Understanding and Improving Quality in the UK Statistical System

Nikki Shearman, nicola.Shearman@ons.gov.uk

James Tucker, james.tucker@ons.gov.uk, @ONSJames
Departments, Agencies & Bodies

25 Ministerial departments

20 Non-ministerial departments

385 Agencies and other public bodies
The Code of Practice for Statistics

✓ Professional standards for statisticians – encouraging transparency, collaboration and coherence

✓ Provides the foundations for building public confidence

✓ Guidance and standards for production of official statistics
# The Code of Practice for Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trustworthiness</th>
<th>Quality</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T1 Honesty and integrity</td>
<td>Q1 Suitable data sources</td>
<td>V1 Relevance to users</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2 Independent decision-making and leadership</td>
<td>Q2 Sound methods</td>
<td>V2 Accessibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3 Orderly release</td>
<td>Q3 Assured quality</td>
<td>V3 Clarity and insight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T4 Transparent processes and management</td>
<td></td>
<td>V4 Innovation and improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T5 Professional capability</td>
<td></td>
<td>V5 Efficiency and proportionality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T6 Data governance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![National Statistics Logo]
• We will all understand the importance of our role in producing high quality statistics.

• We will ensure our data is of sufficient quality and communicate the quality implications to users.

• We will implement automated processes to make our analysis reproducible.

• We will anticipate emerging trends and changes and prepare for them using innovative methods.
Automated processes- Reproducible Analytical Pipelines

A typical manual statistical workflow, and the equivalent reproducible pipeline
Anticipating emerging trends – A new programme of quality reviews to

✓ look ahead to emerging opportunities and challenges

✓ meet current and emerging user needs, and enable innovation

✓ capitalise on new data sources and technologies

✓ review their statistics within the wider context

✓ draw on the full range of expertise across government and beyond
The Government Statistical Service (GSS) produces official statistics to support government decision making and promote public debate. Sharing best practice on key processes, such as data collection, analysis and publication, the quality of all GSS statistics is maintained.

https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/
Thank you

Nikki Shearman, nicola.Shearman@ons.gov.uk

James Tucker, james.tucker@ons.gov.uk @ONSJames