

# Statement

29 October 2008

## Crime statistics: recording serious crimes of violence

The UK Statistics Authority notes the concerns expressed in the news media following the release of Home Office quarterly crime statistics for the period April to June 2008 published on 23 October 2008 that took account of changes to recording practices for serious crimes of violence, and the consequent large apparent increase in the numbers of such offences compared with the same quarter a year earlier.

The Statistics Authority has previously announced that it will be preparing a report on *Barriers to trust in relation to crime statistics*.<sup>1</sup> The Authority will now ask its Monitoring and Assessment Team to broaden the scope of that review to consider the lessons to be learned from the process underlying changes to recording practices and the associated media comment.

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/news/announcements/reports-from-the-authority-s-m-a-team---update-no-1.pdf>