
Director General for Regulation

Claire Stuart
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Dear Claire

ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES KNOWN TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN SCOTLAND

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the remaining requirement in Assessment Report number 248 on Statistics on Adults with Learning Disabilities known to Local Authorities in Scotland.

On behalf of the Board of the Statistics Authority, I have reviewed these on the advice of the Assessment team and I am pleased to confirm the designation of *Learning Disability Statistics Scotland* as National Statistics. The Authority appreciates the very positive engagement between the statistical team in SCLD and the Authority's Assessment team during the follow-up period. The way that the team has worked closely with the Scottish Government, the Methodology Advisory Service and the Good Practice Team to explore ways of improving the statistics is commendable.

We recognise that there are planned changes to the LDSS data collection and methods that are not due to be in place until the edition of *LDSS* due to be published in 2016. The designation of *Learning Disability Statistics Scotland* is therefore on the basis of a clear description in the 2015 publication of the current limitations, and subject to the proposed data collection and methods improvements being implemented from 2016. I would like you to keep us informed of your progress in implementing the methods changes over the next year.

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, which clarifies the point regarding the clear description of limitations for 2015 and the development plans for 2016 onwards. 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.

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson

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



National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

The UK Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics on the basis of a clear description of the current limitations of the learning disability statistics, and subject to the proposed data collection and methods improvements being implemented from 2016.

It is a producer's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics, and to improve its statistics on a continuous basis. If a producer becomes concerned about whether its statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, it should discuss its concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.