



Office of Manpower Economics

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Ed Humpherson (sent by email)
Director General for Regulation
Office for Statistics Regulation
1 Drummond Gate
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17 July 2017

Dear Ed

Thank you for your 17 July letter about the source of data quoted in Table 2.1 of the DDRB's July 2015 report on seven-day service provision.

I am grateful for your understanding that Review Bodies may sometimes be provided with numerical evidence by Government Departments that has not previously been published by the latter, and that Review Bodies, when summarising that evidence, may in good faith refer to it in their reports to Government.

As you request, I will draw your letter to the attention of the Review Body Chairs, and ask OME secretariat teams to check whether data to be cited in future Review Body reports are already in the public domain. Where they are, we will seek to ensure that full citation details, including links to supporting data, are provided in Review Body reports. Where they are not, we will ensure it is clear in the reports where unpublished data are being quoted.

As you know, in providing secretariat support to the independent public sector pay review bodies, OME employs professional members of the Government Statistical Service who give high priority to acting in accordance with the spirit of the UKSA Code of Practice for Official Statistics in their work, even though neither the OME nor the Review Bodies it supports produce Official Statistics. My GSS staff are grateful for your helpful steer on best statistical practice in the context of the particular circumstances they face.

I am copying this to Grant Whitfield, OME's head of profession for statistics.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Williams

Martin Williams
Director, Office of Manpower Economics

