
Chair of the UK Statistics Authority, Sir David Norgrove

Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

5 March 2018

Dear Mr Lamb

Thank you for your letter of 15 February 2018, in which you enclosed new research about the outcomes from the 'Early Intervention in Psvchosis' programme of care, and sought my views on the response of NHS England to this work.

Regrettably, official statistics on mental health provision are not as good as they should be. They do not provide enough insight to address all the questions decision-makers have. Your recent work highlights one of the gaps in the evidence base, and we are aware of others.

You may be aware that in recent months, the Office for Statistics Regulation has written to NHS England several times to recommend improvements.¹ I am pleased that statisticians have responded by publishing new information on the mental health workforce and NHS spending on mental health services, but there is much more to do.

I have asked the Office for Statistics Regulation to raise with NHS England and NHS Digital the specific issues of concern to you, as they continue to work with those bodies to improve the official data.

We will keep you informed of progress.

Yours Sincerely



Sir David Norgrove

¹See for example: [Letter from Ed Humpherson to NHS England on Mental Health Spending](#) (January 2018)