
Ed Humpherson, Director General for Regulation

Steve Ellerd-Elliott
Head of Profession for Statistics
Department for Work and Pensions
(by email)

26 July 2021

Dear Steve

Confirmation of National Statistics Designation for Benefit Statistics produced by the Department for Work and Pensions

We have reviewed the actions that your team has taken to address the requirements in [Assessment Report number 354: Benefit Statistics](#). On behalf of the Board of the UK Statistics Authority, I am pleased to confirm the continued designation of National Statistics for these statistics.

These statistics are valuable because they support understanding of the range of benefits administered by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and show how the roll out of Universal Credit affects the provision of other benefits.

The team responsible for producing the statistics has responded very positively to the Requirements of our report. The team has made changes that enhance the accessibility and insight of the statistics and data for a wide range of users. We are pleased to hear how actions taken by the team to meet these requirements fit in to wider DWP initiatives – including the creation of a DWP Statistics User Engagement Strategy and the introduction of user engagement champions and publication representatives.

We have included more detail about our judgement in an annex to this letter. I, or my team, would be happy to talk you or your colleagues through any aspects of this letter or Code compliance more generally.

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and value and is something to be celebrated. We welcome that you already publish a statement alongside the statistics which reflects the National Statistics status, and we encourage you to update this on an ongoing basis as you continue to develop the statistics.

I am copying this letter to Judith Correia, Alan Gibson and Sarah Amis, the responsible statisticians.

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson
Director General for Regulation