

Ian Diamond appointed as UK's National Statistician

Her Majesty the Queen, on the advice of the Prime Minister, has appointed Professor Sir Ian Diamond as National Statistician. Sir Ian succeeds John Pullinger, who retired at the end of June.

The National Statistician is the Chief Executive of the UK Statistics Authority, Permanent Secretary of the Office for National Statistics and Head of the Government Statistical Service. As Chief Executive of the UK Statistics Authority, Sir Ian will be an executive member of the Board of the UK Statistics Authority.

Sir Ian's career spans many areas of social and official statistics. Most recently, he served as Principal and Vice Chancellor of the University of Aberdeen, and prior to that held the role of Chief Executive of the Economic and Social Research Council. He is also a Fellow of the British Academy, Royal Society of Edinburgh and the Academy of Social Sciences.

Sir David Norgrove, Chair of the UK Statistics Authority, warmly welcomed Sir Ian's appointment:

I am delighted that we have appointed Sir Ian as the UK Statistics Authority's new Chief Executive and National Statistician. Ian brings with him enormous professional experience and particular expertise in census design and analysis.

I would like to record my warm thanks for John Pullinger's exemplary leadership of the Statistical Service over the last five years as National Statistician before his recent retirement. We have valued enormously John's professional wise counsel and wish him well for the future.

The Chief Executive of the Civil Service, John Manzoni, said:

I would like to congratulate Sir Ian on his appointment. With his considerable standing in the statistics community and talent for analysing large and complex data on population statistics, I am sure he will provide strong direction for the UK Statistics Authority and Office for National Statistics.

I would also like to thank John Pullinger for his excellent work over the last five years and wish him all the very best for the future.

On the announcement of his appointment by Her Majesty the Queen, Sir Ian Diamond said:

The UK's statistical system is one admired world-over and it is an enormous privilege to have been appointed as the UK's National Statistician. I'm looking forward to building on the work of John Pullinger, as we make use of rich new data sources to deliver the data decision-makers across the UK need.

I'm particularly excited to be working with staff across the Office for National Statistics and the Government Statistical Service, as we empower our partners in Parliament, academia, business and beyond with trusted and quality data.