

---

**Director General, Monitoring and Assessment**

Norman Caven  
Chief Statistician  
Department of Finance and Personnel  
Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency  
McAuley House  
2-14 Castle Street  
BELFAST  
BT1 1SA

14 January 2013

Dear Norman

**ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in Assessment Report number 188 Statistics on Children's Social Care in Northern Ireland.

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 further work that is planned to improve the presentation and commentary that accompanies the 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 Eugene Mooney of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Northern Ireland).

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.