
Director General, Monitoring and Assessment

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20 January 2012

Dear Duncan

ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON SEXUAL HEALTH IN SCOTLAND

Thank you for Cathy Johnston's emails of 27 October and 29 November, outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in Assessment Report 121 on Statistics on Sexual Health in Scotland.

The Board of the Statistics Authority 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 look forward to receiving an update on further progress for addressing requirements 2, 4 and 5 in relation to Scotland's Sexual Health Information and Abortion Statistics ahead of their next release.

It is a requirement of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 that the Code of Practice must continue to be complied with in relation to the statistics. 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 Jil Matheson, the National Statistician, and to Philip Johnston and Jim Chalmers.

Yours sincerely



Richard Alldritt

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

The United Kingdom 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.