UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

Minutes

Thursday 30 January 2025
London Office

Hybrid Meeting

Members Present
Sir Robert Chote (Chair)
Dr Jacob Abboud
Professor Sir Ian Diamond
Ed Humpherson
Emma Rourke
Professor Sir David Spiegelhalter
Penny Young

Other Attendees
Pete Benton (for item 9),
June Bowman
Megan Cooper (for item 7)
Mike Keoghan
Alex Lambert (for item 8)
Liz McKeown (for item 8)
Sarah Moore
Tom Taylor
Rhys Thomas (for item 7)

Apologies
Professor Dame Carol Propper

Secretariat
Sally Jones

1.   Apologies
1.1   Apologies were noted from Professor Dame Carol Propper.

2.   Declarations of Interest
2.1   Ed Humpherson declared an interest following his appointment as a trustee of Security Women, noting there was no conflict with his Authority role. The Authority's Register of Interest had been updated.

3.   Minutes and matters arising from previous meetings.
3.1   The minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 November 2024 were approved.

4.   Report from the Authority Chair [SA(25)01]
4.1   Non-Executive Directors had met before the meeting and discussed topics including the UK Statistics Assembly and the Future of Population and Migration Statistics (FPMS).

4.2   Sir Robert Chote welcomed June Bowman, recently appointed Deputy Director Policy and Strategy, to her first meeting.

4.3   Sir Robert commended Sarah Moore and colleagues for all of their work on the first UK Statistics Assembly which had been held on 22 January. Professor David Hand, Chair of the National Statistician's Expert User Advisory Committee (NSUEAC) would be drafting the report for consideration by NSEUAC on 10 February ahead of a Board discussion on 27 February. Consideration was now being given to the approach to the Chair's annual public lecture, in response to the Assembly, which would provide an update on the work of the statistical system and priorities for the year ahead, building on the Office for Statistics Regulation State of the Statistical System Report.

4.4   Sir Robert reported that the Minister for the Cabinet Office had approved the appointment of three new Non-Executive Directors. Peter Barron, Professor Mairi Spowage and Dr Sarah Walsh had been appointed for a period of three years with effect from 31 January 2025.

4.5   On behalf of the Authority Board Sir Robert noted condolences and paid tribute to Professor David Rhind. Professor Rhind was a founding non-executive board member from 2008, Deputy Chair between 2012 and 2015 and Chair of the Authority's Audit and Risk Assurance Committee. He was a former Chair of the Authority's predecessor, the Statistics Commission, before the founding of the UK Statistics Authority by the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007. Professor Rhind was an eminent academic geographer and former Vice Chancellor of City University.

5.   Report from the Chief Executive [SA(25)02]
5.1   Sir Ian provided the Board with an overview of activities and issues since the last meeting, highlighting the following:

   i.   the Ambitious, Radical and Inclusive Economic Statistics (ARIES) transformation programme had achieved 83 per cent of its benefits. The ARIES programme comprised of a number of projects including Prices, which would deliver a range of improvements in March 2025. It was noted that the introduction of scanner data would be dual run for a year to allow time for quality assurance ahead of going live in March 2026. A more detailed report on delivery of the ARIES programme would be provided to the Board in the coming months;
   ii.   the government response to stage one of the COVID Inquiry had referenced ONS;
   iii. data sharing across government continued to be challenge and a key area of focus for the Integrated Data Service Programme.
   iv.   Sir Ian would be chairing a meeting of United Nations Conference of European Statisticians Bureau meeting in February;

v. publication on 30 January of Crime Statistics in England and Wales for the year ending September 2024. Work was ongoing by ONS to transform the Crime Survey for England and Wales;

vi. business planning 2025/26 was near completion alongside preparation for the second phase of the Spending Review 2025 (SR25);

vii. the ONS Local analytical advisory service had been nominated in three categories in the fifth Annual Analysis in Government Awards;

viii. ONS's response to the results to the 2024 People Survey;

ix. the appointment of Jane Naylor, Steve Ellerd Elliott and Jason Bradbury as a job share for the role of Deputy Head of the Government Statistical Service; and

x. Steffan Jones, Director, Jont Data and Analysis Centre - Cabinet Office, had been appointed as joint chair of the Departmental Directors of Analysis Board.

5.2 Board members discussed the update and highlighted a number of points in relation to the 2024 People Survey results. It was noted that ONS's People Committee had convened two dedicated meetings to discuss and agree areas of corporate focus in response to the results including leadership and managing change, which would be underpinned by local responses within each directorate. It was agreed that further disaggregated information on the results of the People Survey, including a time series, would be shared with the Board when available.

5.3 The Board heard about the progress by ONS on the long-standing issue of delays to coronial data associated with drug related deaths. A joint ONS and Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) paper had been sent to the Ministry of Justice for discussion early February. Sir Ian would be giving evidence to the Treasury Select Committee on labour market and migration statistics on 4 February. With regard to the Government Statistical Service Vision – Strength in Numbers, it was agreed that Jane Naylor would be invited to report back to the Board at a future meeting.

6. Report from the Director General of Regulation [SA(25)03]

6.1 Ed Humpherson provided an update on regulatory activity. The Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR) continued to promote the consultation for the Code of Practice for Statistics with stakeholder feedback to date overall supportive. With regard to OSR People Survey results it was noted that there had been a slight decrease in scores.

6.2 Board members discussed OSR's role in response to the SR25 process in highlighting a risk-based approach to issues across the UK Statistical System. It was noted that OSR published its independent review of the State of the Statistics System annually, with the next publication planned for July 2025. While OSR provided this independent view it was for departments to make the case for funding in line with the approach set out by HM Treasury (HMT).

7. ONS business planning 2025/26 and Spending Review 2025 [SA(25)04]

7.1 Tom Taylor introduced a paper which provided an update on business planning 25/26; the second stage of SR25, which would set budgets for 2026/27 to 2028/29. Tom Taylor noted thanks to Rhys Thomas, Megan Cooper and the finance team for their work on business planning, while simultaneously preparing for year end 2024/25 and the second phase of SR25.

7.2 The Board heard that the interim response covering the zero-based review requirement of SR25 was 27 February with a final submission by 10 April. The review was being overseen by Dr Jacob Abboud. A specific zero-based review session was being scheduled for the OSR including Professor Dame Carol Propper, as Chair of Regulation Committee. It was noted that the outcome of the Statistics Assembly held on 22 January and the refresh of the Authority Strategy would inform business planning and SR25.

7.3 Board members discussed the update. The following points were considered in discussion:

   i. the Authority's response to the spending review process should enable HMT to consider whether the Authority's settlement would help measure the economy effectively;

   ii. delivery progress of a plan of early warning indicators and a plan for monitoring and evaluation of priority outputs, as part of the SR25 stage one settlement conditions, was at an early stage. The approach would need to be agreed with HMT and other key stakeholders. The system of reporting would need to be timely with sufficient granularity of detail including both leading and lagging indicators;

   iii. the need for clarity on the overall level of change across the organisation setting out which activities would be stopped and where efficiencies would be achieved;

   iv. the importance of stakeholder engagement underpinned by a communications plan to inform users of those areas of work that would not continue. This linked to the balance between ambition and deliverability and the need for agility in order to deliver improvements; and

   v. the work by ONS to explore proposals for mandatory completion of household surveys was at an early stage.

7.4 The Board would remain engaged as the work progressed. A draft ONS Business Plan 2025/26 would be provided for the February Board meeting. Dr Jacob Abboud would provide oversight of the second phase of the SR25 process as agreed.

8. Transformed Labour Force Survey/Labour Force Survey [SA(25)06]

8.1 Alex Lambert and Liz McKeown introduced a paper which provided an update on the Transformed Labour Force Survey (TLFS) and the Labour Force Survey (LFS). The project continued to report amber-red within the ARIES programme. The top three main risks remained: UK Data Coherence, the collection of Complex Data Variables and conflicting resource pressures.

8.2 The Board heard that stakeholder engagement continued to be a key area of focus. The Stakeholder Advisory Panel chaired by Jonathan Portes had met on 29 January. It was noted that the panel was broadly supportive of the design recommendation for the TLFS based on testing undertaken to date on the shorter TLFS tests.

8.3 Board members discussed the update. The following points were considered in discussion:

   i. ONS were considering the timing for publication of TLFS estimates. A well-established mechanism had been used by ONS in other transformations with the production of a historic series including an explanation of any differences. This approach could be used for the TLFS. There were currently nearly five quarters of dual running of the original TLFS and LFS;

   ii. the importance of a clear communication strategy to inform stakeholders and users to underpin publication of TLFS estimates;

   iii. the decision point by the Executive early March on the TLFS redesign would be based on a robust mechanism including clear qualitative and quantitative statistical criteria; and

   iv. the need for external assurance for the Board as part of the paper to the March Board meeting was essential. It was noted that external technical assurance would be provided by Professors Chambers and Brown and the Stakeholder Advisory Panel. Views from key users and stakeholders including the Bank of England, HMT and the Office for Budget Responsibility would also be provided.

1.4 The Board noted the update. It was agreed that further information on TLFS would be provided. Following the Executive decision early March the National Statistician would

provide advice to the Board on the way forward on the TLFS at its meeting on 27 March, for discussion and collective decision.

9.   Integrated Data Service [SA(25)07]

9.1   Pete Benton introduced a paper which provided an update on the delivery progress of the Integrated Data Service,

9.2   The Board heard that the report from the review undertaken by the Cabinet Office supported by HMT and DSIT had been received that morning (30 January). Further details would be provided for the next meeting. The key areas of focus would continue to include prioritising the onboarding of high-value analysis and datasets. Discussions were ongoing with colleagues at DSIT regarding the National Data Library and with Cabinet Office colleagues to provide use cases for the IDS relating to government missions.

9.3   Board members discussed the update and highlighted the management information, which set out progress of the IDS against the critical success factors with some reporting red indicating issues in terms of delivery.

10.   Any Other Business

10.1 The Board would next meet on Thursday 27 February.

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY
Agenda
Thursday 30 January 2025, 11.15-14.00
London Boardroom, Hybrid Meeting

Chair: **Sir Robert Chote**
Apologies: Professor Dame Carol Propper
Attendees: Pete Benton (for item 8), Megan Cooper (for item 5), Alex Lambert (for item 7), Liz McKeown (for item 7), Rhys Thomas (for item 5)
NED Session: 10.30-11.15

1 11:15-11:20 5 mins	Minutes and matters arising from previous meeting Declarations of interest	Meeting of 28 November 2024
2 11:20-11:30 10 mins	Report from the Authority Chair	SA(25)01 Sir Robert Chote
3 11:30-12.00 30 mins	Report from the Chief Executive	SA(25)02 Prof. Sir Ian Diamond
4 12.00-12.10 10 mins	Report from the Director General for Regulation	SA(25)03 Ed Humpherson
5 12.10-12.25 15 mins	ONS business planning 2025/26 and Spending Review 2025	SA(25)04 Tom Taylor Megan Cooper Rhys Thomas
12.25-12.35 10 mins	Break	
6 12.35-12.45 10 mins	Reflections on the Assembly	Oral update Sarah Moore
7 13.20-13.45 25 mins	Transformed Labour Force Survey/ Labour Force Survey	SA(25)06 Alex Lambert Liz McKeown
8 13.45-13.55 10 mins	Integrated Data Service	SA(25)07 Pete Benton
9 13.55-14.00 5 mins	Any Other Business	

Next meeting: Thursday 27 February, London Boardroom

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

Chair's Report, January 2025

Purpose

1. This paper provides the UK Statistics Authority Board (the Board) with an overview of the Chair's activity in December and January.

Review of recent activities

2. On 4/5 December, I chaired the interview panel for our Non-Executive Director (NED) recruitment campaign. From a strong field, I'm delighted to confirm that we found appointable candidates for all three vacancies. These have now been agreed by the Minister for the Cabinet Office, per the public appointments process, and we have begun the onboarding process. At the end of January we will have three new NEDs join the Board:

    i. Peter Barron, an award-winning Northern Irish former journalist who has held senior roles at BBC Newsnight, Channel 4 News and ITV's Tonight. He also held senior communications roles at Google and Stripe;

    ii. Sarah Walsh, a risk and assurance professional who has worked in a variety of sectors including media, public, education and charity. She has recently left her role as Director of Governance, Risk and Assurance at the Telegraph Media Group as she moves into a portfolio career. She is on the Audit and Risk Committee of a variety of organisations, including the Royal Institute of Charter Surveyors, the Royal College of Nursing Publishing and the Science Museum Group; and

    iii. Mairi Spowage, Professor of Practice with a career in statistics and economics. She was previously the Head of National Accounts at the Scottish Government and Deputy Chief Executive for the Scottish Fiscal Commission. She is currently Director for the Fraser of Allander Institute at the University of Strathclyde.

3. The Secretariat team is leading an induction programme which will familiarise them with the Authority, the NED role, and the programmes/topics for regular discussion at the Board ahead of their first meeting in February.

4. On 10 December, Sir Ian and I met with James Bowler, Permanent Secretary to His Majesty's Treasury (HMT). The discussion focused on the Labour Force Survey / Transformed Labour Force Survey (LFS/TLFS) work being undertaken by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), a key priority for HMT. It was agreed that ONS would share a progress plan in early 2025 and propose a set of shared key performance indicators for monitoring by the Board. Directly after the meeting with HMT, I met with Clare Lombardelli, Deputy Governor for Monetary Policy at the Bank of England, where we also discussed ONS economic statistics and the importance of working with the Bank as a key stakeholder on LFS/TLFS.

5. On 13 January, I joined a strategic risk workshop for the Board facilitated by the risk and assurance team. The workshop focussed on the Authority's strategic risk profile, potential updates and any gaps, following discussion by the Executive. The outcome will be considered by the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee in March ahead of a substantive discussion at the March Board meeting.

6. On 15 January, I presented at the Health Data Research UK (HDR-UK) Innovative Data Governance Frontiers Meeting. The event brought together stakeholders from across the data science and statistics community with a shared interest in enabling faster, trustworthy access to data for research in the public good. It was a privilege to speak alongside experts such as Professor Andrew Morris and Cassie Smith of HDR-UK and

Professor Cathie Sudlow. We will be publishing a copy of my speech on the Authority website.

7. On 16 January, I attended the regular meeting of Chairs of Independent Offices hosted by the Committee for Standards in Public Life. As well as participants providing roundtable updates from their relevant bodies, this month topics for discussion included the new Ministerial Code (which, regrettably, was not in the end amended to require adherence to the Code of Practice for Statistics) and the Government's plans for an Ethics and Integrity Commission.

8. And finally, on 23 January we hosted the much-anticipated UK Statistics Assembly in London and online in collaboration with the Royal Statistical Society. The event was chaired excellently by Professor Cathie Sudlow, with around 350 in attendance at 10 Union Street with a further 300 online spread across the breakout groups and plenary sessions. We heard from a wide range of voices throughout the day, the feedback from which will now be written up by Professor David Hand and discussed at the February Board meeting.

9. I also held my regular catch-ups with the National Statistician, Director General for Regulation, Director of Finance, Planning & Performance and Committee chairs.

Correspondence

10. On 20 January I responded to a letter from Nick Timothy MP regarding costs associated with the Illegal Migration Act.

Sir Robert Chote, Chair, 23 January 2025

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

Chief Executive's Report, January 2025

Purpose

1. This provides the UK Statistics Authority Board (the Board) with an overview of activity for December 2024 to January 2025.

Summary

2. Work moves forward on our key transformational projects with updates across transformation of Consumer Prices, Future of Population and Migration Statistics (FPMS) and the Transformed Labour Force Survey/Labour Force Survey (TLFS/LFS).

3. The start of the new year has brought with it several important domestic engagements. With the Office for National Statistics (ONS), as well as the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR), participating in Evidence Week in Parliament as well as the successful and well received UK Statistics Assembly last week. ONS also continues to make a valuable contribution to the Covid Inquiry. It was my great pleasure to have the opportunity to provide the inaugural lecture at a Health Data Research UK event on 21 January.

4. As an organisation, we continue our business planning for 2025-26, which is nearing its conclusion. Phase two of the Spending Review is in full flow including work on the production of various products to meet HMT requirements.

Summary of activities

5. Work continues at pace in terms of 2025/26 planning as the business planning and spending review paper sets out. We are close to agreeing budget allocations for 2025/26 and finalising the lower-level detailed milestones, pending the outcome of the UK Statistics Assembly.

6. Work has begun on the Zero-Based Review – a mandated element of Spending Review 2025 (SR25) Phase Two. There are several products that need to be returned to HMT by the first SR25 Phase Two milestone date (27 February), on which we are making good progress.

7. Ed Humpherson, Mike Keoghan and I were involved in events during this year's Evidence Week in Parliament last week, engaging with new parliamentarians and their staff about what the ONS and OSR do and how we can assist in their work. We provided written evidence to the Environmental Audit Committee on the role of natural capital in the green economy, and I am giving evidence on 4 February to the Treasury Select Committee on labour market and migration statistics.

8. Presenting the Government's response to Module One of the UK Covid Inquiry on the UK's resilience and preparedness to the House of Commons, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster highlighted the assistance given by ONS to the Cabinet Office in the development of their tools to map potentially vulnerable populations and "improve the government's understanding of the scale and location of disproportionately impacted populations ahead of enduring crises and enable targeted local support when required."

9. Nikki Shearman has taken up the role of head of Legal and Data Governance, Legislation and Policy and will be taking on the role of Data Protection Officer for the Authority.

10. We took a paper to Data Governance Committee to provide an update on the work to manage the data protection risks to processing personal data on Network Share Drives (NSDs) and migration of data from NSDs to other platforms. We also updated the

committee on the progress of work with Digital Services and Technology to highlight the technical issues in preventing migration, with a view to resolving these issues longer term.

11. The Data (Use and Access) Bill is now in its Report Stage in the House of Lords. Nikki Shearman participated in a roundtable on the Data Bill with DSIT Minister of State, Chris Bryant MP on 22 January. This meeting was an opportunity to discuss the contents of the bill and debates so far with the Minister.

12. Following an invitation from the United Nations (UN), we are leading on the cross-government response comment consultation on the future of the Classification of Functions of Government structure, with the help of the International Team. The consultation covers proposed changes on how governments worldwide record their expenditure, on a wide range of areas such as the environment, defence and education.

13. Preparation of the final report for the Public Services Productivity Review, scheduled for 13 March, is well underway, with proactive engagement with other government departments and a wide range of external stakeholders.

14. We will be taking part in National Productivity Week, where our recent work on Business Dynamism will form part of a forum on "Unlocking Productivity: Bridging the Gap between UK Firms" (January 27). This will build on our joint conference with the Department for Business and Trade in December, which included a range of high-profile speakers in academia, policy, and think-tanks about dynamism and productivity.

15. On 14 January we published 2023 Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) annual estimates, of major importance in returning FDI outputs to their normal publication pattern and moving off modelled estimates. A pause to FDI outputs in 2024 has allowed us to move off legacy systems and improve our statistical processes.

16. The ONS Centre for Crime and Justice have been working closely with our contractor Verian on the future direction of the Crime Survey for England and Wales, including the potential of expediting the move to an online element for the survey. Working with OSR on an action plan has now been developed to address the recommendations from the systemic review into "The quality of police recorded crime statistics for England and Wales" and will be published in early February.

17. ONS Local and Subnational have been shortlisted under three categories in the fifth Annual Analysis in Government (AiG) Awards: the "Communication" category for launching Explore Local Statistics Beta service; the "Inclusion" category for the Access to local amenities in England and Wales release in October 2024 and the "Impact" category for the Impact of ONS Local.

18. Business Enterprise Research & Development Statistics were published by the business area (SEI) on schedule in December 2024 - a key milestone given the work to make the process for these statistics sustainable for the future. Work continues on other deliverables including the Private Non-Profit results pipeline and ensuring everything is fully transitioned into the business ahead of full delivery by March 2025.

19. Prices will deliver a wide range of changes in March 2025, including moving the processing of traditional data sources to a new cloud-based system, which will significantly reduce reliance on aged infrastructure and increase the resilience, sustainability, and efficiency of the consumer prices monthly production round. The new system will allow implementation of new methods for processing of traditional data sources. Following extensive stakeholder engagement, including with the Bank of England and HMT, it has been decided that scanner data will be dual run for a year to allow further time for quality assurance and lay the foundations for going live in March 2026.

20. Researchers in the Economic Centre for Excellence (ESCOE) have completed a review of ONS experimental Quarterly Country and Regional Gross Domestic Product statistics and methods, which have been paused since 2023 due to quality concerns around the impact of revisions on users. A team has been established to assess the recommendations and develop a workplan to reintroduce high-quality timely estimates that can be used to monitor progress against the economic growth mission milestone. The ESCOE report and an ONS response including the plan will be published in early Spring.

21. Survey and Economic Indicators have been supporting the Quality Excellence Pilot to look at addressing quality problems and building in a culture of continuous improvement into the UK Manufacturers' Sales by Product Survey (PRODCOM). The external support for this pilot is concluding in January and the team are looking forward to implementing the processes in earnest over the next production round.

22. Our Strategic Techniques & Technologies team are further developing the ClassifAI tool to support efficiency in Business Data Operations Division survey operations teams. We are currently evaluating the use of ClassifAI for coding on the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings and incorporating different approaches to boost accuracy.

23. Our Economic Data team have published an article alongside very large datasets on industry-to-industry payments flows. The data capture monthly financial flows between over three million UK businesses/organisations on the Bacs (direct credits/direct debits) and Faster Payment Service (instant transfers) payment systems between 2017-2024. This innovative data enables users to understand UK supply chains and production networks in unprecedented timeliness and granularity.

24. We have launched five new Statistical Analysis Pathways. These introduce a range of statistical and coding techniques core to our delivery at ONS and are aimed at all colleagues involved in producing our statistics – whether that is in a production, statistical or analytical role, or those looking to transition into these roles.

25. We are working towards production of Admin Based Population Estimates (ABPEs) and Admin Based Migration Estimates which meet the standards expected of accredited official statistics by summer 2025. Supporting this, on 31 January we are publishing a series of outputs including criteria for ABPEs becoming the main measure of the population, and more information on our plans for future releases. Subject to meeting the criteria, in summer 2025 we will publish ABPEs as our official estimate of the population for the first time.

26. The formal GO/NO-GO decision was made for the admin-based data specifications for three characteristics (ethnicity, veterans; and highest qualification level) to move into research database development. The next key decision point meeting is in May at which the decision will be taken around whether these characteristics are in a position to be added to the Admin Based Census in August 2025.

27. Ministry of Justice (MoJ) have agreed to consider options for what would be needed to change the coronial deaths data process. A joint ONS and Department for Health and Social Care paper that outlines the problem, impacts and risks this evidence gap creates has been created to be shared with MoJ.

28. The International Relations Team assembled a delegation for the UN World Data Forum in Medellin, Colombia, which highlighted our international leadership in developing the Pandemic Preparedness Toolkit, our Titchfield City Group on Ageing report, and our partnership with Ordnance Survey. On the theme of partnerships, the ONS delegation worked closely with Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office to present a coordinated UK view and had a positive meeting with the Deputy Ambassador.

29. Following the publication of the most recent Long Term International Migration estimates on 22 November, with estimates up to end June 2024, there was widespread media coverage and external engagement including a session by Mary Gregory for the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Social Science and Policy at the House of Commons.

30. Jane Naylor, Jason Bradbury and Steve Ellerd-Elliot have been appointed to job share the role of Deputy Head of the Government Statistical Service (GSS). Between them they bring a wealth of experience from across the Government Statistical Service and are all incredibly passionate about getting the best out of the GSS community. By sharing the role, the GSS community will benefit from the skills and experience of all three.

31. Across Data Growth Operations, the high-level road map for Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) data deliveries has been circulated to senior stakeholders. Integrated Data Programme Pipeline data has been ingested and engineered to enable the LFS/Pay as You Earn comparison project and National Health Service (NHS) Diabetes Prevention Programme data has also been ingested and engineered.

32. From January 2025, ONS is refreshing its corporate induction, and reintroducing face-to-face delivery across our office locations. This updated approach aims to provide new starters with a comprehensive introduction to the organisation's purpose, strategy, and values, while also facilitating active participation in networking opportunities and a deeper understanding of our organisational culture.

33. Our recent health publications have been well received in the media, with positive coverage in response to our release on the impact of NHS Talking Therapies on monthly pay and employment status from the Health Foundation and Mind charity. Endometriosis UK welcomed our new analysis of the condition, with the release attracting helpful media coverage, including in the Daily Mirror and the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) looking at the wider issue of "medical misogyny". We are now working with Endometriosis UK to support communication of our release in February linking endometriosis and labour market data.

34. There was particular media focus on our December LFS/TLFS progress update and ongoing scrutiny of our labour market figures. This month our housing affordability analysis and our 2023 baby names release brought wide coverage. On the latter, this included international attention following 'Muhammad' being the top choice for parents naming their baby boys with Times of India, Nigerian Tribune, Bangkok Post and New York Post all running the story.

35. Development of enhanced monitoring to meet DWP requirements for sharing key datasets is making good progress, with as solution built and in testing. An independent review by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) has been completed, with a small number of recommendations to progress prior to endorsement from NCSC. We are on track to obtain agreement in principle from DWP by the end of February.

Professor Sir Ian Diamond, National Statistician, 23 January 2025

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

Update from the Director General for Regulation

Purpose

1. This paper provides the UK Statistics Authority Board (the Board) with an overview of Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR) activities.

Discussion

2. Our main areas of focus since the last Board meeting have been:

    i. refresh on the Code of Practice for Statistics (the Code): we are continuing our promotion of the Code consultation by speaking at departmental sessions and bilaterally with our stakeholders. We will update Regulation Committee with progress so far on 6 February and will set out our thoughts on encouraging greater adoption of the Code outside official statistics. The consultation closes on 14 February; and

    ii. OSR 2.0: this is our programme to develop the next iteration of OSR strategy and the enablers we need to deliver it. In our January Programme Board, we heard about progress on our plans for engagement with our stakeholders in defining our future strategy and regulatory model and agreed a standardised and streamlined approach for setting out our regulatory judgements. We have completed our workstream on partnerships, which sets out a framework for OSR to engage and manage our relationships with key external partners to amplify our impact. Our partnerships span organisations within and beyond government and include the Evaluation Task Force, Administrative Data Research (ADR) UK, Full Fact and the Advertising Standards Authority (ASA). In each case we have shared aims and the opportunity to improve our regulatory model by working with one another.

3. We have recently published:

    i. statistics about the workforce employed by adult social services departments in England: Skills for Care asked the OSR to assess its statistics on the workforce employed by adult social services departments in England against the Code. After taking over the publication of these official statistics from National Health Service (NHS) Digital (now NHS England) in 2021, Skills for Care was named as an official statistics producer in the Official Statistics Order 2023 and is demonstrating its commitment to produce statistics that meet the standards required of accredited official statistics;

    ii. Labour Market Statistics: On 12 December we published a blog, statement and press notice, which set out the impact of the Labour Force Survey's challenges on a range of other statistics, including 14 de-accreditations; and

    iii. OSR Statement on data sharing and linkage: On 9 January, we published a statement on how 2025 can be a breakthrough year for data sharing and linkage. The statement outlined what is needed to advance data sharing, access and linkage across government, to ensure opportunities to enhance the public good of data and statistics are more fully realised.

Casework

4. Since the last Board meeting, we have received 19 cases including four from Members of Parliament (one MP, 3 Members of the Scottish Parliament). Topics covered by these cases include concerns about the NHS Staff Survey, the Scottish Government's chronic pain task force, as well as cases covering Home Office migration data regarding small boat arrivals, the link to arrivals on so called 'red days', and the Prime Minister's comments about the level of migrant returns. We also have new cases on topics we have previously looked at, including inflation, Home Office animal testing numbers and the Scottish Government's health and wellbeing census for school children.

5. We did not make any public interventions since the last Board meeting; however we expect to publish responses to several Parliamentarians in the coming weeks.

Engagement

6. External events: Since the last Board we have undertaken a number of external events, including hosting a seminar for government analysts in late November on the Code; among others, Chris Whitty joined me to discuss how the Code supports evidence and the role of analysts in government. Last week, I spoke at a panel discussion for Sense about Science's annual Evidence Week event in Parliament. This was a talk to discuss the use of artificial intelligence (AI) for Parliamentary scrutiny. And of course I attended the Statistics Assembly on 22 January.

7. I am currently engaging in a range of external events across government to help promote our work. One area which has received a lot of attention has been on the theme of Intelligent Transparency. We have continued to endorse this with our stakeholders to increase traction through promotion and wider understanding of its use in the public sphere. I have committed myself to speak at the UK Statistics Assembly to update our progress on our refresh of the Code. I will also be speaking at the upcoming National Statistician's Data Ethics Committee and the Inclusive Data Committee later this month, in both cases seeking their input into the Code refresh.

8. Issues on my mind: We are working to develop material to support the OSR element of the submission for year two and three of the Spending Review. Through our engagement and analytics, it is increasingly clear that there is demand for more from OSR. However, we recognise that we need to balance the maintenance of our statutory assessment functions with the realities of a resource constrained environment.

Ed Humpherson, Director General for Regulation, OSR, 22 January 2025

Strategic Business Planning 2025/26 and the Spending Review

Purpose

1. This paper provides the UK Statistics Authority Board (the Board) with an update and opportunity to comment on Office for National Statistics (ONS) business planning for 2025/26 and the second stage of the Spending Review (SR) process which will set budgets for 2026/27 to 2028/29.

Timing

2. There will be another opportunity to comment on the 2025/26 business plan prior to publication planned for April, allowing for reflections on Professor David Hand's report on the inaugural Statistics Assembly. An interim response covering the zero-based review requirement of the SR is due back to HM Treasury (HMT) on 27 February. Final submissions for the SR are due by 10 April, with outcomes expected in June.

Recommendations

3. Members of the Board are invited to note:

    i.   the progress made on HMT's settlement conditions from the first stage of the SR (2025/26 budgets);
    ii. the 2025/26 priority outcomes and core outputs;
    iii. the development of a set of quality early warning indicators;
    iv. the progress made on 2025/26 business planning at paragraphs 10–15;
    v.   the requirements for the second stage of the SR including Terms of Reference for the Zero-Based Review; and
    vi. the communication and engagement plan.

Background

4. The first stage of the SR process confirmed the UK Statistics Authority (the Authority) 2025/26 budget would be at the same cash level as in 2024/25 but with additional flexibility on how we use it. The lowering of ringfences will lessen our historic over-reliance on programme funding for core statistical infrastructure but this did come with a fresh set of conditions set by HMT.

5. Alongside the annual business planning process, we are now preparing to respond to the second stage of the SR process. This was formally commissioned on 11 December and will settle resource budgets for 2026/27–2028/29, plus an extra year for capital budgets. The first deadline for submissions is 27 February and includes a Zero-Based Review (ZBR) and an updated efficiency and savings plan.

6. The SR phase two process stipulates two scenarios for resource budgets. The first sees budgets held flat in cash terms (-5.7 per cent real) for the SR period. The second sees budgets reduced by two percent per year in cash terms (-11.2 per cent real). For capital the process is completely zero-based. (Our spending power is 95 percent resource.)

Discussion

SR Stage 1

7. Regular discussions are ongoing with our Treasury Spending Team to ensure progress is in line with their requirements.

8. The settlement letter requests a jointly agreed "set of core priority statistics" to include "prices, national accounts including public sector finances, labour market and population (including births, deaths, migration, life expectancy)". This request can be met through the list or priority core outputs, aligned to the 2025/26 ONS Priority Outcomes.

9. The settlement letter also requests "a plan that demonstrates the early warning system to alert the UK Statistics Authority Board…as to a fall in quality in relation to these statistics". The Board is asked to note that the proposed approach will be taken forward, subject to any comments. Further details on reporting, including mode and frequency, will be agreed with HMT.

2025/26 Business Planning

10. Turning the SR phase one settlement into 2025/26 plans and local budget allocations consistent with the HMT settlement letter is the work of strategic business planning. The allocation of budgets to priority activities involves detailed end-to-end planning that is almost complete pending a set of challenge sessions scheduled for the end of January and of course Professor Hand's report from the Statistical Assembly. Once allocations have been agreed, the 2025/26 prioritisation framework and underlying set of milestones can be finalised by March.

11. Discussions are yet to conclude, but given the financial context across government, difficult choices are required to ensure we can focus on delivering quality priority outputs. We have set as our top priority the requirement further to recover performance on our surveys that drive the quality of core statistics highlighted in the settlement letter from HMT. To afford additional funding for social surveys within our 'flat cash' settlement for 2025/26, while absorbing the costs of inflation and 2024's five percent pay deal, has required tough choices. Pending further discussions, current examples include:

    i.   making further savings to our corporate centre that will see more "self-service" required by staff, a reduction in a range of services and opportunities for colleagues, and longer response times for services;
    ii. further prioritising our data acquisition to service only our priority outputs;
    iii. further prioritising our technology cost commitments in ways that do not impact our priority outputs;
    iv. exploring how to streamline support and delivery of our ongoing transformation activities;
    v.   scaling back on our core-funded health, and international, work;
    vi. relying on income generation to fund any new requests for analysis; and
    vii. bearing down further on any remaining marginal activity outside priority outputs.

12. The headroom generated from these efficiencies and savings, combined with flexibilities afforded by lower ring-fences, will be ploughed into social survey operations. This is based on a plan to improve further the performance of the Labour Force Survey while maintaining performance of the Transformed Labour Force Survey, pending the outcome of a decision on the future of labour market statistics scheduled for Spring 2025. It will also allow for some (although not complete) recovery work to begin on household financial surveys, including rationalising some collection sources.

13. The ringfence for the Future of Population and Migrations Statistics programme will be honoured and resources will also be prioritised to maintain priority outputs feeding population estimates, as required by the HM Treasury conditions.

14. We are using the business planning process to design an updated Efficiencies and Savings Plan that will meet the requirements of the SR to evidence efficiencies and savings of at least five per cent within our plans. We expect automation and artificial intelligence to play a key role, along with the roll-out of the Quality Excellence Project which will help deliver improvements in our statistical production processes.

15. Communications colleagues have developed a stakeholder engagement plan to ensure we have considered user need in our decisions and that any impact is communicated early. This includes explaining our prioritisation criteria in the context of constrained finances, and consulting with stakeholders on any significant change to outputs, in line with the Code of practice for Statistics. We will also highlight opportunities for users to

feedback on their needs as part of the UK Statistics Assembly and Authority Strategy refresh.

SR Stage 2

16. As part of the stage two submission, HMT requires all departments to undertake a ZBR overseen by a Non-Executive Director (NED). The terms of reference for the Authority ZBR have been agreed . The Board is asked to note on the approach and delegate approval of the ZBR to the National Statistician and Jacob Abboud (as the agreed NED). The Board may also like to consider inviting another NED from the Regulation Committee to engage in any ZBR discussions relating specifically to the Office of Statistics Regulation.

Next Steps

17. Developments from the UK Statistics Assembly and Authority Strategy refresh will continue to feed into our planning considerations for both 2025/26 and the SR period. Detailed planning activities will continue to ensure a fully costed and deliverable plan for 2025/26, including budget allocations, an updated prioritisation framework, and a set of priority milestones.

18. A first draft of the ONS Strategic Business Plan will be provided to the Board for comment in February, alongside other relevant updates.

Tom Taylor, Finance Planning and Performance, ONS, 20 January 2025

Transformed Labour Force Survey – January 2025 Update

Purpose

1. This paper provides a routine update to the Statistics Authority Board (the Board) on the Transformed Labour Force Survey (TLFS) project and the Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Recommendations

2. Members of the Authority Board are invited to:

   i. note the recent positive progress on the project and the TLFS quality summary;
   ii. note the summary of the LMX test results and proposed revised TLFS design; and
   iii. comment on the plan to enable a robust evidence-based decision in March 2025.

Background

3. Over the last six months the TLFS project has focused on testing and refining the TLFS design, mitigating key delivery risks and in parallel, continuing to improve the quality of the existing LFS survey. With key decisions on the project rapidly approaching, this paper updates the board on progress since October, summarises our latest understanding of TLFS quality and introduces the revised TLFS design based on our insights from TLFS data and the shorter TLFS (known as the LMX) tests. It also outlines the timelines, approach and challenges we are addressing in preparing for decisions in March.

Discussion

Update on Progress Overall

4. The project continues to report Amber-Red within the Ambitious, Radical and Inclusive Economic Statistics (ARIES) and Survey Transformation Programme (STP) programmes based on the remaining risks and uncertainties associated with meeting labour market quality criteria. Since the last board report in October, key progress on the project includes:

   i. LMX Tests and Analysis – LMX tests have been completed and analysed (see below) – with results providing direct insights into the revised TLFS design;
   ii. Integrated TLFS design – A revised TLFS design has been developed to directly address the key TLFS quality issues and enable labour market and non-labour market users' needs to be met. This has been approved by the project and is now being shared with stakeholders and undergoing technical scrutiny and assurance;
   iii. stakeholder engagement – We continue to give significant focus to stakeholder engagement; with weekly updates to key users; monthly in-depth technical engagement sessions with their experts; and more formal engagement with the Stakeholder Advisory Panel. We also published a progress update and held an online seminar last month open to a wider range of users;
   iv. strategic planning – End-to-end planning of the integrated TLFS Design implementation has matured in workshops throughout January, with attention focusing on reducing delivery timescales and increasing delivery confidence;
   v. Standard Industrial Classification (SIC)/Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) progress – A generative AI prototype was successfully delivered to pre-Christmas timescales (see below) and is now being tested;
   vi. TLFS processing – A majority of the TLFS survey processing pipeline has now been successfully automated, shortening the timeline to deliver microdata into labour market analysis by 8 days to meet their requirements;

vii. LFS data collection – An additional 40 interviewers started working on waves two to five of the LFS in November and December to support recovery and quality improvements. A further ten will join in February and a requisition has been signed with an external recruitment organisation to support further field expansion and LFS quality improvements; and

viii. LFS quality - In December, we produced reweighted labour market data based on the latest population estimates, improving the LFS's coherence with other data sources. We are on track to release the reweighted LFS two-quarter longitudinal dataset in February as well. We also held an exceptional meeting of the Stakeholder Advisory Panel aimed at addressing bias within the LFS and are undertaking further work both on that and separately on coherence.

5. Data linking – some of the LFS and TLFS data have now been linked with Real Time Information (RTI) data. Our initial focus is on assuring the quality of data linkage between RTI and the surveys. Assuming the linkage is of sufficient quality, linked data should help to inform our analysis on coherence by offering insights on employee and self-employed splits and bias.

6. As reported at the last Board, the top three risks remain UK Data Coherence, the collection of Complex Data Variables (i.e. industrial and occupation classifications) and conflicting resourcing pressures:

   i. UK Data Coherence – Progress on the project since October has identified methods and approaches to integrate data from Northern Ireland (NI) should they transition to a transformed LFS survey ahead of the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The key challenge remains that the Northern Ireland (NI) transformed survey collection periods are longer (by two weeks) than their current LFS, directly impacting the ability of ONS to hold to existing UK Labour Market publication schedules. We are prioritising discussions with Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) to assess the feasibility of extracting NI data from their collection period early;

   ii. complex data capture - A generative AI web app concept demonstrator known as "Survey Assist" has been created for Standard Industrial Classifications (SIC) and is undergoing tests throughout January to confirm a positive impact on data quality. The SOC equivalent is now being developed, as well as work to convert these initial concepts into fully integrated operational solutions;

   iii. resources remain stretched but a dedicated resourcing lead and prioritised recruitment is accelerating the arrival of staff onto the project. January has seen a dedicated Grade 6 analytical lead and additional SIC/SOC staff joining the project. Agreed prioritisation of Blaise data capture software programming resources is tripling the number of staff supporting the TLFS over the coming months.

7. In addition to these risks, the external environment has become more challenging since our last update, with significant negative media coverage regarding both the current quality of the LFS and the potential timescales for transitioning to the TLFS, concentrated on, but not limited to, December 3 when we released a number of publications including the written evidence to the Treasury Select Committee (TSC) and the Lessons Learnt report. Alongside this we have seen critical public comment from some members of the Monetary Policy Committee and increased parliamentary and Ministerial interest and scrutiny. Sir Ian will be providing aural evidence at a hearing to TSC on 4 February and likely to Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee (PACAC) later in the month.

TLFS Data Performance Update

8. The TLFS data has now been reweighted so that it incorporates the latest population information that was incorporated into LFS estimates in December. This data will be shared with users involved in the TLFS data shares on January 23 and discussed with

both the Stakeholder Advisory Panel and the Technical Engagement group at the end of January and beginning of February respectively. Their insights – alongside our own analysis - will inform the overall assessment of current TLFS quality which we will feed into the March decision making alongside the evaluation of LMX and proposed design changes to TLFS which are outlined in the section below.

Shorter Test Results and TLFS Design Update

9. In response to the known quality issues with the current TLFS (above, and originally reported to the board in July 2024), the priority throughout the autumn has been to test the ability of a shorter survey to provide the required quality improvements. The shorter LMX, estimated at approximately 15 minutes during design, proved to have an average completion time of 19 minutes across 16,920 household responses. This compares to 28-30 minutes on the existing TLFS core survey. Full test results will be reported shortly, but in brief:

    i. the shorter survey reduced the proportion of partial household and partial individual responses;
    ii. the shorter survey increased response rates across most regions and in more deprived areas and increased the proportion of larger households (with three plus people) and proportion of respondents in younger age groups (16 - 24); and
    iii. requesting a respondent's workplace address to support SIC/SOC identification negatively impacted response, being a key point of drop-off on the survey, and offered limited benefit in support of SIC/SOC identification.

10. Overall while the LMX tests results are positive, the size of the improvements fell short of the formal success criteria defined prior to the experiment. Hence, our design recommendation will propose further shortening the survey, alongside a wider set of survey improvements. The revised integrated design is currently being shared with stakeholders and undergoing technical review and assurance prior to formal TLFS decisions, but at a high level may be summarised as:

    i. a Labour market focused core survey of 15 mins accompanied by a separate (longer) non-labour market survey to meet residual data needs;
    ii. labour market estimates will be based only on the labour market core survey, rather than an amalgamation of both surveys. This simplifies and de-risks statistical methods and analysis given the increasingly differing lengths and respondent profiles of the two surveys, but necessitates a slight increase in sample size.
    iii. face-to-face interviewer follow-up and completion for a proportion of priority non-responding households will be used to improve response and reduce bias;
    iv. data rotation will be introduced for later waves to significantly reduce respondent burden and drop-out through the waves; and
    v. "Survey Assist" generative AI functionality to support high quality SIC/SOC collection.

The Road to Decision Making in March

11. The project is now aiming for an Executive Committee (ExCo) decision on the way forward on TLFS on 3 March 2025. The National Statistician will then provide advice to the Board for the March meeting for discussion and a final collective decision. A formal value-for-money (vfm) investment appraisal, in-line with the Treasury Green Book will be presented. Following this best practice, a series of options will be defined, including staying on the LFS and stopping the TLFS project, adopting the current TLFS survey 'as is' and several options associated with improving the TLFS. These options will each have their relative merits in relation to time, cost, quality and ability to meet user needs and achieve stakeholder confidence. As with any complex project, there will be clear trade-offs and compromises, hence the need to provide a solid fact-based appraisal of current TLFS performance and options for onward development.

12. ExCo and the Board will receive two papers to provide the evidence to support decision making. A formal board paper summarising the options, investment appraisal/vfm debate/trade-offs and recommended decision, and an accompanying detailed TLFS Technical Design paper. The development of a cost model to support the investment appraisal is being led by Finance, Planning and Performance Directorate.

13. The TLFS Technical Design paper will present evidence on current LFS and TLFS data quality as well as the LMX test results. It will also detail the revised TLFS design, outline the implementation and transition plan, summarise the way forward on complex data capture and NISRA integration and articulate the remaining uncertainties and risks on the project. This paper will receive internal review and assurance as well as external technical review by Professors Chambers and Brown.

14. The project would draw the board's attention to two key areas of risk on the project associated with the decision making in March:

    i. with users and stakeholders having differing requirements and quality needs in relation to the TLFS, there is a risk of disparate stakeholder views in relation to preferred options. The Stakeholder Advisory Panel (29 January 2025) will provide feedback on TLFS and LFS quality and the updated TLFS design, while key users and stakeholders will be further engaged throughout February as options and assessments mature. ONS will need to adopt a clear view of its own, while listening and respecting the views and feedback of key users and stakeholders; and

    ii. options which involve improvements to the TLFS survey will offer increased benefits/value, but unsurprisingly, with associated increased time, cost and risk. The risks associated with improvements have both the potential to de-stabilise the parallel run dataset and that either survey or methods changes do not deliver the improvements anticipated, requiring further design iterations. To mitigate the former, the project will adopt a stability risk assessment approach, assessing the benefits and risks to the parallel run of any changes before full testing and implementation. To mitigate the latter, the project is working to speed up the six- to 12- month implementation, collection and analysis feedback loop required to validate the benefit of survey changes and build stakeholder confidence, but a level of uncertainty and practical limitations on the rate of change/validation will remain.

15. The project welcomes the board's feedback in the decision-making approach outlined above and in handling the complexity and uncertainties that remain.

Conclusion

16. This paper summarises recent progress on the project and remaining key risks, the latest understanding on TLFS quality and our updated design of the survey based on insights from the TLFS data and LMX test results. The focus of the project is now on completing the technical design paper and formal investment appraisal to support decisions in March. Recognising the high profile and significant external challenge the project is receiving, continuing to give significant focus to both stakeholder engagement and wider communications in the period ahead will be vital.

Alex Lambert, Director for Social Surveys, Liz McKeown, Director Economic Statistics, Production and Analysis and Jason Zawadzki, Director Economic Statistics Change, ONS, 21 January 2025

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

SA(25)07

Integrated Data Service – January 2025 Update

Purpose

1. This paper provides members of the UK Statistics Authority Board (the Board) with an update on the progress of the Integrated Data Programme (IDP), responsible for the delivery of the Integrated Data Service (IDS).

Recommendations

2. Members of the Authority Board are invited to:

   i.   note the positive outcome from the first phase of the 2025 Spending Review (SR25);
   ii.   note progress with the rapid review of the IDS commissioned by the Inter-Ministerial Group for Digital (IMG Digital); and
   iii. note the Service Update and the progress that has been made with high-value analytic projects and indexed datasets.

Discussion

Programme Update

3. The IDP has continued to make good progress in the areas highlighted in the October Board paper.

4. Of particular note, the IDS achieved a positive outcome from the first phase of SR25, which will enable the IDP to continue into the financial year 2025/26. We are now in the process of defining the scope for 2025/26, and the subsequent two financial years, to feed into the second phase of the SR process.

5. The Joint Data and Analysis Centre within the Cabinet Office has been commissioned by IMG Digital to conduct a rapid review of the IDS. The review, which reviews the progress of the IDP to date and seeks to use lessons learned to inform the National Data Library (NDL), is due to be presented at the IMG Digital meeting on the 29 January.

6. We expect the review to highlight that, notwithstanding the progress IDS has made in acquiring high value datasets, challenges relating to data sharing have delayed benefit realisation and overcoming these challenges will be key to the success of the NDL. It will also discuss the need for indexing and linkage of data as part of the NDL, the potential for re-use of the infrastructure built, and the need for a review of data sharing legislation in the round.

Service Update

7. The process for implementing the revised Service Operating Model is nearing its conclusion and positive discussion have been held with trade unions about the process to support a number of changes in roles.

8. As reported to the Board in October we are onboarding two high value analysis projects per month, and will be increasing this as the new operating model beds in.

Data and Analysis Priorities

9. High value analysis projects on-boarded in November and December are:

i. analysis of healthcare interventions and employment outcomes, broadening analysis relating to bariatrics survey published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on 23 October[1] relating to a range of other healthcare interventions;

ii. analysis by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the ONS, with the support of Greater Manchester and West Midlands combined authorities, using survey data and commercial telecommunications data to critically evaluate existing approaches to night-time economy classifications;

iii. exploratory analysis of the potential use of linked administrative, census and survey to understand child and fuel poverty; and

iv. exploratory analysis comparing HM Revenue and Customs Pay As You Earn data with Labour Force Survey, Transformed Labour Force Survey and 2021 Census to give further insight into employment patterns.

Look Ahead

10. The IDP will continue to

i. prioritise the onboarding of high-value analysis and datasets;

ii. work closely with Cabinet Office, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology and HM Treasury on their advice to Ministers about the NDL and the place of IDS experience and capability within that; and

iii. develop options and an Outline Business Case for phase 2 of the spending review.

Pete Benton, Senior Responsible Owner of the Integrated Data Service
Nigel Green, Director General for the Integrated Data Programme, Office for National Statistics, 21 January 2025

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[1] https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/theimpactofbariatricsurgeryonmonthlyemployeepayandemployeestatusenglandapril2014todecember2022