

Sir David Norgrove  
Chair of the UK Statistics Authority

*(via email)*

17 June 2018

**The NHS and Brexit (Case Ref: TB89740)**

Dear Sir David

This weekend in the press there have been a number of references to a so-called Brexit dividend and the fact that this 'dividend' is going to be used to pay for part of a substantial increase in NHS funding. Government sources are being quoted referring to this 'dividend'.

However, as you will be aware, the well-respected organisation, the IFS stated a number of months ago that such a dividend was very unlikely, as the impact of Brexit is likely to reduce the size of the UK economy, rather than enhance it. Your own organisation has rightly pulled the Foreign Secretary up for his abuse of the '£350 million a week for the NHS post-Brexit' claim.

In the circumstances, I would welcome a clear statement from the UK Statistics Authority on what claim, if any, the PM, Health Secretary or other Ministers, are able to make about any 'dividend'. Is there a certain amount which the UK Statistics Authority believes could be allocated to the NHS, as a result of Brexit, or does the Authority believe that, as does the IFS, no extra money is likely to be available for the NHS as a result of Brexit.

If the UKSA believes the latter to be true, please set out what action the UKSA could take if, having made such a statement, Government Ministers were to continue to make false statements.

Regards

**Tom Brake MP**  
Liberal Democrat for Carshalton and Wallington