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**Director General for Regulation**

June Bowman  
Head of Statistics  
Department for Transport  
Zone 3/28  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

15 October 2014

Dear June

Thank you for your letter dated 8 September setting out the changes that you have made to the production of road freight statistics, and in particular the absence of publication of the statistics since November 2012. I am very grateful to you for consulting with us in this proactive and constructive way, and for bringing to our attention a set of statistics where you do not feel comfortable that you are fully complying with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. I am grateful to hear of your plans to publish statistics for 2011 to 2013 by the end of this year, and for 2014 in June 2015.

Your letter invited me to consider whether it might be appropriate for the Authority to agree a temporary removal of the National Statistics designation pending a re-assessment against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Designation of official statistics as National Statistics shows that the statistics meet the needs of users and that the statistics are produced, managed, and disseminated to high standards in compliance with the Code of Practice. Having reviewed the material that you sent us, I agree with you that future publications of road freight statistics should not be designated as National Statistics pending the further improvements that you have planned, and a re-assessment by the Authority during 2015.

Once again, I am very grateful to you for the way in which you have brought these matters to our attention. My team will keep in touch with yours regarding arrangements for the re-assessment to take place.

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson