
Chair of the UK Statistics Authority, Sir David Norgrove

Mr Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A0AA

12 April 2018

Dear Mr Russell-Moyle

Thank you for your letter of 13 March, in which you raised concerns about a statement made by the Department for International Development (DfID) about its pledge to provide further aid funding to Global Partnerships for Education (GPE).¹

We agree that a new pledge of funding should have been compared to the previous pledge, not to the amount actually paid, and we note the criticisms made by the International Development Committee.² The Department's statement risks undermining confidence in it as a producer of statistics and data.

Ed Humpherson, Director General for Regulation, has today written to Matthew Rycroft³, Permanent Secretary at DfID, recommending that its press office seek the advice of the Department's Chief Statistician before issuing such statements in future.

I am copying this letter to Neil Jackson, Chief Statistician at DfID, and to Stephen Twigg MP, chair of the International Development Committee.

Yours sincerely



Sir David Norgrove

¹ The statement was made by the Department in a press release of 2 February, available [here](#).

² International Development Select Committee (Feb 2018): [UK Commitment to Global Partnership for Education](#)

³ [Letter from Mr Humpherson](#) (Apr 2018)