

# Department of Health and NHS England Statistical Policy: Revisions and Corrections

1. This Policy is issued in accordance with the requirement set out in the *Code of Practice for Official Statistics* to publish a revisions policy for outputs subject to scheduled revision. The Policy builds on the *National Statistician's Guidance on Presentation and Publication of Official Statistics*.

## **Revisions (applies to outputs subject to scheduled revisions)**

2. We will

- Pre-announce revisions to data where these are expected and scheduled. Typically, the publication of revised data would be timed to coincide with the latest release of related new data.
- Summarise the key impact, nature and extent of revisions, typically at the national level. Where revisions impact on targets, this will be described.
- Make available on request explanations for individual revisions, for example to data originally reported by an individual NHS trust.
- Confine all final decisions on revisions to statistical professionals, for example we reserve the right not to publish minor revisions if the resources required to issue them outweigh the benefits to stakeholders.

## **Corrections (applies to amendments to published data caused by error or which are outwith the scope of scheduled revisions)**

3. We will

- Explain corrections to statistics at the earliest opportunity and in a way that provides most benefit to stakeholders.
- Issue corrections in an orderly way, for example with the next version of the amended statistic or, if appropriate, by way of an earlier release of data.
- Summarise the key impact, nature and extent of corrections, typically at the national level. Where corrections impact on targets, this will be described.
- Confine all final decisions on corrections to statistical professionals, for example we reserve the right not to publish minor corrections if the resources required to issue them outweigh the benefits to stakeholders.