

International Steering Group – Note of Key Points

30th May 2022 : 9am – 11 am (BST time)

Attending

Professor James Brown – UTS

Abby Morgan – Stats New Zealand

Owen Abbott – ONS

Sir Ian Diamond - ONS

Alastair McAlpine – SG

Professor David Martin - Southampton

Esta Clark – NRS

David Rowley – NRS

Caroline Ellis – NRS

Ralph McDevitt - NRS

Pete Whitehouse – NRS

Key Actions

1. Membership

Sir Ian Diamond and Professor David Martin have joined the Group.

2. Confidentiality agreements to be signed by Group members and returned to NRS.

3. Group name of International Steering Group to be retained.

4. NRS to provide further analysis of census return rates by Hard to Count areas. Within each HtC quintile compare census returns for Census areas with CCS areas. [Box-whisker plots].

5. Areas of interest regarding Administrative data include:

- Student data – HESA
- Health activity data
- NHSCR
- Electoral register
- Council tax exemption data
- Benefit (DWP and / or Scottish Benefits)
- Pensions data

- Prisons population data
 - Children population data – babies, pre-school and school
6. Important that Student CE data on age / sex is good quality particularly for larger CEs
 7. CCS focus on successful interview of all households currently within CCS area, rather than just those living in the area on 20th March
 8. Emphasis for CCS / Estimation / linkage is to maximize quality of population estimate and minimise bias. Consideration of estimation model (DSE or logistic).
 9. Focus for admin data is to move quickly to establish availability and quality. Important that alternative sources of data on large CEs is progressed given they are outside the scope of the CCS. Important that data sharing and access issues are understood and resolved to enable access to individual level high quality data which reflects the situation as of the Census date. For Alternative Household Estimates and National Adjustments need to understand quality of data and consider options regarding additional stratification, sex ratios and specific population groups such as children.
 10. Important that QA work triangulates with high quality population totals.
 11. Next meeting on Wednesday 1st June. To consider CCS analysis, and then focus on consideration of Group's public statement on confidence to proceed to the new phase of Scotland's Census.
 12. Next meeting also to agree way forward for sub-groups – plan timetable, participation (Group members and other colleagues), priorities for work and publicity (presence on NRS website etc).

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