

REPORTING A BREACH OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE FOR OFFICIAL STATISTICS

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

Title and link to statistical output	Child death reviews: year ending 31 March 2017 https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/child-death-reviews-year-ending-31-march-2017
Name of statistical producer	CLA data team, Dept. for Education
Name and contact details of person dealing with report	Jill Bodey 0114 274 2200
Link to published statement about the breach (if relevant)	n/a
Date of report	13 July 2017

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

Relevant principle/protocol and practice	
Protocol 2, Practice 8: Ensure that no indication of the substance of a statistical report is made public, or given to the media or any other party not recorded as eligible for access before publication. Report to the National Statistician immediately any accidental or wrongful release, and investigate the circumstances.	
Date of occurrence of breach	12 July 2017
<p>In clearing the press lines for the above release a Director copied in a colleague (Assistant Director) in a different part of the Directorate on 12 July 2017 at 15:58. My team were not copied in on that email so inadvertently found out when the press officer copied her back in on the chain 10 mins later at 16:08. (Note that policy colleagues had been asked well in advance of publication who should be on the PRA list for briefing purposes and this Assistant Director was not included at this point.</p> <p>The email circulated to those on the PRA at 9:30am on 12 July did contain – in bold red in the main body of the email – the restrictions around pre-release access and specifically not forwarding on information or discussing the contents without permission). The email titles include ‘Official sensitive’ and the tables, presentation and submission circulated also had the ‘embargo’ clearly marked. The pre-release access list was updated prior to publication so the version published at 9:30am today correctly reflects who had access. (The next edition will be published by the Department of Health.)</p>	

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

<p>Nil – only that someone who had originally not been on the pre-release access list had access to headline results.</p> <p>No statistics were publically released in advance of publication.</p>
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4. Corrective actions (taken or planned) to prevent re-occurrence [\[guidance\]](#)

<p>The statistics Head of Profession will issue a reminder to Directors about the importance of maintaining the embargo under pre-release access arrangements. He will also contact the Director concerned to obtain an assurance that the PRA conditions are understood and will be followed in future.</p>
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