
Director General, Monitoring and Assessment

Roger Halliday
Scottish Government
Room: 1N03
St Andrew's House
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

2 April 2012

Dear Roger

ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL STATISTICS

Thank you for the various emails outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in the following Assessment Reports (ARs):

Four of the five outputs assessed in AR 86: Statistics on Scottish Community Care relating to Home Care Services, Scotland; Free Personal and Nursing Care, Scotland; Mental Health Officers Survey, Scotland; and Self-directed Support, Scotland.

AR 128: Statistics on Offender Management in Scotland

AR 131: Statistics on Scottish Patient Experience

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. AR86 also covered Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons, Scotland, which has not yet met the Requirements in the report.

Please note that designation of the above outputs is on the understanding that your Statement of Administrative Sources will be extended to cover administrative sources that are not currently used in the production of official statistics but have potential to be so used, as required under Protocol 3 of the Code of Practice.

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 Julie Rintoul, Elizabeth Fraser and Alan Fleming.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Alldritt', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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.