

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

Minutes

**Meeting of Friday 25 March 2011
Board Room, London**

Present

UK Statistics Authority

Sir Michael Scholar (Chair)

Lord Rowe-Beddoe (Deputy Chair, ONS)

Professor Sir Roger Jowell (Deputy Chair, Official Statistics)

Mr Richard Alldritt

Dr Colette Bowe

Mr Partha Dasgupta

Ms Moira Gibb

Ms Jil Matheson

Mr Stephen Penneck

Professor David Rhind

Sir Jon Shortridge

Secretariat

Mr Robert Bumpstead

Mr Mervyn Stevens

Other Attendees

Mr Dennis Roberts (ONS) for item 6

Mr Richard Laux (Monitoring and Assessment) for items 8 to 11

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes and matters arising from the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 February 2011 were accepted as a true and fair account. There were no matters arising.

4. Reports from Authority Committee Chairs

Office for National Statistics Board (ONS)

4.1 Lord Rowe-Beddoe reported on the meeting of the ONS Board held on 11 March 2011. The meeting had considered a report from the Director General of ONS and had reviewed management and financial information. The meeting was concerned to learn of difficulties which the web development programme was encountering and the Board had requested that a report be produced for the next meeting.

4.2 The ONS Board approved high-level budget allocations for 2011/12 and received internal audit reports. The meeting also received a report on progress with the programme to re-engineer the National Accounts system and on work to produce the 2011 and 2012 Blue Books based on these systems.

5. Census 2011

Ms Matheson reported on progress with the Census since the last meeting ahead of Census Day on Sunday 27 March. Census forms had been sent out and the emphasis of ONS public information had consequently moved towards encouraging people to complete their returns, and preferably to do this on-line as a quick and easy way to ensure prompt compliance.

6. Issued raised by the Royal Statistical Society in relation to the Retail and Consumer Prices Indices [SA(11)17]

6.1 Mr Roberts introduced a paper which included a draft response to the recent letter to the Chair from the Vice President of the Royal Statistical Society (RSS), Jill Leyland. The letter discussed the concept of an index for compensation purposes and specifically an index for uplifting pensions and other benefits.

6.2 In response, it was noted that the RSS proposals were complex and that a compensation index could not be achieved by simply adapting the Retail Prices Index (RPI) or the Consumer Prices Index (CPI). The CPI and RPI were required by UK and European law respectively and both were based on internationally accepted methods and on comprehensive price collection exercises. ONS would publish an article on the issues in due course.

6.3 The Authority agreed that the priorities for ONS should continue to be: bringing owner occupiers' housing costs (OOH) into the CPI as soon as possible; responding to the recent Authority Assessment and Monitoring Reports relating to inflation statistics; and explaining to users the differences between the different measures of inflation, with their strengths and weaknesses for different users. The meeting noted that the Chair would be replying to the RSS, setting out the Authority's position.

7. Review of Crime Statistics

7.1 Ms Matheson reported on progress with her review of crime statistics. Discussions had been held with a number of organisations and individuals with an interest in crime

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statistics and these included: Government and Shadow ministers; HM Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC); Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO); and, Home Office officials. Responses had also been received to a public questionnaire on the website.

7.2 An open meeting would be held on 9 May before recommendations would be made to the Home Secretary. The report would be published in June.

8. Authority Action on Statistical Expenditure [SA(11)18]

8.1 Mr Alldritt introduced a paper which included a draft Authority Statement on its intention to monitor and respond to changes that affected statistical services. Statistical Heads of Profession had been asked to notify the National Statistician at the earliest opportunity about plans to discontinue or materially alter collection and publication of statistics and the latest information was provided for consideration by the Authority.

8.2 The meeting noted that the Chair had written on 24 March to the Secretary of State for Health regarding proposals by the NHS Information Centre to withdraw funding of £300,000 for health statistics in the ONS General Lifestyle Survey. No consultation with users had taken place and any decision to cease funding was therefore in breach of the *Code of Practice for Official Statistics*. The Chair's letter had been published on the Authority's website.

8.3 It was agreed that a Statement on the Authority's policy on changes to statistical services would be published on the Authority's website subject to agreed amendments.

8.4 Mr Laux presented drafts of the following Statistical Expenditure Reports (SERs):

- i. Statistical Expenditure Report 1: The Citizenship Survey [SA(11)19];
- ii. Statistical Expenditure Report 2: The Place Survey [SA(11)20]; and,
- iii. Statistical Expenditure Report 3: Scottish Schools Statistics [SA(11)21].

8.5 The draft SERs had been discussed with the producer departments. The meeting agreed that the draft SERs should be improved further by additional drafting, and would be considered again.

9. Planning Monitoring and Assessment Work [SA(11)22]

9.1 Mr Alldritt presented a paper which addressed some of the issues for the planning of Monitoring and Assessment work for the future.

9.2 The meeting agreed that the Assessment work programme and the plans for future Monitoring Briefs should be taken forward through 2011/12 on the basis of previous discussions. The Authority would receive information later in the year to inform decisions about the future scale and balance of Monitoring and Assessment work from April 2012 onwards.

10. Draft Monitoring Briefs

10.1 Mr Laux introduced drafts of the following Monitoring Briefs:

- The impact of Monitoring and Assessment [SA(11)23]; and,
- Findings from the first 100 Assessment Reports [SA(11)24]

10.2 The meeting considered the drafts and agreed that they should be published in due course.

11. Draft Monitoring Brief: Statistics on the drivers and the measurement of climate change [SA(11)25]

11.1 Mr Laux introduced a draft Monitoring Brief: Statistics on the drivers and the measurement of climate change. The Authority had agreed at its meeting in November 2010 that this review should continue to focus on what more might be done to improve the clarity and accessibility of official statistical information about climate change. The Monitoring and Assessment team were waiting for final comments from the statistics producers and a selection of users and external commentators before publication.

11.2 The meeting considered the draft and agreed that a final version should be presented to the Authority after comments from users and external commentators had been considered.

12. Any other business

The meeting noted that the Chair had written to the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson on 16 March regarding the Mayor's press release of 21 February on statistics on crime across the Transport for London (TfL) network. The Chair had also written to the Minister for the Cabinet Office and the Home Secretary proposing that these statistics be classified as official statistics under Section 6 of the *Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007*. Replies to these letters were awaited.

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Agenda

Friday, 25 March, 2011

Board Room, Statistics House, London, 11:15 - 15:00

Chair: Sir Michael Scholar

Apologies:

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| 1 | Minutes and matters arising from previous meeting Declarations of interest | Meeting of 250211 |
| 2 | Reports from Authority Committee Chairs <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ONS Board | Oral Reports Lord Rowe-Beddoe |
| 3 | Census 2011 | Oral Update Ms Jil Matheson |
| 4 | Issues raised by the Royal Statistical Society in relation to the Retail and Consumer Prices Indices | SA(11)17 Mr Dennis Roberts |
| 5 | Review of Crime Statistics | Oral Update Ms Jil Matheson |
| 6 | Authority Action on Statistical Expenditure <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. SER1: The Citizenship Surveyii. SER2: The Place Surveyiii. SER3: Scottish Schools Statistics | SA(11)18 SA(11)19 SA(11)20 SA(11)21 Mr Richard Alldritt Mr Richard Laux |
| 7 | Planning Monitoring and Assessment Work <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Draft MB (2/11): The impact of Monitoring and Assessmentii. Draft MB (3/11): Findings from the first 100 Assessment Reports | SA(11)22 SA(11)23 SA(11)24 Mr Richard Alldritt Mr Richard Laux |
| 8 | Draft MB (4/11): Statistics on the drivers and the measurement of climate change | SA(11)25 Mr Richard Laux |
| 9 | Any other business | |

Next Meeting: Friday, 15 April, 2011
Statistics House, London, 11:15 - 15:00

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

SA(11)17

***Issues Raised by the Royal Statistical Society (RSS)
in Relation to the Retail and Consumer Prices Indices***

The Authority's response to the RSS will be published on the UK Statistics Authority website in due course.

The document will be available at:

[http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/reports---
correspondence/correspondence/index.html](http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/reports---correspondence/correspondence/index.html)

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

SA(11)18

Authority Action on Statistical Expenditure

Purpose

1. To take forward the programme of work agreed at the February Authority Board meeting relating to changes to statistical services resulting from the programme of reductions to public expenditure.

Recommendations

2. Members of the Authority Board are invited to:
 - i. agree the publication of the first three Statistical Expenditure Reports (SERs);
 - ii. agree that the Authority should publish alongside the first SERs a Statement about its intention to monitor and respond to cuts in official statistics (draft at **Annex A**); and
 - iii. consider the case for early Authority intervention on any of the consultations or other developments that the National Statistician's Office has recently informed the Authority about.

Discussion

3. The Monitoring and Assessment team has been piloting the production of SERs on three specific changes to statistical services. In all three cases, the producer has already taken a final or near final decision to proceed with the planned reductions. The three draft SERs are now in a form in which they could be published on the Authority website, possibly with an annotation that they will be updated should more information become available - particularly in the case of the Citizenship Survey where we have only just seen the consultation responses.
4. The publication of these reports, along with the Statement will serve to alert both Whitehall and Whitehall watchers that we intend to keep closely in touch with cuts in statistical services.
5. The Authority Board and Committee for Official Statistics have agreed that where it is practicable, and where we are sufficiently sure of our ground, we should aim to make earlier Authority interventions by way of letters from the Chair. We therefore need to consider whether any of the current cuts or consultations are of a kind that might justify such a letter. Statistical Heads of Profession have previously been asked to notify the National Statistician about plans to discontinue publication of statistics at the earliest opportunity.
6. Such plans have been collated by the National Statistician's Office in the form of lists, which have been considered by the Committee for Official Statistics at its December and February meetings. The full lists, updated with the latest information received at 25 February, are at **Annex B** and **Annex C**. These include notifications of reductions, or proposed reductions, in statistical services at the Department for Communities and Local Government, ONS, the Scottish Government, the Welsh Assembly Government, the Department for Education, the Home Office, the Department of Energy and Climate Change, the Department of Health, the General Registrar Office Scotland, the Ministry of Defence, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Ministry of Justice. To date no notifications have been received from departments including the Department for Business Innovation and Skills, the Department for Culture Media and Sport, the NHS Information Centre, HM Revenue and Customs, the Department for Transport and the Department for Work and Pensions.

7. One possible candidate for an early intervention relates to an open consultation by the Home Office on proposed changes to 'immigration-related statistical outputs' (notified to the Monitoring and Assessment team by the National Statistician's Office on 25 February, see Annex B). The Home Office proposes that:

"commentary and analysis of the data should be structured in virtual topics, be shorter and focus on key points ... [and] the number of tables released is reduced through a combination of amalgamation and a reduction in the variables reported on".
8. An intervention from the Authority would point out the statutory obligation to abide by the Code of Practice which contains requirements for full publication and helpful commentary. On the basis of what we currently know, it is not obvious whether there is tension between Home Office plans and the expectations of the Code, so we would need to craft any letter as a warning rather than a criticism.

Monitoring and Assessment team, UK Statistics Authority, March 2011

List of Annexes

- Annex A** Draft Authority Statement to accompany the first Statistical Expenditure Reports
- Annex B** Cessation or reduction of statistics
- Annex C** Open and closed consultations about cessation or reduction of statistics

Annex A Draft Authority Statement to accompany the first Statistical Expenditure Reports

This document has been published on the UK Statistics Authority website.

To see this document go to:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/monitoring/statistical-expenditure-reports/index.html>

Annex B Cessation or reduction of statistics

This table summarises the cuts to official statistics that have been notified by Departmental Heads of Profession to the National Statistician as of 25 February 2011.

| DETAILS OF CESSATION OR REDUCTION | DESCRIPTION OF STATISTICS | REASONS FOR CESSATION OR REDUCTION |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Statistics: Official Statistics on Supporting People</p> <p>Producer: Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 15 February 2011</p> <p>Statistics to cease/reduce from: 31 May 2011</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The statistics are derived from 'Supporting People' client records data that provides information about characteristics of clients entering Supporting People services. This data is collected each time a client enters a housing related support service funded by 'Supporting People'. • Outcomes for short-term services data provide information about characteristics and outcomes achieved by clients leaving short-term 'Supporting People' services. This data is collected each time a client exits a short-term (more than 28 days but less than two years) housing related support service funded by 'Supporting People'. • The 'Supporting People' Client Records and Outcomes data tables provide a breakdown of; Client Records data by service type and primary client group and outcomes for short-term services data by service type, primary client group and outcomes achieved against identified support needs. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From April 2011, 'Supporting People' will roll into Formula Grant and will no longer be identified as a separate funding stream at Local Authority level. • Consequently, it will no longer be possible for authorities and providers to submit data that correlates specifically to their Supporting People budget. • Collection of the data will cease once DCLG have received the data for the current financial year. • In addition, local authority commissioning bodies are already re-configuring and merging services for vulnerable people at the local level. This trend is expected to accelerate post April 2011 as local authorities have more freedom and flexibility to pool and align funding (e.g. adult social care funding) to deliver local services. • This blurring of service boundaries will make it nigh impossible for DCLG to apply a national uniform definition of 'housing related support services' so that collecting data on what was a Supporting People service becomes increasingly ambiguous. |
| <p>Statistics: The Citizenship Survey</p> <p>Producer: DCLG</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 25 January 2011</p> <p>Statistics to</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Citizenship Survey is a face to face household survey covering a representative core sample of almost 10,000 adults in England and Wales each year, plus a minority ethnic boost sample of 5,000 and a Muslim boost sample of 1,200. • DCLG ran a targeted consultation from 1 – 30 November. The | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Secretary of State made this decision in the context of the need to deliver cost savings in order to reduce the fiscal deficit, and in the belief that priority data from the survey can be dropped; collected less frequently; or collected via other means. A statement to this effect has been placed on DCLG's website. |

Annex B - SA(11)18 - Authority Action on Statistical Expenditure

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| <p>cease/reduce from: 31 March 2011</p> | <p>consultation document anticipated the outcome when it stated “as part of the current drive to deliver cost savings across government and to reduce the fiscal deficit, research budgets are being closely scrutinised to identify where savings can be made. For this reason and the belief that data can be dropped or collected less frequently, the intention is for future Citizenship Surveys to be cancelled.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within central government results from the Survey are used by policy leads and analysts across a range of government departments including Ministry of Justice, Home Office, Cabinet Office, Office for Civil Society, Department for Work and Pensions and Government Equalities Office. • Survey results are also used by local government, academic researchers, charities and other non-governmental organisations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A detailed response to the public consultation on the future of the survey will be published on the department’s website in due course, along with a summary of each of the submissions received. |
| <p>Statistics: Statistical outputs and other activities falling into the following categories are candidates for removal from the ONS work programme:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Statistical Compendia and Journals 2. A re-focus of the ONS analysis programme 3. The Knowledge Economy 4. UK Health Statistics 5. Analysis of specific health conditions including Health Statistics | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Includes Annual Abstract/ Monthly Digest; Quarterly Consumer Trends and Monthly Financial Statistics; Monthly Economic and Labour Market Review; and, Reporting on Population Change Analysis and reporting of population statistics. 2. Includes Public Service Productivity; Analysis of the Labour Market; and, Regional Analysis. 3. This is principally development work, a reduction in which will partly be offset by European funding in 2011/12 and 2012/13. 4. UK level reporting will extend only to meeting legal and international requirements eg Eurostat leading to a less comprehensive picture of health in the UK. 5. Analytical work on healthy and disability free life expectancy will be stopped or reduced in | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 25 October and 24 December 2010, ONS sought views to help determine the shape of its future statistical work programme. • Responses will be used to inform the ONS work programme for the next four years. • The budget reductions announced as part of the 2010 Spending Review mean that ONS has to consider where savings can be found. • Consultation document outlined the ONS approach to reducing its budget. It set three central principles: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. whatever ONS does, it should do well. Compromising the quality of outputs is not in the public interest. 2. Budget reductions must not damage the core infrastructure |

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| <p>Quarterly 6. Statistical services and support</p> <p>Producer: ONS</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 18 January 2011</p> | <p>frequency unless funding materialises. Outputs related to conceptions, teenage pregnancy and infant mortality will be less frequent. Work programme is therefore proposed to focus on mortality, data required to meet EU obligations and those activities that are income funded e.g. cancer analysis, health inequalities.</p> <p>6. Includes support to the cross-government Longitudinal Data Strategy and Virtual Microdata Laboratory Micro-Analysis and Support.</p> | <p>of the organisation. In particular, the development and renewal of the ONS Information Technology infrastructure must continue.</p> <p>3. ONS must continue to fulfil its statutory obligations, in terms of the statistical outputs that ONS is required to produce to meet international and domestic legal requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final package of changes was reviewed by the Authority Board on 25 February. |
| <p>Statistics: Local Government Key Facts Card: England</p> <p>Producer: DCLG</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 30 November 2010</p> <p>Statistics to cease/reduce from: Immediately</p> | <p>The Card is published as a portable aide-memoire of CLG's compendium publication "Local Government Financial Statistics".</p> <p>From current and capital expenditure to council tax and local authority pensions, Local Government Financial Statistics England brings together data from a wide range of sources to paint a comprehensive and important overview of local government finance in England.</p> <p>It is an essential guide to local authority financial systems, both past and present and contains detailed commentary, tables, time series, full colour charts and maps</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLG has decided, in the context of the Spending Review 2010 budget cuts, to cease publication of this product. • It states that this will not result in the loss of any published data simply because the contents of this Card are available within their compendium publication 'Local Government Financial Statistics'. • CLG has advised that it will shortly notify their customer-base about this decision by means of a note on their website. • It has judged that this decision does not warrant a public consultation. |
| <p>Statistics: Scottish School Statistics:</p> <p>1. Children Educated outwith Schools 2. Placing Requests 3. Teacher and Educational Psychologists Vacancies 4. Pre-Appeal SQA Examination Results 5. Expenditure on Schools</p> | <p>1. These annual statistics provide information on the numbers of children who were educated outwith school at any point during the school year, whether out of necessity or by parental choice.</p> <p>2. Annual statistics relating to requests by parents to local authorities that a child be placed in a specified school.</p> <p>3. Annual statistics derived from a survey which measures the level of vacancies during term time in order to indicate any possible areas of shortage.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In September 2010, the Education Analytical Services department of SG carried out a consultation of users of its Schools statistics. • This consultation followed on from an earlier one which sought views about the style and content of Schools statistics, and the Statistics Authority Assessment report on School statistics. • The Scottish Government has drawn the following conclusions from the consultation:- |

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| <p>6. Budgeted School Running Costs 7. The Independent School Census</p> <p>Producer: Scottish Government (SG)</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 25 November 2010</p> <p>Statistics to cease/reduce from:</p> | <p>4. Annual statistics relating to national and educational authority level information on the cumulative attainment of National Qualifications by all pupils in publically funded secondary schools.</p> <p>5. Annual Statistics relating to figures for local authority spending on school education.</p> <p>6. Annual statistics relating to budgeted running cost information provided by education authorities, and managers of grant-aided and self-governing schools.</p> <p>7. Annual statistics relating to results of the annual census of independent primary, secondary and special schools in Scotland.</p> | <p>i) There was a lack of demand for the retention of the NS in column 3 so they will be discontinued;</p> <p>ii) Attendance and Absence statistics will not be retained as an annual product but moved to a biennial basis;</p> <p>iii) There was little concern expressed about the repackaging of statistical publications and therefore SG will draw together the range of School statistics and release them on 3 key publication dates - Resources in December, Assessment in February and Outcomes in June;</p> <p>iv) In response to expressions of strong user need Exclusion statistics are retained on a biennial basis and published alongside the biennial Attendance and Absence figures in the Resources publication; and,</p> <p>v) In response to expressions of strong user need School Meals is retained but that a reduced set of information is collected and published annually in June.</p> |
| <p>Statistics: New Deal Statistics</p> <p>Producer: Welsh Assembly Government (WAG)</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 18 November 2010</p> <p>Statistics to cease/reduce from: November 2010</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DWP Statistics relating to the New Deal and Flexible New Deal (FND) Employment Programmes are published monthly by provider. • The following day WAG publishes headline statistics for Wales. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the New Deal and the FND are being phased out WAG will no longer be publishing this headline. • This information will continue to be available from DWP's website. • The publication of statistics on employment programmes will be reviewed once DWP have further information on the range of statistics that will be available under their new employment programme policy. • WAG have offered users an opportunity to discuss this decision by contacting them. |
| <p>Statistics: i. Health Visitors, District Nurses &</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • i and ii – Used to monitor the advice and support given by health visitors, district nurses and | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A user consultation was conducted to ask for views on a proposal to discontinue these |

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| <p>Other Community Nurses ii. Community Psychiatric Nurses and Community Learning Disability Nurses iii. NHS Day Care</p> <p>Producer: WAG</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 6 September 2010</p> <p>Statistics to cease/reduce from: October 2010</p> | <p>other community nurses and by Community Psychiatric Nurses and Community Learning Disability Nurses by recording information on face-to-face contacts with patients.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iii – Used to monitor NHS day care facilities by recording information on first and total attendances for regular day attendees and patients using a bed by speciality. | <p>statistical returns. An earlier consultation and review within the NHS had recommended that the returns be dropped.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The user consultation showed that 85 per cent or more of respondents felt that each of the collections should be dropped and failed to identify significant uses of the data. • Some users felt that it was unwise to discontinue these returns in the absence of fully developed alternative data collection and publication arrangements • As Community health information has been made a priority area by the Welsh Assembly Information Requirements Board, alternative statistics will be developed. |
| <p>Statistics: Parental experiences of services provided to disabled children Statistics</p> <p>Producer: Department for Education (DfE)</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 17 August 2010</p> <p>Statistics to cease/reduce from: November 2010</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The services for disabled children parental survey was established through the Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC) programme and measures parents' satisfaction with the local education, health, and care and family support services provided for their disabled child. • Was established to provide data for the previous government's Local Authority National Indicator Set (NI 54) and although funded by the DfE, it also forms a measure within the NHS National Operating Framework 'Vital Signs'. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministerial decision that the survey that informs this publication should cease on cost grounds. • Unlike previous years, there will be no central follow-up with local authorities and therefore the impact of the survey could be limited. • Decision reflects the Coalition Government's commitment to reduce centrally imposed data burdens and to free up resources for front line services. • No legal obligation to publish these statistics. • DfE reported that there has been no consultation with users, who are mainly Local Authorities and Primary Care Trusts. Children's disability groups and parents also have an interest in the survey, but DfE does not have evidence of the level of use. DfE ministers plan to communicate to them as soon as possible, to inform them that the survey has been discontinued and providing |

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| | | <p>LAs with tools that would allow them to carry out similar surveys themselves at a local level if they wish.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Statistician has asked DfE to make an announcement on the Publication Hub setting out why publication is to end and their expectation of the impact on users. |
| <p>Statistics: Schools Providing Access to Extended Services Statistics</p> <p>Producer: DfE</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 10 August 2010</p> <p>Statistics to cease/reduce from: October 2010</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly publication providing at a local authority level the percentage of schools providing access to the full core offer of extended services. • Statistics were used to inform the previous government's national indicators which may not reflect current government policy. • The relevant administrative data are collected by the Training and Development Agency for Schools. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection will stop to achieve necessary savings. • The percentage of schools with extended services (98 per cent) is close to the previous government's target. • No legal obligation to publish these statistics. • DfE reported that there has been no consultation with users. It said that the impact on users is expected to be limited as the percentage is close to the target i.e. almost all schools have extended services. There are no known alternative sources. • The National Statistician has asked DfE to make an announcement on the Publication Hub setting out why publication is to end and their expectation of the impact on users. |
| <p>Statistics: The Place Survey</p> <p>Producer: DCLG</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 27 July 2010</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collects the views of people on a range of issues concerning the place they live. • Results used to measure progress on National Indicators in the Local Performance Framework. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department's own reduced need for the data. • The need to reduce costs and achieve savings. • Government's desire to localise activities when appropriate, and when required. • CLG has stated that it will provide the National Statistician with a fuller explanation for the decision and outline any ramifications including for users. |

Annex C Open and closed consultations about cessation or reduction of statistics

This table summarises the consultations about potential cuts to official statistics that have been notified by Departmental Heads of Profession to the National Statistician as of 25 February 2011.

| DETAILS OF CONSULTATION | DESCRIPTION OF CONSULTATION | END DATE |
|---|---|-----------------|
| <p>Title: Consultation on changes to immigration-related Home Office statistical outputs</p> <p>Producer: Home Office</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 24 February 2011</p> | <p>Home Office Statistics are proposing a phased development of changes that would ultimately lead to the release of data using the web as the main vehicle of dissemination. It relates to Control of Immigration: United Kingdom Statistics (annual publication), Control of Immigration: (Quarterly Statistical Summary) and British Citizenship Statistics (annual publication).</p> <p>It is proposed that in a phased development between August 2011 and February 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. commentary and analysis of the data should be structured in virtual topics, be shorter and focus on key points, but provide longer term trends; ii. the annual and quarterly Control of Immigration publications, together with the British Citizenship Statistics, are combined to avoid duplication; iii. tables are presented in such a way that makes them more accessible to users, in particular listing within tables all annual data, followed by quarterly data (a draft example of this layout is available in Table 1.2 of Control of Immigration: Quarterly Statistical Summary Q4 2010); and a standard and full country of nationality and continent list; iv. the number of tables released is reduced through a combination of amalgamation and a reduction in the variables reported on; and v. all data (except passenger arrivals) are provided unrounded. | 4 May 2011 |
| <p>Title: EUSILC integration into the Family Resources Survey</p> <p>Producer: ONS</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 24 February 2011</p> | <p>ONS intends to transfer the data collection approach required for Eurostat's Survey of Income and Living Conditions (EUSILC), from the General Lifestyle Survey (GLF) to the Family Resources Survey (FRS). EUSILC questions to first time respondents will be asked within the FRS, with repeated waves of EUSILC questions (covering the longitudinal element of the EUSILC requirement) asked as an ONS stand-alone telephone survey.</p> | 6 May 2011 |
| <p>Title: The future of the General Lifestyles Survey</p> | <p>This consultation document outlines the intention to change the way the General Lifestyle Survey data are collected, seeks to identify the current uses of the</p> | 6 May 2011 |

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| <p>Producer: ONS</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 24 February 2011</p> | <p>survey data, any implications of stopping the survey, and options for alternative information sources.</p> | |
| <p>Title: Review of Conception Statistics</p> <p>Producer: ONS</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 24 February 2011</p> | <p>ONS is proposing to reduce the cost of producing conception statistics by publishing figures once a year (around February), rather than twice a year as at present. At the same time, ONS is reviewing the outputs to ensure they are coherent and continue to meet user requirements.</p> | <p>19 April 2011</p> |
| <p>Title: Streamlining of Annual Business Survey (ABS) Questionnaire</p> <p>Producer: ONS</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 24 February 2011</p> | <p>ONS plan to remove a number of redundant questions from the Annual Business Survey. This is in order to improve the quality, along with the accuracy and efficacy of the survey.</p> <p>Prior to any decisions and implementation of any changes ONS are seeking feedback from our users and stakeholders to determine the exact questions to be removed.</p> | <p>28 February 2011</p> |
| <p>Title: Consultation on the proposed changes to the publication of monthly coal statistics</p> <p>Producer: Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 24 February 2011</p> | <p>DECC currently collects and publishes monthly data on coal production, consumption and stocks in the UK. This consultation asked for views on proposals to make changes to the frequency of data collection, methodology used to produce coal statistics and the dissemination of these statistics.</p> | <p>14 January 2011</p> |
| <p>Title: National statistics about the experience of black and minority ethnic patients</p> <p>Producer: Department of Health</p> | <p>The Department of Health has launched a consultation to seek feedback on a proposal to stop producing a report on the self-reported experience of patients from black and minority ethnic groups. The collection and publication of the data is unaffected.</p> | <p>18 February 2011</p> |

Annex C - SA(11)18 - Authority Action on Statistical Expenditure

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| <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 24 February 2011</p> | | |
| <p>Title: Education and Training Statistics for the United Kingdom</p> <p>Producer: Department for Education</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 24 February 2011</p> | <p>The Department is reviewing the relevance and usefulness of this statistical publication.</p> <p>Education and Training Statistics for the United Kingdom provides statistics relating to education and training in the UK and includes chapters relating to schools, post-compulsory education & training and qualifications & destinations, with annexes containing figures on education expenditure and UK population numbers.</p> | <p>31 December 2010</p> |
| <p>Title: Demography Statistical Work Programme</p> <p>Producer: General Registrar Office Scotland (GROS)</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 9 December 2010</p> | <p>The General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) is seeking views to help determine the shape of its future Demography statistical work programme. The budget reductions announced as part of the Scottish Spending Review on 17 November 2010 mean that GROS has to consider where savings can be found. It is critically important that our statistical outputs reflect our users' priorities.</p> <p>GROS is asking users to let them know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What GROS demography statistical outputs are used and how. • The impact of possible reductions in various areas of GROS demography statistical work. | <p>9 February 2011</p> |
| <p>Title: Reductions of annual returns data collected from Fire and Rescue Services and of Fires of Special Interest reporting</p> <p>Producer: DCLG</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 30 November 2010</p> | <p>CLG is seeking views on proposals to reduce non-financial annual data returns from Fire and Rescue Services in England and to terminate the majority of data collected on 'Fires of Special Interest' forms.</p> <p>The annual data returns relate to fire safety, health and safety, personnel and equality, and diversity.</p> <p>CLG have stated the changes envisaged are driven mainly by a desire to rationalise their data collections, and to reduce the burden imposed on data providers in the Fire and Rescue Services.</p> | <p>14 January 2011</p> |
| <p>Title: Consultation on DASA's annual manpower national statistics publications</p> <p>Producer: Ministry of Defence - Defence</p> | <p>DASA plans to change the presentation of statistics on UK Armed Forces manpower currently published as National Statistics in its annual Tri-Service Publications (TSPs).</p> <p>The three National Statistics publications proposed for consolidation are:</p> | <p>27 February 2011</p> |

Annex C - SA(11)18 - Authority Action on Statistical Expenditure

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| <p>Analytical Services Agency (DASA)</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 30 November 2010</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TSP 8: Age distribution of UK Regular Forces ▪ TSP 9: UK Regular Forces Rank Structure ▪ TSP 19: UK Regular Forces Intake and Outflow by Age <p>last published on the 10 June 2010. DASA proposes to replace these with a single annual publication analysing the same aspects of Service manpower (age and rank) but containing more commentary, with fewer detailed tables.</p> <p>Users' views are sought on what they would like to be included in the new consolidated publication.</p> | |
| <p>Title: Future of Agricultural Statistics</p> <p>Producer: Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 25 November 2010</p> | <p>DEFRA completed a consultation exercise in July 2010, writing to a number of key external stakeholders to gather views regarding the future of their Agricultural Statistics.</p> <p>DEFRA have reported that this was extremely positive and provided useful avenues to pursue. The results of the consultation are being written up and will provide a focus for internal user consultation. A smaller group of key users is in the process of being set up.</p> | <p>July 2010</p> |
| <p>Title: Education and Lifelong Learning Statistics</p> <p>Producer: WAG</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 18 November 2010</p> | <p>WAG are looking for views in general on their current suite of around 40 outputs but also in response to some specific issues it has raised.</p> <p>WAG states that the purpose of this consultation is to seek feedback on the usefulness and useability of what it currently produces, how it can be improved, any gaps in what it provides and an indication of the relative priority attached to a particular analysis.</p> <p>Given the breadth of data covered by the Education and Lifelong Learning Statistics Unit, the consultation document has separate sections for schools, further education, higher education and a number of cross cutting areas.</p> <p>There are two separate response forms, according to whether you are a user of schools or post-16 education statistics.</p> | <p>30 November 2010</p> |
| <p>Title: Statistical Directorate Annual Compendia</p> | <p>WAG's Statistical Directorate is seeking views from customers on the proposal to cease printing of hardcopy statistical publications. WAG states that the</p> | <p>31 December 2010</p> |

Annex C - SA(11)18 - Authority Action on Statistical Expenditure

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| <p>Publications</p> <p>Producer: WAG</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 18 November 2010</p> | <p>same information will still be available on their web site but will only be published electronically rather than professionally printed.</p> <p>The advantages of this approach are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data will be timelier. WAG anticipates being able to publish information on the web earlier than is currently possible due to the need to prepare and print hard copies. • The resources saved will be diverted into enhancing the range of information available on the interactive StatsWales data analysis tool, and hopefully finding innovative ways of making this information available. This will allow users to access a wider range of official statistics in a more flexible and user friendly way. <p>It will help reduce WAG's carbon footprint and impact on the environment and be saving on resources needed to produce and distribute paper editions.</p> | |
| <p>Title: Improvements to Ministry of Justice statistics</p> <p>Producer: Ministry of Justice (MoJ)</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 17 November 2010</p> | <p>The consultation seeks views on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the definitions of statistics - making the statistics consistent across MoJ publications and clarifying the definition of certain important measurements; • introducing a quarterly criminal justice statistics bulletin which would give an overview of trends in crime, out of court disposals, prosecutions, convictions and sentencing; and • moving to a single measure of re-offending which would get rid of the six different ways it is currently measured. This includes consolidating five separate publications on re-offending into a single publication. <p>These proposals represent significant improvements by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • making a wider range of data available routinely through MoJ's statistical publications; • presenting a coherent overview of criminal justice statistics to help understanding and ease of comparison; and • simplifying access to information in line with the Code of Practice. <p>The consultation is a response to a number of separate reports including the UK Statistics Authority's Assessment of Criminal Justice Studies, the Stern Review of Rape Reporting and UK Statistics Authority's</p> | <p>18 February 2011</p> |

Annex C - SA(11)18 - Authority Action on Statistical Expenditure

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| | Barriers to Trust in Crime Statistics as well as MoJ's own internal review of criminal justice publications. | |
| <p>Title: Work Programme Consultation</p> <p>Producer: ONS</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 25 October 2010</p> | <p>ONS is seeking views to help determine the shape of its future statistical work programme. The budget reductions announced as part of the 2010 Spending Review mean that ONS has to consider where savings can be found. ONS considers it is critically important that statistical outputs reflect users' priorities. User feedback can also help ONS strive to become a more efficient and effective organisation.</p> <p>The consultation document outlines the ONS approach to reducing its budget, including the core principles which determine this approach, and asks stakeholders to let ONS know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what ONS outputs they use and how they use them; and • the impact on them of possible reductions in various areas of ONS work. <p>Responses will be used to inform the ONS work programme for the next four years.</p> | 24 December 2010 |
| <p>Title: The Future of the Citizenship Survey</p> <p>Producer: DCLG</p> <p>Date notified to National Statistician: 20 October 2010</p> | <p>The Citizenship Survey is a face to face household survey carried out by the Department for Communities and Local Government covering a representative core sample of almost 10,000 adults in England and Wales each year, plus a minority ethnic boost sample of 5,000 and a Muslim boost sample of 1,200.</p> <p>This statistical consultation sets out the intention to cancel the future Citizenship Survey, and in doing so, seeks to identify the uses of the survey data, the implications of stopping and options for alternative information sources.</p> | 30 November 2010 |

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

SA(11)19

Statistical Expenditure Report 1: The Citizenship Survey

This document has been published on the UK Statistics Authority website.

To see the document go to:

[http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/reports---
correspondence/correspondence/cancellation-of-citizenship-survey.pdf](http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/reports---correspondence/correspondence/cancellation-of-citizenship-survey.pdf)

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

SA(11)20

Statistical Expenditure Report 2: The Place Survey

This document will be published on the UK Statistics Authority website in due course.

The document will be available at:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/monitoring/statistical-expenditure-reports/index.html>

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

SA(11)21

Statistical Expenditure Report 3: Scottish Schools Statistics

This document will be published on the UK Statistics Authority website in due course.

The document will be available at:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/monitoring/statistical-expenditure-reports/index.html>

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

SA(11)22

Planning Monitoring and Assessment Work

Issue

1. At its February meeting, the Authority Board considered a first draft of a Monitoring Brief on 'the Impact of the Authority's Monitoring and Assessment Functions' [SA(11)15]. This paper covers a more developed draft of that Brief and two other related ones. It also addresses some of the broader questions raised at the Board meeting about how to plan Monitoring and Assessment work for the future.

Recommendations

2. The Board is invited to agree that:
 - i. the 'Impact' Monitoring Brief [SA(11)23] should be placed on the Authority's website and updated with further observations towards the end of 2011;
 - ii. the related Brief on 'Findings from the first 100 Assessment Reports' [SA(11)24] should also be made available subject to any comments or drafting points;
 - iii. the Assessment work programme and the plans for future Monitoring Briefs, as previously discussed by the Board, should be taken forward through the 2011-12 financial year. This includes various planned enhancements as set out at paragraph 6 of the 'Impact' Monitoring Brief;
 - iv. further steps should be taken to inform the Board's thinking about the future scale and balance of Monitoring and Assessment work with a view to decisions in time for implementation from April 2012; and
 - v. the plans for the next Monitoring Briefs (at **Annex A**) and the 2011-12 assessment work programme (at **Annex B**) should be taken forward.

Discussion

3. The Monitoring and Assessment functions of the Authority currently employ 20 full-time equivalent staff and while that is a small part – less than half of one per cent – of the total staff for which the Authority has formal responsibility, the Monitoring and Assessment staff and their work are the direct responsibility of the non-executive members of the Board. Since the creation of the Authority in 2008, about £4 million has been spent on Monitoring and Assessment. The budget for 2011-12 is around £2 million.
4. In considering the future role and size of the Monitoring and Assessment Team, the Authority Board will want to consider any available evidence as to the beneficial impact of the work, and also consider alternative ways some of the budget might be employed to achieve the statutory objectives of the Authority. While much of the current Monitoring and Assessment work is required by legislation, that legislation is not prescriptive about how it should be done or the scale of resources, beyond that there must be a Head of Assessment.
5. Draft Monitoring Brief 2/11 [SA(11)23] is an initial attempt to identify the benefits from Monitoring and Assessment work. It also sets out some plans to further enhance the benefit and reduce costs and burdens on government offices associated with assessment work. While there is a statutory requirement for assessment, we have always accepted that the work must deliver value in terms of offering guidance to producers of official statistics which in turn leads to an enhanced service to users and a return in terms of public good. In addition we expect Monitoring and Assessment work to support the Authority Board in making a range of broader statements and interventions – including offering public and international reassurance about the high standards achieved overall in the field of UK official statistics; and responding to specific concerns about either the adequacy or misuse of official statistics. The Authority Board has a

statutory duty to report on concerns of these and other kinds.

6. The evidence presented in the draft Monitoring Brief is, at this stage, inevitably tentative. It is more a matter of there being positive signs of where the benefit will eventually emerge than there being a wide range of examples of tangible improvements in the service. This is partly due to the inevitable delay that exists between a message from the Monitoring and Assessment work being identified and understood and it working through to actual change. There is a question here about the extent to which it is for the Monitoring and Assessment team itself to drive those changes. Arguably, the job of Monitoring and Assessment is first and foremost to identify the recommendations and messages that need to be addressed and it is for the Authority Board, the National Statistician and ONS to find ways to turn those recommendations and messages in to action. Nonetheless, it would be damaging to the Authority to reach a position in the future where little good had been seen to have flowed from the Monitoring and Assessment functions. If that happened it would be difficult to make a convincing case to continue them. Thus the question of the appropriate response to Monitoring and Assessment work is one that the Monitoring and Assessment team is likely to have views about.
7. However, the view of the Monitoring and Assessment team at the moment is that the early signs of impact are positive. We believe, for example, that Monitoring and Assessment work has contributed to an enhanced reputation of the UK statistical system internationally and that the broad messages that have emerged so far about how to improve the service in the eyes of users and 'opinion formers' are both right and deliverable. There is thus an established agenda which is both positive about the quality of the current basic statistical product and offers real and practical scope for further development even at a time of public expenditure cuts. Indeed the importance of those changes, which relate to identifying uses of the statistics more clearly and better explaining the relevance of the statistics to those uses, is actually greater at a time of cuts than it would be otherwise. It represents the best defence of the service as well as indicating the path to enhance it.
8. The other Monitoring Brief, 'Findings from the first 100 Assessment Reports' [SA(11)24], fills in some more detail on the nature and extent of the impact. We are also finalising a third related Brief on the implementation of the Authority's recommendations for improving statistics. We see all three Briefs as essentially internal documents that will be openly available rather than one-off publications. We would expect to update them from time to time and use them as an aide-memoire and as something to which we could refer anyone who asks us about what good the work does. In that sense they are not intended to be highly finished documents. We will draw on this material in the preparation of the Authority's Annual Report for 2010-11.
9. It was suggested at the last Board meeting that the possibility of an independent review of the impact of Monitoring and Assessment work should be explored and a formal business case developed for the future role and activities. These are points for further discussion. Ultimately the Chair and non-executive members of the Board will need to both decide and then defend the work that is done on their behalf. So the question becomes one of how much, and what, evidence is wanted before taking such decisions. As well as updating the material in the three Monitoring Briefs, we would want to take soundings from the user and opinion-former communities at some stage but we feel that we will have to wait until there is more that we could invite them to comment on.

SA(11)22 - Planning Monitoring and Assessment Work

10. The Monitoring and Assessment team thinks it would be sensible for the work to continue largely as already planned in 2011-12 and at the current level of staffing. However, in the course of the year, we suggest that the Board may wish to explore the evidence more fully with a view to reaching an agreed position on the way forward for Monitoring and Assessment from April 2012.

Richard Alldritt, Head of Assessment, March 2011

List of Annexes

- Annex A Progress and plans for Monitoring Briefs**
- Annex B Assessment work programme 2011-2012**

Annex A Progress and plans for Monitoring Briefs

Monitoring Briefs on the agenda of this meeting

- i. 'The Impact of the Authority's Monitoring and Assessment functions' [SA(11)23]
- ii. 'Findings from the first 100 Assessment Reports' [SA(11)24]
- iii. 'Statistics on the drivers and the measurement of climate change' [SA(11)25]

Monitoring Briefs currently under production

Further to discussion about priorities for Monitoring Briefs at the November 2010 meeting of the Authority Board [SA(10)80], three Monitoring Briefs are currently being worked on:

- i. 'Implementation of the Authority's recommendations for improving statistics'. This Brief will consider the implementation by government bodies of the recommendations made by the Authority during its first three years. A draft is expected for the April Authority Board meeting.
- ii. 'The availability of statistics for Parliamentary Constituencies'. This Brief will consider the statistical needs of Members of Parliament, their staff, and the parliamentary officials who support their work. The Brief will also discuss how official statistics support the parliamentary duties of Members, and contribute to democratic debate in Parliament and beyond. It will consider in detail the availability of official statistics using the Westminster Parliamentary Constituency geography, and the quality of statistical information provided in response to Written Parliamentary Questions. This material will be contextualised by explaining how the UK Statistics Authority supports Parliament, including a brief description of the Authority's relationship with the Public Administration Select Committee, work for other Committees (e.g. Transport), and its approach to engagement with Parliament and individual Members.
- iii. 'The viability of a UK wide deprivation index'. A draft is expected for the April Authority Board meeting. The Assessment Reports of deprivation indices for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland indicated that there may be demand for an additional index of deprivation, relating to the UK as a whole. This Monitoring Brief will explore the extent and nature of user interest, the practicality of producing a UK index of sufficient quality, and the presentational implications of a 'parallel' index.

In addition, initial scoping work has started on a possible Monitoring Brief in response to the Home Affairs Committee's concerns about the "confusing" nature of migration statistics.

Next planned Monitoring Briefs

The Monitoring and Assessment team proposes that the next tranche of Monitoring Briefs include the following topics. The Briefs at i to iii below were additionally proposed at the November 2010 meeting of the Authority Board [SA(10)80].

- i. 'Use and value of statistics by sectors of industry and society'. This Monitoring Brief will document and comment on the use of official statistics by particular sectors of industry or society, such as the pharmaceutical industry, insurance services, international bodies, voluntary sector and others about which knowledge is currently limited.
- ii. 'The role of government statisticians in meeting user needs'. It is widely accepted that the Government Statistical Service (GSS) has a number of roles, only one of which – activity that leads up to publishing statistical reports – is fully addressed by the Code, and hence assessment. This Brief will explore, and provide examples of, other roles – such as that of statistical advisor to policy makers. It will explore whether, and how, such activity might be given greater public recognition and valued accordingly.

Annex A - SA(11)22 - Planning Monitoring and Assessment Work

- iii. 'Sources of statistics on health, education and other topics'. This will highlight the range of producer bodies, the consequent disparate sets of statistics, and the difficulty this can cause for users and potential users. A definitive Brief will be difficult to produce while the Government reviews the structure of the organisations responsible for public service delivery, but this context will make the Brief all the more topical in highlighting the need for a coordinated approach to dissemination. Such a Brief on health statistics might provide the basis for an Authority recommendation that future needs for health statistics be actively planned in the context of the proposed rearrangements.
- iv. 'The importance of statistical commentary in adding value and building trust in statistics'. This Brief would look at government statistical releases in the round, and in particular at the quality and characteristics of the commentary in them. The Brief would include a reiteration and expansion of our views on the fundamental importance of full, objective commentary that provides real added value to the numbers; the results of a review of a sample of statistical releases against the Authority's published guidelines; and examples of good practice from GSS UK and internationally.

Annex B Assessment work programme 2011-2012

Assessment

Under the provisions of the *Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007*, the UK Statistics Authority has a statutory responsibility to assess whether the Code of Practice has been complied with in relation to any official statistics, subject to a request from an appropriate authority (as defined in the Act). Where the Authority determines that the Code has been complied with it will designate the statistics as "National Statistics", but otherwise not. These arrangements also apply to statistics already designated as National Statistics which will be re-assessed.

In fulfilling its statutory remit, the Statistics Authority will use the assessment process to identify steps that could be taken to improve the service to users of the statistics, and will report accordingly. In this way assessment will support the Statistics Authority's overall objective, which is to promote and safeguard the production and publication of official statistics that serve the public good.

The Statistics Authority started its assessment programme in early 2009, and has published over 100 Assessment Reports to date. These are available at <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment/assessment-reports/index.html>.

Assessment Programme

The Statistics Authority also has a statutory responsibility to prepare and publish a Programme for the assessment of statistics. The attached programme relates to outputs already designated as National Statistics. Sets of statistics have been grouped together for assessment based on commonality of users, data sources, methods, and so on, in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the assessment process. In some cases the groups include existing official statistics that have been nominated for first designation as National Statistics. Other nominations for Assessment will be considered for inclusion in the programme as they arise.

The information detailed below updates the programme for the remainder of 2011, incorporating known changes. The Authority will keep the sequence and timing of these assessments under review. In particular, the Authority will review the impact of departmental Comprehensive Spending Review settlements on statistics and will review the assessment programme accordingly. We will formally publish any revisions as appropriate.

The Assessment team will discuss the detailed scope and timing with producers closer to the time of each individual assessment. Consequently, assessments may not start at exactly the time indicated here, nor have the same composition as currently envisaged. We will reflect material changes in revisions to the programme.

Assessments to start April 2011

Group of statistics to be assessed

Building Materials Statistics

Pre-School Statistics

Community Care Statistics

Economic and Earnings Statistics

Secondary Care Statistics

Housing Statistics

Pre-school Census

Producer body

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills

Department for Education

NHS Information Centre

Welsh Assembly Government

Information Services Division of NHS

National Services Scotland

Scottish Government

Scottish Government

Assessments to start May 2011

Group of statistics to be assessed

School Workforce Statistics
Farm Statistics

Corporation Tax Statistics
Income Distribution Statistics
Income Tax Statistics
Statistics from the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System
Regional Accounts
Families Statistics
Agriculture Statistics
Farms Statistics
Housing Statistics
Agriculture Statistics

Producer body

Department for Education
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
HM Revenue and Customs
HM Revenue and Customs
HM Revenue and Customs
National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse
Office for National Statistics
Office for National Statistics
Welsh Assembly Government
Scottish Government
Scottish Government
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (Northern Ireland)

Assessments to start June 2011

Group of statistics to be assessed

Environmental Statistics

Public Sector Finance Statistics
Public Sector Finance Statistics
International Transactions Statistics
Small-area income estimates
Environment Statistics
Environment Statistics

Producer body

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
HM Treasury
Office for National Statistics
Office for National Statistics
Office for National Statistics
Welsh Assembly Government
Scottish Government

Assessments to start July 2011

Group of statistics to be assessed

Regional Economic Performance Indicators

Abortion Statistics
National Insurance Contributions & Qualifying Years and Second Tier Pension Provision
Poverty and Related Statistics
Monthly Statistical Bulletins
Re-offending Statistics
Conceptions Statistics
Annual Business Inquiry Outputs
Business Statistics
Family Resources and Related Statistics

Producer body

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
Department of Health
Department for Work and Pensions

Department for Work and Pensions
HM Revenue and Customs
Ministry of Justice
Office for National Statistics
Office for National Statistics
Scottish Government
Department for Social Development (Northern Ireland)

Assessments to start August 2011

Group of statistics to be assessed

Housing and Planning Statistics

Fraud and Error in the Benefit System

Producer body

Department for Communities and Local Government
Department for Work and Pensions

Social Care Statistics
Financial Statistics
Construction Statistics
Regional Statistics: Analysis and Compendia
Vital Statistics

NHS Information Centre
Office for National Statistics
Office for National Statistics
Office for National Statistics
Welsh Assembly Government

Assessments to start September 2011

Group of statistics to be assessed

Traffic Statistics
Child Support Agency Quarterly Summary Statistics
Immigration Statistics
Deaths Statistics: Primary Analysis
Health Statistics: Analysis and Compendia
Personal Social Services Statistics

Producer body

Department for Transport
Department for Work and Pensions

Home Office
Office for National Statistics
Office for National Statistics
Welsh Assembly Government

Assessments to start October 2011

Group of statistics to be assessed

Greenbelts and Planning Statistics

Small and Medium Enterprise Statistics

Post-School Statistics
Maritime Statistics
Forestry Statistics
UK Defence Statistics
Clinical Governance Statistics

Trade Statistics

Abstract of Statistics Online

Producer body

Department for Communities and Local Government
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
Department for Education
Department for Transport
Forestry Commission
Ministry of Defence
Information Services Division of NHS
National Services Scotland
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (Northern Ireland)
Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

Assessments to start November 2011

Group of statistics to be assessed

Taking Part Statistics
Congestion Statistics
Dental and Ophthalmic Statistics
Public Health Statistics

Producer body

Department for Culture, Media and Sport
Department for Transport
NHS Information Centre
Information Services Division of NHS
National Services Scotland

Assessments to start December 2011

Group of statistics to be assessed

Savings Statistics
Petrol/Oil Revenue Statistics
Personal Wealth Statistics
Gains Statistics
Inheritance Tax Statistics
Statistics of Scientific Procedures on Living Animals

Producer body

HM Revenue and Customs
Home Office

Assessment Programme, 2012

Group of statistics to be assessed

Special Assessment of the 2011 Population Census, phase 3

Fire Statistics

Trade Union Membership Statistics

Statistics About Children

Attitudes to Mental Illness

Mortality Statistics

Buses, Taxis and Accessibility Statistics

Life Opportunities Survey Statistics

Pensions Statistics

Investment Statistics

Gift Aid Statistics

R&D Tax Credits Statistics

Employee Share schemes

Property Statistics

Sub-Regional Analyses

Tax Expenditure Statistics

Alcohol, Entertainment and Late Night

Refreshment Licensing Statistics

Police Statistics

Terrorist Statistics

Mental Health Statistics

Hospital Episode Statistics

Offender Management Statistics

Internet Access

Innovation Statistics

Prodcorn

Social Trends and related outputs

Business Register Outputs

Neighbourhood Statistics

Deaths Statistics: Secondary Analysis

Deaths Statistics: Secondary Analysis (Infants)

Communities First Statistics

Crime Statistics

General Compendium Volumes

Health Compendia

Patient datasets

Primary Care Statistics

Welsh Health Survey Outputs

Ad Hoc Health Outputs

Local Authority Registers of People with Disabilities

Fire Statistics

Child Health Statistics

Dental and Ophthalmics Statistics

General Practice Statistics

Producer body

Office for National Statistics, Welsh Assembly Government, General Register

Office for Scotland, Northern Ireland

Statistics and Research Agency

Department for Communities and Local Government

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills

Department for Education

Department of Health

Department of Health

Department for Transport

Department for Work and Pensions

HM Revenue and Customs

Home Office

Home Office

Home Office

NHS Information Centre

NHS Information Centre

Ministry of Justice

Office for National Statistics

Welsh Assembly Government

Information Services Division of NHS

National Services Scotland

Information Services Division of NHS

National Services Scotland

Information Services Division of NHS

Annex B - SA(11)22 - Planning Monitoring and Assessment Work

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|---|---|
| Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics | National Services Scotland Information Services Division of NHS |
| Mental Health Statistics | National Services Scotland Information Services Division of NHS |
| Resources and costs | National Services Scotland Information Services Division of NHS |
| Substance Misuse Statistics | National Services Scotland Information Services Division of NHS |
| Local Government Finance Statistics | National Services Scotland |
| Homeless People Statistics | Scottish Government |
| Vacant and Derelict land Statistics | Scottish Government |
| Households Below Average Income | Scottish Government |
| Court Statistics | Scottish Government |
| Farm Income Statistics | Scottish Government |
| Fire Statistics | Scottish Government |
| Health Statistics | Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Northern Ireland) |
| Adult Community Statistics | Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Northern Ireland) |
| Working Age Benefits Statistics | Department for Social Development (Northern Ireland) |
| Pension Age Benefits Statistics | Department for Social Development (Northern Ireland) |
| Summary Statistics | Department for Social Development (Northern Ireland) |
| Northern Ireland Housing Statistics | Department for Social Development (Northern Ireland) |
| Women in Northern Ireland Statistics | Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (Northern Ireland) |
| Crime Statistics | Department of Justice (Northern Ireland) |
| Criminal Justice System Statistics | Department of Justice (Northern Ireland) |
| Northern Ireland Prison Population and Projections | Department of Justice (Northern Ireland) |
| Religion Report | Northern Ireland Office of the First and Deputy First Minister |

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

SA(11)23

***Draft Monitoring Brief (2/11):
The impact of the Authority's Monitoring and Assessment Function***

This document will be published on the UK Statistics Authority website in due course.

The document will be available at:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/monitoring/monitoring-briefs/index.html>

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

SA(11)24

***Draft Monitoring Brief (3/11):
Findings from the first 100 Assessment Reports***

This document will be published on the UK Statistics Authority website in due course.

The document will be available at:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/monitoring/monitoring-briefs/index.html>

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

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***Draft Monitoring Brief (4/11):
Statistics on the drivers and the measurement of
climate change***

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