
Director General for Regulation

Mr Charles Arthurs
By email

19 January 2016

Dear Mr Arthurs,

Thank you for your correspondence of 6 January regarding the release of [Live tables on housing market and house prices](#) published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG).

We have discussed the issue you raised with the Head of Profession for statistics at DCLG, who has explained that the housing market tables have not been updated due to limited resources. DCLG has, however, been working with the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to provide equivalent data on a regular basis. ONS published on 15 December 2015 [House Price Statistics for Small Areas, Year Ending Quarter 4 \(Oct to Dec\) 1995 to Year Ending Quarter 2 \(Apr to June\) 2015](#). This includes sales and prices summarised for areas including local authorities and 'Middle Super Output Areas'. ONS also published data up to 2014 on ratios of median house prices to median earnings in the publication [Housing Summary Measures Analysis](#).

We are informed that DCLG plan to update the 'ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings' tables by the end of March 2016 using the ONS house price statistics. An explanatory note and a web link to the ONS 'House Price Statistics for Small Areas' will also be added to the housing market tables.

Yours sincerely,



Ed Humpherson