

## International Steering Group – Note of Key Points

26th January 2023 : 8 am – 10 am (BST)

### Attending

Abby Morgan – Stats New Zealand

Owen Abbott – ONS

Andrew Morris - Health Data Research UK

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

Caroline Ellis - NRS

Bethanie Fenney – NRS

Tom Macintyre - NRS

David Rowley – NRS

Ralph Mcdevitt - NRS

Uche Okoro – NRS

### Key Actions

1. The group agreed a summary of the previous drop-in meetings:

**8<sup>th</sup> December:** Analysis was presented on the differences between census respondents and non-respondents for the estimation variables. The purpose of this was to assess whether we could undertake donor imputation onto admin data as planned for both respondents and non-respondents. ISG asked NRS to check if the differences were still there after accounting for age and sex (and hard to count area).

**15<sup>th</sup> December:** Analysis of differences after accounting for age and sex (and hard to count area) was presented. ISG discussed options and said that NRS needed to account for these differences (either

in CanCEIS or by adjusting the donor pool) and asked NRS to do more thinking about how they did that.

**19<sup>th</sup> January:** Following on from the previous meeting, an approach was suggested which involved incorporating a distribution from the non-responding population as the basis for imputing, however the ISG said that there was not enough data in most strata for the level of detail NRS were attempting, but they still thought that we needed to account for the differences in the working/non-working ratio between respondents and non-respondents. ISG recommended that NRS try the CanCEIS approach first (with an approach based on cutting down the donor pool as a contingency) and provided some more information and contacts. ISG agreed the high level approach, noting the two options for implementation.

2. NRS updated the group on progress with acquiring administrative data. Data that will be used for census estimation purposes has been acquired and quality assured. NRS to provide the group with an update on linking the data together at a drop-in meeting.
3. DWP data, which will not be used for estimation purposes, is still to be acquired if possible. NRS to update the group on progress at future meetings. ISG provided a steer that NRS should keep trying to acquire this data as it would be highly desirable, although not essential, to have it for quality assurance purposes.
4. The other data still being progressed is a list of occupied addresses from council tax data, this has been requested for March 2023. This data is to be used to feed into the alternative household count. Again this data was seen as highly desirable but not essential.
5. NRS provided an update on the census outputs consultation; to date, over 130 responses had been received. The consultation is due to close on 10<sup>th</sup> of February.
6. NRS also provided information around on-going engagement with statistics colleagues across Scottish Government.

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