
Director General, Monitoring and Assessment

Karen McCullough,
Rathgael House
Balloo Road
Bangor
BT19 7PR

16 June 2011

Dear Karen

ASSESSMENT OF SCHOOL STATISTICS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

Thank you for your emails of 31 January and 11 March, outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in assessment report number 51 on School Statistics for Northern Ireland.

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 of these statistics, 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 Norman Caven, Head of Profession at the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency.

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.