



Jonathan Athow Deputy National Statistician and Director General Economic, Social and Environmental Statistics Office for National Statistics

October 2021

Dear Jonathan,

ADVISORY PANEL ON CONSUMER PRICES - STAKEHOLDER

As Chair of the Advisory Panel on Consumer Prices - Stakeholder and on behalf of the Panel, I'm writing to thank you for your immense contribution to Economic Statistics and to the Panel.

Over the last six years, you have steered the Office for National Statistics through some challenging times. Your approach to consulting on the future of the RPI is just one example of how you have demonstrated your confident and intelligent approach to leadership, which was further reinforced by your approach to responding to the Coronavirus pandemic. You have been instrumental in supporting me and the Panel to be become the stakeholder's voice that it is today.

The whole Panel has not, of course, always agreed with your views, but you have listened to them and been prepared to engage. We are grateful in particular for your support for the development of the Household Cost Indices, and for ensuring sound analysis of the private rental data.

From a personal perspective, I have immensely enjoyed working with you and will greatly miss engaging with you in and around the Panel meetings. I am only sorry that, at the final meeting, we will not be able to say goodbye in person, although I am sure that our paths will no doubt cross in the future.

On the behalf of the Panel, I would like to extend our gratitude to you, and wish you the best for your new role in HMRC and your future endeavours.

Sincere thanks and best wishes,

Kate Barken

Dame Kate Barker Panel Chair