



Department for  
Digital, Culture  
Media & Sport

Paul Crawford  
Deputy Director, Evidence and  
Analysis Unit  
Department for Digital, Culture,  
Media and Sport

Ed Humpherson  
Director General for Regulation  
Office for Statistics Regulation

10<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Dear Ed,

### **Removal of National Statistics status for Entertainment Licensing Statistics**

I am writing to ask the UK Statistics Authority to remove the National Statistics designation from the Entertainment Licensing statistics.

My team have previously spoken to your officials about this and our reasons for requesting this proposal. We do not feel the Entertainment Licensing statistics series fully meets the requirements set out in the Code of Practice in terms of user engagement or quality. We are not aware of any active users and the data, which is collected from Local Authorities on our behalf by the Home Office, contains a large amount of missing information. Although we attempt to impute the missing data, we do not invest as much resource in this as we would for other higher priority outputs, which are more high profile and more widely used.

Our consultation on DCMS Official Statistics in the Summer included some questions on the Entertainment Licensing statistics. Only one organisation responded to this set of questions; they were not previously aware of this publication.

We would obviously continue to publish these statistics as Official Statistics, and look to adhere to the Code of Practice.

Olivia would be happy to discuss any of this further if you would like more details.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Crawford,  
On behalf of Olivia Christophersen, Head of Profession of Statistics