

Statement

6 March 2013

Compliance with Standards for Statistical Reports

The Statistics Authority has published a revised set of *Standards for Statistical Reports*¹; this supersedes the Authority's original Statement on *Standards for Statistical Releases*².

Since July 2011, the Authority has included an additional annex (Annex 2) in Assessment Reports. This annex gives a more detailed account of the various reports of the sets of statistics being assessed. In the past that account was as measured against the Standards for Statistical Releases, but from April 2013, it will be measured against the *Standards for Statistical Reports*.

As before, where reports are found not to comply with any aspect of the *Standards for Statistical Reports* we will make a Requirement in the Assessment Report, and refer explicitly to the detail included in Annex 2. While Annex 2 will not be a comprehensive or exhaustive analysis of any particular statistical report, it will offer a balanced account of strengths and weaknesses in the reports, and give enough details for producers to apply the observations more generally across their statistical reports.

Annex 2 should be regarded as supplementary guidance in addition to the Requirements made in the Assessment Report. This approach reflects our view of the *Standards for Statistical Reports* as supplementary guidance to the *Code of Practice for Official Statistics*³. Implementation of the improvements listed in Annex 2 is therefore not compulsory but in practice, we would expect producers to take account of the material in Annex 2 in implementing relevant Requirements.

¹ <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/news/statement---standards-for-statistical-reports.pdf>

² <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/news/standards-for-statistical-releases.html>

³ <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/code-of-practice-for-official-statistics.pdf>