Section 4: What is the process for establishing trustworthiness?

Establishing the trustworthiness of an information system typically takes several steps and requires
the collaboration of people with a variety of skills and knowledge. The Handbook’s structure
parallels the process and guides the reader along. Those undertaking the examination process for
the first time are strongly encouraged to read through the entire handbook completely before
beginning their project. Each successive step in the process builds on those before and it is
important that none be slighted or skipped. The proper establishment of the trustworthiness of an
information system depends on the completeness of the examination process.

**Step 1:**
- Assemble team *(Section 5: “Who should participate?”)*

**Step 2:**
- Document process *(Section 6: “Why are metadata and documentation important?”)*

**Step 3:**
- Determine the importance of the information in the system *(Section 7: “How important
  is your information?”)*

**Step 4:**
- Choose a criteria selection method *(Section 8: “How do you use the Trustworthy
  Information Systems criteria set?”)*

**Step 5:**
- Select appropriate criteria *(Section 9: “What are the criteria for a trustworthy
  information system?”)*

**Step 6:**
- Implement and document choices *(Section 8: “How do you use the Trustworthy
  Information Systems criteria set?”)*