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Mr. Ian Walters  
Education and Public Services Group  
Welsh Government  
Merthyr Tydfil Office  
Rhydycar  
CF48 1UZ

Dear Mr. Walters,

#### **Notification of Review of Welsh Registered Social Landlords (RSLs)**

The Welsh Government invited ONS to consider the provisional statistical classification of RSLs in Wales, most recently in respect of additional information provided on 14 August 2017.

The Classifications Branch Secretariat assessed a copy of the draft Regulation of Registered Social Landlords (Wales) Bill against the internationally agreed rules in the European System of Accounts 2010 and the accompanying Manual on Government Deficit and Debt 2016.

Having carried out an assessment on the additional information, the Secretariat determined that if the Bill receives Royal Assent in its current form, the totality of public sector influence exercised through central government, local authorities and the existence of nomination agreements would not constitute public sector control.

It is important to note that this is an informal assessment carried out by the Secretariat, and has not been endorsed by the Economic Statistics Classifications Committee or the Director of National Accounts and Economic Statistics. However, ONS would be happy to formally review the classification of Welsh RSLs if and when the Bill passes through the National Assembly for Wales.

ONS will treat this advice as given in confidence. If any indication of the contents of this advice is made public, by you or otherwise, we reserve the right to publish the advice in full, or confirm that we have been approached to provide advice. You are free to make this advice public but we ask that if you plan to do so that you contact us in advance to discuss.

I hope this provides a sufficient overview of the process undertaken. Please do get in touch if you have any questions or comments.

Yours sincerely,

David Beckett