International Steering Group – Note of Key Points

1st December 2022 : 8 am – 10 am (BST)

Attending

Professor James Brown – UTS

Abby Morgan – Stats New Zealand

Owen Abbott – ONS

Professor David Martin, OBE

Sir Ian Diamond – National Statistician

Alastair McAlpine - SG

Benjamin Little – NRS

Esta Clark – NRS

Peter Whitehouse - NRS

Damien Allen – NRS

Will Howes – NRS

Bethanie Fenney – NRS

Tom Macintyre - NRS

Christopher McCrum – NRS

David Rowley – NRS

Lynsey Bunnefeld – NRS

Ralph Mcdevitt - NRS

Key Actions

1. NRS provided analysis comparing the Mid-year population estimates with the census returns data. NRS to re-run this comparison once data cleansing on the census data has been completed.
2. NRS provided the group with an update on progress made in obtaining administrative data for use to improve census estimates:
   - Vital events – Complete
   - NHSCR – Complete
   - Public Health Scotland Health Activity – Complete
   - School Pupil Census – Complete

- Electoral Register – Most Electoral Registration Officers have signed the DSA, 2 responses outstanding
- HESA – Complete
- DWP individual level – Legal gateway found, data expected to be provided in January
- DWP aggregates – Legal gateway found, DWP have agreed to provide this
- Local authority council tax – Data requested to be provided in March 2023

3. NRS to update the group on progress with administrative data linking.

4. NRS provided an update to the group on the census outputs consultation, which had received 77 responses as of 1 December.

5. The group provided some advice around the quality information that NRS will need to publish on the change in methods for estimation and greater use of administrative data. Careful consideration is needed to be able to effectively communicate how this work will improve the quality of census estimates.

6. NRS provided an update to the group around the timeline for census data processing and first outputs. First outputs are planned to be released a year after the end of census data collection finishing.

7. ISG involvement in key decision points on methods development e.g. estimation, bias correction, admin data imputation, was agreed by the group.

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