

## International Steering Group – Note of Key Points

1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 : 9am – 11 am (BST time)

### Attending

Professor James Brown – UTS

Abby Morgan – Stats New Zealand

Owen Abbott – ONS

Professor Andrew Morris – HDR-UK

Alastair McAlpine – SG

Professor David Martin – Southampton

Roeland Beerten – Chief Statistician, Flanders

Esta Clark – NRS

David Rowley – NRS

Caroline Ellis – NRS

Ralph McDevitt – NRS

Benjamin Little - NRS

Pete Whitehouse – NRS

### Key Actions

1. Membership – Professor Andrew Morris and Roeland Beerten were welcomed onto the Steering Group.
2. NRS to produce an Action Tracker to cover key Actions from recent meetings and for use going forward.
3. NRS provided analysis of Census return rates by HtC areas for CCS and Census FWAs. Slides to be shared by NRS – noting confidentiality of content. NRS to provide further analysis of return rates for each LA within each HtC.
4. CCS – Important to focus closely on training of field force and in particular converting contacts into returns. Pay close attention to return rates at FWA, team and individual level and take immediate action if returns are slow. Property listing must happen efficiently and to schedule. If during address listing there is the opportunity to take a CCS completion, this should happen. If challenges with returns are evident as we get to the end of the CCS timescale, should consider ‘minimum’ returns ie name, d.o.b, sex. Also should be prepared for extension – rather than waiting to see and then trying to sort out contracts etc. NISRA

and New Zealand have helpful guidance on how to ensure an effective address listing approach.

5. Admin data – Confirmed importance of progressing work now on identifying, and then securing access to admin data. NRS to consider HESA data, but also options for getting population count data from individual institutions. NRS to produce paper on availability and planned use of admin data for major CE institutes. NRS to share slides (presented at Group meeting) on current thinking for admin data.

6. Three areas of focus going forward are

- Reporting back on CCS progress
- Admin data development
- Estimation model

7. NRS to consider doing a briefing to SPICe (Scottish Parliament's Information Centre) on Scotland's Census and our progress / next steps. NRS to work with Alastair on this.

8. Group members to agree a statement on their confidence that Scotland's Census can progress, for use by NRS in a news release. Intention is to publish on 2<sup>nd</sup> June alongside provisional Return Rates.

9. Next Meeting of Steering Group on 16<sup>th</sup> June at 9am (BST). Main focus will be progress with CCS, and progress with Admin data. The Group will also agree the focus of one or more sub-groups to progress specific areas of work.

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