



From the Secretary of State  
for Work and Pensions

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Sir Michael Scholar KCB  
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18<sup>th</sup> October 2011

*Dr Li Michael,*

**REQUEST FOR ASSESSMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT ALLOWANCE: WORK CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT STATISTICS UNDER SECTION 12(1) OF THE STATISTICS AND REGISTRATION SERVICE ACT 2007**

Thank you for your letter of 15 August in which you notified me under section 16 of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 that the UK Statistics Authority considers that it would be appropriate to ask you to conduct an assessment under Section 12 of the Act as to whether our Employment and Support Allowance statistics comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, with a view to their designation as National Statistics.

I have sought the advice of the Chief Statistician and on his recommendation, confirm that I intend to request an assessment shortly after 1 February 2012. I understand that our statisticians will be working with yours on a revised presentation.

A copy of this letter is being laid before Parliament in accordance with section 16(3) of the Act.

I am copying this letter to the National Statistician, and Dame Anne Begg.

**The Rt Hon Iain Duncan Smith MP**

**SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WORK AND PENSIONS**