

UK Statistics Authority 1 Drummond Gate London SW1V 2QQ Tel: 020 7592 8620

E-mail: national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk

www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk

John Pullinger CB CStat | National Statistician

Royston Smith MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

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Dear Mr Smith,

As National Statistician and Chief Executive of the UK Statistics Authority, I am replying to your Parliamentary Question asking what percentage of the work force in each (a) region and (b) local authority area is employed in the knowledge economy (211822).

The most reliable employee/employment estimates by low levels of geography and industry are available from the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES). BRES samples around 80 thousand businesses each year, providing an annual employee/employment estimate for GB at the September reference date. Like any survey, estimates are subject to sampling errors, which increase at low levels of estimation.

BRES produces industry employment estimates based on the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 2007. We have listed the industries considered to be part of the knowledge economy in the table. A copy of the table has been placed in the House of Commons Library.

Yours sincerely,

John Pullinger