
Ed Humpherson, Director General for Regulation

Dr Eugene Mooney
Head of Information Analysis Directorate,
Department of Health (NI)
(by email)

14 September 2022

Dear Dr Mooney,

Thank you for your email of 12 September 2022, notifying the UK Statistics Authority of the extended pre-release access to statistics from the Coronavirus Infections Survey. This was in accordance with the Pre-Release Access to Official Statistics Order (NI).

We appreciate, following the announcement of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, there was a need to change the publication of these statistics from Friday 9 to Monday 12 September, which led to an extended period of pre-release, as recipients were already in receipt of the official statistics prior to date of publication being changed.

We support your judgement that, in these exceptional circumstances the public benefit from the extension of pre-release access significantly outweighed the detriment to public trust in official statistics likely to result from such extended access. We are pleased to note that an explanatory note has been added to the published pre-release access list: this supports transparency for users.

Yours sincerely,



Ed Humpherson
Director General for Regulation