

REPORTING A BREACH OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE FOR OFFICIAL STATISTICS

1. Core Information

Title and link to statistical output	NHS Wales Emergency Department data set (EDDS), January 2017 - http://www.infoandstats.wales.nhs.uk/page.cfm?orgid=869&pid=62956
Name of statistical producer	Information Services Department, NHS Wales Informatics Service (NWIS)
Name and contact details of person dealing with report	Dr Tim O'Sullivan, Head of Information Services (NWIS) tim.osullivan2@wales.nhs.uk Eluned Cousins, Information Manager (NWIS) elunedcousins@wales.nhs.uk
Link to published statement about the breach (if relevant)	http://www.infoandstats.wales.nhs.uk/page.cfm?orgid=869&pid=62956
Date of report	Thursday 16 February, 2017

2. Circumstances of breach

Relevant principle/protocol and practice	Protocol 2 Practice 4
Date of occurrence of breach	16 February 2017
<p>The NHS Wales Emergency Department Data Set is published monthly and the statistics for January 2017 were scheduled to be released at 9:30am on 16 February 2017.</p> <p>At 9:30am we experienced a problem with our publishing platform that prevented us from publishing to the NWIS internet site.</p> <p>We unsuccessfully attempted to resolve the issue immediately and informed Welsh Government (WG) of the breach at around 9:50am.</p>	

3. Impact of the breach

<p>These data are regularly reported by the media, who contacted Welsh Government at 9:50am to ask where they could find the published statistics.</p> <p>WG and NWIS decided to publish to the WG website as an interim solution; this was done at 10:06am.</p> <p>WG informed the media that the statistics had been temporarily placed on their website.</p> <p>All users were informed of the situation via the NWIS official Twitter feed.</p> <p>The statistics were published on the NWIS site at 10:10am.</p>

4. Corrective actions (taken or planned) to prevent re-occurrence

The technical problem has since been resolved.

To date, the statistics have been published to the internet from one NWIS office.

As the problem was identified as a malfunction of our publishing platform, additional users have now been set up to enable the reports to be published from each of the four offices.

In addition, the interim solution will be to publish on the WG website as soon as possible after 9:30am if any problems are encountered.