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9 May 2013

*Rev M Dilnot*

Thank you for your letter of 3<sup>rd</sup> May to the Secretary of State, and the enclosed Monitoring Review on the quality of Work Programme and Pre-Work Programme statistics.

I welcome your comments on the use of a cohort measure to judge the success of the Work Programme, which supports the main Transparency indicator for the scheme. Future official statistics releases will make clear this is the most appropriate measurement of Work Programme performance.

Since the publication of the interim report we have been working to address to a number of the points raised by the Authority and users of these statistics. We have recently announced a move to a quarterly publication cycle for Work Programme statistics. We have also revised our web pages so that users can see all of the related publications and ad hoc analyses in one place, with guidance and background information to the schemes.

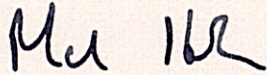
The Department's statisticians are also redesigning the Work Programme Statistical First Release to improve the presentation of these statistics. This will include better presentation and explanation of the cohort measures. The next release will include job outcome figures up to the end of the second financial year of the Programme.

I have also requested formal assessment of Work Programme and Get Britain Working official statistics to be undertaken during 2013.



The Department's statisticians will be happy to discuss this further with the Authority.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Hoban'.

**Mark Hoban MP**  
**Minister for Employment**