

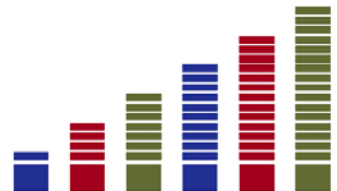
Quality Assurance of Administrative Data - a proportionate approach

4 – Administrative data:
cross-cutting issues

Penny Babb, UK Statistics Authority

Essential questions for statistical producers

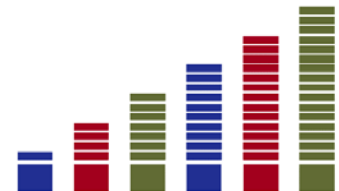
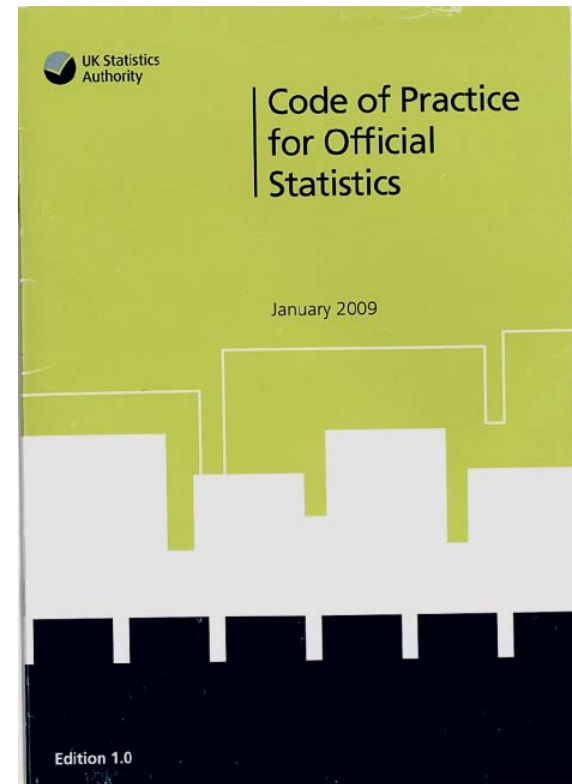
- How do you know the data are sufficiently reliable and suitable to be used to produce official statistics?
- What do users need to know about data quality to use the statistics appropriately?



UK Code of Practice for Official Statistics

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of

- *trustworthiness*
- *quality*
- *public value*



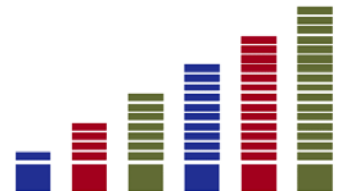
The problem

Police recorded crime in England and Wales:

Whistleblower reported mishandling of crime recording in a police force

Inspectorate found:

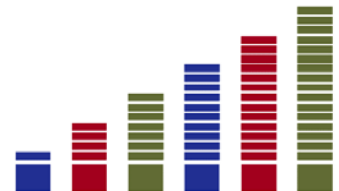
- over 800,000 crimes may have gone unrecorded each year
- around 20% of crimes



New regulatory standard: Quality Assurance of Administrative Data

UK Statistics Authority will request from statistical producers:

- explanation of judgment about assurance
- evidence to support rationale
- evidence of the actions taken to comply
- evidence of embedded practices for keeping QA arrangements under review



Four practice areas associated with data quality



Operational context &
admin data collection



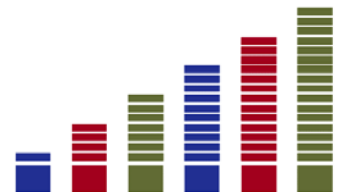
Communication with
data supply partners



QA principles, standards &
checks by data suppliers

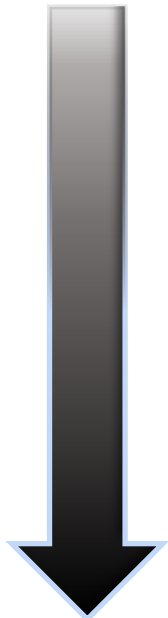


Producers' QA investigations
& documentation



Levels of assurance

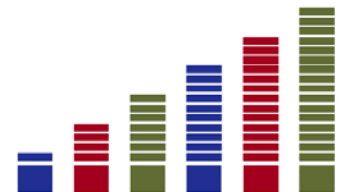
Investigate QA arrangements & document assurance



A1: Basic assurance

A2: Enhanced assurance

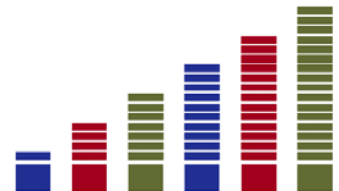
A3: Comprehensive assurance



To decide level of assurance

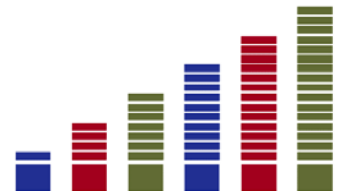
Judgment about the suitability for use should be **pragmatic and proportionate**

- Consider the **likelihood of quality issues** arising in the data that may affect the quality of the statistics
- Consider the **nature of the public interest or value** served by the statistics



Essential questions for statistical producers

- How do you know the data are sufficiently reliable and suitable to be used to produce official statistics?
- What do users need to know about data quality to use the statistics appropriately?





Any questions?

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