
Director General for Regulation

John Pullinger
National Statistician
Office for National Statistics
(By email)

22 July 2016

Dear John

Thank you for your letter on 8 July 2016 that sets out an action plan to address recommendations from the Income and Earnings Monitoring Review. This action plan conveys a clearer sense of how the Review's recommendations will be addressed over the coming months.

I am encouraged by the recent developments reported and that dedicated resource has been committed to work in this area. Commitment to resourcing work to address known statistical limitations and enhance the value of income and earnings statistics is especially important, given demand for analysis to provide new insights into key factors influencing income and earnings trends, and helps ensure continued momentum for these developments.

I also welcome the proposal to create a web-based 'hub' on the ONS website, to bring related statistics and analysis together in a way that informs users rather than confuses them given the large number of statistics in this area. This 'hub' could provide a valuable platform to disseminate cross-cutting thematic analyses of income and earnings trends and support and promote the use of the range of income and earnings statistics and underlying data.

There is a real opportunity here for statistics producers to engage effectively with a range of stakeholders to inform these planned developments and decisions about the direction of future work, particularly for research on compilation methods and the nowcasting feasibility study for more timely measures of income from self-employment.

I look forward to receiving an update from you later this year setting out whether the planned actions have been delivered. At that point, my team will be in a position to judge whether key recommendations from the Review have been addressed and whether the Review can be considered as closed.

I am copying this letter to Jonathan Athow and Glen Everett at ONS, Neil McIvor at DWP and Sean Whellams at HMRC.

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson

