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**Director General, Monitoring and Assessment**

Glyn Jones  
Acting Chief Statistician and Head of Profession for Statistics  
Welsh Assembly Government  
Room 2-006  
Cathays Park  
Cardiff  
CF10 3NQ

3 June 2013

Dear Glyn

**ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES IN WALES**

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in Assessment Report number 223 Statistics on Health and Personal Social Services in 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. Designation of these statistics is based on your commitment to continue to build on the improvements made to the commentary in the reports, as exemplified by *Births in Wales: Data from the National Community Child Health Database*.

Because of uncertainties about its future, NHS Community Contraceptive Services Statistics has not been assessed. You have confirmed that the future of these statistics is still under review, and would expect the 2013 release to be the last. You have committed to put forward any replacement set of statistics for assessment, subject to Ministerial approval, and in the meantime have committed to implement the relevant Requirements from AR223 to NHS Community Contraceptive Services 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 to Ruth Studley.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Aldritt', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Richard Aldritt**  
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.