
Director General, Regulation

Scott Heald
Head of Statistics
Information Services Division, NHS National Services Scotland
Area 122A
Gyle Square
1 South Gyle Crescent
Edinburgh
EH12 9EB

15 October 2014

Dear Scott

**ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON DENTAL AND OPHTHALMIC SERVICES AND
GENERAL PRACTICE IN SCOTLAND**

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements for General Practice- GP Workforce and Practice Population Statistics in Assessment report number 209 on Statistics on Dental and Ophthalmic Services and General Practice in Scotland

On behalf of the Board of the Statistics Authority, the Regulation Committee has reviewed these on the advice of the Assessment team and I am pleased to confirm the designation of this output as National Statistics. At a time when more and more attention is turned on the sufficiency and quality of the GP Workforce and the workloads GPs face, statistics such as this respond to questions of real public interest. The Assessment team has advised me about the efforts which have been made to respond to the feedback from the assessment and the improvements to the statistics which have been made. This is a testament to the commitment of both the statisticians involved and to ISD as an organisation. I would like to congratulate you on this achievement and am confident that your commitment to the ongoing development of commentary accompanying the statistics will result in even more value being derived from the statistics in the future.

It is a requirement of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 that compliance with the Code of Practice must be maintained. 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 John Pullinger the National Statistician and to Roger Halliday at the Scottish Government.

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson

Text that may only be used in publications that carry the National Statistics logo following assessment and designation:

The UK 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.