
Chair of the UK Statistics Authority, Sir Andrew Dilnot CBE

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Dear John

POLICE RECORDED CRIME STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Thank you for your letter of 20 February, regarding police recorded crime statistics in England and Wales.

Your letter set out a range of work which has been undertaken by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the Home Office since the Authority published its Assessment of these statistics in January 2014.¹ Both I and the Authority's Director General for Regulation have been pleased to note the progress made by ONS and the Home Office over the last year, in addressing the Assessment Report's requirements.

Of course, as you note, since the Authority published its Assessment Report, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary has published a report on its audit of crime recording, finding "unacceptable" levels of under-recording. I have spoken with the Authority's Director General for Regulation and we agree that, as you suggest, it would be sensible to wait until there is evidence that recording practices have improved, before the Authority re-assesses police recorded crime statistics in England and Wales.

I have copied this letter, as yours, to the Home Secretary, Theresa May MP, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary, Sir Thomas Winsor, and the Authority's Director General for Regulation, Ed Humpherson.

Yours sincerely



Sir Andrew Dilnot CBE

¹ *Assessment Report 268: Statistics on Crime in England and Wales* (15 January 2014), available at: <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment/assessment-reports/assessment-report-268---statistics-on-crime-in-england-and-wales.pdf>