
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order provides for the rules and principles relating to the granting of pre-release access to official statistics that are not wholly Scottish, Welsh or Northern Ireland devolved statistics. Official statistics are defined in section 6 of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 (the Act).

The rules and principles are set out in the Schedule and describe the persons who may receive pre-release access to official statistics, the circumstances in which access may be given, and the obligations of the persons giving and receiving such access.

A decision whether to grant pre-release access is taken by the person responsible. Pre-release access is defined in section 11(8) of the Act. The person responsible is defined in section 67 of the Act.

Part 1 sets out the rules and principles which are generally applicable to the granting of pre-release access to official statistics. Pre-release access to official statistics can be given for a maximum of 24 hours unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Part 2 makes special provision in relation to the Bank of England, international obligations, journalists and third party publications.

An impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no impact on the private or voluntary sectors is foreseen.