

# **UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY**

## **Minutes**

**Thursday 24 April 2025**

**London Boardroom**

**Hybrid Meeting**

### **Members Present**

Sir Robert Chote (Chair)

Dr Jacob Abboud

Peter Barron

Professor Sir Ian Diamond

Emma Rourke

Professor Sir David Spiegelhalter

Professor Mairi Spowage

Dr Sarah Walsh

Penny Young

### **Other Attendees**

June Bowman

Joe Moore (for item 8)

Sarah Moore

Tom Taylor

Ross Tivey (for item 8)

### **Secretariat**

Sally Jones

### **Apologies**

Professor Dame Carol Propper

## **1. Apologies**

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

## **2. Declarations of Interest**

- 2.1. There were no new declarations of interest.

## **3. Minutes and matter arising from previous meetings**

- 3.1. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 March 2025 were approved.

## **4. Report from the Authority Chair [SA(25)20]**

- 4.1. Non-Executive Directors had met before the meeting. They had discussed topics including the ongoing review by Sir Robert Devereux and the forthcoming inquiry of the Authority by the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee (PACAC). NEDs had agreed that this year's annual review of Board effectiveness would be externally led and undertaken over the summer.
- 4.2. The Chair reported on his recent activities since the Board last met. On 11 April Sir Robert and Ed Humpherson had met Professor Alice Sullivan to discuss the findings of her recently published review on data, statistics and research on sex and gender. The Board agreed that Professor Sullivan would be invited to a future meeting to discuss the high-level recommendations. It was noted that the ONS harmonisation team, which operated on behalf of the Government Statistical Service (GSS) continuing to undertake work in this area. This included a series of roadshows, which were ongoing, the format of which had been changed to include a mechanism for participants to provide written feedback.

## **5. Report from the Chief Executive [SA(25)21]**

- 5.1. Sir Ian provided the Board with an overview of activity and issues since the last meeting, highlighting the following:
  - i. the final Spending Review 2025 return had been submitted to HM Treasury (HMT). Tom Taylor and the finance team would continue discussions with HMT to reach an agreed settlement in June;
  - ii. following agreement by the Board at the March meeting on the way forward for the Transformed Labour Force Survey (TLFS) HMT had confirmed funding for 2025/26. ONS had subsequently published its plans for the TLFS on 10 April;
  - iii. the Ambitious Radical Inclusive Economic Statistics Programme closed as planned on 31 March;
  - iv. the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) team would begin using an Artificial Intelligence test classification tool to support coding from May with the aim of improving efficiency;
  - v. in line with the recommendation from the Lievesley Review regarding the appointment process for the National Statistician's advisory groups, Professor Jonathan Haskel had been appointed as the new Chair of the National Statistician's Advisory Panel on Consumer Price Statistics; and Dr Madeleine Sumption as Chair of the Advisory Panel on Migration Statistics;
  - vi. Megan Cooper had taken on the role of Director for the Integrated Data Programme. The latest Integrated Data Service (IDS) business case had been submitted to HMT and a Treasury Approval Process had been held;
  - vii. the Research Accreditation Panel had accredited ONS's Data Access Platform as a secure processor of data under the Digital Economy Act;
  - viii. the draft Future of Population and Migration Statistics Recommendation had been discussed with Minister Georgia Gould MP, Parliamentary Secretary at the Cabinet Office. Further stakeholder engagement was planned alongside plans to publish the recommendation following agreement by the Board at the previous meeting; and

- ix. the ONS Executive Committee had considered the additional management information that would be provided to the Board in May on the early warning system in place to ensure that data quality risks and issues were quickly identified.
- 5.2. Members discussed the update and agreed bi-monthly reporting to the Board for TLFS/LFS as there was a clear plan in place. With regard to statistical quality It was noted that improved quality assurance processes had resulted in the identification of issues ahead of publication and methodological changes were part of ONS's approach to continuous improvement.
- 5.3. The Board heard about the ongoing engagement by ONS with the Ministry of Justice to address the long-standing issue of delays to coronial data, with a specific focus associated with drug related deaths. Professor Sir David Spiegelhalter had met the ONS team for mortality statistics and welcomed the work by ONS to publish deaths by week of occurrence rather than registration.

## **6. Communications Update**

- 6.1. Peter Barron and Sarah Moore updated the Board on the proposed approach to the communications update to the Board going forward.
- 6.2. It was acknowledged that media coverage for ONS had been extremely challenging of late, mainly relating to economic statistics, including the recent Producer Price Index which had been paused on 21 March due to a legacy issue identified with the chain linking methods used to calculate these indices; and OSR's Systemic Review of ONS Economic Statistics. It was noted that recent successful publications included the announcement on the way forward for the TLFS on 10 April and the publication of the ONS Strategic Business Plan setting out the key priorities for the ONS. Engagement was ongoing with stakeholders including journalists and other users as well as the Royal Statistical Society.
- 6.3. Board members welcomed the update and noted that it would be useful to have a media dashboard that would measure sentiment and reach. The Board agreed that a Communications update would be a standing item to every meeting. A substantive paper setting out the organisation's communications strategy would be scheduled for the June Board meeting.

## **7. Report from the Director General for Regulation [SA(25)22]**

- 7.1. Ed Humpherson provided an update on regulation activity highlighting the publication of OSR's Systemic Review of ONS Economic Statistics on 7 April. The report had initially asked for a response within four weeks but this had been extended given the ongoing review by Sir Robert Devereux.
- 7.2. OSR had published a letter to the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) concluding that DWP's presentation of Universal Credit provided a very misleading picture to the public. DWP subsequently corrected the press release referred to in the letter.

## **8. Draft Authority Strategy [SA(25)23]**

- 8.1. Joe Moore and Ross Tivey introduced a paper which provided an update on the development of the next Authority strategy. Since the last discussion in November the Policy Unit had carried out an extensive programme of internal and external engagement.
- 8.2. The Board heard the proposal for the refreshed strategy to be called Statistics for the Public Good 2030, with a focus on the whole statistical system. The document would clearly explain the component parts of the statistics system, their roles, capabilities and contribution to delivering statistics for the public good and set the context and overall ambition for the system. It would also clearly explain the relationship between

the strategy and other key documents that underpin it such as the ONS and OSR business plans and the GSS Vision.

8.3. Board members discussed the approach to the strategy refresh. The following points were made in discussion:

- i. the link to the framework for the Code of Practice for Statistics based on its three pillars: Trustworthiness, Quality and Value (TQV), which feedback had shown resonates with colleagues across the statistics system. It was noted that trust was not a central objective of the Authority but rather a consequence of trustworthy work delivered across the statistics system;
- ii. the proposal to replace the existing principles (Radical, Ambitious, Inclusive and Sustainable) with 'commitments', the inclusion of strategic priorities and the link with TQV in relation to the outputs the system produces were discussed fully. There was some support for the inclusion of 'commitments' and priorities, sitting alongside TQV;
- iii. the need for the refreshed strategy to establish and clarify the role of the Authority and the mechanism by which the Authority delivers, providing leadership for the whole statistics system with wording that resonates with statistical producers; and
- iv. the role of the strategy in providing visible leadership and support across the Government Statistical Service; and supporting the strengthening of capability amongst statisticians. There was potential for alignment with the ongoing work by the Royal Statistical Society and GSS on the future statistician.

8.4. The Board noted thanks for the work by the Policy Unit that had been undertaken in reaching this point with support for simplifying the approach. It was agreed that further work would be undertaken by a smaller group of members with the Policy Unit to progress including consideration of communications. Timing for publication of the strategy would also be considered further to ensure an inclusive approach across the statistics system avoiding parliamentary recess.

## **9. Any Other Business**

9.1. The Board will next meet on Thursday 29 May.

**UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY**  
**Agenda**  
**Thursday 24 April 2025, 11.00-14.00**  
**London Boardroom, Hybrid Meeting**

**Chair:** Sir Robert Chote

**Apologies:** None

**Attendees:** Joe Moore (for item 6), Ross Tivey (for item 6),

**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 27 March 2025
2 11:20-11:30 10 mins	Report from the Authority Chair	SA(25)20  Sir Robert Chote
3 11:30-12:20 50 mins	Report from the Chief Executive	SA(25)21  Prof. Sir Ian Diamond
4 12:20-12:35 15 mins	Communications update	Oral update  Sarah Moore
5 12:35-12:45 10 mins	Report from the Director General for Regulation	SA(25)22  Ed Humpherson
12:45-13:00 15 mins	Break	
6 13:00-13:50 50 mins	Draft Authority Strategy	SA(25)23  Joe Moore Ross Tivey
7 13:50-14:00 10 mins	Any Other Business	

**Next meeting: Thursday 29 May, London Boardroom**

***Chair's Report, April 2025***

**Purpose**

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

**Review of recent activities**

2. At the beginning of April, the UK Statistics Authority (the Authority) announced a short review of the performance and culture of the Office for National Statistics (ONS), commissioned jointly with the Cabinet Office. The review, led by Sir Robert Devereux, an experienced former permanent secretary, is underway and expected to conclude in early summer. Also, this month, the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee announced an inquiry on the work of the Authority. We will provide written and oral evidence to the inquiry.
3. This month I have met with internal colleagues and the Royal Statistical Society (RSS) to discuss the next iteration of the Authority strategy ahead of a paper at this meeting. Professor Sir John Aston, RSS President, and Dr Sarah Cumbers, Chief Executive, provided feedback from their members that a greater focus on user engagement would be welcomed in particular, following the success of the inaugural Statistics Assembly, while also recognising the importance of prioritisation of finite resources. We will continue to keep the RSS engaged throughout the development process.
4. On 7 April I had the pleasure of speaking with new joiners to the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR) as part of their induction programme. I spoke about my role as Chair, the role of the Board and the Regulation Committee, and how the OSR contributes to the functioning of the statistical system before taking questions.
5. On 11 April, Ed Humpherson and I met with Professor Alice Sullivan to discuss the findings of her recently published review on data, statistics and research on sex and gender. The Authority welcomes Professor Sullivan's report, and we will consider the recommendations for us. The ONS harmonisation team, which operates on behalf of the Government Statistical Service, will engage with Professor Sullivan and her work as part of the evidence being gathered to support the discovery phase of the sex and gender identity harmonisation development.
6. I also held my regular catch-ups with the National Statistician, Director General for Regulation, Deputy Director of Strategy and Policy, and Committee chairs.

**Correspondence**

7. On 31 March I responded to Matt Vickers MP on police workforce figures.
8. On 3 April I responded to a further letter from Jeremy Balfour MSP on the Health and Wellbeing Census Scotland.

**Sir Robert Chote, Chair, 17 April 2025**

***Chief Executive's Report, April 2025***

**Purpose**

1. This provides the UK Statistics Authority Board (the Board) with an overview of activity since the last Board meeting on 27 March 2025.

**Summary**

2. The short independent review of the performance and culture of the Office for National Statistics (ONS), commissioned by the Board and the Cabinet Office, has now begun. The review is being led by Sir Robert Devereux, who was formerly Permanent Secretary at the Department for Work and Pensions. I look forward to engaging with Sir Robert's findings once this short review concludes. Communications to colleagues on the scope and timescales of the review are ongoing, with information regularly cascaded through internal communications.
3. April saw the publication of the first stage of the Systemic Review of ONS Economic Statistics, carried out by the Office for Statistics Regulation. The review highlighted many positive aspects of our work, such as our stakeholder support, and improvements to our National Accounts and prices statistics. It also identified areas where we need to assert further focus: on data quality, the challenges of using administrative data and the strengthening of user engagement. We are already taking positive steps to address these findings, including through increasing our focus and prioritisation of core economic statistics. In the coming months, following the conclusion of the Devereux Review, we will outline further actions we are taking.
4. Our final return into Spending Review 2025 was submitted to HM Treasury (HMT) on 10 April. We now enter a period of negotiation that will culminate in an agreed settlement on 11 June.
5. Across the latest month, I have continued to give several talks to a range of audiences. This includes presentations in Gloucester, Sherborne and London, discussing key insights related to demography and the economy.

**Finance, Planning and Performance**

6. The lead time for closing the March (Period 12) month-end is longer than other months given it also coincides with the financial year-end process. As such we have not yet finalised the position and do not expect to until later in April.
7. The Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee launched an inquiry into the work of the UK Statistics Authority (the Authority). I wrote to the Treasury Committee earlier this month with an update on the Transformed Labour Force Survey (TLFS), as well as detail on trade and Producer Price Indices (PPI) as requested. Mary Gregory gave evidence to the Lords Economic Affairs Committee for their inquiry 'preparing for an ageing society'; the session discussed birth and fertility rates in the UK population, life expectancy and migration statistics.
8. Formal engagement has now concluded for the refresh of the Authority Strategy, except for the meeting of Inter Administration Committee on 24 April. The Policy Unit are presenting a paper to the Board this month to agree the approach to drafting having reviewed the feedback and insights collected since November.
9. The pre-election period of sensitivity for the May local government elections in England began on 10 April. Statistical activities are continuing to be conducted in line with the

Code of Practice for Statistics, however guidance has been produced to advise statistical producers across the Government Statistical Service on any activities directly related to local authorities which could have a bearing on or detract from the elections.

10. The Research Accreditation Panel (RAP) strategic workshop was held on 31 March. Matters discussed were programmatic access for researchers and the transparency requirement. This included suggestions that the Digital Economy Act research criteria should be updated. I look forward to meeting with Paul Boyle, Chair of RAP, in the coming weeks to discuss outcomes.

### **Economic, Social and Environment Group**

11. We will create a new Advisory Panel on National Accounts which will strengthen implementation elements for National Accounts topics. Consequently, and with the recent successful United Nations endorsement of the new international guidance for System of National Accounts and Balance of Payments, we will also review the existing National Statistician's Committee for Advice on Statistics for Economic Statistics (NSCASE) to become more internationally focused. NSCASE will now meet at least once a year on strategic topics relevant to the international manuals and their impact on UK statistics.
12. We published a labour market transformation update on 10 April. This set out the next stages for the development of the TLFS, leading to a readiness assessment in collaboration with key users in July 2026, aiming for transition of our published headline labour market statistics in November 2026. It has also been confirmed that the parallel run of both Labour Force Survey (LFS) and TLFS will continue while we implement the planned changes to the TLFS design.
13. As part of our Labour Market publications on 15 April, we published an exceptional revision to the Average Weekly Earnings series following corrected data supplied by a large company for a number of months. Publishing this revision outside our usual processes has entailed a lot of work for the teams involved who have shown great skill and dedication to bring the corrected data into this high-profile series.
14. The ONS was well represented at the recent United Nations Group of Experts on National Accounts. ONS colleagues chaired sessions on Digitalisation and Modern tools for National Accounts compilation, with presentations from ONS colleagues on Globalisation, Generative AI, and on a tool to manage the transition to the new international manuals.
15. The Ambitious, Radical, Inclusive, Economic Statistics (ARIES) Programme came to a close as planned on 31 March. As one of ONS' strategic enabling programmes, ARIES contributed to the success of the organisational delivery of the Strategic Business Plan. It concluded within budget, delivered circa £175million to £200million of economic benefits and delivered improvements to core economic statistics including inflation, public sector finances and business statistics.
16. On 31 March, we published a blog to announce the reinstatement of Quarterly Regional Gross Domestic Product estimates this year, promoting the review carried out by the Economic Statistics Centre of Excellence and our plans to take on the recommendations set out in the review.
17. The ONS Local Midlands Region team have been working with Social Surveys and Digital Communications teams to understand how they can best support West Midlands Combined Authority to help boost survey response rates across their region. There are a few collaboration options that the teams will be discussing in the coming weeks and might act as a model that could be rolled out to other areas in future.



18. I was delighted to open the Public Services Productivity Review Showcase event on 2 April following last month's published National Statistician's review on the Measurement of Public Services Productivity (PSP), plus the annual statistical release. The event was well attended in-person and online, with over 150 colleagues from across government, academia and external experts coming together to discuss the improvements to date and exploring the recommendations for further continuous improvement on PSP.
19. Trade in goods and services data were fully corrected in UK Trade, Balance of Payments and Quarterly National Accounts releases on 28 March, to account for recent errors in HM Revenue and Customs data and in our legacy International Trade in Services results system. We move forward with business area-led continuous improvement work, to maintain and improve the systems and reduce risk of reoccurrence.
20. Prices division continues to work at pace to address the error discovered in methods for PPI and Services PPI, which led to the pausing of the monthly producer prices release starting in March. We took a proposed new chain-linking method to our Technical Panel on 11 April for approval and delivered structured briefings for all of our key stakeholders.
21. We presented on our environmental taxes work at the annual United Nations Economic Commissions for Europe/ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development conference on implementing the System of Environmental Economic Accounting; had a popular stall at the annual Civil Service Climate and Environment Network conference; and engaged with Green Alliance on their Nature of our Economy report on the 2021 HMT commissioned Dasgupta review of the economics of biodiversity.
22. From 1 May, the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) team will begin using an AI text classification tool to support occupation coding. This marks the first use of Large Language Models in ongoing ONS statistical production, representing a significant milestone. The tool reduces the time required to code survey free text to occupations by almost 50 per cent, improves the accuracy of the existing tool, and offers numerous benefits to employee experience.
23. The DSC is concluding its work under HMT's Labour Market Evaluation Pilot to develop data sources to provide small geography (output area) data on the access to job opportunities via different modes of transport. The data has already been used by HMT as a part of the ongoing Spending Review, to inform departmental spending.

### **Health, Population and Methods**

24. The office of the Secretary of State for Health wrote to me to express the Secretary of State's gratitude for the close working between the ONS, National Health Service (NHS) England and the Department of Housing and Social Care on the work we do to link health data with tax and benefits data, stating this work provides invaluable insights.
25. In early April, we published new statistical analysis of self-harm and suicides by sexual orientation. Whilst there is evidence that people who identify as LGBT are at higher risk of mental health problems, there was previously no high-quality population level evidence that there are differences in the risk of self-harm or suicide. We linked 2021 Census data to death registrations and NHS Hospital records to produce the first population-level estimates of intentional self-harm and suicide by sexual orientation.
26. The draft Future of Population and Migration Statistics recommendation has been shared with Minister Gould. Further stakeholder engagement is planned alongside finalising plans to publish the recommendation over the summer together with a suite of publications.

### **Data Capability Group**

27. This month, Megan Cooper has taken up the role of Director for the Integrated Data Programme (IDP) until the end of March 2026.
28. The latest IDP Business Case has been submitted to HMT and a Treasury Approval Process (TAP) has been held. Lines of inquiry included themes related to programme benefits, delivery confidence against the plan, relationship with the National Data Library, and resourcing. The TAP panel will inform advice to ministers as part of the Authority Spending Review process.
29. The IDP hosted several other government departments in Newport, leading a deep dive into Child Poverty using the Integrated Data Service (IDS) platform. The deep dive was important in getting people to use the platform and see it. Consequently, follow-up engagements with Department for Energy, Security and Net Zero, Department for Environment and Rural Affairs and HM Revenue and Customs are being scheduled to discuss their needs and how the IDS can support them. Feedback on the platform highlighted opportunities for improvement in analytic capability and data requirements.
30. On 31 March, the Research Accreditation Panel accredited ONS's Data Access Platform as a secure processor of data under the Digital Economy Act. This is a cornerstone in supporting continued data supplier confidence in ONS' safe handling of data and legally enables ONS to prepare data for access by accredited researchers via the Secure Research Service and Integrated Data Service for a further five years.
31. Digital Services have automated the loading of files into a "lockbox" solution that's used for newswires to download statistical data at the time of release. Automated loading will increase reliability and has produced an efficiency saving of time for engineers. Since implementation, performance has significantly improved with Newswires downloading our data milliseconds after the time of release.
32. Colleagues have met with the Home Office Southeast Head of Place lead, with a view to replicating an alliance between departments in the Southeast using a model established with the South Wales Digital Career Alliance. Furthermore, they are also keen to learn more about the ONS Government Digital and Data Academy and the academy's successes with other government departments.

### **Operations Group**

33. To support our journey to net zero, from April we will no longer be using disposable coffee cups in our cafes in Newport and Titchfield, which will save us over three tonnes in non-recyclable waste and £17,000 a year. To support this, we have introduced ONS branded reusable cups that will be available for colleagues to use. This move is part of the wider initiatives underway to meet our Greening Government Commitments and help us achieve net zero by 2050 – other initiatives include a new light sensor system, greater use of rainwater to reduce our water usage and removal of all gas usage at Newport.
34. The Security Culture & Protective Security and Business Resilience Operations (PSBRO) presentation slot at ONS Live on 18 March, focusing on international travel and phishing, was an excellent success. Off the back of the audience's interest and enthusiasm, Security Culture are now in the early stages of collaborating with PSBRO & Cyber Security to plan a 'security roadshow' style event at the Newport and Titchfield offices.
35. The team have finalised and enacted a resourcing plan for ASHE 2025 to meet stakeholder requirements. This year's planning is informed by operational modelling of error clearance, which will also enable day-to-day burn down monitoring of clearance against targets.

36.

**Professor Sir Ian Diamond, National Statistician, 17 April 2025**

# UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

SA(25)22

## *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 has been our [review of economic statistics](#). We published the report on 7 April. The report focused mainly on data sources, and set out our emerging conclusions and requirements for the Office for National Statistics (ONS). These requirements included:
  - i. the production of a fully resourced plan for its survey operations;
  - ii. setting out what can be achieved with available funding in its business plan, producing a strategic plan for economic statistics and producing a strategic plan for data sources; and
  - iii. implementing a rolling programme of regular reviews of individual surveys and other data sources.
3. The ONS response has been very positive. Sir Ian replied publicly to me shortly after the report's publication, and the ONS economic statistics function has engaged constructively with my team.
4. Of course, the OSR report coincides with external review activity, involving the review by Sir Robert Devereux and the inquiry by the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Select Committee. In my view, our report demonstrates to these external reviewers that there is merit in our model of constructive, balanced and outcome-focussed regulation.
5. While our review has been the main focus of my time over the last month, we have undertaken a number of other activities:
  - i. **Spending Review:** We have provided an update to our Zero Based Review to HM Treasury, providing more detail the options for OSR funding;
  - ii. **Fraud and computer misuse:** On 3 April, we published our [review of the fraud and computer misuse statistics for England and Wales](#) produced by ONS;
  - iii. **Criminal court statistics:** On 20 March, we published a review of the quality of criminal court statistics for England and Wales, following concerns in inaccuracies in Crown Court data. This review concluded that, following the Ministry of Justice internal quality review, it can continue to publish the statistics as accredited official statistics;
  - iv. **Research:** On 19 March we published a [research report](#) commissioned from the Policy Institute at King's College London and Behavioural Insights Team, to explore the role official statistics play in informing decision-making by individuals across society. This was accompanied by a [blog](#) and [video](#), which aimed to make our findings accessible to a public audience; and
  - v. **Armed Forces statistics:** On 24 March, our Assessment Programme Lead, Siobhan Tuohy-Smith, [wrote to the Ministry of Defence](#) following the completion of our review of statistics on murder, manslaughter and sexual offences in the Service Justice System. We outlined areas for improvement and areas of positive practice.

## Casework

6. Since the last Authority Board meeting, we have received ten new cases, resulting in a yearly total of 219 casework cases considered by OSR and the UK Statistics Authority in 2024/25 (2023/24 total: 231).
7. We also have two cases since the start of the new financial year. This included one new parliamentary case covering claims made by the Scottish First Minister about a reduction in Scottish attainment levels since 2010. Topics covered by the other new cases include multiple cases relating to Department for Work and Pensions press releases about the number of people on Universal Credit, claims about changes in the number of people in relative poverty, and concerns with the methodology of school absence data.
8. We sent a [public letter](#) to Sir Peter Schofield, Permanent Secretary in the department. We concluded that DWP's presentation of Universal Credit provided a very misleading picture to the public. This intervention picked up some media attention and the Department has since corrected the press release referred to in the letter.

## Engagement

9. **External events:** I spoke at an OSR seminar for around 400 government analysts on communicating uncertainty, alongside Sir David Spiegelhalter; Jon Wroth-Smith, who spoke about National Records Scotland's work on the Scottish Census; and Vicky Stone from my team. I also spoke at an event organised in Munich by the Ethical Data Initiative. I spoke about the ethics of producing and using official statistics.
10. Issues on my mind:
  - i. **Reviews:** As noted above, the external reviews will occupy a lot of my time over the next month. My aim is to explain the benefits of our regulatory model; and
  - ii. **Developing OSR's strategy:** We are developing our strategy alongside the UK Statistics Authority's overall, system-wide strategy.

**Ed Humpherson, Director General for Regulation, OSR, 14 April 2025**

**UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY**

SA(25)23

***Developing the next strategy for the UK statistical system: Update***

**As this area of work is policy in development, this paper will be published upon completion.**