

BREACH OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE FOR OFFICIAL STATISTICS

A breach of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics occurs where one or more provisions of the Code were not followed in situations where an exemption or exception had not been approved by the UK Statistics Authority's Head of Assessment, as required in paragraph (xii) of the Code's preamble. Rules on pre-release access to statistics are covered in the relevant Pre-Release Access to Official Statistics Orders; the Code applies as if it includes these orders.

1 Background Information

Name of Statistical Output (including web link if relevant)

Attitudes to Mental Illness - 2011 Survey Report

Web link: <http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/attitudestomi11>

Name of Producer Organisation

The Health and Social Care Information Centre (known as "The NHS Information Centre for health and social care", hereinafter "the NHS IC")

Name and contact details of person submitting this report, and date of report

Report made 22 June 2011

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2 Circumstances of Breach

Relevant Principle/Protocol and Practice

Protocol 2 'Release practices', Practices 3 and 4

Date of occurrence

08 June 2011

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

The NHS IC published *Attitudes to Mental Illness - 2011 survey report* on 08 June 2011. The publication was not available on the NHS IC's website for nearly 1 hour after its planned release and hence was not available from the National Statistics Publication Hub at 9:30am as required under Protocol 2, Practices 3 and 4. The issue was resolved before 10:30am.

Reasons for breach

The delay in the publication being available on the web was caused by an issue with the NHS IC's website's content management system.

3 Reactions and Impact

An interim technical solution was implemented quickly and the publication was available on the web (and hence also available via the Publication Hub) before 10:30am.

In the interests of transparency and openness, explanatory notices were attached to the publication's entry on the NHS IC's release calendar, to its entry on the Publication Hub, and on its statistical release page.

We are not aware of any adverse comment or difficulties caused to users arising from the late availability.

4 Corrective Actions Taken (include short-term actions, and long-term changes made to procedures)

The NHS IC's web team have instituted additional standard checks and added a solution to their troubleshooting practices which would preclude reoccurrence.

5 Any other relevant supporting material (including link to published statements about this breach)

Explanatory notice on NHS IC release calendar:

<http://www.ic.nhs.uk/statistics-and-data-collections/publications-calendar#cmsanchorJune>

Explanatory notice on Publication Hub entry:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/release-calendar/index.html?newquery=%22Attitudes+to+Mental+Illness%22&lday=8&lmonth=6&lyear=2011&uday=8&umonth=6&uyear=2011&theme=&source-agency=NHS+Information+Centre+for+Health+and+Social+Care&pagetype=calendar-entry>

Statistical release page, including explanatory notice:

<http://www.ic.nhs.uk/statistics-and-data-collections/mental-health/mental-health-act/attitudes-to-mental-illness--2011-survey-report-ns>