
Director General, Monitoring and Assessment

Julie Wilson
Scottish Government
Room: 1N03
St Andrew's House
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

3 October 2011

Dear Julie

ASSESSMENT OF SCHOOL STATISTICS FOR SCOTLAND

Thank you for Peter Whitehouse's email of 26 January, Venetia Haynes' email of 5 April, and a meeting with Mal Cooke on 6 May and his subsequent emails of 13 June and 8 September outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in Assessment Report number 50 on School Statistics for 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. Regarding the Requirement to improve the presentation, commentary and analysis, we have noted the steps that you have taken and the further steps that you plan to take, and the designation is confirmed on that basis.

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 Mal Cooke.

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.