|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Standard** | **Code of Practice for Official Statistics** |
| Origin of Standard | UK Statistics Authority ([www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk](http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk)) |
| NSS author | Scott Heald ([scott.heald@nhs.net](mailto:scott.heald@nhs.net)) |
| Date | 22nd February 2018 |
| Next Update | February 2020 |

|  |
| --- |
| **What is the purpose of this standard?** |
| The Code of Practice for Official Statistics is an important tool in protecting official statistics by setting the standards that ensure the public can have confidence in them. Users of statistics are at the heart of the Code. Compliance with the Code can give confidence to all users that statistics are of public value, high quality and are produced by public bodies that can be trusted.  This standard has been produced by the Office for Statistics Regulation, the regulatory arm of the UK Statistics Authority, which provides independent regulation of all official statistics produced in the UK to meet the obligations within the standard. The key themes behind this standard are:   * **Trustworthiness** (Trusted people, systems and processes) * **Quality** (Robust data, methods and statistics) * **Value** (Statistics that serve the public good; produced from data which have been complied in an efficient way) |

|  |
| --- |
| **Who is this standard aimed at?** |
| This standard is aimed at all staff involved in the production of statistics which are made publicly available by NSS.  The Code is aimed at all who produce and use statistics and other numerical information, including statisticians, data scientists, analysts, researchers, policy-makers, communication officers and advisors. All who are involved in the production and release of official statistics should use the Code to understand why and how to achieve Trustworthiness, Quality and Value. |

|  |
| --- |
| **How do I access this standard?** |
| The Code is available on the UK Statistics Authority’s website at:  <https://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/code-of-practice/>  This webpage provides helpful summaries for people who:   * Produce official statistics * Work in an organisation with produces official statistics (aimed at senior leaders, policy and communications staff) * Use official statistics (e.g. general public, media etc) * Produce other data and statistics (and could apply the principles of the Code to their work) |