
Director General, Monitoring and Assessment

Glenn Everett
Deputy Director
Office for National Statistics
Government Buildings
Cardiff Road
Newport
NP10 8XG

3 September 2014

Dear Glenn

ASSESSMENT OF PERSONAL WELL-BEING STATISTICS

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in Assessment Report number 277 on Personal Well-being Statistics. On behalf of the Board of the Statistics Authority, the Assessment Committee has reviewed these on the advice of the Assessment team and I am pleased to confirm the designation of the outputs as National Statistics. I am very grateful to you and your colleagues for taking the time to provide additional information about how you considered the additional comments provided following the Assessment Committee in July.

The Assessment Committee acknowledges the efforts of the team involved in the assessment process to introduce a range of improvements to its statistical reports and supporting documentation. I am very much encouraged to see ONS continuing to lead worldwide developments of these statistics having multiple citations in the OECD's 2013 Guidelines on the Measurement of Subjective Well-being as well as other notable acknowledgements of ONS's considerable contribution to measurements of Personal Well-being. I look forward to ONS finding and implementing a solution to publishing the Personal Well-being data in an open format that equates to at least a Three Star level under the Five Star Scheme (Requirement 6 of the Assessment Report).

It is a requirement of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 that compliance with the Code of Practice must be maintained. We would invite you to incorporate the attached text in publications containing the statistics. This text may only be used where National Statistics designation has been awarded following an Assessment Report. It is intended to convey a strong and independent endorsement for the statistical publication.

Please feel free to discuss any aspect of this with us at any time. I am copying this letter to John Pullinger, the National Statistician and to Dawn Snape.

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson

Text that may only be used in publications that carry the National Statistics logo following assessment and designation:

The UK Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.