



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy

# Statement of compliance with the Pre-Release Access to Official Statistics Order 2008

## Introduction

This statement sets out the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) operational arrangements for giving Ministers and officials pre-release access to official and National Statistics once they have attained their final form prior to publication. These arrangements are designed to ensure that such access is justified, limited, controlled and publicised and complies with statutory requirements. Their purpose is to maintain public confidence in the integrity of official statistics while allowing Ministers to account immediately for the implications of statistics covering policy areas for which they are democratically responsible.

## Authority

These arrangements have been drawn up by the Department's Head of Profession for Statistics, who is responsible for ensuring the day-to-day implementation of these arrangements, on behalf of the Ministers and the Department's Permanent Secretary.

## General principle

BEIS operates under the general principle that pre-release access to official statistics must be:

- limited to the minimum number of persons deemed necessary to allow the Minister to either:
  - provide responses to questions, or make statements about those statistics at, or shortly after, their time of publication; or
  - take action just before, at, or shortly after the time of publication.
- allowed in circumstances where the public benefit likely to result from such access outweighs

## Grant of advance access

The arrangements set out in this statement are confined to those persons who meet the eligibility criteria set out in [Annex A \(i\)](#) attached. Their advance access is limited to statistics which meet the eligibility criteria set out in [Annex A \(ii\)](#) attached, and which are in their final form prior to being published for the first time.

A list of official and National Statistics to which this Statement applies and the job titles of all those persons to whom pre-release access has been granted, and the organisations to which they belong is attached at [Annex B](#).

## Period of access

In line with the legislative rules, pre-release access to the organisation's statistics is restricted to a maximum of 24 hours before their public release on the following day – usually at 09.30am.

## Conditions of access

Those persons who are given access to BEIS's statistics ahead of their release must keep the statistics secure and under embargo, and they must abide by certain conditions of access. They must avoid:

- disclosing the statistics or any part of a publication containing those statistics to any person not listed as a pre-release recipient;
- providing any indication of the size or direction of any trend revealed by the statistics;
- using such access for personal gain, or taking any action for political advantage;
- exploiting such access to change or compromise the content, presentation, or timing of publication of official statistics.

## Special circumstances

Aside from the circumstances described above, the Head of Profession may also allow access to statistics ahead of their release to a limited number of persons in a limited number of special circumstances, sometimes for more than 24 hours. In each case, such access will be documented in the relevant release. For example:

- access may be given to the compilers of complementary reports due to be published at the same time as, or shortly after the statistics so that they can incorporate the latest available figures;
- international organisations may gain access in order to compile supra-national statistics.

## Breach of conditions of release

In the event of a breach of the principles and rules set out in the legislation and described in this Statement, the Head of Profession for Statistics will: notify the National Statistician; take action to prevent a recurrence; and provide the UK Statistics Authority with a written explanation. The National Statistician may decide to conduct an inquiry on behalf of the Authority, the results of which will be posted on the Authority's website.

## Sanctions against non-compliance

The Department's Head of Profession for Statistics may, for a period, withdraw pre-release access from any person judged to have breached the conditions of their access.

In addition, a heavier sanction can be imposed by the UK Statistics Authority which has a statutory duty to assess the extent to which any organisation's 'National Statistics' comply with the '[Pre-release Access to Official Statistics Order 2008](#)' and with the associated obligations set out in this Statement. The Authority can, for instance, challenge an organisation where it considers that pre-release access is not justified or where an organisation is failing to conform with these arrangements. It can also withdraw, or consider withdrawing, 'National Statistics' designation from the statistics in question.

This document contains lists of recipients of pre-release access for all BEIS official and National Statistics outputs. National Statistics are marked with the Quality Mark.

No pre-release access is granted for the following National Statistics outputs:

- Monthly Statistics of Building Materials and Components
- UK House Price Index
- Renewables obligation: certificates and generation
- Road fuel prices
- Solar PV cost data
- Solar PV deployment
- Sub-national consumption of other fuels
- Sub-national electricity consumption
- Sub-national electricity consumption in Northern Ireland
- Sub-national electricity and gas consumption at LSOA, MSOA and IGZ level
- Sub-national gas consumption
- Sub-national road transport consumption

## Notes

### (a) Pre-release access

In the context described above, the phrase 'pre-release access' covers privileged access to statistical releases in their final form prior to being placed in the public domain. It does not cover pre-release access available to:

- those staff intimately engaged in the process of producing and disseminating the statistics in question (including those responsible for overseeing this process);
- those persons requested by the producers to quality assure the statistics before their public release.

### (b) Heads of Profession for Statistics

Organisations which employ a large number of official statisticians, or produce a large number of official statistics will normally appoint a Head of Profession for Statistics in consultation with the National Statistician. As well as being accountable to their own Minister and departmental line-managers, Heads of Profession are responsible to the National Statistician for the professional integrity of the statisticians whom they manage, and for the quality of the statistics which those statisticians produce. In particular they are responsible for observing the [UK Statistics Authority's Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#) as well as any professional standards set by the National Statistician.

## Annex A: Criteria for granting pre-release access

### (i) Categories of persons within government to whom BEIS would normally grant pre-release access to its statistical releases

- Those Ministers who have policy or operational responsibility for a particular subject-matter covered by a statistical release; who are accountable to Parliament and the electorate for their stewardship of that policy; and who may need to respond to questions about the statistics, or take appropriate action, at the time of release of those statistics;
- Those Chief Executives who have operational responsibility for a particular activity covered by a release, and who are accountable for their stewardship of that activity to Ministers, and through them to Parliament; and who are in a similar position to those Ministers described above;
- The top Departmental or Agency officials with ultimate responsibility for formulating, developing, maintaining, monitoring or implementing that policy;
- Other Departmental or Agency officials who have been assigned the specific responsibility to brief Ministers or Chief Executives about the statistics in question (e.g. Special Advisers, Policy Advisers, Analysts)
- Departmental Press Officers responsible for managing Ministers' interface with the media with respect to the policy or statistics in question.

(plus any immediate ancillary staff who support the above)

### (ii) Categories of statistical release to which BEIS would normally grant pre-release access

- Releases categorised as 'Market-sensitive' (i.e. releases which embody statistics which, when disclosed, would be reasonably likely to have a significant effect on the value or traded volume of any investment).
- Releases which incorporate statistics which are used to monitor or measure the government's performance (either generally, or against formal targets);
- Releases which have the potential to impinge substantially on the formulation, implementation, or monitoring of government policy;
- Releases which have the potential to inform, or impact on, decisions about the allocation of public funds;
- Releases which have, demonstrably and historically, had a high public profile (i.e. regularly generate column inches in the print media or regularly attract the attention of the broadcast media) and on which Ministers or Chief Executives with responsibility for the subject-matter might reasonably be expected to comment at the time of release;
- Releases which incorporate statistics derived from other departments' or agencies' administrative or management systems, and for which Ministers or Chief Executives in those other departments have ownership and operational responsibility;
- Compendia publications (which often include data which has already been released) or complex publications which have been made available to the media in advance of their public release, and under embargo, in order to give journalists time to absorb and understand their contents;
- Releases which cover matters of wide public interest.

## Annex B: Pre-release access to BEIS statistics

In accordance with the conditions for Pre-release access to official statistics set out above, the following Ministers and officials receive such access to BEIS statistics.

Main annual energy publications (Digest of UK Energy Statistics, UK Energy in Brief, Energy Flow Chart and UK Energy Consumption)

(Pre-release material is a copy of the press release and associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Permanent Secretary
- BEIS Director General Energy & Security
- BEIS Director Clean Electricity
- BEIS Media Officer

### Quarterly Energy Trends and Energy Prices

Released in March, June, September and December. (Pre-release material is a copy of the press release and associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Permanent Secretary
- BEIS Director General Energy & Security
- BEIS Media Officer x 2

In addition because individual editions of Energy Trends cover specific material additional pre-release access is also given to:

#### *March*

BEIS Director Clean Electricity, due to 1st release of provisional annual renewable generation data

#### *June*

BEIS Director Clean Electricity, due to publication of renewable statistics for previous year which includes the Renewable Obligation

#### *September*

Briefing on articles on (a) renewable electricity in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the regions of England and (b) combined heat and power in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the regions of England, which are produced each September is additionally sent (via the Scottish Government Energy and Business Statistician) to:

- Scottish Government First Minister
- Scottish Government Minister for Energy, Enterprise and Tourism
- Scottish Government Head of Renewable Energy Policy (Energy Directorate)

- Scottish Government Communications Officer (Wealthier and Fairer)
- Scottish Government Special Adviser

### *December*

Briefing on article on electricity generation and supply in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England, which is produced each December is additionally sent (via the Scottish Government Energy and Business Statistician) to:

- Scottish Government Minister for Environment and Climate Change
- Scottish Government Minister for Enterprise, Energy and Tourism
- Scottish Government Senior Policy Official (Energy Directorate)
- Scottish Government Communications Officer (Finance and Sustainable Growth)
- Scottish Government Special Adviser

### Monthly energy trends and prices updates

No pre-release access granted except in February when provisional data for the prior year is first released. (Pre-release material is a copy of the associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Permanent Secretary
- BEIS Director General Energy & Security
- BEIS Media Officer x 2

### Annual Greenhouse Gas Releases

(Pre-release material is a copy of the press release and associated briefing). Given the cross departmental responsibility for policy on addressing GHG emissions and developed natures of some activity, pre-release is also granted to Department for Transport and officials and Ministers in the Devolved Administrations as listed below. This list represents the maximum and is reviewed on a release by release basis.

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Permanent Secretary
- BEIS Director General Energy Transformation
- BEIS Carbon Budget officials x 3
- BEIS Media Officer
- Department for Transport Secretary of State
- Department for Transport Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
- Department for Transport Special Advisor
- Department for Transport Head of Climate Change Policy
- Department for Transport Press Officer
- Department for Transport Statistician

- Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform
- Scottish Government Head of Climate Change Governance and Legislation Unit
- Scottish Government Deputy Director of Low Carbon Economy Division
- Scottish Government Head of Climate Change and Energy Analysis
- Scottish Government Climate Change policy official
- Scottish Government Communications
- Scottish Government Statistician
- Welsh Government Head of Decarbonisation
- Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs
- Welsh Government Senior Evidence Adviser
- Welsh Government Statistician
- Northern Ireland Executive Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
- Northern Ireland Executive Head of Climate Change Unit, DAER
- Northern Ireland Executive Statistician

#### Local Authority Carbon Dioxide Release

(Pre-release material is a copy of the press release and associated briefing). Given the cross departmental responsibility for policy on addressing CO2 emissions and developed natures of some activity, pre-release is also granted to Department for Transport and officials and ministers in the Devolved Administrations as listed below. This list represents the maximum and is reviewed on a release by release basis.

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Permanent Secretary
- BEIS Director General Energy Transformation
- BEIS Media Officer
- Department for Transport Press Officer
- Department for Transport Statistician
- Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform
- Scottish Government Special Advisor
- Scottish Government Head of Climate Change and Energy Analysis
- Scottish Government Climate Change policy official
- Scottish Government Communications
- Scottish Government Statistician
- Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs
- Welsh Government Senior Evidence Adviser
- Welsh Government Statistician
- Northern Ireland Executive Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

- Northern Ireland Executive Head of Climate Change Unit, DAER
- Northern Ireland Executive Statistician

## Feed in Tariffs

(Pre-release material is a copy of the statistical tables/maps and associated briefing).

- (1) Annual Central Feed-in Tariff register statistics: Monthly statistics released at the end of May.
- (2) Quarterly Feed-in Tariff commissioned installations released at the end of January, April, July and October.
- (3) Quarterly Sub-regional Feed-in Tariffs confirmed on the CFR statistics: Quarterly statistics released at the end of January, April, July and October.
- (4) Quarterly Community and School FIT applications: Quarterly statistics released at the end of January and April.

- BEIS Secretary of State\*
- BEIS Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth \*
- BEIS Special Advisors\*
- BEIS Permanent Secretary\*
- BEIS Policy Official, Feed in Tariff scheme
- BEIS Economist, Feed in Tariff scheme
- BEIS Media Officer

\*Pre-release material only provided to Ministers and Officials if there is a need to respond to questions about the statistics, or take appropriate action, at the time of release of those statistics.

## Fuel Poverty

(Pre-release material is a copy of the statistical release and associated briefing)

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Permanent Secretary
- BEIS Deputy Director, Home Energy
- BEIS Senior Policy Official, Home Energy x 2
- BEIS Media Officer

## Household Energy Efficiency

(Pre-release material is a copy of the quarterly statistical release and associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth
- BEIS Permanent Secretary
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Director General Energy Transformation
- BEIS Director, Home Energy



- BEIS Deputy Director, Home Energy
- BEIS Home Energy Communications Official
- BEIS Home Energy Policy Official
- BEIS Media Officer
- Scottish Government Minister for Local Government and Housing
- Head of Sustainable Housing Strategy Team, Scottish Government
- Sustainable Housing Policy Officer, Scottish Government

### National Energy Efficiency Data-Framework (NEED)

(Pre-release material is a copy of the statistical release and associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Permanent Secretary
- BEIS Media Officer

In addition, an annex relating to Scotland was published alongside the latest results and was sent (via the Scottish Government Energy Statistician) to:

- Scottish Government Minister for Energy, Enterprise and Tourism
- Scottish Government Special Advisers
- Scottish Government Communications Officer
- Scottish Government Head of Energy and Climate Change Analysis
- Scottish Government Energy Efficiency Policy Official

### Public Attitudes Tracker

(Pre-release material is a copy of the statistical release and associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Permanent Secretary
- BEIS Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth
- BEIS Minister for Business and Industry
- BEIS Minister for Small Business, Consumers and Corporate Responsibility
- BEIS Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation
- BEIS Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
- BEIS Director General International, Growth and Analysis
- BEIS Director General Energy & Security
- BEIS Media Officer

## Renewable electricity capacity and generation

(Pre-release material is a copy of Energy Trends table 6.1).

Energy Trends table 6.1, which is produced quarterly in March, June, September and December is sent (via the Scottish Government Energy and Business Statistician) to:

- Scottish Government First Minister
- Scottish Government Minister for Business, Innovation and Energy
- Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Jobs and Fair Work
- Scottish Government Senior Policy Official (Renewables)
- Scottish Government Communications Officer
- Scottish Government Special Adviser
- Scottish Government Assistant Statistician

## Renewable Heat Incentive

(Pre-release material is a copy of the quarterly statistical release and associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Permanent Secretary
- BEIS Director, Heat and Industry
- BEIS Deputy Director, RHI and Heat in Buildings
- BEIS Media Officer

## Smart Meters

(Pre-release material is a copy of the statistical release and associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth
- BEIS Permanent Secretary
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Director General Energy Transformation
- BEIS Director, Smart Meters & Systems, SRO
- BEIS Director, Smart Metering Implementation Programme
- BEIS Senior Stewardship Official, Smart Metering Implementation Programme
- BEIS Senior Policy Official, Smart Metering Implementation Programme
- BEIS Media Officer

## Sub-national total final energy consumption

(Pre-release material is a copy of the statistical release and associated briefing).

The release, which is produced annually in September, is sent (via the Scottish Government Energy and Business Statistician) to:

- Scottish Government First Minister
- Scottish Government Minister for Energy, Enterprise and Tourism
- Scottish Government Senior Policy Official (Renewables)
- Scottish Government Senior Policy Official (Energy Efficiency)
- Scottish Government Communications Officer
- Scottish Government Special Adviser
- Scottish Government Senior Statistician, Office of the Chief Economic Advisor
- Scottish Government Economist

## Insolvency Statistics

(Pre-release material is a copy of the statistical release and associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister for Small Business, Consumers and Corporate Responsibility
- BEIS Media Officer
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Economic Advisor to the Secretary of State
- Insolvency Service Chief Executive
- Insolvency Service Chief Operating Officer
- Insolvency Service Business Manager to Chief Executive
- Insolvency Service Technical Advisor to Chief Operating Officer
- Insolvency Service Chief Technical Advisor
- Insolvency Service Director of Strategy and Change
- Insolvency Service Director of Policy
- Insolvency Service Media Relations (x3)
- HMT Chancellor of the Exchequer
- HMT Chief Secretary to the Treasury
- HMT Permanent Secretary
- HMT Chief Economic Advisor
- HMT Special Advisors (x2)
- HMT Press Officer (x2)
- HMT Briefing Preparation (x2)
- HMT Briefing Clearance

## Insolvency Service Enforcement Outcomes

(Pre-release material is a copy of the statistical release and associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister for Small Business, Consumers, and Corporate Responsibility
- BEIS Media Officer
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Economic Advisor to the Secretary of State
- Insolvency Service Chief Executive
- Insolvency Service Business Manager to Chief Executive
- Insolvency Service Chief Operating Officer
- Insolvency Service Technical Advisor to Chief Operating Officer
- Insolvency Service Chief Technical Advisor
- Insolvency Service Director of Strategy & Change
- Insolvency Service Director of Investigation and Enforcement Directorate
- Insolvency Service Briefing Preparation
- Insolvency Service Media Relations (x3)

## Individual Insolvency Statistics by Location, Age and Gender

(Pre-release material is a copy of the statistical release and associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister for Small Business, Consumers, and Corporate Responsibility
- BEIS Media Officer
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Economic Advisor to the Secretary of State
- Insolvency Service Chief Executive
- Insolvency Service Business Manager to Chief Executive
- Insolvency Service Chief Operating Officer
- Insolvency Service Technical Advisor to Chief Operating Officer
- Insolvency Service Chief Technical Advisor
- Insolvency Service Director of Strategy & Change
- Insolvency Service Director of Policy
- Insolvency Service Media Relations (x3)

## Individual Voluntary Arrangements outcomes 1990-2016 and provider breakdown

(Pre-release material is a copy of the statistical release and associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister for Small Business, Consumers, and Corporate Responsibility
- BEIS Media Officer
- BEIS Special Advisors

- BEIS Economic Advisor to the Secretary of State
- Insolvency Service Chief Executive
- Insolvency Service Business Manager to Chief Executive
- Insolvency Service Chief Operating Officer
- Insolvency Service Technical Advisor to Chief Operating Officer
- Insolvency Service Chief Technical Advisor
- Insolvency Service Director of Strategy & Change
- Insolvency Service Director of Policy
- Insolvency Service Media Relations (x3)

### Business Population Estimates for the UK and Regions

(Pre-release material is a copy of the statistical release and associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister for Small Business, Consumers and Corporate Responsibility
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Permanent Secretary
- BEIS Director General, Business and Science Group
- BEIS Director, Business Growth
- BEIS Deputy Director and Head of Small Business Policy, SME Growth Team
- BEIS Higher Statistical Officer, Welsh Government
- BEIS Senior Media Officer and Media Officer

### Trade Union Statistics

(Pre-release material is a copy of the statistical release and associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister for Small Business, Consumers and Corporate Responsibility
- BEIS Chief Statistician
- BEIS Deputy Director, Labour Markets Analysis and Wages
- BEIS Policy Official, Employment Rights and Enforcement
- BEIS Media Officer

### UK Participations in Horizon 2020

(Pre-release material is a copy of the statistical release and associated briefing).

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation (jointly with Department for Education)
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Director, International Science and Innovation
- BEIS Deputy Director, European Knowledge and Innovation
- BEIS Deputy Head, European Knowledge and Innovation

- BEIS Deputy Director, Science Technology & Innovation Analysis
- BEIS Assistant Director, European Knowledge and Innovation
- BEIS Policy Adviser
- BEIS Policy Adviser
- BEIS Media Officer
- DExEU Secretary of State
- DExEU Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
- DExEU Cross Government Policy Coordination
- DExEU Press Office
- DExEU Policy Adviser
- DExEU Policy Adviser
- HMT Policy Adviser
- Scottish Government Economist, Advanced Learning and Skills Analysis
- Innovate UK Head of Brussels Office
- Research Councils UK Head of Analysis

### UK Innovation Survey

(Pre-release material is a copy of the statistical release and associated briefing)

- BEIS Secretary of State
- BEIS Special Advisors
- BEIS Permanent Secretary
- BEIS Director General, Business and Science
- BEIS Director, Science, Research and Innovation
- BEIS Deputy Director, Innovation Policy and Project
- BEIS Deputy Director, Innovation and Place
- BEIS Deputy Director, Science, Technology and Innovation Analysis
- BEIS Assistant Director, Innovation Policy
- BEIS Media Officer x 2
- Scottish Government Statistician