
Director General for Regulation

Peter Helm
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1 October 2015

Dear Peter

ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON THE INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS IN CATTLE IN GREAT BRITAIN

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements for the statistics in Assessment Report number 240 on *Incidence of Tuberculosis in Cattle in Great Britain*.

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 *Incidence of Tuberculosis in Cattle in Great Britain* as National Statistics. The Authority appreciates that, while it has taken some time to meet the Requirements from the Assessment report, this reflects investment in a systematic review of methods and assurance arrangements and a formal consultation with users about proposed improvements to the statistics.

I understand that, as a result of this work, the monthly statistical report will be replaced by a quarterly report from December 2015, featuring the new headline incidence and prevalence statistics, and I look forward to seeing this enhanced National Statistics output. I know that Defra plans to continue to make some data available every month and I welcome these plans to provide users with supporting methods and quality information alongside those data and to clearly signpost users to the regular National Statistics.

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 Pippa Gibson.

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson

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

NATIONAL STATISTICS STATUS

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the *Code of Practice for Official Statistics*. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm.

The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is a producer's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics, and to improve its statistics on a continuous basis. If a producer becomes concerned about whether its statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, it should discuss its concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

