

BREACH OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE FOR OFFICIAL STATISTICS

This document reports a breach of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, or the relevant Pre-release Access to Official Statistics Orders, to which the Code applies as if it included these orders.

1. Background information

Name of Statistical Output (including weblink to the relevant output or 'landing page')

1. Claimants on working-age benefits for 3 out of previous 4 years: July 2014
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/claimants-on-working-age-benefits-for-3-out-of-previous-4-years-july-2014>
2. Local government pension scheme funds for England: 2013 to 2014
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/local-government-pension-scheme-funds-for-england-2013-to-2014>
3. Local government pension scheme funds for Wales: 2013 to 2014
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/local-government-pension-scheme-funds-for-wales-2013-to-2014>
4. Local government pension scheme funds summary data: 2013 to 2014
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/local-government-pension-scheme-funds-summary-data-2013-to-2014>
5. Operation Herrick redeployment statistics: background quality report
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/operation-herrick-redeployment-statistics-background-quality-report>
6. Operation Herrick redeployment statistics: 2014
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/operation-herrick-redeployment-statistics-2014>
7. Insolvency Statistics: July to September 2014
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/insolvency-statistics-july-to-september-2014>
8. Local government pension scheme funds local authority data: 2013 to 2014
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/local-government-pension-scheme-funds-local-authority-data-2013-to-2014>

Name of Producer Organisation

1. Department of Work and Pensions (DWP)
2. Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)
3. Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)
4. Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)
5. Ministry of Defence (MOD)
6. Ministry of Defence (MOD)
7. The Insolvency Service (an executive agency, sponsored by BIS)
8. Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)

Name and contact details of the statistical Head of Profession (Lead Official in an Arm's Length Body) submitting this report, and date of report

Completed on behalf of the Statistical Heads of Profession of the affected departments on behalf of the National Statistician's Office (NSO).

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2. Circumstances of breach

Relevant Principle/Protocol and Practice

Protocol 2 - Release Practice 4

Issue statistical releases at the standard time of 09:30 on a weekday, to maintain consistency and to permit time for users to understand and respond to the information during normal working hours.

Date of occurrence

29 October 2014

Nature of breach (including links with previous breaches, if any)

The 8 publications that were due to be published via the release calendar (gov.uk) on 29 October 2014 were delayed and therefore were not published at the standard time of 09:30.

Reasons for breach

The National Statistician's Office (NSO) was alerted to this delay by colleagues in the Insolvency Service and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS). NSO contacted colleagues in the Government Digital Service (GDS) who are responsible for the maintenance and running of the release calendar and were made aware that due to an unforeseen delay the publications were slightly late, the first release was published at 09:31:20 and the final item published at 09:31:35.

3. Reactions and impact (both within the producer body and outside)

None that we are aware of and all releases were available from 09:31:36.

4. Corrective actions taken to prevent reoccurrence of such a breach (include short-term actions, and long-term changes made to procedures)

Following this incident, GDS has introduced more detailed logging to monitor publishing times. This logging is designed to better aid the identification of the cause of any delay. If there was a reoccurrence then GDS would initiate a more detailed investigation.