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Delay in publishing “An Overview of Sexual Offending in England & Wales”

Ministry of Justice, Home Office & the
Office for National Statistics

Statistical notice

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www.justice.gov.uk

www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/index.htm

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Delay in publishing “An Overview of Sexual Offending in England & Wales”

Introduction

- This note is to advise users that the joint publication planned by the Ministry of Justice, Home Office and the Office for National Statistics on sexual offending due for release on 8 November 2012 is being delayed.

Summary

- At the end of September 2012 the Ministry of Justice, Home Office and Office for National Statistics announced their intention to publish, on 8 November 2012, a joint statistical bulletin covering sexual offending in England and Wales. It has been decided for operational reasons and in the interests of the integrity of National Statistics to delay publication.

Background

- In 2010, the UK Statistics Authority published a report “Overcoming Barriers to Trust in Crime Statistics: England and Wales” it recommended that:
 - The National Statistician, in conjunction with relevant government departments and the Welsh Assembly Government, should draw up proposals for the development of statistical publications on crime and the criminal justice system in England and Wales, and consult users inside and outside government. The aims should be to i) make the publications as relevant as possible to the likely uses of the statistics ii) make it easier for the non-expert to understand the flow of offences and offenders through the criminal justice system.”
- These recommendations were accepted and the Ministry of Justice, Home Office and the Office for National Statistics committed to work together to produce and publish a number of topic based bulletins including:-
 - Knives/firearms/other weapons;
 - Youth crime;
 - Serious sexual offences;
 - Hate crime;
 - Anti-social behaviour;
 - Domestic violence.
- The Ministry of Justice are currently working with the Home Office and the Office for National Statistics towards publishing a bulletin on sexual offending in England and Wales. This publication will build on the work that was produced as part of the “Providing anonymity to those accused of rape: An assessment of evidence” research report published in November 2010.

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