

## Word for Word Script for Duncan Macniven's Introductory Speech

Hi, I'm Duncan Macniven

And as Scotland's Registrar General I am responsible for organising the census.

Since the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century the census has given us a once every 10 years snapshot of Scotland's population.

But the census isn't just a piece of history useful for family historians all over the world. It is vital for us in Scotland today because it provides the information we need to decide the size of schools, where hospitals should be, where businesses are going to find the people they need to work for them.

But accuracy of that kind depends on everybody completing the census questionnaire.

Privacy is important to all of us and it's our job to keep your information confidential for 100 years. We use it to produce statistics, but these statistics are about groups of people not about individuals.

Census day is an important moment for Scotland, a snapshot of our country as it is today. We will be delivering a questionnaire to every household and it is up to the householder to fill it in on or shortly after census day. For the first time we will be giving the option of filling it in online.

So look out for the questionnaire, please read it carefully, fill it in and return it to us.

Thanks you very much for doing this.