

Sir Andrew Dilnot CBE
UK Statistics Authority
1 Drummond Gate
London
SW1V 2QQ

1 July 2014

Dear Sir Andrew,

I am writing with regard to statements made today by the Labour Party, and to seek clarification from the UK Statistics Authority.

In a press release today, the Leader of the Labour Party Ed Miliband states that 'four fifths of all the new private sector jobs created since 2010 are in London' (Labour Press Release, 1 July 2014, [link](#)).

Shadow Business Minister Chuka Umunna made a similar claim on the BBC News channel, that 'eight out of ten new private sector jobs since the election have actually been created in London' (BBC News 24, 1 July 2014).

However, the most recent, unadjusted ONS statistics for the last four years (Q1 2010 to Q1 2014) suggest that London has accounted for less than 1 in 4 net additional private sector jobs created (21.7%). Using the most recent available data which is adjusted for reclassifications but not seasonally adjusted (between Q1 2010 and Q2 2013), London again accounted for around 1 in 4 net additional private sector jobs (24.3%). Using data adjusted for reclassifications, and which is comparable on an annual basis (between Q1 2010 and Q1 2013), London still accounted for around 1 in 4 net additional jobs (27%)

The statistic that Mr Miliband and Mr Umunna cite is several years out of date, and therefore misleading.

I would therefore be very grateful if you could clarify whether or not the statements made by Mr Miliband and Mr Umunna were accurate, so that they can issue the appropriate corrections at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Hancock MP

cc Ed Miliband

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