

Richard Alldritt
UK Statistics Authority
Statistics House
Tredegar Park
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13 January 2011

Dear Richard

ONS Exemption to the Code of Practice – Protocol 2.4

As you will be aware, ONS continues to experience problems with its current website and our ability to release our statistics consistently at 9.30am. As part of the current round of Assessment Reports, ONS has 12 requirements outstanding relating to the issuing of statistical releases at 9.30am and eight of these requirements are due by the end of January 2011.

I am writing to request that ONS is granted a temporary exemption to the Code of Practice until 30 April 2011. I am confident after this date the ONS website, the new simplified authoring process and our increased capacity to release statistics will enable ONS to meet Protocol 2.4 of the Code of Practice. In the meantime we will work as closely in line with the Code as possible by ensuring that the number of releases delayed past 9.30am is minimised.

Yours sincerely,



Stephen Penneck
Director General for ONS