
Director General for Regulation

Siobhan Carey
Chief Executive & Registrar General
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16 March 2018

Dear Siobhan

De-designation of Northern Ireland Claimant Count statistics

Thank you for your letter of 13th March requesting the removal of the National Statistics designation of the Northern Ireland Claimant Count statistics due to the roll-out of Universal Credit. I am grateful to you for being transparent in outlining your reasons for this request and for reflecting on the quality and public value of these statistics.

I also appreciate the approach you have taken in evaluating the quality of these statistics over time and your development of a new experimental series based on Jobseekers Allowance and relevant out-of-work Universal Credit Claimants.

Having reviewed the information that you have shared with us, I support the removal of the National Statistics designation of the Claimant Count series within your monthly Labour Market Report.

I would encourage you to ensure that the status of these new experimental statistics is clearly communicated to users, along with an explanation of their relationship to the previous measure.

My team will keep in touch about the development of these statistics and will plan to assess them against the Code of Practice for Statistics at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson

Director General for Regulation