
Ed Humpherson, Director General for Regulation

Stephen Balchin
Head of Profession for Statistics
Department for Work and Pensions
[by email]

13 December 2017

Dear Stephen

STATISTICS ON ACCESS TO WORK

Thank you for your letter of 12 December, regarding your Access to Work statistics. We are pleased that, following our [assessment of these statistics](#), you have identified some issues that have led you to withdraw the previous statistics and replace them with a new, better, set of statistics.

I am also pleased to see that in publishing the [experimental statistics published in October](#), you have taken on board some of the improvements suggested in our assessment report. In particular, the statistical report now presents the data in a more user-friendly way, including the addition of some charts, information on the customer journey, and more-detailed definitions of the different types of provision available.

You also indicate in your letter that you will continue to develop these experimental statistics, with the aim of producing further breakdowns, and statistics on other parts of the customer journey. I also welcome you taking the opportunity to use the redesign of the administrative system used to produce these statistics to further enhance the statistics.

In light of these developments, and the time elapsed since the assessment, I consider that we should formally close down our follow up to this assessment. We welcome the developments and look forward to seeing how these statistics develop in the future. I would be grateful for regular updates so that we can consider what further assessment work would be appropriate.

I am copying this letter to John Pullinger, the National Statistician; the DWP statisticians – Hatti Archer and James Halse; the assessors – Donna Hosie, Iain Russell and Jo Mulligan; and Charles Lound from the GSS Good Practice Team.

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson
Director General for Regulation