
Chair of the UK Statistics Authority, Sir Andrew Dilnot CBE

Sir William Cash MP
House of Commons
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

4 February 2015

Dear Sir William,

UK JOBS LINKED TO EU MEMBERSHIP

Thank you for your letter of 20 January regarding an article in the Times about correspondence between the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) and the 'Business for New Europe' (BNE) group concerning the number of jobs linked with EU membership. In your letter, you ask for my judgement with regard to the 3.5 million jobs figure discussed by BIS and BNE.

The 3.5 million jobs figure is likely to be an approximation of the 3.3 million jobs number¹ which was produced by economists in HM Treasury last year. As mentioned in our letter to Mr Elliot on 2 September 2014², this estimate is not classed as official statistics, and is therefore outside the statutory remit of the UK Statistics Authority. I note however, that the analysis has been published in a number of places, including in response to a Parliamentary Question³, which is clear that 'it is not an estimate of the impact of EU membership on employment'.

Yours sincerely



Sir Andrew Dilnot CBE

¹ HL Deb, 28 July 2014, c273W:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201415/ldhansrd/text/140728w0001.htm>

² <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/reports---correspondence/correspondence/letter-from-sir-andrew-dilnot-to-matthew-elliott-020914.pdf>

³ HL Deb, 28 July 2014, c273W:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201415/ldhansrd/text/140728w0001.htm>