International Steering Group – Note of Key Points

16th November 2023: 8 am – 9.30 am (BST)

Attending

Professor James Brown – UTS

Abby Morgan – Stats New Zealand

Owen Abbott – ONS

Kirsten Piller - ONS

Esta Clark – NRS

Jonathan Wroth-Smith – NRS

David Rowley - NRS

Benjamin Little - NRS

James McCrum – NRS

Alexander Thom - NRS

Key Actions

NRS presented a summary of the implementation of adjustment, including the principals followed and the methods used to apply them.

1. NRS presented the number of households and individuals added through adjustment.
2. ISG were satisfied with the approach taken to implement adjustment.
3. NRS presented information on the decision and approach to add selected administrative records as the first step in adjustment, prior to Combinatorial Optimisation. NRS explained that the administrative records provide exceptional information to help guide the choice of quality donor information to inform which type of households and individuals to put in the locations where we identified missingness through estimation.
4. ISG were satisfied with this approach, reinforcing that NRS had already estimated how many people and households there are, and this administrative data was then being used post-estimation to improve the quality of imputation to reach these estimates.
5. NRS presented information on the records used as donors in adjustment, explaining that the vast majority of households in the data do not need to be used as donors and a small number were used more than once.

6. ISG were content that Combinatorial Optimisation will have to use the same record more than once in some instances as it is trying to reach a set of benchmarks within geographical locations.
7. ISG were satisfied with the approach NRS took to place the imputed records geographically.
8. ISG were content that NRS had outlined a strategy on how to treat voluntary response questions in early planning stages of the census and the treatment of them through adjustment remains consistent.