
Director General, Monitoring and Assessment

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Dear Andy

ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON STATISTICS ON COMMUNITY HEALTH IN ENGLAND

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in Assessment Report number 159 on Statistics on Community Health in England relating to:

- *NHS Immunisation Statistics, England*
- *Cervical Screening Programme, England*
- *Breast Screening Programme, England*
- *Data on Written Complaints in the NHS*

On behalf of the Board of the Statistics Authority, the Assessment Committee has reviewed this on the advice of the Assessment team and I am pleased to confirm the designation of the outputs as National Statistics. This designation is confirmed on the basis that the commentary in the Written Complaints statistical report will be improved to a level of quality at least matching that of the draft commentary that the statistical team has provided to the Assessment team to date.

The Assessment Report also covered Ambulance Services, England. I understand that the next edition of these statistics will be produced jointly with the Department of Health, and that subsequent outputs from DH will be subject to further assessment by the Authority.

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 Clare McConnell and Ian Thornber.

Yours sincerely

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

Richard Aldritt
Director General, Monitoring and Assessment

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.