
Director General for Regulation

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18 May 2015

Dear Mark

ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON AMBULANCE SERVICE QUALITY IN ENGLAND

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in Assessment Report number 291 on Ambulance Service Quality in England.

On behalf of the Board of the Statistics Authority, the Regulation 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. The Regulation 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. In particular, we welcome the team's positive response to the Assessment team's feedback and the constructive way in which it addressed the guidance given in the Authority's *Quality Assurance of Administrative Data* toolkit, especially in producing thorough documentation about the quality of the statistics. I would also like to commend the team on obtaining further information from the ambulance trusts, to demonstrate the quality of their data and provide reassurance about their performance in this sensitive area.

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 Chris Gibbins and Iain Kay.

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.