
Chair of the UK Statistics Authority, Sir Andrew Dilnot CBE

Mr Mike Hughes
Chair, National Statistics Advisory Group
Royal Statistical Society
12 Errol St
LONDON EC1Y 8LX

26 August 2014

Dear Mike,

REVIEW OF RANGE OF PRICES STATISTICS

Thank you for your letter dated 9 July 2014, regarding the review of the range of prices statistics being led by Paul Johnson.

The Authority appreciates that this is a subject on which there are many different views, and I am pleased that Mr Johnson and his team have met with a wide range of users, government departments and prices experts, during the course of the review.

As you may be aware, having identified further work to be done, the review team now expects to publish its report by the end of 2014. The Authority has published a revised terms of reference – reflecting this change¹ – and the review team has brought this to the attention of those who have participated in the review.

In your letter, you asked about timelines for, and the process by which, the Board will consider and implement any recommendations arising from the review.

We expect that Mr Johnson will make a range of recommendations to the Authority in his final report. The Authority may be in a position to agree, and to ask the Office for National Statistics to begin to implement some of these recommendations immediately – where they are simple or where there is already a widespread consensus.

Other recommendations could be more complex. On these, I expect that the Authority will undertake a period of public consultation before proceeding.

I am copying this letter to Mr Paul Johnson, the National Statistician, Mr John Pullinger, to Mr Jon McGinty (Chair, Statistics User Forum) and Mr Tony Cox (Chair, RPI CPI User Group).

Yours sincerely,



Sir Andrew Dilnot CBE

¹ www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/reports---correspondence/current-reviews/range-of-prices-statistics.html