
Director General, Monitoring and Assessment

Kate Chamberlain
Welsh Assembly Government
Room 2-006
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

12 September 2012

Dear Kate

ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON SUSTAINABILITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN WALES

Thank you for Rhiannon Caunt's email of 28 June, outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in Assessment Report 163 Statistics on Sustainability and the Environment in Wales.

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 3: Investigate the potential for statistical analysis to inform the allocation of traffic light statuses to sustainable development indicators, and publish the outcome of these investigations. We have noted the steps that you have taken and the further steps that you plan to take, and will review your action in the autumn. This designation is confirmed on that basis.
- Requirement 4: Improve the commentary in the releases so that it aids user interpretation of the statistics. We also note your commitment to maintain the standard of commentary for future releases, such as the July 2013 release of fly-tipping statistics

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 Glyn Jones and Rhiannon Caunt.

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.