



HM Revenue
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Our ref

Dear Ed

Error in HM Revenue and Customs' Tax Receipts and National Insurance Contributions for the UK

Thank you for recognising the speedy action which led us to correcting the statistics on the same day in your letter of 7 July. I appreciate the recommendations you made to increase the confidence in both the trustworthiness and quality of our statistics as a whole. I agree with your views to improve the breach report process and welcome the review to streamline this process being conducted by the GSS professional support team.

I have discussed this further with Penny and Dawn in a meeting held on 18 July. Penny has kindly agreed to run several workshops with our statistical producers to go through the Quality Assurance of Administrative Data (QAAD) toolkit and how we can use this to help improve our QA processes and safeguards. In addition, for our high profile release on Tax Receipts and National Insurance Contributions, we will incorporate the plots as you suggest into the assurance process. We will also work with the Authority's Monitoring and Assessment team to produce a plan for re-assessment this financial year of the above named National Statistics.

To **increase confidence in the trustworthiness** of our statistics, in the event of any errors occurring in our future publications, we will either remove the release or put up a short note immediately to explain the nature and scale of the error, along with an estimated timeline of when the impacted statistics will be re-published (assuming this is not immediately possible). Once we have written up the breach report (and I have signed it off) we will publish it at the same time as sending it on to the UKSA. We will treat this as a live document and update it when we have completed all of our investigations.

Information is available in large print, audio and Braille formats.
Text Relay service prefix number – 18001



To **increase confidence in the quality** of our statistics, we will review our assurance arrangements for all of our statistical publications, including the roles and responsibilities of those involved in the sign-off process to ensure they are always sufficient in the face of the risks involved and potential impact of any issues arising.

Yours sincerely

Sean Whellams

Head of Profession for Statistics

To find out what you can expect from us and what we expect from you go to **www.gov.uk/hmrc/your-charter** and have a look at 'Your Charter'.