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CC : [REDACTED]

Date Sent : 29/11/2012 23:28:47

Subject : [RESTRICED] - Re: Announcement date and time for conclusion of RPI consultation

[REDACTED]

Thanks for your input last week to the discussions about the date and time for making an announcement on the conclusion of the current RPI consultation, in January 2013. ONS has circulated the draft minutes from the tripartite meeting of 22 November, but I wanted to write separately to **ask you to confirm on behalf of your organisation its commitment to the date we have set, which is 10 January 2013.**

The draft timetable sees CPAC meeting on 8 January, and the UK Statistics Authority Board meeting on 9 January. If necessary, the statutory exchanges would all be concluded on 9 January, in that the Authority would consult the Bank, the Bank would respond, the Authority would consult the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Chancellor would respond. The conclusion will be reached when the Authority and HMT issue a synchronised announcement on 10 January and publish the relevant correspondence. We have considered whether the announcement should be issued when the markets for trading index-linked gilts are closed and ONS is seeking the views of the National Statistician on this aspect. I will update you when the National Statistician provides her view. As a consequence the time for any announcement on 10 January is still to be set.

ONS plans to issue a statement on 10 December alerting users to the arrangements for making an announcement. To allow us to develop and clear a draft of the statement, **it would be helpful if you could provide a response by close on 4 December.**

regards

Derek