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**Director General, Monitoring and Assessment**

Simon Mahony  
Head of Profession for Statistics  
Ministry of Defence  
Main Building, 3.K.17  
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26 September 2013

Dear Simon

**ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON DEFENCE PERSONNEL**

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in Assessment Report number 186 Statistics on Defence Personnel relating to:

- *UK Armed Forces Monthly Manning Report* (now *Monthly Personnel Report* following assessment)
- *UK Armed Forces Quarterly Manning Report* (now *Quarterly Personnel Report* following assessment)
- *UK Reserve Forces Strengths*

On behalf of the Board of the Statistics Authority, the Assessment Committee has reviewed these on the advice of the Assessment team and I am pleased to confirm the designation of the outputs as National Statistics. We note MOD is making good progress towards improving its engagement with users and is committed to seeking to further identify and engage with users outside the MOD, and to document more fully the use made of the statistics.

The confirmation of designation for the remaining output covered in the Assessment Report is subject to the Ministry of Defence implementing the enhancements listed in section 1.5 of the report.

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 Simon Crofts.

Yours sincerely



**Richard Alldritt**  
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.