



Public Administration Select Committee (PASC)

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Sir Andrew Dilnot
Chair, UK Statistics Authority
1 Drummond Gate
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15 January 2014

Dear Andrew

Regional growth figures

You will have seen the article by Chris Giles in the Financial Times on 20 December, entitled "How successful is Scotland?", about the ONS release of regional growth figures, and how they compare to figures released by the Scottish Government. The divergent estimates seem surprising from a statistical point of view and the reasons for the divergence are not clear. In terms of communicating the statistics, it is difficult to find the two sets of figures, which ultimately relate to the same thing, and the reasons for the two sets of figures existing have not been clearly explained (although I am aware of UKSA's brief statement on "experimental regional GVA data").

I would be grateful if you could explain the background rationale for the two sets of figures, the reasons for the differences and plans for future publication. Any other comments would be welcome.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Ben Wiles

Bernard Jenkin

Bernard Jenkin MP
Chairman of PASC