

From : [REDACTED]

Date Sent : 13/08/2014 16:32:45

Subject : [RE: Statistics on Recorded Crime in Scotland, \(Assessment Report 288\) - framework of assurance](#)

[REDACTED]

Many thanks for your reply.

Yes, we are developing an action plan to take forward the requirements from the Assessment Report which would include the proposed actions and the associated timescales. We would wish to share an early draft of the action plan with you. As you say, this would be helpful, in terms of providing a joint understanding of the work to be undertaken and the relevant timescales. Thank you for offering to review the action plan for us. We will send you a copy of the draft action plan before the end of the month.

On a related matter, para 1.2.8 in the Assessment report states the following:

“The Scottish Government should:

- working with HMICS or other appropriate bodies, combine existing and new work into a coherent framework of assurance. Most of this material exists, or will be available once HMICS publish their next report examining the integrity of crime recording in Scotland, but it has not been incorporated into a coherent framework,
- publish demonstrable evidence that the outputs from the forthcoming independent HMICS audit have been integrated into the processes and practices of the compilation, analysis and publication of these statistics and of the supporting documentation.
- Implement all the Requirements covering the wide range of Principles of the Code of Practice listed in section 1.5.”

It would be helpful if you could let me know the following:

- Do all the requirements have to be completed by the forthcoming publication or does evidence of progress on all the requirements need to be available?

- Similarly, what does it mean to “implement” the requirements? Are there key requirements that we have to have completed prior to publication?
- How long prior to the publication date would we need to have submitted all the evidence to the Assessment team?

Happy to discuss.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
Justice Analytical Services
Scottish Government
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 August 2014 09:58
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Statistics on Recorded Crime in Scotland, (Assessment Report 288)) - framework of assurance

[REDACTED]

There is no template, it is up to the statisticians to consider, for each set of statistics, how best to bring together and publish the range of actions and evidence that you use to assure yourselves of the quality of the underlying data. I would encourage you to consider the range of material presented in the Exposure Draft Report.

It is good to hear that you are thinking about how to address the Requirements in the Assessment Report. Now that the Report has been published, we usually suggest that the producer develop an action plan for how you are planning to take the work forward, and share that plan with the Assessment team. This is helpful as there will then be a joint understanding of the work and the relevant timetables, it also avoids a situation of producers sending a lot of information late in the

day which turns out to be insufficient to meet the Requirements. The plan is usually a simple table of the Requirements listed down one side together with the proposed actions and deadlines. If you can send that over by the end of the month we would be happy to review it for you.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | UK Statistics Authority | 23 Walker Street,
Edinburgh, EH3 7HX

[REDACTED]

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From:

[REDACTED]

Date: 11/08/2014 17:54

Subject: Statistics on Recorded Crime in Scotland, (Assessment Report 288)) - framework of assurance

[REDACTED]

Statistics on Recorded Crime in Scotland, (Assessment Report 288)

Within the above Assessment Report, there are a number of references made to a “**framework of assurance**”. There are two references made to the “framework of assessment” in the Statement by the Head of Assessment and further references are made to a “framework”/“framework of assurance” in sections 1.2.3 and 1.2.8 of the report.

It would be helpful if you could provide us with some information/guidance as to what constitutes a “framework of assurance”, please? This would be beneficial so that we can provide all the relevant information required to meet the requirements of such a framework. For example, is there a standard template available which can be used to consider and collate all the information which is relevant to a specific administrative data source?

I note the publication (on 31 July 2014) by the Authority of an ‘Exposure Draft Report *Quality Assurance and Audit Arrangements for Administrative Data*’, and the references made to a “conceptual framework” and to the ESS Quality Assurance Framework.

I also note the NSO’s Interim Guidance (published in April 2014) entitled “Using Administrative Data: Good Practice Guidance for Statisticians”. However I am not aware of any reference to a framework of assurance in this guidance.

Happy to discuss.

Regards,

[Redacted signature]

Justice Analytical Services
Scottish Government

[Redacted contact information]

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Dh’fhaodadh gum bi teachdaireachd sam bith bho Riaghaltas na h-Alba air a chlàradh neo air a sgrùdadh airson dearbhadh gu bheil an siostam ag obair gu h-èifeachdach neo airson adhbhar

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