

**Richard Hughes**  
*Chairman*

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[by email]

10<sup>th</sup> November 2020

**November 2020 Economic and Fiscal outlook and the 2020Q3 GDP dataset**

Dear Richard,

Thank you for your letter of 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020 seeking exceptional pre-release access for GDP first quarterly estimate for Q3 2020 and GDP monthly estimate September 2020.

When the then National Statistician announced an end to pre-release access to ONS statistics he said that *'Should there be a need for exceptional pre-release access to particular individuals for a specific release this would be fully transparent'*. The overarching principle being that an exceptional circumstance is where the public benefit likely to result from such access significantly outweighs the detriment to public trust in official statistics likely to result from such access.

On that basis, and having discussed this with the National Statistician, the ONS grants you exceptional pre-release access, as requested, for GDP first quarterly estimate for Q3 2020 and GDP monthly estimate September 2020.

We will send you the requested statistics on 11<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30 am (22 hours prior to the ONS release)

Ahead of any pre-release access, ONS will require the names of any and all individuals who will be accessing data ahead of publication.

Yours sincerely,



**Jonathan Athow**  
Deputy National Statistician and Director General, Economic Statistics | Office for National Statistics