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**Director General for Regulation**

David Fry  
Head of Profession for Statistics  
Department for Communities and Local Government  
2 Marsham Street  
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12 December 2014

Dear David

**ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON SOCIAL HOUSING LETTINGS**

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements in Assessment Report number 284 on Statistics on Social Housing Lettings.

On behalf of the Board of the Statistics Authority, I have reviewed these on the advice of the Assessment team and I am pleased to confirm the designation of *Social Housing Lettings* as new National Statistics. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the team involved in the assessment process to introduce a range of improvements to its statistical report and supporting documentation. I also welcome the proactive approach taken by the statistical team, and DCLG more generally, to strengthening its user engagement.

I am particularly pleased that the statistical report and quality documents now include a range of information about the risks and mitigating actions relating to the data used to produce these statistics. I understand from James Denman that this action has been taken ahead of DCLG reviewing its corporate Statement of Administrative Sources in light of the Authority's Exposure Draft Report: *Quality Assurance and Audit Arrangements for Administrative Data* once the final version is published in the New Year. I look forward to seeing the updated version of the Statement.

It is a requirement of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 that compliance with the Code of Practice must be maintained. We would invite you to incorporate the attached text in publications containing the statistics. This text may only be used where National Statistics designation has been awarded following an Assessment Report. It is intended to convey a strong and independent endorsement for the statistical publication.

Please feel free to discuss any aspect of this with us at any time. I am copying this letter to John Pullinger, the National Statistician, and to James Denman, Hema Pandya and Julia Bowman.

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson

**Text that may only be used in publications that carry the National Statistics logo following assessment and designation:**

The UK Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.