28th September 2011

Methodological Notice

Users are advised that effective from 12 August 2011, the Office for National Statistics has revised the deflators that are applied to Great Britain Construction Output data to convert current price series to constant (2005) price series. In the absence of regional deflators, the same GB deflators are applied to current price Northern Ireland Construction Output data to produce constant price series.

It is standard practice for deflators to be updated quarterly and this forms part of the normal cycle of planned revisions to the construction output series. The revisions to the deflators in this instance are a result of a methodological change in the way that the deflators are derived and therefore do not fall into the category of normal planned revisions.

These revised deflators will affect all previous construction output series that are converted to constant (2005) prices published in the Northern Ireland Construction Bulletin. Revisions to the published growths for the periods Q1 2011 and earlier will be published in the next Northern Ireland Construction Bulletin – Q2 2011 to be released on 19 October 2011.

It is standard practice for NISRA to pre-announce planned and unplanned revisions at least one month in advance of their release. In this case, NISRA has only become aware of the revisions to the deflators and is making this announcement at the earliest opportunity.

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