
Ed Humpherson | Director General for Regulation

Gordon Lindhurst MSP
Convener
Economy, Jobs and Fair Work Committee

28 November 2017

Dear Convener,

Thank you for the invitation to give evidence earlier this week at the Committee. I enjoyed the session, which covered a wide range of issues related to Scottish economic data.

There is one aspect of the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR) that I would like to emphasise. Since 2008, we have attached importance to our regulatory work in Scotland. For the Office for Statistics Regulation, we have more regulatory staff in Edinburgh than in either of our other offices in London and Newport¹. A significant presence in Scotland helps us engage with users of statistics in Scotland, and ensures we contribute to the professional statistical community.

The OSR team in Edinburgh carry out regulatory activity on statistics across the UK, including those produced by the Scottish Government and other bodies in Scotland. Our UK programmes on economics, labour market, welfare, agriculture, environment and culture statistics are based in this office along with much of our work on health, education and crime statistics.

I hope this demonstrates our commitment to ensuring that Scottish statistics are meeting the highest standards by having a strong team in Scotland. Our first Annual Review will be published shortly and I will ensure that the Committee receives a copy.

Yours sincerely,



Ed Humpherson
Director General for Regulation

¹ The Office for Statistics Regulation is small, with a total of 19 regulatory staff. We have 9 regulatory staff in Edinburgh, 6 in Newport, and 4 in London.