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**Director General, Monitoring and Assessment**

Siobhan Carey  
Chief Statistician  
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills  
Economic and Policy Analysis (EPA)  
Bay 620  
1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET

3 October 2012

Dear Siobhan

**ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON UK BUSINESS POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHY**

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in Assessment Report number 187 concerning the set of statistics reported in Business Population Estimates for the UK and Regions, produced by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

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 output as National Statistics.

In confirming the designation, I note your commitment to consult further through the Business Population and Demographics Statistics Group. I see this, supported by the findings of the paper explaining the differences between Business Population Estimates, UK Business and Business Demography, as a basis for expanding the dialogue with users about the potential benefits from further integration between the different statistical products.

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 Frances Pottier and Karen Grierson.

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.