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**Director General, Monitoring and Assessment**

Caron Walker  
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Office for National Statistics  
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Cardiff Road  
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NP10 8XG

29 November 2012

Dear Caron

**ASSESSMENT OF UK ANNUAL AND QUARTERLY NATIONAL ACCOUNTS**

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in Assessment Report number 100 UK Annual and Quarterly National Accounts.

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.

With specific regard to:

- Requirement 5, the confirmation is given on the basis of the plan to carry out a survey of users in early 2013. This will provide feedback about the extent to which the information that is provided about the quality of these statistics meets user needs.
- Requirement 8, the confirmation is given on the basis of the ongoing programme of work to improve the way in which statistics are disseminated through ONS's website.
- Requirement 9, the confirmation is given on the basis of the further work that is planned to improve the explanation and commentary that accompanies the statistics. This is being taken forward with the assistance of the good practice team.

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, Glen Watson, the Director General of ONS, and Graeme Walker and Andrew Walton.

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.