

# REPORTING A BREACH OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE FOR OFFICIAL STATISTICS

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

<b>Title and link to statistical output</b>	<b>Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components: November 2016</b>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/building-materials-and-components-statistics-november-2016">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/building-materials-and-components-statistics-november-2016</a>
<b>Name of statistical producer</b>	<b>BEIS</b>
<b>Name and contact details of person dealing with report</b>	<b>Frances Pottier</b> <a href="mailto:frances.pottier@beis.gov.uk">frances.pottier@beis.gov.uk</a> <b>020 7215 1953</b>
<b>Link to published statement about the breach (if relevant)</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Date of report</b>	<b>8 December 2016</b>

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

<b>Relevant principle/protocol and practice</b>	<b>Protocol 2 Practice 4</b> <i>Statistics not released at the scheduled time of 09:30am (delayed publication)</i>
<b>Date of occurrence of breach</b>	<b>7 December 2016</b>
<i>Give an account of what has happened including roles of persons involved, dates, times etc</i>	
<p>The Monthly Statistics were announced for publication for 9.30am on 7 December 2016. Shortly after 10am the Senior Statistician noticed that the Bulletin had not been published, and was still under “Upcoming” on the release timetable. The Statistical Officer responsible for production of the bulletin confirmed that she had received confirmation previously that everything was ready for publication, and contacted the statistical computing team to correct the problem. The release was finally published shortly before 11am.</p> <p>Releases are prepared for publication by the statistical computing team, who then make a request to the digital communications team to give the final approval for publication. This was done at 9.45am on 6 December, the day before publication. However digital communications didn’t spot that the request included two items for approval, and only approved one item. They then confirmed to the statistical computing team that they had completed the request, and it was assumed that the confirmation covered both items.</p>	

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

<p>Three users – both government and private sector – contacted BEIS to find out where the release was. They were reassured that the problem was known about and that we would publish as soon as possible. There were no other known impacts.</p>
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## 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 immediate action was that digital communications were asked to approve the release for publication, which they did.</p>
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In future the statistical computing team will make it clearer what has been sent for approval by sending digital communications the direct link to it in the publisher system so there can be no confusion.

The production team will ensure that they visit the website at 9.30am to check that the release has gone live.