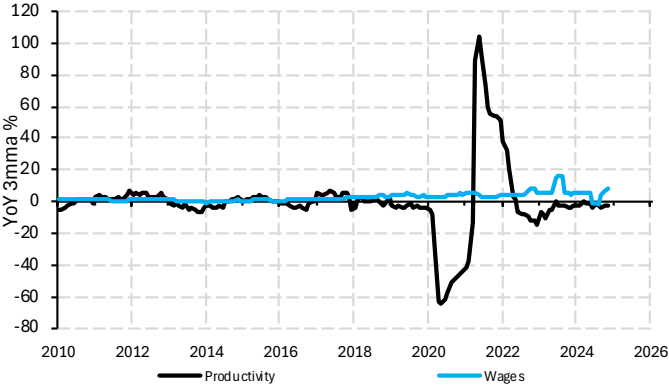
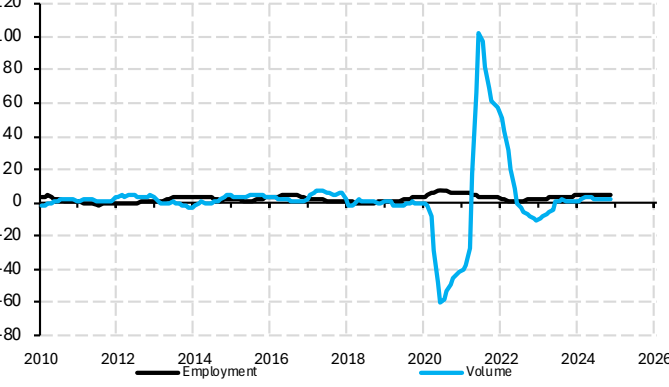


Chart 5. Labour Productivity vs Wages



Productivity -0.1 (0.0)
Wages 2.7 (1.0)

Chart 6. Employment vs Volume



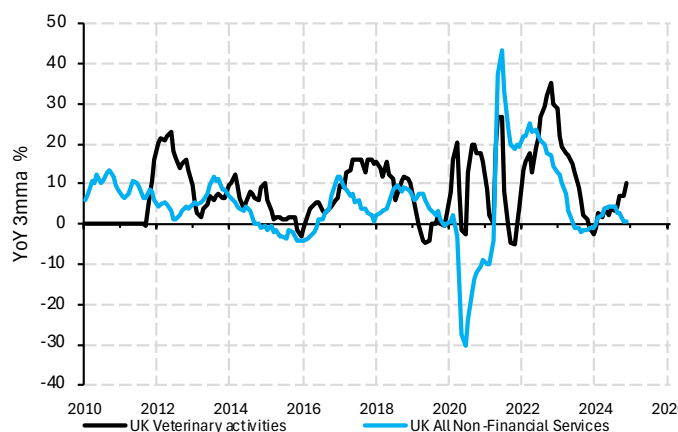
Employment 2.4 (1.2)
Volume 2.2 (0.1)

* Inverse Coefficient of Variance = Mean / Standard Deviation

UK Veterinary activities (75)

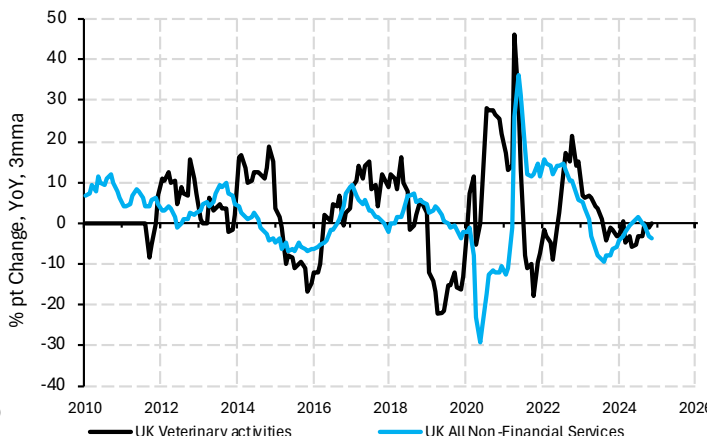
Sector turnover of £7.0bn (0.2% of all Non-Financial Services) - in the calendar year Nov2023 to Oct2024

Chart 1. Operating Sales, £



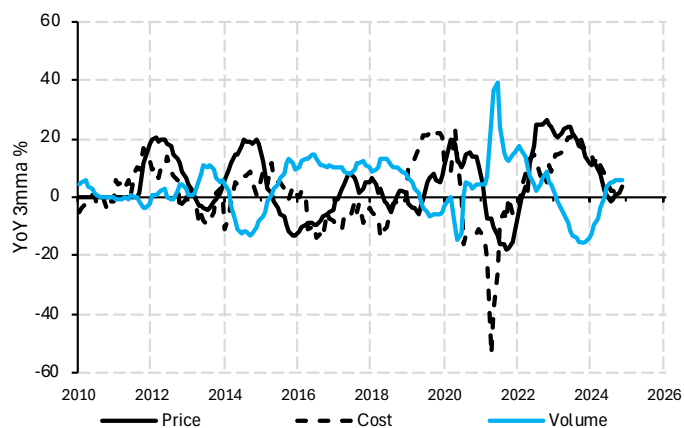
Annual Growth Averages (%) and Inverse Coefficient of variance* in brackets
 UK Veterinary activities 9.2 (1.1)
 UK All Non-Financial Services 5.2 (0.5)

Chart 2. Operating Margin



UK Veterinary activities 3.2 (0.3)
 UK All Non-Financial Services 1.9 (0.2)

Chart 3. Price, Cost & Volume



Price 5.4 (0.5)
 Cost 2.1 (0.2)
 Volume 3.5 (0.4)

Chart 4. Detailed price & cost dynamics

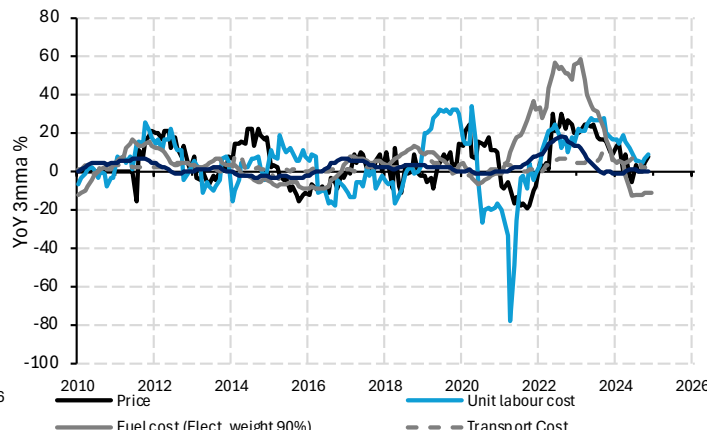
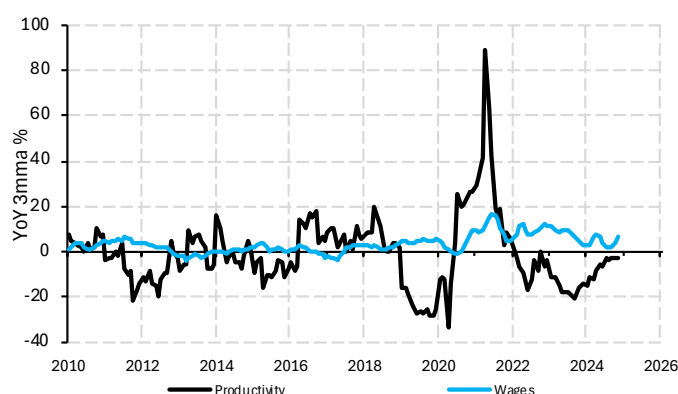
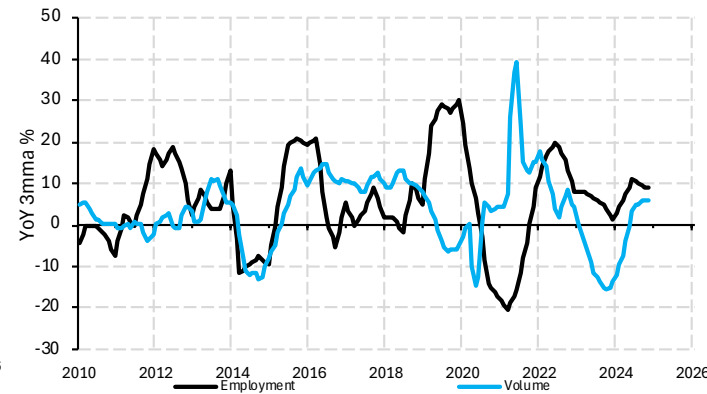


Chart 5. Labour Productivity vs Wages



Productivity -1.0 (-0.1)
 Wages 3.6 (0.9)

Chart 6. Employment vs Volume



Employment 5.8 (0.5)
 Volume 3.5 (0.4)

* Inverse Coefficient of Variance = Mean / Standard Deviation

UK All Non-Financial Services (45-96)

Sector turnover of £2820.8bn - in the calendar year Nov2023 to Oct2024

Chart 1. Operating Sales, £

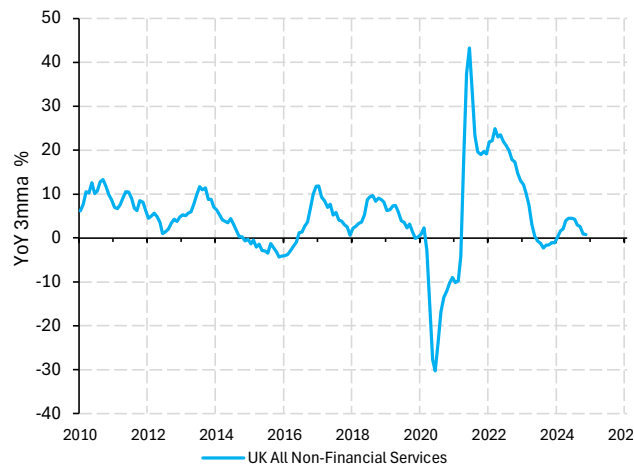
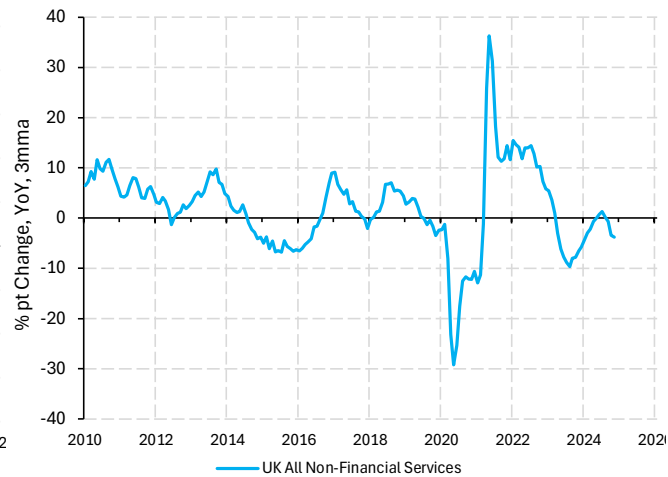


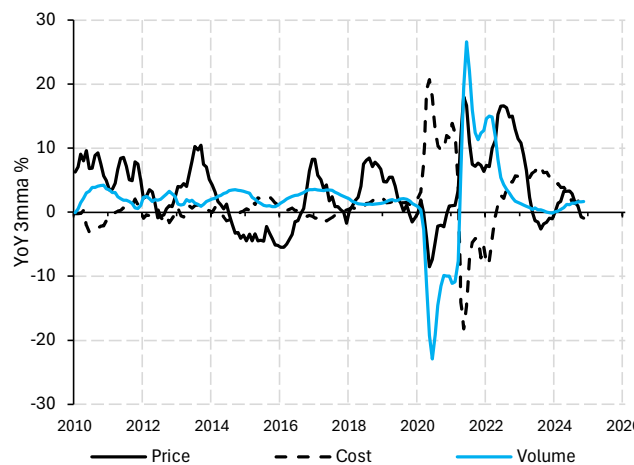
Chart 2. Operating Margin



Annual Growth Averages (%) and Inverse Coefficient of variance* in brackets

UK All Non-Financial Services 5.2 (0.5)

Chart 3. Price, Cost & Volume



Price 3.2 (0.6)

Cost 1.3 (0.3)

Volume 1.9 (0.3)

UK All Non-Financial Services 1.9 (0.2)

Chart 4. Detailed price & cost dynamics

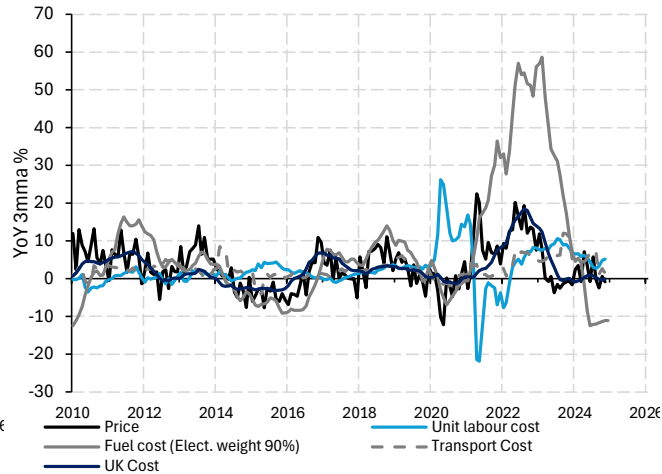
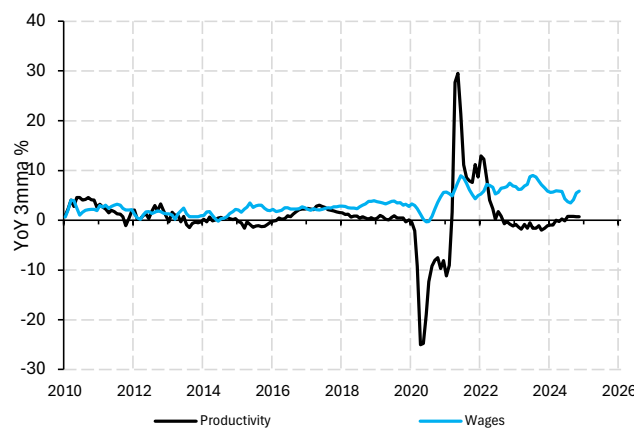


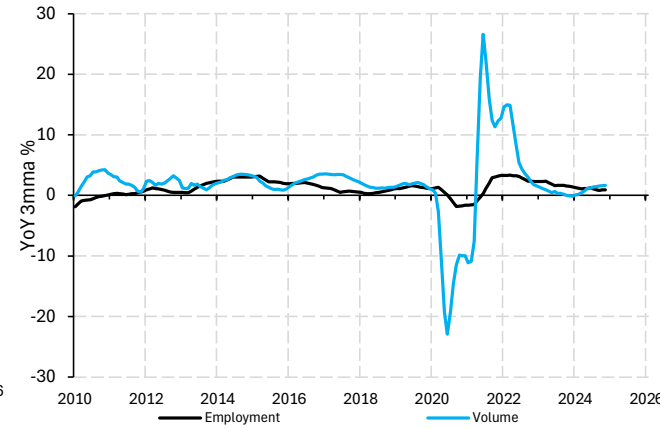
Chart 5. Labour Productivity vs Wages



Productivity 0.7 (0.1)

Wages 3.3 (1.5)

Chart 6. Employment vs Volume



Employment 1.2 (1.0)

Volume 1.9 (0.3)

* Inverse Coefficient of Variance = Mean / Standard Deviation

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List of Companies within the UK Non-Financial Service sectors

List of UK Non-Financial Service sectors	SIC	Companies
UK Wholesale & retail trade & repair, only of vehicles	45	
UK Wholesale trade services, of everything except vehicles	46	
UK Land transport, trains & buses - people & freight	49.3-5	FirstGroup, Trainline
UK Warehousing & support services for transportation	52	Diploma, Restore
UK Postal & courier services	53	Smiths News
UK Hotels and other short-term accommodation services	55	Accor, IHT, Whitbread (Premier Inn)
UK Food & beverage serving sectors	56	Compass
UK Publishing services - newspapers, periodicals & computer games	58	De la Rue, DMGT, AutoTrader, Bloomsbury
UK TV, film & sound production & presentation	59	CineWorld, ITV, STV
UK Telecoms services	61	Maintel, TalkTalk
UK Software developers	62	CPP, ComputerCenter, PCI-Pal, Petards, RWS, Software Circle, Tribal
UK Providers of data processing & hosting services	63	1Spatial, Experian, Journeo , Vianet
UK Real estate activities on a fee or contract basis	68.3	International Workplace , LSL Property Services, Mitie Group, Savills, Foxtons, Rightmove, Winkworths, MAB
UK Legal services	69.1	Gately, Keystone Law, Knights Group, the Ince Group, Begbies Traynor
UK Accountants, auditors & tax consultants	69.2	Begbies Traynor
UK Architects & civil engineers	71	Diales, Hargreaves Services, Intertek, Kier Group , Mears Group, Northern Bear, Renew Holdings, Ricardo
UK Scientific R&D	72	Science Group
UK Advertising & market research services	73	YouGov, WPP, M&C Saachi
UK Property, graphic & fashion design & photography	74	Christie Group, Record, Powerhouse Energy, DCC
UK Veterinary activities	75	Pets At Home, CVS Group
UK Rental & leasing services, non real estate	77	Johnson Service, SZigup
UK Recruitment services	78	Norman Broadbent, Page Group, Robert Walters, RTC, Staffline Group, Sthree, Hays
UK Travel agents & tour operators	79	Hostel-World, OnTheBeach Group
UK Security & investigation services	80	Croma, Synetics, Westminster
UK Office admin & business support - including call centres	82	Capita, IWG
UK Human health services	86	Spire Healthcare
UK Creative arts & entertainment services - theatres etc	90	
UK Library, archive, museum & other cultural services	91	
UK Sporting, amusement & other recreation services	93	GYM Group, Hollywood Bowl
UK Repair services of computers, personal & household goods	95	

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