
Director General for Regulation

Stephen Herbert
Lead Official
Natural England
(Correspondence by email)

24 October 2014

Dear Stephen

ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON ENGAGEMENT WITH THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in Assessment report number 269 on Statistics on Engagement with the Natural Environment.

On behalf of the Board of the Statistics Authority, and on the advice of the Assessment team, I am pleased to confirm the designation of the output as National Statistics. The Authority acknowledges the effort and ambition that Natural England has applied to improve these statistics which have a wide range of uses in many areas such as public health, well-being and tourism. We welcome the plans to establish an Advisory Group that will involve users in overseeing their continued development.

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; Peter Helm at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; and Haney King.

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.