



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Baroness Taylor of Stevenage
*Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Housing
and Local Government*
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Our reference: MC2025/33174

Penny Young
UKSA Deputy Chair
Chair@statistics.gov.uk

17th December 2025

Dear Penny

Thank you for your email of 19 November concerning the Office for Statistics Regulation's (OSR) Intelligent Transparency 2025 review and the refreshed Code of Practice for Statistics (Code) version 3.0. I have been asked to reply.

I agree that intelligent transparency should be the default across Government and support its progression within the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).

MHCLG is committed to upholding the trustworthiness, quality, and value of the statistics and evidence we produce and use. The Department welcomes Code 3.0, including its strengthened standards for the public use of statistics, data, and wider analysis. Our published statistical products are designed to meet the Code, and officials regularly explain how we do so. My officials also regularly provide internal briefings on the Code and intelligent transparency. I understand an in-person briefing on the refresh was provided to a ministerial colleague earlier this month.

I will ask my officials to publish a department-level statement of compliance with the Code and the principles of intelligent transparency. We will reflect on the review's recommendations and take further steps to embed intelligent transparency across the Department. This will include reinforcing expectations to cite and link to sources in public communications, monitoring our public use of statistics, and continuing training for Ministers, Special Advisers, and professional groups.

In the meantime, we will continue to adhere to the Code: quoting only analysis in the public domain; avoiding any misleading use, safeguarding the independence of statistical publications, and respecting the advice of our analytical leaders.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely,

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Housing and Local Government