
Chair of the UK Statistics Authority, Sir Andrew Dilnot CBE

Bob Posner
Director of Party and Election Finance and Legal Counsel
The Electoral Commission
3 Bunhill Row
London
EC1Y 8YZ

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Dear Mr Posner,

Thank you for your letter of 9 June.

The UK Statistics Authority is an independent body acting at arm's length from government. The Authority has a statutory responsibility set out in the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 to promote and safeguard the production and publication of official statistics that serve the public good. This is a responsibility that the Statistics Authority takes very seriously and works to promote best practice in the use of official statistics, especially those used in public debate.

I can confirm that the Statistics Authority is aware of the restrictions on publicly funded bodies set out in section 125 of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA).

I would welcome a meeting to explore how the Statistics Authority and Electoral Commission might play a helpful role in maintaining confidence in numbers used in public debate.

I am copying this letter to Claire Bassett, Chief Executive of the Electoral Commission.

Yours sincerely,



Sir Andrew Dilnot CBE