Author's response to reviews

Title: How many births in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia will not be attended by a skilled birth attendant between 2011 and 2015?

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editors,

We thank the reviewer for their comment and submit a revised manuscript accordingly (revisions in the manuscript have been made using the ‘track changes’ facility in MS Word).

**Reviewer’s suggested discretionary revision:**
*The authors should review the paper to ensure they have made it clear to readers that this analysis is intended to raise key policy issues, not to develop a high-level forecasting model.*

We have added the following sentence to the introduction section (p4) in order to incorporate this suggestion:

“We note that our work is intended to raise key policy issues rather than act as a high-level forecasting model.”

We have also added the following sentence to the discussion section (p10):

“These estimates were generated with the intention of raising key policy issues rather than providing high level forecasts”.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Sonya Crowe
Professor Martin Utley
Professor Anthony Costello
Dr Christina Pagel