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**Director General, Monitoring and Assessment**

Andy Sutherland  
Head of Profession for Statistics  
Health & Social Care Information Centre  
2nd Floor North  
Trevelyan House  
1 Trevelyan Square  
Boar Lane  
Leeds LS1 6AE

3 June 2013

Dear Andy

**ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON OPHTHALMIC SERVICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES**

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in Assessment Report number 192 Statistics on Ophthalmic Services in England and Wales relating to General Ophthalmic Services: Workforce Statistics for England and Wales.

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.

The Assessment Report also covered: General Ophthalmic Services: Activity Statistics for England the confirmation of designation of which is subject to the Health & Social Care Information Centre 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 Ian Thornber.

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.