

**Department of Energy
& Climate Change**

3 Whitehall Place
London, SW1A 2HH
www.decc.gov.uk

Sir Michael Scholar KCB
Chair of UK Statistics Authority
Statistics House
Islington
London
EC1R 1UW

30 March 2009

Dear Sir Michael,

On 6th January 2009, you wrote to the Secretary of State at DECC concerning two of our publications, fuel poverty and energy sector indicators. I am responding to you as Minister responsible for UK Energy Sector Indicators.

I recognise the benefits of National Statistics accreditation to Government outputs. Having discussed these particular series with the officials responsible for them, I am happy that the Statistics Authority carries out a full assessment under section 12 of the Statistics and Registration Service Act.

I am happy for officials at DECC to work with your assessment team to ensure all necessary evidence is gathered from the relevant users. I would welcome if the assessment process could be concluded in time for the next release of the publication (due to be end July 2009) so, if assessment is successful, these series can be duly accredited at the earliest opportunity.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike O'Brien'.

Mike O'Brien Q.C. M.P.
Minister of State