

This breach report was updated on 9 May 2017 to include the corrective action taken, in the last two sentences of section 4.

REPORTING A BREACH OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE FOR OFFICIAL STATISTICS

1. Core Information [\[guidance\]](#)

Title and link to statistical output	Analysis of NI Civil Service Recruitment Competitions https://www.nisra.gov.uk/statistics/ni-government-human-resource-statistics/recruitment-competition-statistics
Name of statistical producer	Human Resource Consultancy Services Branch (NISRA)
Name and contact details of person dealing with report	Tony Mathewson, email: tony.mathewson@finance-ni.gov.uk, tel: 028 90388429
Link to published statement about the breach (if relevant)	A statement will be published later today on the same web page as the above link.
Date of report	Tue 28 th March 2017

2. Circumstances of breach [\[guidance\]](#)

Relevant principle/protocol and practice	Protocol 2: Release Practices, Practice 4. Issue statistical releases at the standard time of 9.30 am 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 of breach	28 th March 2017
<p><i>Give an account of what has happened including roles of persons involved, dates, times etc</i></p> <p>The publication was set-up on the NISRA website in advance of the 9:30 release time in accordance with internal guidance but the link to the publication didn't appear on the website until 9.57 hrs. We monitored the website and realised that the link hadn't appeared soon after 9:30 and we raised the matter with the NISRA staff member responsible for the NISRA website. He confirmed that the document had been published properly but that the page containing the link hadn't gone live/ refreshed on the website and he initiated contact with the Departmental IT support team. We continued to check/monitor the situation until 9.57 hrs when the link to the publication finally appeared on the website.</p>	

3. Impact of the breach [\[guidance\]](#)

<p><i>Provide details of the impact of the breach both inside the producer body and externally</i></p> <p>This breach had minimal impact within NI Civil Service or externally as it was published within 30 minutes of the planned publication time. There was no pre-release access given to this report nor was there a press release issued. It is a specialist report on Human Resource equality statistics and would have a limited audience with an interest in this area.</p>

4. Corrective actions (taken or planned) to prevent re-occurrence [\[guidance\]](#)

<p><i>Describe the short-term actions made to redress the situation and the longer term changes to procedures etc</i></p> <p>The delay in the publication of the report was due to a technical issue with the NISRA website in that the link was published at 9:30 am but indexing to that link on the website did not update until 27 minutes later (due to cache/refresh issues). A new NISRA website had recently been introduced and this problem hadn't previously been experienced. The departmental IT support team addressed the problem by making a technical change to ensure that all related web pages & indexing are now updated immediately at the 9.30 release time. All publications issued since this technical change was introduced, have successfully complied with the 9.30 am release requirement indicating that the problem has now been resolved.</p>
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