

## 202300389869 – Freedom of Information – Correspondence and Notes

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Note 3	Equality Evidence Strategy 2023 – 2025 – Progress Monitoring – July 2023	None	N/A

## Email 1

**From:** [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 31, 2023 1:29 PM  
**To:** [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Annual update - minor changes

Thanks [redacted], I'll update on my master.

Cheers,  
[redacted]

**[redacted]**  
Defence, Security & Cyber Resilience Division

**E:** [redacted]@gov.scot  
**MS Teams:** [redacted]  
**M:** [redacted]

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 31, 2023 12:49 PM  
**To:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Annual update - minor changes

Hi [redacted],

I have some minor changes to be made to the commitments in the annual update. I think you have the spreadsheet locked for editing so I have just detailed them below, otherwise I might forget to do it! Changes are in red. NRS have now cleared the lines for both the commitments below.

Cell	Commitment	2023 Update
E17	Working with National Records of Scotland (NRS) and stakeholders to develop outputs from the Census concerning the veteran community in Scotland. Analysis and outputs will be linked to the themes and cross-cutting factors of the Strategy for our Veterans, and will look to address priority research questions and evidence gaps.	<p>Scottish Government policy and analytical officials have worked with NRS colleagues to develop analytical proposals and outputs for the veterans Census question, reflecting evidence priorities and stakeholder preferences. Officials will continue to work with NRS and stakeholders to <b>meet users need confirm Census outputs</b> as NRS progress with their publication schedule. NRS aims to <b>begin publishing topic data from the Census the first veterans' Census data</b> from summer 2024. <del>followed by a phased release of outputs.</del> <b>This will include data on the size of the veteran population across Scotland. More detailed data on the characteristics of the veteran population are scheduled for release later in 2024.</b></p> <p>Through regular engagements with counterparts in ONS and OVA, officials have continued to seek opportunities to learn from the analysis and outputs delivered for the England and Wales 2021 Census.</p>
E19	Working with National Records of Scotland (NRS) and stakeholders to develop outputs from the Census concerning the veteran community in Scotland. Analysis and outputs will be linked to the themes and cross-cutting factors of the Strategy for our Veterans, and will look to address priority research questions and evidence gaps.	<p>Scottish Government policy and analytical officials worked with ONS, OVA and the other devolved administrations to develop and facilitate the first UK-wide Veterans' Survey. The survey collected information from veterans on a range of topics to understand current access to and perception of services in addition to veterans' experiences and circumstances. Officials liaised with the Scottish Prison Service to help enable the inclusion of veterans in prison. The survey ran from November 2022 to February 2023, with <del>over 2300</del> <b>2230</b> responses received from veterans in Scotland. First findings are expected from Autumn 2023. Officials have submitted analysis proposals to ONS, and will continue to work with them to develop findings and outputs for Scotland.</p> <p>Scottish Government and NRS analytical officials have begun scoping the feasibility of analysing veteran suicides in Scotland through data linkage. Officials have been engaging with counterparts in the UK Government on what progress has been made to produce the previously announced new statistics on veteran suicide in England and Wales. - check with <del>[redacted]</del> <b>[redacted]</b> and NRS</p>

Thanks,  
~~[redacted]~~

~~[redacted]~~  
Justice Analytical Services  
Scottish Government  
~~[redacted]~~

## Email 2

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Sent:** Monday, September 18, 2023 9:24 AM

**To:** [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; All Statisticians <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; DIG : Data Division <[redacted]@gov.scot>; DIG : Statistics and Data Access <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]< [redacted]gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** OCS Weekly Newsletter

Hi everyone,

Please find the weekly update below. If there's anything you would like included in future emails, please get in touch.

### 1. Scotland's Census First Results Published.

The publication of [Scotland's Census 2022 first results](#) is a key milestone for Scotland's Census. These results reported that " On Census Day, 20 March 2022, the population of Scotland was estimated to be 5,436,600. This is the largest population ever recorded by Scotland's Census"

The full report [Scotland's Census 2022- Rounded population estimates](#) can be found on the Scotland's Census [website](#).

[Redacted - Out of scope]

[redacted] | Office of the Chief Statistician  
Scottish Government  
[redacted]

## Email 3

**From:** Janet Egdell<janet.egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 8:19 AM

**To:** James Brown <james.brown@uts.edu.au>; [redacted]< [redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]@stats.govt.nz; national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk; [redacted]@ons.gov.uk; [redacted] <[redacted]@hdruk.ac.uk>; [redacted]@nbb.be; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [redacted]< [redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>

**Subject:** RE: Publication of first results from the 2022 Census

Dear all

Can I add my thanks to you all? You've been a great support – much appreciated.

Janet

Janet Egdell | Interim Chief Executive  
Registrar General for Scotland | Keeper of the Records of Scotland  
National Records of Scotland | HM General Register House | 2 Princes Street | Edinburgh | EH1 3YY  
[redacted] | [www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk)  
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**From:** James Brown <james.brown@uts.edu.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2023 11:32 PM  
**To:** [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]@stats.govt.nz;  
national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk; [redacted]@ons.gov.uk; [redacted]@hdruk.ac.uk;  
[redacted]@nbb.be; McAlpine A (Alastair) <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Egdell J (Janet) <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
[redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Publication of first results from the 2022 Census

Well done to the whole team at NRS!

**Dr James J Brown**

School of Mathematical & Physical Sciences  
University of Technology Sydney  
T. [redacted]  
PO Box 123 Broadway NSW 2007 Australia

[redacted]

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Friday, 15 September 2023 12:51 AM  
**To:** James Brown<james.brown@uts.edu.au>; [redacted]@stats.govt.nz;  
national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk; [redacted]@ons.gov.uk; [redacted]@hdruk.ac.uk;  
[redacted]@nbb.be; Alastair.mcalpine@gov.scot  
**Cc:** [redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk; [redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk; janet.egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Publication of first results from the 2022 Census

Dear ISG members

I'm really pleased to be able to report that we published first results of Scotland's Census today. Links to the news release, statistical bulletin and our quality report are below:

New Release:

[Scotland's Census first results | Scotland's Census \(scotlandscensus.gov.uk\)](https://scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

Statistical Bulletin:

[Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates | Scotland's Census \(scotlandscensus.gov.uk\)](https://scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

Quality Report:

[Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates – Quality assurance report | Scotland's Census \(scotlandscensus.gov.uk\)](https://scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

We are really proud of the statistics and material we've published. I wanted to thank you once again for the support you've provided over the past year. I've lost count of how many times I referred to working to the 'brightest and the best brains on census methodology' today. Being able to refer to the support you've provided has been so important.

[redacted]

[redacted]

National Records of Scotland | HM General Register House | 2 Princes Street | Edinburgh | EH1 3YY  
[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk | [www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk)  
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## Email 4

**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 10:34 AM  
**To:** Minister for Parliamentary Business <MinisterforPB@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Draft minutes - monthly meeting with [redacted]

P/O Minister for Parliamentary Business,

Please see attached draft minutes from last week's meeting between Mr Adam and the Chief Statistician. eRDM link: [redacted]

As per action 4, I attach a link to the Ally's recent update to the Executive Team about the Scotland Census outputs coherence assessment results, for information.

Kind regards,

[redacted]  
[redacted]

Scottish Government | Office of the Chief Statistician (OCS)

[redacted]

## Attachment

**Monthly Meeting with Ally McAlpine, Chief Statistician  
12 September 2023, 14:15 – 14:45 (via Teams)**

### **Attendees**

George Adam MSP  
[redacted], Private Secretary  
Scottish Government  
Alastair McAlpine, Chief Statistician  
[redacted], OCS  
[redacted] (minutes)

[redacted – out of scope]

### **1. Assurance of First Census Outputs**

AM noted that as Chief Statistician, he had recently given his approval to the results of a Coherence Assessment for the First Outputs of Census 2022 Statistics due to be published on 14 September 2023. He also advised that Office for Statistics Regulation had also designated the Census outputs as 'National Statistics', a 'badge' meaning the statistics are trustworthy, high quality and valuable.

**Action 4:** [redacted] to share copy of update to Executive Team with Mr Adam.

[redacted - Out of scope]

## Email 5

**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** First Minister  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2023 4:16 PM  
**To:** [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs &



<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]  
<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]  
<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]  
<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** OFFICIAL SENSITIVE - Submission - Urgent - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

**OFFICIAL SENSITIVE: Contains pre-release statistics. Not for sharing with others until after 9:30 a.m. on Thursday 14 September 2023.**

**PS/Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs & Culture  
PS/Minister for Parliamentary Business**

1. I attach ([redacted]) in Word a submission for “urgent” attention (10 pages total, including annexes) providing you with pre-release access to first outputs from Scotland’s Census. The full publication is available in the html file attached (Annex C)
2. We are also seeking clearance from you and the Minister for Parliamentary Business on the GIQ (Annex A) to be asked by Keith Brown MSP on Thursday 14 September.
3. NRS are also seeking clearance on a SCANCE contribution (Annex B) for Cabinet on Tuesday 12 September.
4. Finally, NRS would recommend a further face-to-face briefing meeting early next week to discuss key points from the publication. We will work with PO to find a suitable time and date.

Kind regards,  
[redacted]

[redacted]  
National Records of Scotland  
Tel: [redacted]

## **Email 6**

**From:** [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 11:01 AM  
**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture <CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; DG Strategy and  
External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; DG Communities  
<DGCommunities@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Director of Culture  
and Major Events <Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot>; Shirley Rogers  
<Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; John Burns <John.Burns@gov.scot>; Alastair McAlpine  
<Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet  
Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;  
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[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; ParlyClerk Scotland <ParlyClerkScotland@gov.scot>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
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[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: Interview requests and proactive comment - AR - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

For the benefit of the copy list – please find a transcript of Cab Sec’s interview with ITV Border yesterday.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted]

## Constitution, External Affairs and Culture Communications

The Scottish Government, St Andrew’s House, Edinburgh

Mobile: [redacted] | Portfolio media enquiries: [redacted]

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2023 10:32 AM

**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture <CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot >; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; DG Communities <DGCommunities@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Director of Culture and Major Events <Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot>; Shirley Rogers <Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; John Burns <John.Burns@gov.scot>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

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[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

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[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; ParlyClerk Scotland <ParlyClerkScotland@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: Interview requests and proactive comment - AR - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

Thanks [redacted] – Officials will be able to send on the briefing docs they’ve prepared.

We’ve issued the lines below

Following the publication of the first outputs from Scotland’s Census 2022, Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture Angus Robertson said:

“Today’s publication represents a historic moment with the largest population ever recorded by Scotland’s Census of 5.4 million, an increase of 2.7% since the previous census in 2011. It also confirms this growth has been driven by inward migration, demonstrating that Scotland is an attractive place to come to live and work. However we know Scotland faces an ongoing population challenge with fewer births than deaths registered in Scotland since 2011, which reinforces just how damaging Brexit continues to be for Scotland with the loss of freedom of movement.

“The census also shows that, in line with many other countries, our population is aging. Understanding these changes in the population will allow local authorities and the government

to adapt vital public services to better meet the needs of those living and working in Scotland – including our large, established migrant community, whose contribution we greatly welcome. As outlined in the Programme for Government, we will publish an Addressing Depopulation Action Plan which will set out the first phase of our response to population decline occurring in some of Scotland’s communities.

“We will also introduce a Talent Attraction and Migration Service to support more people to live and work here. We have also called on the UK Government to devolve immigration powers to the Scottish Parliament and work with us to deliver our proposal for a Rural Visa Pilot to enable rural and island communities to attract migrants in line with local needs.

“The Census also shows a trend towards smaller households and more households overall, which further demonstrates the importance of our strategy to tackle social isolation and loneliness through stronger social connections, and our continued funding for organisations working to address this issue.”

## Background

Following the collection of Scotland’s Census 2022, National Records of Scotland updated its statistical methods to ensure outputs represent 100% of Scotland’s population. This approach has been commended by the independent Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR) who have awarded Scotland’s census outputs National Statistics designation based on the high quality and good practice of the statistics. The updated methodology was supported by a panel of independent international census and statistical experts, who have worked closely with NRS since the collection period.

Following today’s publication, National Records of Scotland will publish further results from Scotland’s Census 2022 from spring 2024 onwards. In summer 2024, a series of topic data reports will provide new and unique insights into the characteristics of Scotland’s people, including information on ethnicity, religion, the labour market, education and housing. For the first time, it will also include data on armed forces veterans, sexual orientation and trans status or history.

[redacted]

### Constitution, External Affairs and Culture Communications

The Scottish Government, St Andrew’s House, Edinburgh

Mobile: [redacted] | Portfolio media enquiries: [redacted]

[www.gov.scot/news](http://www.gov.scot/news)



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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture

**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2023 10:03 AM

**To:** : [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture <CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

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[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: Interview requests and proactive comment - AR - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

[redacted]

As discussed, grateful for any briefing/lines Cab Sec should have sight of ahead of this afternoon's bid at 1400

Thanks,

[redacted]

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 13, 2023 4:39 PM

**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture <CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot >; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

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[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: Interview requests and proactive comment - AR - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

[redacted] - to confirm ITV Border are happy with 11:30 in the Garden Lobby – I can provide Cab Sec with support if he would like.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted]

**Constitution, External Affairs and Culture Communications**

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: [redacted] | Portfolio media enquiries: [redacted]

[www.gov.scot/news](http://www.gov.scot/news)     

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 13, 2023 1:13 PM

**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture <CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot >; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; DG Communities <DGCommunities@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Director of Culture and Major Events <Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot>; Shirley Rogers <Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; John Burns <John.Burns@gov.scot>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; ParlyClerk Scotland <ParlyClerkScotland@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: Interview requests and proactive comment - AR - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

Thanks [redacted] – I will decline GMS and put 11:30 to ITV Border. I'll let you know ASAP.

Best,

[redacted]

[redacted]

**News | Senior Media Manager**

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: [redacted] | Portfolio media enquiries: [redacted]

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 13, 2023 1:09 PM

**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture <CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; DG Communities <DGCommunities@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Director of Culture and Major Events <Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot>; Shirley Rogers <Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; John Burns <John.Burns@gov.scot>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; ParlyClerk Scotland <ParlyClerkScotland@gov.scot>;

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**Subject:** RE: Interview requests and proactive comment - AR - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

Thanks [redacted].

Mr Robertson has cleared the lines below & wishes to decline GMS but will accept ITV Border.

Unfortunately we have a meeting between 1030 & 1130 – we could either do it at 10am or straight after the meeting at 1130 in the garden lobby ?

Thanks,  
[redacted]

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 13, 2023 12:14 PM

**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture <CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot >; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

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[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: Interview requests and proactive comment - AR - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

Thanks [redacted] – to confirm BBC know he cannot speak about the figures. They really just want to talk about how the information was collected and how it will be used going forward – so it will be quite high level.

Thanks,  
[redacted]  
[redacted]

**Constitution, External Affairs and Culture Communications**

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: [redacted] | Portfolio media enquiries: [redacted]

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**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 13, 2023 12:03 PM





**Subject:** Interview requests and proactive comment - AR - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

**PO/ Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture**

As discussed yesterday, we're planning to issue a proactive statement from [redacted] following the publication of the statistics. We've drafted the below with officials and SpAds – grateful if you can advise if Cab Sec is content.

We've also had two interview requests from ITV Border and GMS – set out in the table below.

Thanks,

[redacted]

WHO	OUTLET	TIME	LIVE/PRE-REC	INTERVIEW ER	TOPICS	Recommendation	Other details (if required)
AR	BBC GMS	Between 08:00 and 08:30	Live	[redacted] and [redacted]	Census stats	Accept	The first tranche of info is released at 0930 tomorrow so ahead of that, we would ask him about the census exercise, how the info was collated, what it will be used for in the future.  We also have someone from the NRS (Director of Census Statistics) to us tomorrow morning on this topic.  Can do this via BBC studio, Zoom or Whatsapp.
AR	ITV Border	Mid- morning (preferabl y between 10:30 - 11:30)	Pre-rec – as live	[redacted]	Census stats	Accept	Want to speak mid-morning following the publication of the stats. How the info will be used? Is there enough here to be used by SG for creating policy? Questions on migration.  He said he might get clip from NRS.  In person – Garden Lobby (preferably between 10:30 -11:30)

**Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture [redacted] said:**

“Today’s publication represents a historic moment with the largest population ever recorded by Scotland’s Census of 5.4 million, an increase of 2.7% since the previous census in 2011.

“It confirms this growth has been driven by inward migration, demonstrating that Scotland is an attractive place to come to live and work.

“We know however that Scotland faces an ongoing population challenge with fewer births than deaths registered in Scotland since 2011, which reinforces just how damaging Brexit will be to Scotland with the loss of freedom of movement.”

“As outlined in the Programme for Government, the Scottish Government is taking action: we will publish an Addressing Depopulation Action Plan which will set out the first phase of our response to population decline occurring in some of Scotland’s communities. We will also introduce a Talent Attraction and Migration Service to support more people to live and work here.

“We have also called on the UK Government to devolve immigration powers to the Scottish Parliament and work with us to deliver our proposal for a Rural Visa Pilot to enable rural and island communities to attract migrants in line with local needs.

“The census also shows that in common with many countries our population is aging. Understanding these changes in the population will allow local authorities, businesses and the government to adapt vital public services to better meet the needs of those living and working in Scotland – including our large, established migrant community, whose contribution we greatly welcome.

“Today’s results also show a trend towards smaller households and more households overall, which further demonstrates the importance of our strategy to tackle social isolation and loneliness through stronger social connections, and our continued funding for organisations working to address this issue.

“Following the collection of Scotland’s Census 2022, NRS updated its statistical methods to ensure outputs represent 100% of Scotland’s population. This approach has been commended by the independent Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR) who have awarded Scotland’s census outputs National Statistics designation based on the high quality and good practice of the statistics.

“The updated methodology was supported by a panel of independent international census and statistical experts, who have worked closely with NRS since the collection period.”

## Background

[\[Link to Publication\]](#)

- Following today’s publication, NRS will publish further results from Scotland’s Census 2022 from spring 2024 onwards. In summer 2024, a series of topic data reports will provide new and unique insights into the characteristics of Scotland’s people, including information on ethnicity, religion, the labour market, education and housing. For the first time, it will also include data on armed forces veterans, sexual orientation and trans status or history.

[redacted]

**News | Senior Media Manager**

The Scottish Government, St Andrew’s House, Edinburgh

Mobile: [redacted] | Portfolio media enquiries: [redacted]

[www.gov.scot/news](http://www.gov.scot/news)







[redacted]

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 12, 2023 3:44 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]< [redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** FMQs prepared lines- Scotland's 2022 Census first results release

Hi [redacted] and [redacted],

I don't think I've met you both, I [redacted] and I'm reaching out about the upcoming FMQs. [redacted] recommended that I get in touch with yourselves.

Are there prepared lines on Scotland's 2022 Census first results release for Thursday's (14<sup>th</sup>) FMQs that can be shared with SG? [redacted] is keen that SG and NRS have a shared position on this.

Best wishes,

[redacted]

[redacted]  
Administrative Data for Official Statistics (ADOS)

[redacted]

**Attachment**

## SCOTLAND'S CENSUS 2022

**14 SEP:** Publication of first outputs from Scotland's Census 2022 at 09:30, 14 September 2023. A media event will be held that morning at a local Edinburgh primary school for broadcast journalists and news photographers. This will be led by NRS. Cab Sec CEAC to notify Parliament via a GIQ after FMQs.

**14 SEP:** Office for Statistics Regulation to publicly confirm census outputs are to be designated as National Statistics and will therefore form an integral part of the statistical system in the UK.

### **The information published through census outputs will help to shape Scotland for future generations and is an asset for Scotland.**

- Scotland has relied for more than 200 years on the information the census provides.
- It remains the best way to gather vital information which government, councils, the NHS and a range of users in the public, private and third sectors need.
- The results help local authorities, businesses and the government plan a wide range of vital public services, to improve the lives of those living and working in Scotland.

### **Since completion of the collection phases of Scotland's Census 2022, NRS has been processing and quality assuring the data, and making use of other administrative data sources.**

- This builds on the almost 90 % national return rate achieved through collection and enables robust, reliable estimates for the whole population to be provided.
- The innovative statistical approaches applied have been steered by a group of international independent census and statistical experts.
- NRS has engaged with stakeholders to ensure users of the data can have confidence that the updated methodology provides full population coverage.
- The timetable for publishing all the results is:
  - Population estimates at local authority level today (14 September 2023);
  - Local area statistics (c50 households) being provided in spring 2024; and
  - Detailed household characteristics, such as information on ethnicity, employment, education, sexuality, carers and veterans, from summer 2024 onwards.

### **An evaluation of Census 2022, with a focus on lessons learned for any future Census and other complex programmes, will be prepared for Ministers and provided to Parliament by the end of 2024.**

[redacted]



## Email 9

**From:** Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2023 4:46 PM  
**To:** DG Regulation <DG.Regulation@Statistics.gov.uk>; NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Ed Humpherson to Janet Egdell: Confirmation of National Statistics designation for Scotland's Census

That would be fine, thanks [redacted]

Janet

Janet Egdell | Interim Chief Executive  
Registrar General for Scotland | Keeper of the Records of Scotland

National Records of Scotland | HM General Register House | 2 Princes Street | Edinburgh | EH1 3YY  
[RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk) | [www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk)

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**From:** DG Regulation <DG.Regulation@Statistics.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2023 4:18 PM  
**To:** NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: [redacted] to [redacted]: Confirmation of National Statistics designation for Scotland's Census

Good afternoon [redacted],

Thanks very much for this response. I also understand [redacted] and [redacted] have had a quick catch up following this letter too. We would like to publish this on our website, do you have any concerns with that?

Kind regards

[redacted]

[redacted]  
Office for Statistics Regulation | [redacted]  
[redacted]@Statistics.gov.uk | Website: [Office for Statistics Regulation](#) |  
UK Statistics Authority | Awdurdod Ystadegau'r Deyrnas Unedig |  
[@UKStatsAuth](#)

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**From:** RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 20 September 2023 10:58  
**To:** DG Regulation <DG.Regulation@Statistics.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;  
Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk  
**Subject:** RE: Ed Humpherson to Janet Egdell: Confirmation of National Statistics designation for Scotland's Census

Dear [redacted]



Please find attached ([redacted]) a letter from Janet Egdell, Interim Chief Executive, in response to Mr Humpherson's letter dated 13 September 2023.

Kind regards  
[redacted]

[redacted]

National Records of Scotland | HM General Register House | 2 Princes Street | Edinburgh | EH1 3YY  
[www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk)  
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**From:** DG Regulation <DG.Regulation@Statistics.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 13 September 2023 09:52  
**To:** Egdell J (Janet) <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** McAlpine A (Alastair) <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Ed Humpherson to Janet Egdell: Confirmation of National Statistics designation for Scotland's Census

Good morning Janet,

Please find attached a letter from Ed Humpherson, Director General for Regulation, regarding the Scotland Census designation.

Kind Regards,

[redacted]  
[redacted]

Office for Statistics Regulation | UK Statistics Authority

## Email 10

**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@ed.ac.uk>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 7, 2023 1:28 PM  
**To:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: ADR Leadership

Thanks Ally

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**From:** [redacted]@gov.scot <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** 07 September 2023 12:48  
**To:** [redacted] <[redacted]@ed.ac.uk>  
**Subject:** ADR Leadership

[redacted], some notes from me for this afternoon.

### General notes

[redacted – out of scope]

### Notes on Papers

- 2A
  - o happy with the SG point
  - o reading about NI microdata strategy – I have provided an update below on where we are with Census but reiterate keen to join up people at NRS to learn lessons from NISRA at an appropriate point.
- [redacted – out of scope]

I am happy with all other papers.



Mobile [redacted]

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 12, 2023 4:09 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; DG Communities <DGCommunities@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Director of Culture and Major Events <Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot>; Shirley Rogers <Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; John Burns <John.Burns@gov.scot>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; ParlyClerk Scotland <ParlyClerkScotland@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** SPAD VIEW: Proactive comment - AR - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

Thanks both.

SpAds – are you content with the comment below that we plan to issue proactively on Thursday?

As mentioned on the call – ITV Border have asked to speak with Cab Sec on Thursday – we'd recommend accepting this – are you content?

Thanks,

[redacted]

**Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture Angus Robertson said:**

“Today’s publication represents a historic moment with the largest population ever recorded by Scotland’s Census of 5.4 million, an increase of 2.7% since the previous census in 2011.

“It confirms this growth has been driven by inward migration, demonstrating that Scotland is an attractive place to come to live and work.

“We know however that Scotland faces an ongoing population challenge with fewer births than deaths registered in Scotland since 2011, which reinforces just how damaging Brexit will be to Scotland with the loss of freedom of movement.”

“As outlined in the Programme for Government, the Scottish Government is however taking action: we will publish an Addressing Depopulation Action Plan which will set out the first phase of our response to population decline occurring in some of Scotland’s communities. We will also introduce a Talent Attraction and Migration Service to support more people to live and work here.

“We have also called on the UK Government to devolve immigration powers to the Scottish Parliament and work with us to deliver our proposal for a Rural Visa Pilot to enable rural and island communities to attract migrants in line with local needs.



Hi [redacted],

We're content from an NRS perspective.

Thanks,  
[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Sent:** 12 September 2023 15:12

**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>

**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>;

DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; DG Communities <DGCommunities@gov.scot>; DG

Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Director of Culture and Major Events

<Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot>; Shirley Rogers <Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; John

Burns <John.Burns@gov.scot>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; NRS : RG-Keeper

Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

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[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; ParlyClerk Scotland

<ParlyClerkScotland@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE - Submission - Urgent - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's

Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

Hi [redacted], minor tweaks in red regarding population and migration PfG commitments.

Hope helpful

[redacted]

[redacted] Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government

e: [redacted]@gov.scot

m: [redacted]

[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Sent:** 12 September 2023 15:08

**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>;

DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; DG Communities <DGCommunities@gov.scot>; DG

Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Director of Culture and Major Events

<Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot>; Shirley Rogers <Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; John

Burns <John.Burns@gov.scot>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; NRS : RG-Keeper

Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

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[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; ParlyClerk Scotland  
<ParlyClerkScotland@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE - Submission - Urgent - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's  
Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

All,

Following our conversation earlier – we've updated the lines slightly – all changes highlighted.

Grateful for a view please.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted]

**[redacted]**

**Constitution, External Affairs and Culture Communications**

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: [redacted] | Portfolio media enquiries: [redacted]



**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 12, 2023 9:53 AM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; DG Communities <DGCommunities@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Director of Culture and Major Events <Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot>; Shirley Rogers <Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; John Burns <John.Burns@gov.scot>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; ParlyClerk Scotland <ParlyClerkScotland@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE - Submission - Urgent - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

Thanks [redacted].

Can you send me over the lines on the Older Person's Commissioner please?

Any further views on the below before I send to SpAds shortly?

Thanks,

[redacted]

**[redacted]**  
**Constitution, External Affairs and Culture Communications**  
The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh  
Mobile: [redacted] Portfolio media enquiries: [redacted]

[redacted]

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 8, 2023 5:46 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; DG Communities <DGCommunities@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Director of Culture and Major Events <Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot>; Shirley Rogers <Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; John Burns <John.Burns@gov.scot>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; ParlyClerk Scotland

<ParlyClerkScotland@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE - Submission - Urgent - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

Dropping Ministers and Perm Sec.

Thanks [redacted] – in advance of publication, I have prepared a draft proactive comment from the Cabinet Secretary to be issued to media on the day, drawing on the proposed GIQ response.

I'd be grateful for any views / amends from a policy perspective – in particular on the involvement of the ISG and OSR – or confirmation otherwise that officials are content with the proposed wording, ahead of it being considered by SpAds and the Cabinet Secretary next week.

In addition:

- I understand that NRS will host broadcast media / photo opp at Stenhouse Primary School in Edinburgh between 0930 – 1030, with pupils holding numbers representative of the results, and NRS' Chief Exec Janet Egdell and Director of Census Statistics [redacted] available for interviews. NRS' release and social media will issue at 0930 at the same time the results are published.
- SG News has already received one interview bid from [redacted] at ITV Border to speak with the Cab Sec at a convenient time on publication day. Subject to views from SpAds, Comms will recommend [redacted] accepts this bid.

I am on leave next week so would be grateful if returns on these points on this could be co-ordinated with [redacted], [redacted], and [redacted] (CEAC Comms).

Thanks,  
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

**Constitution, External Affairs and Culture Communications**

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: [redacted] | Portfolio Media inquiries: [redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>

**Sent:** Friday, September 8, 2023 4:20 PM

**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture <CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot>; Minister for Parliamentary Business <MinisterforPB@gov.scot>

**Cc:** First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice

<CabSecSJ@gov.scot>; Minister for Equalities, Migration & Refugees

<MinisterEMR@gov.scot>; Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development

<MinisterforCEID@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>;

DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice

<dgej@gov.scot>; DG Communities <DGCommunities@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care

<DGHSC@gov.scot>; Director of Culture and Major Events

<Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot>; >; [Shirley Rogers

<Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; John Burns <John.Burns@gov.scot>; Alastair McAlpine

<Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;



[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; ParlyClerk Scotland <ParlyClerkScotland@gov.scot>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>;  
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** OFFICIAL SENSITIVE - Submission - Urgent - Pre-release statistics - Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates

**OFFICIAL SENSITIVE: Contains pre-release statistics. Not for sharing with others until after 9:30 a.m. on Thursday 14 September 2023.**

**PS/Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs & Culture  
PS/Minister for Parliamentary Business**

1. I attach ([redacted]) in a submission for “urgent” attention (10 pages total, including annexes) providing you with pre-release access to first outputs from Scotland’s Census. The full publication is available in the html file attached (Annex C)
2. We are also seeking clearance from you and the Minister for Parliamentary Business on the GIQ (Annex A) to be asked by [redacted] MSP on Thursday 14 September.
3. NRS are also seeking clearance on a SCANCE contribution (Annex B) for Cabinet on Tuesday 12 September.
4. Finally, NRS would recommend a further face-to-face briefing meeting early next week to discuss key points from the publication. We will work with PO to find a suitable time and date.

Kind regards,  
[redacted]

[redacted]  
National Records of Scotland  
Tel: [redacted]

## **Email 12**

**From:** Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 17, 2023 1:53 PM  
**To:** John-Paul Marks <John-Paul.Marks@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; NRS : Scotland’s Census Mailbox <scotlandscensus@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Census Lessons Learned

Thank you – helpful steer. We’ll make sure we tease this out and feed it into any options appraisal. Janet

Janet Egdell | Interim Chief Executive  
Registrar General for Scotland | Keeper of the Records of Scotland

National Records of Scotland | HM General Register House | 2 Princes Street | Edinburgh | EH1 3YY  
[RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk) | [www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk)

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**From:** John-Paul Marks <John-Paul.Marks@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 17, 2023 1:22 PM  
**To:** Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; NRS : Scotland's Census Mailbox <scotlandscensus@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Census Lessons Learned

Colleagues, many thanks for copying me this, and for the progress made; please copy me the Ministerial submission this autumn – [redacted]. Thanks, JP

---

**From:** Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>;  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 16, 2023 12:28 PM  
**To:** DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]< [redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; NRS : Scotland's Census Mailbox <scotlandscensus@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Census Lessons Learned

[redacted], [redacted]

Your question around census lessons learned was passed onto us at NRS, and I've discussed it with [redacted] as we are working jointly on different aspects to make sure we cover all the bases. Very happy to discuss at any point if that would be helpful.

You will recall the permanent secretary provided an update to FPAC on 1 June, setting out the commitment to provide lessons learned to Parliament by the end of 2024 (extract below). There are three broad strands to the work currently:

- NRS continue to adapt the programme with the lessons learned as we move into the outputs phase.
- NRS is working with the SG chief statistician team to consider the broader, strategic lessons learned that informs the wider use of statistics in the future, including surveys, data processing and potential future census. We are working towards a joint Ministerial submission and discussion around this in the autumn.
- NRS is working with SG digital assurance office on case studies taking forward the learnings for other major programmes.

Hope that's helpful

[redacted]

1 June 2023

Census Lessons Learned Having completed the Collection phase of the Census Programme, National Records of Scotland (NRS) are working to deliver the planned programme of analytical products starting later this year and running, as planned, through 2024. In parallel, NRS is preparing the General Evaluation Report of Census 2022 which will cover the full lifecycle of the Programme, and any lessons that can be learned.

The process of gathering lessons learned is drawing from several streams. NRS has collated over 400 individual lessons learned, and further lessons have been taken from the statistical modelling phases of the work, in particular, the complementary use of other sources of administrative data to ensure robust population estimates. NRS will also be reflecting on feedback from users through the outputs and dissemination phase of the work.

In addition to the reflections by NRS, the evaluation will draw on the various assurance reviews undertaken, such as the Technology Assurance Framework reviews and the benefits realisation

gateway review planned for late 2023. It shall also be informed by the evaluation work undertaken by the Office of the Chief Statistician and feedback from the Office for Statistics Regulation.

The lessons learned from this process shall be drafted into the General Evaluation Report. The NRS are committed to publishing this Report on its website after it has been completed and laid before Parliament in 2024.

Janet Egdell | Interim Chief Executive  
Registrar General for Scotland | Keeper of the Records of Scotland

National Records of Scotland | HM General Register House | 2 Princes Street | Edinburgh | EH1 3YY  
[RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk) | [www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk)

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk> **On Behalf Of** NRS : Scotland's Census Mailbox  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2023 12:25 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] [redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** FW: Census Lessons Learned

We have had this email come into the census mailbox from the Perm Secs office.  
Is there a further update we can give them?

Many thanks

[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** DG Strategy and External Affairs  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2023 10:36 AM  
**To:** NRS : Scotland's Census Mailbox <scotlandscensus@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** FW: Census Lessons Learned

Good Morning,

I am wondering if there is any update on the Census Lessons Learned exercise that is being carried out so I can let the Permanent Secretary know.

Thank you in advance,

[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Permanent Secretary  
**Sent:** Monday, August 14, 2023 2:39 PM  
**To:** DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Census Lessons Learned

Hi [redacted]

Perm Sec has asked when to expect the lessons learned on the Census exercise, not sure who is leading on that now?

Kind regards

[redacted]

[redacted]

Scottish Ministers, Special Advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

---

## **Email 13**

**From:** Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [redacted]< [redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]< [redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; Head of Justice Analytical Services <headofjas@gov.scot>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Letter - Chief Statistician template

Ally

I am very grateful to you and your expert group for undertaking this review and take great assurance from your conclusions.

Thank you  
Janet

Janet Egdell | Interim Chief Executive  
Registrar General for Scotland | Keeper of the Records of Scotland

National Records of Scotland | HM General Register House | 2 Princes Street | Edinburgh | EH1 3YY  
[RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk) | [www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk)

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**From:** McAlpine A (Alastair) <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2023 11:59 PM  
**To:** NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [redacted]< [redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]< [redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; Head of Justice Analytical Services <headofjas@gov.scot>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Letter - Chief Statistician template

Janet,

Please find attached ([redacted]) a letter summarising the findings from the group that reviewed the Coherence Assessment with your team.

I will draw your attention to the paragraph where I state that I am satisfied, based on this review, that the first outputs from the Census 2022 will provide the robust population statistics to support the wider statistical system and that analysts and the general public can have confidence in the outputs, and that they can be published on 14 September 2023.

Alastair (Ally) McAlpine  
Chief Statistician

Deputy Director Statistics and Data

Tel: [redacted]

## **Email 14**

**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2023 4:34 PM  
**To:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Letter - Chief Statistician template

Hi [redacted],

I've drafted the attached ([redacted] - provided in email 22) to update to Exec team on the census outputs review – happy to make any changes.

Thanks,

[redacted]

---

**From:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2023 11:59 PM  
**To:** NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; Head of Justice Analytical Services <headofjas@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Letter - Chief Statistician template

Janet,

Please find attached a letter summarising the findings from the group that reviewed the Coherence Assessment with your team.

I will draw your attention to the paragraph where I state that I am satisfied, based on this review, that the first outputs from the Census 2022 will provide the robust population statistics to support the wider statistical system and that analysts and the general public can have confidence in the outputs, and that they can be published on 14 September 2023.

Alastair (Ally) McAlpine  
Chief Statistician  
Deputy Director Statistics and Data

Tel: [redacted]

## **Email 15**

**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2023 4:42 PM  
**To:** Executive Team <DLPSECPET@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>; NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; Analytical Leadership Group (ALG) <DLGCPALG@gov.scot>; All C2 Senior Statisticians <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** SCOTLAND CENSUS 2022 - COHERENCE ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Executive Team,

Please find attached an update from Chief Statistician Ally McAlpine, outlining his approval of the results from the Coherence Assessment for the First Outputs of Scotland Census 2022 statistics due to be published on 14 September 2023.

Kind regards,

[redacted]

Scottish Government | Office of the Chief Statistician (OCS)

[redacted]

## **Attachment**

From: Alastair McAlpine  
Chief Statistician  
29 August 2023

To: Executive Team

## **FIRST OUTPUT CENSUS 2022 – COHERENCE ASSESSMENT RESULTS**

### **Purpose**

1. To inform Executive Team of the Chief Statistician's approval of the results from the Coherence Assessment for the First Outputs of Census 2022 Statistics due to be published on 14 September 2023.

### **Priority**

2. Routine. For information.

### **Background**

3. Interim Chief Executive and Registrar General at National Records of Scotland, Janet Egdell, wrote to the Chief Statistician, to request support in reviewing the Coherence Assessment for the First Outputs of the Census 2022.

4. Population estimates by five-year age groups (such as 0 to 4, 5 to 9 up to 90+) and the estimated number of households at both Scotland and Local Authority levels are derived from the Census Statistical Model and referred to as First Outputs.

5. The Census Statistical Model was developed, tested and the methodology published ahead of conducting the Census 2022 in line with international standards.

6. However due to the lower-than-expected return rate the Statistical Model was adapted to make greater use of admin data using new innovative methods guided by the International steering Group of census experts.

7. The Coherence Assessment, conducted by NRS, checks the validity of the population estimates, by comparing results with other known information and data.

8. This exercise tests the assumptions from the methodology in building the Census Model so that differences between the results from the First Outputs with other known sources are understood and explained to validate the results.

9. The Chief Statistician stood up a small group of senior experienced analysts, who use these statistics predominantly for funding decisions and statistical outputs, to review the Coherence Assessment done by NRS with them.

10. The publication of the First Outputs, like the Censuses in England and Wales and Northern Ireland must have National Statistics Accreditation from the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR).

### **Producing First Outputs**

11. Census Model derives First Outputs from information collected from the Census. A secondary 'Census Coverage Survey' (CCS) addresses gaps in information from non-responses. Administrative data is normally used to improve the quality of the data gathered in the census.

12. Non-response issues with Census 2022 were publicised at the time. The International Steering Group (ISG), made up of census and statistical experts from across the world, was established to provide independent external advice on the quality of Scotland's Census and the statistical approaches that will be used to produce high quality census outputs.

13. The ISG recommended a novel approach to use administrative data to improve the quality of the CCS rather than the Census. This required extra extensive administrative data to be collected than had originally been planned.

14. Information about the novel approach methodology, details on all stages of collecting and creating the First Outputs, including decision making, are published on the NRS website.

### **Assurance in the First Outputs**

15. Due to the high profile of these statistics and the publicity surrounding the non-response rates, and in addition to National Statistics accreditation and an endorsement from the ISG on the methods used, the Registrar General also asked the Chief Statistician to review the Coherence Assessment which has concluded.

16. The ISG approved the methods and will release a statement alongside the publication of the First Outputs stating, "The International Steering Group commends NRS for its systematic and robust application of the census estimation methodology that has led to today's published estimates".

17. Indications from the discussions with OSR is that the First Outputs are likely to achieve National Statistics designation. They have assessed the public value, high quality and trustworthiness of the statistics. A final decision is expected to be announced by OSR shortly after 5 September 2023.

### **Chief Statisticians Review of the Coherence Assessment**

18. Following constructive engagement between the Group set up by the Chief Statistician and NRS, they concluded that they are satisfied with the rationale and decisions taken to provide census outputs which are sound and well-reasoned.

19. The Chief Statistician has communicated his satisfaction to the Registrar General, based on this review, that the outputs will provide the robust population statistics to support the wider statistical system. He has recommended that analysts and the general public can have confidence in the outputs.

20. NRS have taken on board recommendations from the Group, and from other discussions with Local Authorities and experts from the ISG, to refine the model used to produce the census estimates.

21. NRS have taken on board further recommendations from the Group and to publish more details of the decisions taken to refine the methodology used in the Census Model to produce the First Outputs.

22. In addition, the Group recognises that publishing statistics on this scale is hugely challenging and further work is being started to address wider issues identified through this process not directly related to the First Outputs.

**Recommendation**

23. You are invited to note the contents of this submission and the letter sent from the Chief Statistician to the Registrar General of NRS.

24. The Chief Statistician is happy to speak to any members of the Executive team about this matter.

**ALASTAIR McALPINE** Chief Statistician  
Digital Directorate

29 August 2023

Copy List:	For Action	For Comments	For Information		
			Portfolio Interest	Constit Interest	General Awareness

Director Digital NRS:RG NRS Director of Statistics NRS Census Director Analytical Leadership Group All Senior Statisticians
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## Email 16

**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 9, 2023 3:52 PM  
**To:** [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@uts.edu.au>; [redacted] <[redacted]@stats.govt.nz>; [redacted] <[redacted]@hdruk.ac.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@ons.gov.uk>; Diamond, Ian <Ian.Diamond@Statistics.gov.uk>; National Statistician <national.statistician@statistics.gov.uk>; Chief Statistician <ChiefStatistician@gov.scot>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@soton.ac.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nbb.be>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>

**Subject:** ISG Agenda 10 August meeting

Hi all,

Please find below an agenda for the meeting tomorrow:

### Agenda

1. Welcome – [redacted]
2. Overview of methods journey and key decisions - [redacted]
3. Discussion of estimation implementation - [redacted]
4. Scotland level results and LA and CIs – [redacted] and [redacted]
5. Themes from LA feedback and adjustments - [redacted]
6. ISG statement discussion
7. Future meetings
8. AOB

Thanks,

[redacted]

## Email 17

**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 6:03 PM  
**To:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; Head of Justice Analytical Services <headofjas@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Scotland's Census 2022 - Coherence Assessment Team - Agenda for 11 August

Hi all,

Thank you for your time today – very helpful discussion.

For the agenda on the 11<sup>th</sup> I think we agreed:

1. Welcome and reiteration of purpose, format of the session – [redacted]
2. Presentation of key method changes and assurance from the International Steering Group – NRS
3. Coherence discussion to include:
  - a. Comparison against key sources
  - b. Discussion of special populations and CEs

- c. Themes from LA QA process
  - d. Explanation of any differences to key sources e.g. mid-year estimates
  - e. Q and A of results
4. Separate private discussion for SG group members
5. Final discussion of coherence
  - a. Any further analysis to be requested or evidence needed
  - b. Content of letter from coherence group to Janet
  - c. Option to meet again on 17 August if needed
6. AOB

Please let me know if I have picked anything up incorrectly or if you have any changes.

Thanks again

[redacted]

## **Email 18**

**From:** [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2023 2:19 PM  
**To:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: OCS Weekly Newsletter

Hi [redacted],

Can we pop the below announcements in please?

[redacted – out of scope]

NRS announces publication data for the first Census outputs

The first results from Scotland's Census 2022 will be published by National Records of Scotland (NRS) on Thursday 14 September 2023.

These results will include estimates of the total population of Scotland and the population size in every local authority area, including a breakdown by five year age groups and sex.

There will also be figures showing the change in population since the last census in Scotland in 2011 – both at national and local authority level – as well as population density and household numbers.

For more than 200 years Scotland has used the data the census provides and it remains the best way to gather vital information about Scotland's people which local and central government, the NHS and a range of other data users in the public, private and third sectors need.

More information can be found on the [National Records of Scotland website](#).

Thanks,

[redacted]

## **Email 19**

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 28, 2023 2:06 PM  
**To:** All Statisticians <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Learning and Development - August update

Good Afternoon,  
Hope this finds you well.

Please see attached and a live version of Learning and Development Menu for Statisticians.



Comms and SpAds recommend accepting the bid. I'd be grateful if you could let me know if Mr Robertson is available?

Relevant briefing documents attached.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted] | Communications: News (Net Zero, Just Transition, Rural Affairs, Land Reform & Islands )  
Communications Team Leader  
Scottish Government, St Andrew's House  
e: [redacted]@gov.scot  
m: [redacted]

## **Attachment 1** **Census launch lines**

### **What's the story?**

Scotland's population is the largest and the oldest it's ever been.

Since the previous census there were more deaths than births so the increase has been driven by migration.

The pattern of where people live in Scotland is continuing to shift. Some areas, like the south and south west have seen population decline, while Edinburgh, the Lothians and Glasgow have seen some of the biggest increases. The biggest increase was in Midlothian.

Some of the migration will be from the rest of the UK, and some will be from abroad. What's clear from today's figures is that Scotland's population is the largest it's ever been and without migration it would have fallen. We know migration is driven by people moving for work, family reasons or study.

No other survey provides the range of information that the census does.

Census information is hugely important as it provides a wide range of unique data used by government, businesses and charities to plan vital public services such as roads, schools and hospitals and infrastructure.

### **Just how much older are we and why are we seeing a swing towards more people being in the older age groups?**

There are many more older people than there were at the last census. In 1971 the youngest, those under 15, outnumbered the oldest, those 65 and over, by two to one. We now have more than quarter of a million more people aged 65 and over than we have under 15.

Just over 20% of the population is 65 or older – one in five of us are in that age group. That's a massive change in the shape of Scotland's population.

The ageing population is part of a longer term trend. The main driver of this trend is the generation of babies born post-war moving into the oldest age groups.

### **Is Scotland's population "older" than the rest of the UK?**

People aged 65 and over make up 20% of Scotland's population, almost 19% of the people in England and Wales and just over 17% of the population in Northern Ireland so Scotland does have a slightly older age profile than the rest of the UK. However there are much bigger differences between local authority areas within Scotland. The four largest cities in Scotland were amongst the areas with the lowest proportions of people aged 65 and over. The council area with the lowest proportion of

people aged 65 and over was Glasgow City (14.0%). The council areas with the lowest percentage of people in the 65+ group also have higher proportions of young adults. These council areas tend to have large student populations.

**This could be bad news for public finances, doesn't it cost more to look after older people?**

Ultimately, this is a matter for decision makers such as local and central government who plan and deliver services. It is our role as statisticians to collate and deliver the numbers.

**Didn't the census go badly wrong last year - are you now able to say why so many didn't fill it in and who they are?**

As with every census there will be an evaluation. We will send a report on lessons we can learn to parliament next year. Today's estimate covers the whole population of Scotland. We've been able to do that thanks to the millions of households who filled in the census and by adapting our methodology. The priority right now is to start getting this vital data out to the people who will use the figures to plan services.

**(If pushed re delay, if next one will be 2031 or at all)**

That's an important question and it will be dealt with in our report to parliament next year and in subsequent recommendations. But these statistics are at the heart of the statistical system in Scotland and we have to concentrate on getting them out to those who need them now.

Today our focus is on publishing our first results which show how Scotland's population is the largest it has ever been, how we have seen a swing more towards the oldest age groups in comparison with the youngest and how migration is not just driving population growth but preventing it from declining.

**But is this data any good?**

We can be confident that this data is of high quality. We've worked with the best and brightest experts in the field of census data to amend our methodology and have achieved accreditation by the independent regulator, the Office for Statistics Regulation. These are National Statistics based on their high quality and good practice and we're proud of the huge amount of work that has gone in to meeting that very high standard. It's an extremely rigorous process that we have gone through and people can have confidence in the numbers.

**So if you were able to crunch the numbers anyway, did anyone need to fill in the census at all?**

We absolutely needed all the responses we got last year. Almost 90% of households filled it in and we thank them for doing it. Their responses gave us a good foundation on which to move to the processing stage.

**Can we compare these statistics to figures for England and Wales or Northern Ireland?**

NRS has worked closely with ONS and NISRA to harmonise on questions, methods and outputs.

From these results today we can see some broadly similar results to those for England and Wales where the population grew and there was a significant jump in numbers of people in the older age groups.

**And can we now say what the population of the UK is?**

NRS will continue to work with ONS and NISRA to produce UK level statistics.

**The figures today include a breakdown by sex but in the guidance people were advised to give the sex they identify as and not what they were assigned at birth. How can we be sure the figures are accurate for say providing health services?**

On this point the guidance was consistent with what we did in 2011. In addition, the breakdown between male and female, is similar to previous years and in line with the results in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Next year we will release data on trans status. This is the first time this question was asked in response to the need for data on the size and location of the trans population in Scotland.

## **Attachment 2**

**14 SEP:** Publication of first outputs from Scotland's Census 2022 at 09:30, 14 September 2023. A media event was held at a local Edinburgh primary school for broadcast journalists and news photographers. This was led by NRS. Cab Sec CEAC to notify Parliament via a GIQ and the public via a Ministerial statement.

**14 SEP:** Office for Statistics Regulation to publicly confirm census outputs are to be designated as National Statistics and will therefore form an integral part of the statistical system in the UK.

**14 SEP:** Lead story on GMS BBC Scotland. Focus on delay to 2022, changes required to methodology to supplement return rate and recommendation for future censuses. Further media expected throughout the coming days.

**16 AUG:** BBC run story: "No prosecutions for failing to complete Scotland's census".

**14 AUG:** Press coverage on cost lifetime cost of census programme (£140m) and subsequent value for money.

**Today's publication represents a historic moment with the largest population ever recorded by Scotland's Census of 5.4 million, an increase of 2.7% since the previous census in 2011.**

- In common with many countries, our population is ageing, with over one million people aged 65 and over (1,091,000). This is over a quarter of a million higher than the number of people under 15 (832,300).
- Understanding these changes in the population will allow local authorities, businesses and the government to adapt vital public services to better meet the needs of those living and working in Scotland.
- The number of people in older age groups (65+) increased by 22.5% since 2011.
- In England and Wales the 65+ population increased by 20.0% between 2011 and 2021. In Northern Ireland the 65+ population increased by 23.8% over the same period.
- On census day there were 2,509,300 households with at least one usual resident. This is up 136,500 (5.8%) from the 2011 census. The increase in the number of households (5.8%) is higher than the increase in the population (2.7%).
- Today's results further demonstrate the importance of our strategy to tackle social isolation and loneliness through stronger social connections, and our continued funding for organisations working to address this issue.

**Without migration the population of Scotland would have decreased by around 49,800 since 2011.**

- It confirms this growth has been driven by inward migration, demonstrating that Scotland is an attractive place to come to live and work
- Scotland faces an ongoing population challenge with fewer births than deaths registered in Scotland since 2011, which reinforces just how damaging Brexit will be to Scotland with the loss of freedom of movement.
- As outlined in the Programme for Government, the Scottish Government is taking action: we will publish an Addressing Depopulation Action Plan which will set out the first phase of our response to population decline occurring in some of Scotland's communities.
- We will also introduce a Talent Attraction and Migration Service to support more people to live and work here.
- We have also called on the UK Government to devolve immigration powers to the Scottish Parliament and work with us to deliver our proposal for a Rural Visa Pilot to enable rural and island communities to attract migrants in line with local needs.

**EXTERNAL SUPPORT**

**Following the collection of Scotland's Census 2022, NRS updated its statistical methods to ensure outputs represent 100% of Scotland's population.**

- This approach has been commended by the independent Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR) who have awarded Scotland's census outputs National Statistics designation based on the high quality and good practice of the statistics.
- This builds on the almost 90 % national return rate achieved through collection and enables robust, reliable estimates for the whole population to be provided.
- The innovative statistical approaches applied have been steered by a group of international independent census and statistical experts.
- Professor James Brown, ABS Professor of Official Statistics at University of Technology and Chair of the group said: "The International Steering Group commends NRS for its systematic and robust application of the census estimation methodology that has led to today's published estimates."
- NRS has engaged with stakeholders to ensure users of the data can have confidence that the updated methodology provides full population coverage.

**VALUE OF CENSUS**

**The information published through census outputs will help to shape Scotland for future generations and is an asset for Scotland.**

- Scotland has relied for more than 200 years on the information the census provides.
- It remains the best way to gather vital information which government, councils, the NHS and a range of users in the public, private and third sectors need.
- The results help local authorities and the government plan a wide range of vital public services, to improve the lives of those living and working in Scotland.
- The timetable for publishing all the results is:
  - Population estimates at local authority level today (14 September 2023);
  - Local area statistics (c50 households) being provided in spring 2024; and
  - Detailed household characteristics, such as information on ethnicity, employment, education, sexuality, carers and veterans, from summer 2024 onwards.

**POSTPONEMENT TO 2022**

**The decision to move the Census to 2022 was not taken lightly**

- The twelve months leading up to a census are vital in planning and testing the effectiveness and safety and security of census systems and collection processes to ensure these are ready.
- COVID-19 restrictions prevented these key activities from progressing.
- NRS conducted a comprehensive options assessment on the risks of COVID-19 to the delivery of the census in March 2021.
- The priority and responsibility of National Records of Scotland (NRS) was to put in place a Census that enabled everyone across Scotland to participate, so that information collected can be used to produce high quality outputs and deliver the benefits required by the people of Scotland.
- In making the decision to move the census to 2022, NRS and Ministers considered balancing the risk of delivering a Census in 2021 during the pandemic and the long term impact of this on data users.

**An evaluation of Census 2022, with a focus on lessons learned for any future Census and other complex programmes, will be prepared for Ministers and provided to Parliament by the end of 2024.**

- A recommendation will be made to Scottish Ministers on future census statistics in 2024.



## Email 21

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk> **On Behalf Of** NRS : Business Management Unit

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 26, 2023 2:07 PM

**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@deloitte.co.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@icloud.com>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@ons.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@ons.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nisra.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@ons.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@ons.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Director of Culture and Major Events <Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>

**Cc:** NRS : Business Management Unit <BMU@nrscotland.gov.uk>

**Subject:** Census Programme Board draft Minutes of 21 June 2023

Hello Census Programme Board members & attendees

The draft minutes of the meeting held on the 21 June 2023 have been added to the Census Programme Board Objective Connect site in the 21 June 2023  
Folder: <https://secure.objectiveconnect.co.uk/login>. Click on the link to open 'Scotlands Census 2022 - CPB - 63 - 21 June 2023 - Draft Minutes' -

Can you please update any open actions that have been assigned to you.

Many thanks

[redacted]

Business Management Unit  
National Records of Scotland | Currently working from home  
| [contact@SCOTLAND-BSL](mailto:contact@SCOTLAND-BSL) | [redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk | [www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk)

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## Email 22

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Digital Directorate Communications Engagement and Strategy Team

**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 3:11 PM

**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Digital Directorate Communications Engagement and Strategy Team <digitalce@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: Census first outputs publication

Hi [redacted]/[redacted],

Happy to amplify any messages we see on the day.

Best wishes,

[redacted].

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** 31 August 2023 12:11  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Digital Directorate Communications Engagement and Strategy Team <digitalcest@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Census first outputs publication

Hi [redacted].

No problem, I can put out this Tweet on the 14<sup>th</sup>.  
Just to mention I am on a course on the 14<sup>th</sup> so there may be a slight delay in putting this out.

I hope this is okay.

Thanks,  
[redacted]

[redacted]  
Office of the Chief Statistician  
Scottish Government  
[redacted]@gov.scot

My working pattern is 08:00 – 16:00 Mon-Fri

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 31, 2023 12:08 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Digital Directorate Communications Engagement and Strategy Team <digitalcest@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Census first outputs publication

Hi [redacted],

No problem, though it'll be following Monday for the newsletter.

[redacted] – can you make a note to tweet about this on the 14<sup>th</sup>?

Thanks,

[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 12:02 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Digital Directorate Communications Engagement and Strategy Team <digitalcest@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Census first outputs publication

Hi all,

As you may be aware NRS are publishing the first Census outputs on the 14<sup>th</sup> September. I have been assisting from the OCS side of things. I would normally disseminate the information to yourselves however am away when they are being released (14<sup>th</sup> September).

I have asked [redacted] from NRS to send you the news release/ information when it is released. Below I've put who is responsible for which channel.

Digital Directorate Communications:

- Internal weekly update
- External newsletter
- Twitter (X)

[redacted]:  
- OCS weekly update  
- ScotStat twitter

[redacted], I'll contact RDS and ADR UK when I'm back.

Hope this makes sense, any questions let me know and thanks in advance,  
[redacted]

[redacted]

Communications and Engagement Manager | Data Platforms and Policy | Digital Directorate | Scottish Government  
[redacted]

## **Email 23**

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 4, 2023 12:10 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@strath.ac.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; Head of Justice Analytical Services <headofjas@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: NRS Briefing on Census

If we could meet virtually from 11 to 11.30 that would be brilliant.

I'll send a diary invite immediately

Thanks again

[redacted]

[redacted],

National Records of Scotland | HM General Register House | 2 Princes Street | Edinburgh | EH1 3YY  
[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk | [www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk)

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@strath.ac.uk>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 4, 2023 12:08 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; Head of Justice Analytical Services <headofjas@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Re: NRS Briefing on Census

Now 11-2 Monday 11.

[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 04 September 2023 11:59  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@strath.ac.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; headofjas@gov.scot <headofjas@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: NRS Briefing on Census

Thanks for your speedy response

Would you have any time on Monday 11<sup>th</sup>? Could possibly do the Tuesday morning next week if that would be better?

[redacted]

[redacted]

National Records of Scotland | HM General Register House | 2 Princes Street | Edinburgh | EH1 3YY  
[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk | [www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk)  
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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@strath.ac.uk>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 4, 2023 11:56 AM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; Head of Justice Analytical Services <headofjas@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Re: NRS Briefing on Census

Thanks.

Is it possible to do something next week? I am at an academic conference in the second half of this week.

[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 04 September 2023 11:50  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@strath.ac.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; headofjas@gov.scot <headofjas@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: NRS Briefing on Census

Dear [redacted]

Following on from [redacted]'s message I wanted to drop you a quick line to say that we are very happy to provide some briefing. Over recent months we've developed a slide deck on the changes we've made to our design which we could go through with you if you had half an hour this week.

We published a summary of the changes we made to our methodology in June in partnership with our International Steering Group. This is available [here](#)

Do let me know if you would like 30 minutes and when might be most appropriate

Regards

[redacted]

[redacted]

National Records of Scotland | HM General Register House | 2 Princes Street | Edinburgh | EH1 3YY  
[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk | [www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk)  
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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 4:32 PM

**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; Head of Justice Analytical Services <headofjas@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** NRS Briefing on Census

Dear [redacted],

You mentioned you would potentially be interested receiving advance briefing from NRS on forthcoming census releases. I'm copying in colleagues in NRS who can provide more information.

Thanks,

[redacted]

-----  
[redacted]  
Office of the Chief Statistician  
Scottish Government

## **Email 24**

**From:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 3, 2023 2:25 PM  
**To:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Weekly email - new blog

[Statistics One year in - Census and the Future - Statistics \(blogs.gov.scot\)](#)

[redacted] can you publicise this please.

A year in as Chief Statistician, Ally McAlpine reflects on his passion for statistics, work on the census and preparing for the future. He also references the work done to review the First Outputs from the census and the conclusion that "analysts and the general public can have confidence in the [census] outputs"

Ally  
Alastair (Ally) McAlpine  
Chief Statistician  
Deputy Director Statistics and Data

Tel: [redacted]

---

## **Email 25**

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2023 11:55 AM  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Analytical Seminar : Scotland's Census 2022 - update on methods and outputs : Slides and links

Good Morning,

Please find attached slides from the seminar **Scotland's Census 2022 - update on methods and outputs** that took place last week, 20 July.

Here are the links to the various web publications we referenced during the webinar:

- Census methods update: [Methodology Enhancements to Secure High Quality Outputs | Scotland's Census \(scotlandscensus.gov.uk\)](https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/methodology-enhancements-to-secure-high-quality-outputs)
- Letter from Registrar General to Chief Statistician: [Letter from Registrar General to Chief Statistician | Scotland's Census \(scotlandscensus.gov.uk\)](https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/letter-from-registrar-general-to-chief-statistician)
- Census outputs consultation report: [Census outputs consultation | Scotland's Census \(scotlandscensus.gov.uk\)](https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/census-outputs-consultation)
- Census outputs schedule: [Census outputs schedule | Scotland's Census \(scotlandscensus.gov.uk\)](https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/census-outputs-schedule)

A further seminar on **Scotland's Census 2022 statistical methods deep dive** will take place on **Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> August, 13:00 – 14:00**. This will be a deep dive into how admin data has been used in census coverage estimation. - [Register here to attend](#)

All the best,  
[redacted]

[redacted] | Office of the Chief Statistician

**Attachment**

# Scotland's Census 2022

Methods and Outputs Update

June 2023



**Scotland's Census**

Shaping our future

A' dealbhadh ar n-àm ri teachd



# This presentation will cover

- Communicating our updated methods
- Quality assurance of LA census outputs
- Census outputs plans and consultation results

# Communicating our updated methods

# Towards First Outputs

First outputs are planned for publication in Autumn 2023 and will include:

- Population by 5-year age group and sex at Local Authority and Scotland levels
- Population density
- Household numbers

# Towards First Outputs

01

Collection

02

Coding

03

Cleaning

04

Completing

05

Cross-validation

# Confidence in Statistics



NRS will demonstrate confidence in first outputs from the census in three ways:

- National Statistics accreditation
- Sound statistical methods
- Coherence with other published statistics and data

# Demonstrating confidence

NRS will demonstrate confidence in first outputs from the census in three ways:

- Sound statistical methods
- Coherence with other published statistics and data
- National Statistics accreditation

# Change in Estimation Approach

Objective



Objective is to have to have estimates for the whole population, counted once and in the right place.



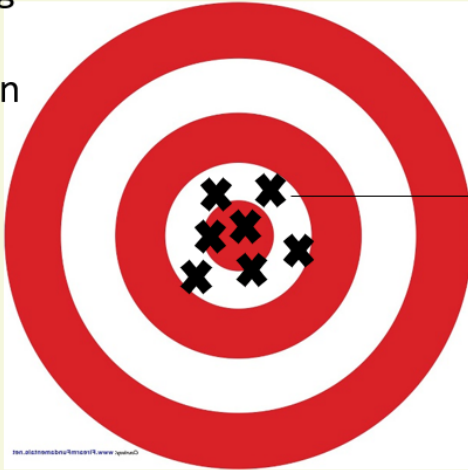
We set a target of 94% returns but as with 2001 and 2011 had statistical methods for getting to 100%

We actually achieved slightly less than this



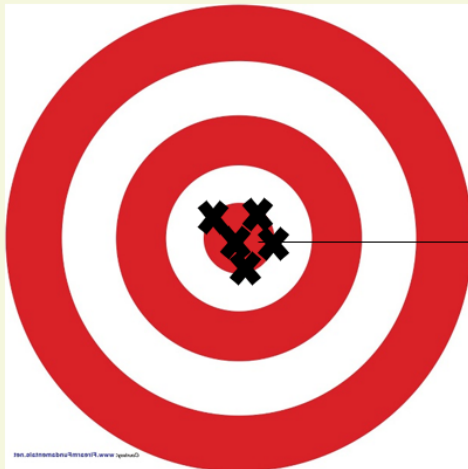
# Change in Estimation Approach

Estimating  
Total  
Population



Our statistical methods use a [Census Coverage Survey](#) to produce final estimates.

We can still produce estimates based on what we collected but there is a greater risk that this estimate (one of these marks) is further away from the actual population



We are going one step further than planned to give us greater confidence in the estimates (one of the marks shown).

By supplementing the [Census Coverage Survey](#) with [Administrative Data](#) we can be more confident about the estimates.

# Change in Estimation Approach

Validating  
Estimates



We always planned to do a validation/quality assurance of the estimates

Comparing our estimates to other data and statistics we'll get a good sense of whether we need to do further investigation or modelling



If we did find our estimates were out of line with other data we have plans in place to change our approach

We do know that there isn't an alternative source that is a perfect estimate of the population – that's why we do a census

# Method Development – International Steering Group (ISG)

Established by the Registrar General for Scotland and chaired by Professor James Brown, University of Technology Sydney

- International experts have helped shape methodology changes
- Notes of meetings are published on NRS website
- Methodology update published in June

# Decisions on Changes to Approach

1. Use of a Logistic Regression Model
2. Supplementing CCS with Administrative Data
3. Selection of Administrative Data to Use
4. Use of Administrative Data for Communal Establishments
5. Alternative Household Estimate for Bias Adjustment and QA

# Keeping Stakeholders Informed

Three phases:

- a. Ahead of first outputs
- b. At first outputs
- c. After first outputs

# First Outputs Engagement

## Ahead

- Output consultation findings
- Methodology update
- Webinars, meetings and direct comms
- Local Authority QA

## At

- Quality information
- Statistical publication

## After

- Further quality information
- Direct user engagement where needed
- Potential additional webinars



# Quality Assurance



# Quality Assurance Approach

To have confidence in our statistics we undertake:

**Quality Assurance** at every step of processing to ensure we haven't introduced error

**Validation** of final census estimates against other data and statistics

# Quality Assurance Approach

Planned quality assurance and validation activity will give us confidence in estimates produced using our updated methods:

## Quality Assurance:

[Statistical quality assurance | Scotland's Census \(scotlandscensus.gov.uk\)](https://scotlandscensus.gov.uk/statistical-quality-assurance)

## Validation:

[Statistical Quality Assurance - Validation of Population Estimates methodology paper | Scotland's Census \(scotlandscensus.gov.uk\)](https://scotlandscensus.gov.uk/statistical-quality-assurance-validation-of-population-estimates-methodology-paper)

# Additional quality assurance

- Additional QA steps have been taken to have confidence in the administrative data we are using.
- Manual review of automated links
- Analysed administrative data links at an aggregate level to check for unusual patterns e.g. by geographic area

# Validation of population estimates

- Coherence with other statistics and data helps us consider where we may need to revise estimation
- Validating across a range of sources as there is no perfect comparator source
- Sources used include:
  - Mid-Year Population Estimates
  - 2011 Census
  - Scottish School Census
  - National Health Service Central Register
  - Council Tax
  - Alternative data Based Population Estimates

# Local authority QA

- We will also share census estimates with local authority representatives for QA purposes.
- Under Code of Practice we can share pre-publication data for QA.
- Local intelligence will help guide our QA
- We will consider any evidence provided on this and decide whether to take further action.

# Confidence in Statistics



NRS will demonstrate confidence in first outputs from the census in three ways:

- National Statistics accreditation
- Sound statistical methods
- Coherence with other published statistics and data.

# Outputs plans and consultation results



# Summary

## **The consultation exercise was successful:**

- Good number and spread of stakeholders responding
- Healthy response on all aspects – products, sequencing, new questions, etc.

## **Positive user response to our outputs plans**

- Feedback was generally positive and constructive
- Some technical changes required to certain outputs but no major changes to our overall approach

## **Stakeholder engagement will continue throughout the year**

- We published a report on the consultation findings
- Findings will feed into updated outputs plans
- We will continue targeted engagement with stakeholders and data users

# Why we ran the outputs consultation

The outputs consultation allowed us to gather users' views on our plans for publishing census outputs. This helps us ensure that the outputs we publish will meet users' needs. By doing this we will maximise the use and value of the census

The consultation covered several aspects of our plans for publishing census data. We asked users to give us their views on:

- the order and sequencing of topics published
- the tools we use to publish data
- the geographical levels that data are published at
- how changes to census questions impact users' planned work/research
- what users need from the new census questions

# What we published

- As part of the consultation we published details on our plans for publish census outputs.
  - Content on the website detailing our plans and key decisions made
  - Spreadsheets containing information on
    - The tables we plan to publish
    - The classifications we plan to use for derived variables
    - Information on what population bases and geographies the data will be available for
- Alongside the consultation documents we made a survey available to users. This asked users about our plans and users could respond via
  - survey monkey questionnaire or
  - completing a word doc and sending to an email address set up for the consultation

**Scotland's Census 2022 - Outputs Consultation - Draft proposals**

This spreadsheet supports the Scotland's Census 2022 Consultation on outputs.  
This spreadsheet contains information on the following topics (links can be used to navigate to the section)

**Variables**

This tab includes a list of the variables that will be used for Census outputs, what datasets they will be available in for the Flexible Table Builder and links to the classifications.  
Also included are proposed collapsed classifications. These are included as it may not always be possible to use the full classifications due to statistical disclosure control.  
We will aim to include as much detail as possible. However, it may be necessary to reduce the detail due to statistical disclosure control. For example, when creating tables at the lowest level of geography, where it is necessary to use less detailed classifications we will aim to maintain compatibility with 2011 census outputs.  
Where it is necessary to use less detailed classifications we will aim to maintain compatibility with 2011 census outputs.  
We are looking for user feedback on whether the list of variables meets user's needs and if there are any requirements regarding the information included in classifications and collapsed classifications.

**Area Overviews**

This section includes details of the statistics that will be made available through the 'Area Overviews' Section of the website  
Area overviews will allow users to quickly compare census statistics across the 2001, 2011 and 2022 censuses or against other areas for each of these censuses.  
We are looking for user feedback on whether the information included in the area overviews meets your needs.

**Workplace and Daytime**

This tab includes the planned tables for the workplace and daytime outputs.  
We are looking for user feedback on whether or not the list of proposed tables meet your user needs.

**Origin Destination**

This tab includes the planned tables for the origin and destination outputs.  
We are looking for user feedback on whether or not the list of proposed tables meet your user needs.

**Topic summaries**

This tab includes details on the tables we plan to publish as part of the second phase of our outputs schedule. This is the univariate tables and are the equivalent of the KS and OS tables from 2011.  
This includes details of the table including the title, population base, the topic it belongs to and the closest 2011 equivalent.  
We are looking for user feedback on the tables proposed.

**Prespecified tables**

This tab includes the list of tables we plan to publish as part of the third phase of our outputs schedule. This is the list of multivariate tables and are equivalent to the DC and LC tables from 2011.  
This includes details of the table including the title, population base, variables included, the topic it belongs to and the closest 2011 equivalent.  
Due to the introduction of the Flexible Table Builder we plan to reduce the number of tables in this section.  
We are looking for user feedback on this list whether the tables proposed alongside the option to build census tables in the Flexible Table Builder will meet their needs.

Variable name	Variable label	2011 variable name
ETHNIC_CAT_P	Ethnic Group	ETHNICID_S

**2011 Definition**  
Ethnic group classifies people according to their own perceived ethnic group and cultural background.

**Classifications proposed for Table Builder**

Alongside the full classification we have included less detailed 'collapsed' versions of classifications. These are included as it may not always be possible to use the full classifications due to statistical disclosure control.  
Where we have to use less detailed classifications we will aim to maintain compatibility with the 2011 Scotland's Census outputs.  
If you plan to use this variable and you have any feedback on the collapsed classifications proposed please provide your feedback through the questionnaire.  
Please note if multiple versions are presented this may be due to different breakdowns used in 2011. If you have any preference on which option should be used please let us know in your feedback.

Full Classification	Collapsed Option A	Collapsed Option B
1 White Scottish	1 White Scottish	1 White Scottish
2 Other White British	2 Other White British	2 Other White British
3 White Irish	3 White Irish	3 Other White
4 Other White	4 Other White	4 Mixed or multiple ethnic group
5 White Polish	5 White Polish	5 Asian
6 Roma	6 Other White	6 African
7 Showperson	7 Mixed or multiple ethnic group	7 Caribbean or Black
8 Other White	8 Pakistani, Pakistani Scottish or Pakistani British	8 Other ethnic group
9 Mixed or multiple ethnic group	9 Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British	9 No code required
10 Pakistani, Pakistani Scottish or Pakistani British	10 Bangladeshi, Bangladeshi Scottish or Bangladeshi British	
11 Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British	11 Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British	
12 Bangladeshi, Bangladeshi Scottish or Bangladeshi British	12 Other Asian	
13 Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British	13 African, African Scottish or African British	
14 Other Asian	14 Other African	
15 African, African Scottish or African British	15 Caribbean, Caribbean Scottish or Caribbean British	

# Responses to the consultation

- We received over 140 survey responses to the outputs consultation.
- Responses from users in central and local government, academic institutions, charity organisations and individual responses.

Sector	Number	% of total
No sector, I am responding in a personal capacity	38	28%
Central government	6	4%
Local government	23	17%
Other public body, for example health, transport, emergency services	16	12%
Academic or research	9	7%
Religion or faith	1	1%
Charity and voluntary	19	14%
Commercial	8	6%
Journalist or media	1	1%
Other	13	10%

# What the responses tell us – Our plans

We asked users for feedback where there was a notable change to the approach used in 2011. This included:

## **Reducing the number of tables published due to the introduction of the Flexible Table Builder**

71% of respondents had no concerns and were happy with this approach.

## **Our approach to publishing univariate topic tables**

91% of respondents had no concerns with no longer using the KS and QS codes

## **Our approach to publishing multivariate topic tables**

85% of respondents had no concerns with no longer using the DC and LC codes

## **Not producing the Detailed Characteristics (DC) and Local Characteristics (LC) postcode sector geographies previously used in the 2011 census**

81% of users had no concerns with us dropping the DC and LC postcode sector geographies

# Changes we will make

- We aim to publish additional pre-defined tables where we identified a strong user need to do so. We will review requests for additional tables and where appropriate and feasible will add these to our plans for pre-defined tables.
- We aim to publish two versions of some multivariate tables where we identified a user need and it is in line with our statistical disclosure control policy.
- We will investigate further if it is possible to publish origin destination data at more disaggregated levels.
- We will add an additional analytical report to our list covering the health topic. We will continue to work with stakeholders to determine the content of each report and any additional topics which should be covered through these reports.



# What the responses tell us - User quotes

## Outputs Consultation - Reminded by our users how important census statistics are:

*“Given the pandemic, and the pressure on health and social care services, we really, really need a refresh of reliable data so we can understand our communities and what need is out there. We are dealing with some of the most vulnerable people.”*

*“UK Armed Forces veterans first - because the last available demographic survey is very limited in scope and over 8 years old, and the organisation is seeking to expand service offering into new geographies and robust data on needs will transform this decision making process.”*

*“Our preference would be for 'Ethnic group' data to be one of the first to be published. The census is the only comprehensive source for this information and the results are needed for research and analysis.”*

# Census Outputs Release Schedule

Population & Household estimates	Autumn 2023	Population by age and sex at Scotland and Local Authority level (rounded)
	Winter 2023-24	Updated mid-2022 population estimates, followed by reconciliation report and rebased figures for the last decade
	Spring 2024	Population by age and sex at all geographies down to output area (unrounded) Output areas are made up of approximately 50 households
	Summer 2024	Updated mid-2022 population estimates for small areas
Topic data	Summer 2024	Phased release of univariate census outputs - tables including one census topic variable. Published at all geographies down to output area. Demography and migration Ethnic group, national identity, language & religion Sexual orientation and trans status or history Health, disability and unpaid care Housing Labour market and travel to work Education Veterans
	Winter 2024/25	Phased release of multivariate census outputs - combining multiple topic variables in the same table. Published at all geographies down to output area
Analysis products	2025	<p>Analytical reports - further analysis of key census topics</p> <p>Microdata - samples of anonymised census records. Made available to accredited researchers in secure settings</p> <p>Origin-destination data - statistics describing the movement of people, including migration and travel to work or study</p> <p>Workplace and daytime population data - census data published using alternative population bases</p>



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# Next steps

- We recently published:
  - an update on our statistical methods
  - a summary report on the consultation results
  - an outputs schedule which will be updated regularly
- We will use the consultation feedback to
  - help plan census releases
  - finalise the derived variables
  - finalise table layouts and design outputs products
- We will continue to engage with data users to ensure we are meeting their needs

# Questions



More information:

<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/>

Contact us using the online form:

<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/contact-us/>

Or email:

[Census\\_website@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:Census_website@nrscotland.gov.uk)

## **Email 26**

**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 5, 2023 9:45 AM

**To:** All Statisticians <[redacted]@gov.scot>; All Operational Researchers <[redacted]@gov.scot>; All Social Researchers <[redacted]@gov.scot>; All Economists <[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** Analytical Seminar : Scotland's Census 2022 statistical methods deep dive - 31 August

Hello All,

A seminar on **Scotland's Census 2022 statistical methods deep dive** will take place on **Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> August, 13:00 – 14:00.**

This will be a deep dive into how admin data has been used in census coverage estimation.

Register here to attend

All the best,  
[redacted]

[redacted] | Office of the Chief Statistician

## **Email 27**

**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 2:55 PM

**Subject:** Analytical Seminar : Scotland's Census 2022 statistical methods deep dive - 31st August

Good Afternoon,

Many thanks for registering to attend '**Scotland's Census 2022 statistical methods deep dive**', tomorrow, **31<sup>st</sup> August , 13:00 – 14:00.**

In case you are missing a calendar invite, or joining link : [Click here to join the meeting](#)

All the best,  
[redacted]

[redacted] | Office of the Chief Statistician

## **Email 28**

**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2023 11:39 AM

**To:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: [redacted] shared "Letter to [redacted] - First Outputs - Coherence Group Findings" with you

Thanks Ally

I've made a couple of comments/suggestions on the letter – one to clarify our role and one to exemplify uses of the census data.

Hope it makes sense. Happy to discuss.

Cheers

[redacted]  
Local Government & Analytical Services Division  
[redacted]

---

**From:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 23, 2023 10:46 PM  
**To:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: [redacted] shared "Letter to [redacted] - First Outputs - Coherence Group Findings" with you

Hi folks,

If you have any comments could you add them by lunchtime on Thursday please.

Separately I spoke to [redacted] earlier today. She may have already sent an email, and probably explains better than me. My understanding is that they had taken on board our comments about the shift in household estimates and instead of applying the adjustment to the average household, they have now applied it to the non-response households, which seems to make much more sense.

I think this is a good outcome and they have tested it with the subject matter expert at ONS who also sat on the ISG.

Any comments on that welcome in this chain as well.

Alastair (Ally) McAlpine  
Chief Statistician

---

**From:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2023 12:13 PM  
**To:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Alastair McAlpine shared "Letter to Janet Egdell - First Outputs - Coherence Group Findings" with you



**Alastair McAlpine shared a file with you**

Here's the document that Alastair McAlpine shared with you.



Letter to Janet Egdell - First Outputs - Coherence Group Findings [redacted]



This link only works for the direct recipients of this message.

Open



[Privacy Statement](#)

## Email 29

**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2023 5:42 PM  
**To:** Executive Team <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>; NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Janet Egdell <Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; Analytical Leadership Group (ALG) <DLGCPALG@gov.scot>; All C2 Senior Statisticians <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** FW: SCOTLAND CENSUS 2022 - COHERENCE ASSESSMENT RESULTS

**\*Re-sending with Letter attached, for information\***

Executive Team,

Please find attached ([redacted]) an update from Chief Statistician Ally McAlpine, outlining his approval of the results from the Coherence Assessment for the First Outputs of Scotland Census 2022 statistics due to be published on 14 September 2023.

Kind regards,

[redacted]

[redacted]

Scottish Government | Office of the Chief Statistician (OCS)

## Email 30

**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk> **On Behalf Of** NRS : Scotland's Census 2022 Outputs Website  
**Sent:** Monday, July 31, 2023 10:36 AM  
**To:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Health and unpaid care figures

Hi [redacted],

Unfortunately we cannot share any census data with you at this time. We are finishing our processing in preparation of publishing the first outputs from census but we have additional disclosure control and quality assurance work to complete before we can share any topic data.

There may be an opportunity to get involved with this quality assurance work, if you or your team would be interested. I can pass on your name to my colleague in the quality assurance team if you would be interested in that. They are looking to identify topic experts in SG to help with this work.

Thanks,  
[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** 21 July 2023 13:59  
**To:** NRS : Scotland's Census 2022 Outputs Website <Census\_website@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Health and unpaid care figures

Hello,

I attended the session on the updated census methodology and outputs yesterday which was really interesting. I noted the timescales for the topic releases next year, but I was wondering if there would be any possibility of getting a national figure for the number of people providing unpaid care (by the hour bands if possible) around October/November this year?

The reason I ask is that the Carers Act (which gives unpaid carers the right to support if they need it) is entering its next phase, and we are currently estimating the costs for the next 10 years of the Act. At the moment, we are using an estimate of the number of unpaid carers in Scotland based on national survey data but having the census figure would be a big help.

I understand if this isn't possible and that release of these figures are scheduled for summer 2024, but I thought I would double check as it would just be the national total that would be needed.

Many thanks,  
[redacted]

[redacted]  
HSC Analysis | Directorate for Population Health | Scottish Government  
E-mail: [redacted]@gov.scot

---

## **Email 31**

**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 21, 2023 5:53 PM  
**To:** [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; Head of Justice Analytical Services <headofjas@gov.scot>; Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Scotland's Census 2022 - Coherence Assessment Team - Census Confidentiality Undertaking Form

Hi all,  
Thank you again for agreeing to help with Scotland's Census 2022 coherence assessment. When we meet we will be sharing pre-release census data with you and some analysis for quality assurance purposes and given the nature of the census data please could you sign and return the attached ([redacted]) Census Confidentiality Undertaking Form to [redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk.  
Many thanks  
[redacted]

**[redacted]** | Head of Statistical Design  
Scotland's Census 2022  
National Records of Scotland

## **Email 32**

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 9:41 AM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: SSCQ publication date?

Hi [redacted]

Sorry again for the delay. I will prioritise that this week.

Thanks

[redacted]

Office of the Chief Statistician | Statistics and Data Access Division  
Teams / [redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 8, 2023 9:25 AM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: SSCQ publication date?

That would be great, thanks!

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 8, 2023 8:40 AM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: SSCQ publication date?

Hi [redacted],

I can only apologize for the delay. [redacted] is on annual leave today but will be back in the office on Monday and should be able to get this checked and sent out.

Cheers,  
[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 7, 2023 2:43 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: SSCQ publication date?

Hi again both,

Can I ask if you think you will be able to get the multi-year SSCQ data to us in the next week or so? The priority one variables outlined below are variables we can validate starting now as we move from first outputs into the next stage of census data processing. It would be great to have the more robust dataset to do these checks with.

Many thanks,  
[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 10:09 AM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: SSCQ publication date?

Hi both –

Just wondering if there was any update on getting us the SSCQ data? We're just emerging from the crazy period of getting ready for first outputs and making plans for tackling all the census topics so it would be good to know when we can expect to work with your data.

Cheers,  
[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 9, 2023 11:41 AM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: SSCQ publication date?

Hi [redacted]

We'll be looking to get back on track with the SSCQ and publish information from 2020 and 2021 later this year or towards the start of next year (and hopefully 2022 relatively soon after). 2020 and 2021 only include info from the household survey and health surveys which were conducted by phone.

Also, apologies for the delay with the data for census QA - it's sitting with me at the moment for checking.

Thanks

[redacted]

Office of the Chief Statistician | Statistics and Data Access Division  
Teams / [redacted]  
Follow us on Twitter: [@ScotStat](#)

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023 2:27 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: SSCQ publication date?

Hi [redacted] –

Thanks for this! I actually meant the SSCQ dataset but it's nice to see the questions themselves too 😊

Cheers,  
[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023 2:25 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: SSCQ publication date?

Hi [redacted],

Thanks very much for your patience. As for the SSCQ I am in negotiations with the accessibility teams to get the document updated. However, I can share a draft version (attached) which may be helpful to you.



Let me know if you have any issues with the file, and any questions on the contents.

Many thanks,  
[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023 12:47 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: SSCQ publication date?

Hi [redacted],

No worries – looking forward to receiving the data when you get a moment.

Do you know when the new SSCQs will be published?

Cheers,  
[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023 10:09 AM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: SSCQ publication date?

Hi [redacted]!

Huge apologies for the lack of communication about your request. Between urgent priorities and annual leave, time has gotten away from me. Rest assured this has been bumped back up our list, and I am hoping we can get this to you in the next two weeks.

Best of luck on the first outputs QA! It must be an exciting (and frantic) time in census. Hope you are well!

Cheers,  
[redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 7, 2023 1:20 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: SSCQ publication date?

Hi [redacted],

How are you? Hope you are having a good summer.

I was just wondering if you had any update on the multi-year SSCQ data for census QA or on the publication of the latest SSCQ?

We are up to our eyeballs with QA activities for first outputs, so no immediate hurry – just so we know for planning.

Cheers,  
[redacted]

## **Email 33**

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 17, 2023 12:23 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>

Cc: [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: SSCQ 2016-19 - Census validation - Priority one

Hi [redacted], [redacted]

With thanks to [redacted] for working on this and apologies for the delay, I've attached breakdowns of the priority one variables (tenure, ethnic group, country of birth, marital status and carer status), including breaks by age group at a national level, from the SSCQ 2016-19 dataset.

To note, I'm on leave until 25<sup>th</sup> September so I'll look to send on the priority two info when I'm back.

Let us know if you have any questions.

Best wishes

[redacted]

Office of the Chief Statistician | Statistics and Data Access Division  
Teams / [redacted]

**Attachment**

## Scottish Surveys Core Questions 2016-19 Tables

All tables break down percentages in rows. Unless otherwise stated 'Refused' and 'Don't know' responses are not presented, so row totals may not add to 100%, and numbers of adults and sample may not add to the Scotland total for each cross-variable.

Percentage estimates are based on weighted analysis of the SSCQ data. In a dataset with full response, individual respondents would have a weight of 1, but due to the weighting procedures to account for non-response and sampling, individual respondents can have any value positive weight. It is therefore not possible to calculate individual sample numbers in each respondent grouping by combining weighted estimates with unweighted sample size (N).

Cells based on less than 20 responses have been redacted and denoted with 'x'

### Country of Birth

Scotland: Respondents who specifically list "Scotland" as their country of birth

Rest of UK: England, Northern Ireland, Wales, Great Britain/United Kingdom (Not Otherwise Specified)

EU27: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus (European Union), Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, , Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden

Rest of World: All other responses (excluding refusals)

**Age Group**

	Weighted Response %														Totals Unweighted N
	16-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75+		
	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	
<b>Scotland</b>	12.6	0.4	14.8	0.4	13.4	0.3	17.8	0.4	16.9	0.3	13.5	0.3	11	0.3	78,810
<b>Local Authority</b>															
Aberdeen City	15.2	1.8	22.3	1.7	16	1.5	14.8	1.5	13.5	1.3	9.9	1	8.4	0.9	3,520
Aberdeenshire	11.2	1.8	13.6	1.4	16.2	1.5	19	1.6	16.8	1.4	13.5	1.2	9.8	1.1	3,260
Angus	10.7	2.2	13.3	2	13.5	2	17.5	2.1	17.1	2	15.5	1.7	12.5	1.6	1,670
Argyll & Bute	10.9	2.3	11.7	1.9	12.1	1.9	17.3	2	18.2	1.9	16.8	1.7	13.1	1.5	1,920
Clackmannanshire	12.7	2.8	13.1	2.5	14.4	2.5	19.1	2.6	16.8	2.2	14.2	2	9.7	1.7	1,460
Dumfries & Galloway	10.3	2	12.3	1.6	11.7	1.4	17.5	1.9	18.2	1.7	16.5	1.5	13.5	1.3	2,710
Dundee City	17.2	2.7	20	2.4	13.2	1.8	14.6	2.1	14.2	1.7	11	1.6	9.9	1.5	1,790
East Ayrshire	11.9	2.2	14.6	2.1	14	1.9	18.6	2	16.8	2	13.9	1.6	10.3	1.5	1,910
East Dunbartonshire	11.5	2.6	12.4	2.1	13.5	1.8	18.1	2.2	17.6	2.1	14.1	1.7	12.8	1.6	1,760
East Lothian	12	2.4	13	2	14.7	1.9	18.8	2.2	17.1	2	13.5	1.7	11	1.5	1,790
East Renfrewshire	12.8	3.1	11.8	2.1	15	1.9	18.7	2.4	16.9	2.1	12.9	1.7	11.9	1.6	1,640
Edinburgh, City of	14.9	1.5	23.5	1.4	16.6	1	14.7	1	12.6	0.9	9.5	0.7	8.2	0.7	6,200
Na h-Eileanan Siar	9.1	2.3	11.4	2.4	13.4	2.2	18	2.5	17.9	2.4	16.2	2.1	13.9	1.9	1,710
Falkirk	11.7	2.1	14.9	2.1	15.9	1.8	19	2	15.9	1.7	12.8	1.4	9.8	1.3	2,070
Fife	13	1.5	14.3	1.4	14.2	1.2	17.6	1.4	16.3	1.2	13.9	1	10.6	0.9	4,740
Glasgow City	15.6	1.1	23.7	1.2	15.9	0.9	15.4	1	13.3	0.8	8.7	0.6	7.4	0.6	7,010
Highland	10.2	1.9	13.9	1.6	13.9	1.5	18	1.7	17.6	1.6	14.9	1.4	11.4	1.2	2,710
Inverclyde	11.1	2.3	14.8	2.4	13.2	1.9	18.2	2.1	17.8	1.9	13.6	1.6	11.2	1.6	1,720
Midlothian	11	2.5	16.2	2.3	15.7	2	17.9	2.4	16.2	2	13.4	1.8	9.6	1.4	1,730
Moray	11.4	2.8	14.6	2.3	14	2.1	18.1	2.3	16.5	2	14	1.8	11.4	1.5	1,690
North Ayrshire	11.6	2.2	13.7	1.9	12.8	1.7	17.9	2.1	17.5	1.9	15.1	1.6	11.5	1.5	1,970
North Lanarkshire	12.6	1.7	15.9	1.5	15.8	1.4	18.7	1.5	16.1	1.3	12	1	8.8	0.9	3,800
Orkney Islands	10.1	3.1	13.3	2.3	13	2.6	18.1	2.8	17.7	2.9	15.4	2.6	12.4	2.7	1,540
Perth & Kinross	11.5	2.3	13	2	13.4	1.9	17.7	2.2	16.9	1.9	14.8	1.7	12.7	1.6	1,810

Renfrewshire	12.3	2	15.8	1.9	14.4	1.6	18.3	1.9	16.6	1.7	12.5	1.4	10.1	1.3	2,310
Scottish Borders	10.6	2.2	11	2	12.5	1.8	18.6	2.4	18.3	2.2	16.4	1.7	12.7	1.5	1,760
Shetland Islands	11.5	2.7	14.5	2.8	15	2.6	18.1	2.7	16.8	2.6	13.8	2.2	10.3	2.1	1,490
South Ayrshire	10.9	2.4	12	1.8	12.4	1.8	17.3	2	18	2	16.2	1.8	13.3	1.8	1,940
South Lanarkshire	12.1	1.7	14	1.4	15	1.4	18.5	1.4	17.3	1.4	13	1.1	10.2	1	3,550
Stirling	16.5	2.9	14.4	2.3	13.3	2	17.7	2.1	15.4	1.9	12.5	1.6	10.3	1.5	1,670
West Dunbartonshire	12.4	2.4	15.6	2.2	14	1.7	18.3	2.1	17.5	1.9	12.7	1.6	9.6	1.3	1,900
West Lothian	11.8	2.2	16.5	1.9	16.5	1.8	19.4	2	15.6	1.8	11.9	1.5	8.3	1.1	2,080
<b>Tenure</b>															
Owned outright	5.5	0.5	3.6	0.3	3.8	0.3	11.8	0.5	25	0.6	28	0.6	22.5	0.5	29,280
Mortgaged	12.8	0.7	21	0.7	24.9	0.7	25.9	0.7	11.9	0.5	2.3	0.2	1.3	0.2	21,950
Social rented	13.7	0.8	17.7	0.8	15.1	0.6	17.6	0.7	14.9	0.6	11.2	0.5	9.8	0.5	17,150
PRS	26.6	1.3	33.5	1.2	16	0.8	10.4	0.7	6.4	0.5	4.2	0.4	3	0.3	10,160
<b>Ethnic Group</b>															
White: Scottish	12.6	0.4	14.8	0.4	13.5	0.3	17.9	0.4	16.9	0.3	13.5	0.3	10.9	0.3	61,800
White: Other British	10.1	1	14	0.9	14.2	0.8	18.1	0.9	18.1	0.9	14.6	0.7	11	0.6	10,160
White: Polish	12.7	2.8	41.7	3.6	32.2	3.2	8.8	2	3	1	x	x	x	x	1,090
White: Other	17.3	1.9	32.3	2.1	20.7	1.8	12.2	1.3	7.6	1	5.3	0.8	4.7	0.7	3,000
Asian	21.4	2.8	29.8	2.7	25.2	2.4	12.1	1.9	6.5	1.4	3.6	0.9	x	x	1,530
African	14.1	4.5	27.3	5	34.1	5	18.1	4.2	4.1	1.9	x	x	x	x	440
Caribbean or black	x	x	27.2	11.5	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	80
Mixed	24.8	7.5	33.3	7.8	21.1	6.6	12.8	5.1	x	x	x	x	x	x	190
Other	19.7	4.8	25.7	4.8	22	4.5	19.6	5	7.5	2.9	3.7	1.7	x	x	400
<b>Country of Birth</b>															
Scotland	12.6	0.4	14.8	0.4	13.4	0.3	17.8	0.4	16.9	0.3	13.5	0.3	11	0.3	62,760
Rest of UK	11.2	1.1	15	1	14.8	0.9	18.2	1	16.8	0.9	13.8	0.7	10.1	0.6	9,310
EU	15.9	1.8	35.5	2.2	25.3	1.9	10.9	1.3	5.3	0.9	3.9	0.7	3.3	0.6	2,930
Rest of World	16.4	1.7	28.7	1.8	25	1.6	14.6	1.3	8	0.9	4.6	0.6	2.7	0.5	3,730
<b>Marital Status</b>															
Never married - single	34.4	0.9	30.3	0.7	14.2	0.5	11	0.4	6	0.3	2.6	0.2	1.6	0.1	24,480
Married/Civil partnership	0.8	0.1	11.2	0.4	17.8	0.5	21.9	0.6	21.4	0.5	17.2	0.4	9.8	0.3	34,710

Separated	x	x	9.8	1.6	20.7	1.9	33.1	2.3	22.1	1.9	9.6	1.2	3.9	0.8	2,300
Divorced/Dissolved civil partnership	x	x	2.9	0.5	10.8	0.8	27.5	1.2	31.9	1.2	19.8	0.9	6.7	0.6	8,230
Widowed/Bereaved civil partner	x	x	x	x	0.7	0.2	3.8	0.6	9.8	0.7	25.6	1	59.7	1.2	9,020
<b>Carer Status</b>															
Provides care	8.7	0.8	12	0.7	13.9	0.7	23.2	0.9	21.9	0.8	13	0.6	7.2	0.5	13,350
No care	13.7	0.4	17.6	0.4	15	0.3	16.1	0.3	14.6	0.3	12.5	0.3	10.6	0.2	65,420

**Tenure**

	Weighted Response %									Totals Unweighted N
	Owned outright		Mortgaged		Social Rented		PRS			
	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±		
<b>Scotland</b>	32.8	0.4	29	0.4	23	0.3	14.9	0.3	78,620	
<b>Local Authority</b>										
Aberdeen City	27.6	1.7	29	1.7	23.2	1.7	20	1.6	3,390	
Aberdeenshire	40.5	1.9	32.9	1.8	15.6	1.4	10.6	1.2	3,120	
Angus	38.2	2.6	25.7	2.2	21.8	2.2	13.8	1.8	1,680	
Argyll & Bute	44.4	2.4	21.9	2.1	20.2	2.3	13.2	1.8	1,870	
Clackmannanshire	33.3	2.9	26.5	2.8	27.8	3	11.9	2.1	1,440	
Dumfries & Galloway	40.9	2.1	22	1.8	20.7	1.8	15.9	1.6	2,690	
Dundee City	24.7	2.1	22.1	2.2	29.3	2.4	23.5	2.2	1,850	
East Ayrshire	31.7	2.2	28.6	2.2	29.8	2.4	9.5	1.5	1,840	
East Dunbartonshire	47.4	2.6	35.1	2.4	10.3	1.7	6.7	1.3	1,780	
East Lothian	34.3	2.5	31.3	2.4	23	2.2	11.2	1.7	1,800	
East Renfrewshire	44.6	2.6	37.4	2.6	11.2	1.8	6.6	1.4	1,690	
Edinburgh, City of	29.2	1.2	29.8	1.2	14.9	1	25.8	1.3	6,120	
Na h-Eileanan Siar	53.2	3.2	19.8	2.5	17.8	2.4	9	1.9	1,610	
Falkirk	30	2.1	32.7	2.2	27.3	2.3	9.8	1.5	2,070	
Fife	34.7	1.5	28.9	1.5	21.9	1.3	14.2	1.2	4,620	
Glasgow City	21	1	25.9	1.1	32.9	1.2	19.6	1	7,270	
Highland	39.8	1.9	26.7	1.8	19.3	1.6	13.8	1.5	2,780	
Inverclyde	33.8	2.5	27.2	2.4	26.1	2.6	12.5	2	1,690	
Midlothian	33.1	2.5	33.3	2.7	24.8	2.4	8.5	1.6	1,720	
Moray	40	2.8	23.4	2.4	20.4	2.4	15.7	2.1	1,660	
North Ayrshire	34.2	2.2	26	2.2	28.5	2.3	10.9	1.5	1,930	
North Lanarkshire	27.7	1.4	32.6	1.6	29.9	1.6	9.5	1	4,000	
Orkney Islands	47.9	3.6	24.6	3.2	14.7	2.7	12.4	2.5	1,410	

Perth & Kinross	39.3	2.3	28.1	2.2	15.7	1.8	16.3	1.9	1,850
Renfrewshire	33.2	2.1	32.4	2.1	22.5	1.9	11.4	1.4	2,320
Scottish Borders	37.3	2.4	24.6	2.2	20.4	2.2	16.5	2	1,760
Shetland Islands	41.2	3.5	27.5	3.1	23	3.2	8.2	2.1	1,440
South Ayrshire	41.7	2.5	26.4	2.2	18.6	2.2	12.7	1.8	1,840
South Lanarkshire	33.8	1.6	34.6	1.7	20.5	1.4	10.8	1.1	3,680
Stirling	33.8	2.5	31.4	2.6	18	2.2	16.5	2.2	1,670
West Dunbartonshire	28.8	2.2	25.6	2.2	34.8	2.3	10.2	1.6	1,900
West Lothian	30.3	2.1	33.4	2.2	24.3	2	11.9	1.5	2,160
<b>Respondent Age Group</b>									
16-24	9.9	0.9	25.4	1.4	24.7	1.4	38.7	1.6	4,650
25-34	5.3	0.5	39.4	1.1	22.8	0.9	32.1	1.1	9,600
35-44	7.3	0.6	51.3	1.1	23.6	0.9	17.4	0.8	10,560
45-54	20.7	0.8	44.3	1	24.6	0.9	10.1	0.6	12,090
55-64	48	0.9	22	0.8	22.7	0.8	7	0.5	13,080
65-74	67.9	0.9	5.5	0.4	21.1	0.8	5.2	0.4	12,630
75+	69.1	1	3.7	0.4	22	0.9	4.8	0.5	10,210





**Ethnic group**

	Weighted Response %																						Totals Unweighted N
	White: Scottish		White: Other British			White: Polish		White: Other		Asian		African			Caribbean or black		Mixed		Other				
	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±			
<b>Scotland</b>	76.9	0.4	12.2	0.3	1.8	0.1	4.5	0.2	2.7	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.1	0	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.1			78,810		
<b>Local Authority</b>																							
Aberdeen City	68.2	2	10.4	1.3	4.3	0.9	8.3	1.1	4.1	0.8	2.1	0.6	x	x	x	x	1.8	0.6			3,520		
Aberdeenshire	77.7	1.7	15	1.4	1.5	0.6	4	0.8	0.9	0.4	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		3,260		
Angus	84.3	2	10.1	1.6	x	x	3.3	1	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		1,670		
Argyll & Bute	72.5	2.8	21.6	2.7	x	x	3.6	0.9	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		1,920		
Clackmannanshire	80.4	3	12.4	2.4	x	x	4.4	1.9	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		1,460		
Dumfries & Galloway	72.7	2.2	22.7	2	x	x	2.6	0.8	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		2,710		
Dundee City	76.2	2.6	9.5	1.6	2	0.7	5.7	1.4	4.5	1.5	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		1,790		
East Ayrshire	89.9	1.7	6.7	1.3	x	x	1.4	0.6	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		1,910		
East Dunbartonshire	81.2	2.3	11.1	1.8	x	x	3	0.9	3.3	1.1	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		1,760		
East Lothian	78.5	2.3	14.5	2	1.4	0.8	3.8	1.1	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		1,790		
East Renfrewshire	79.7	2.5	10.1	1.7	x	x	2.4	0.9	6.2	1.6	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		1,640		
Edinburgh, City of	58.1	1.6	17.4	1.3	3.9	0.7	12.2	1	5.1	0.7	0.8	0.3	x	x	1	0.3	0.9	0.3			6,200		
Na h-Eileanan Siar	82.3	2.5	13.8	2.3	x	x	2.1	0.8	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		1,710		
Falkirk	84.4	1.9	9	1.5	1.2	0.5	3.1	1	1.3	0.7	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		2,070		
Fife	80.3	1.5	12	1.2	1.6	0.5	3.6	0.7	1.2	0.5	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		4,740		
Glasgow City	68.5	1.4	8.4	0.7	2.2	0.5	6.3	0.7	9.2	0.9	2.4	0.5	x	x	0.5	0.2	2	0.5			7,010		
Highland	71.5	2	20.8	1.8	2.3	0.7	4	1	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		2,710		
Inverclyde	93.5	1.4	4.6	1.1	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		1,720		
Midlothian	84.1	2.2	8.7	1.6	1.7	0.6	3.2	0.9	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		1,730		
Moray	70.5	2.8	24	2.6	2	1	2.1	0.7	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		1,690		
North Ayrshire	87.9	1.7	9.4	1.5	x	x	1	0.4	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		1,970		
North Lanarkshire	89.5	1.5	4.5	0.7	1.6	0.5	2.1	0.8	1.5	0.6	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		3,800		
Orkney Islands	76.7	3.3	20.3	3.1	x	x	1.9	0.9	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		1,540		





**Country of birth**

	Weighted Response %										Totals Unweighted N
	Scotland		Rest of UK		EU		Rest of World				
	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	
<b>Scotland</b>	78.2	0.4	11.3	0.3	4.5	0.2	5.8	0.2			78,810
<b>Local Authority</b>											
Aberdeen City	68.6	2	9.7	1.3	9.8	1.3	11.8	1.3			3,520
Aberdeenshire	77.3	1.7	15.1	1.4	3.6	0.8	4	0.8			3,260
Angus	83.9	2	10.1	1.6	3.4	1.1	2.6	0.9			1,670
Argyll & Bute	72.6	2.7	21.2	2.5	3.5	1	2.6	0.8			1,920
Clackmannanshire	81.8	2.9	11.6	2.2	3	1.4	3.6	1.8			1,460
Dumfries & Galloway	74.1	2	21.4	1.9	2.2	0.8	1.8	0.6			2,710
Dundee City	77.3	2.5	9.1	1.7	4.9	1.2	8.8	1.9			1,790
East Ayrshire	90.7	1.5	6.3	1.3	1.5	0.6	1.4	0.6			1,910
East Dunbartonshire	86.1	2	7.7	1.5	1.9	0.7	4.2	1.2			1,760
East Lothian	80.8	2.2	12.3	1.8	3.6	1.1	3.2	1			1,790
East Renfrewshire	85.8	2.1	7.4	1.5	1.3	0.5	5.5	1.5			1,640
Edinburgh, City of	60	1.6	16.3	1.2	10.5	1	13	1			6,200
Na h-Eileanan Siar	82.5	2.4	13.6	2.2	1.5	0.7	2.4	0.9			1,710
Falkirk	86.4	1.8	7.2	1.3	3.7	1	2.6	0.9			2,070
Fife	78.9	1.5	12.9	1.2	3.8	0.7	4.2	0.8			4,740
Glasgow City	72.5	1.3	7.8	0.7	5.9	0.7	13.7	1			7,010
Highland	70.4	2.1	20.7	1.8	5.3	1.1	3.6	1			2,710
Inverclyde	93.5	1.3	4.5	1.2	x	x	x	x			1,720
Midlothian	83.8	2	9	1.6	3.9	1	3.3	1			1,730
Moray	71.2	2.7	21.8	2.5	4.3	1.2	2.7	0.8			1,690
North Ayrshire	88.4	1.7	8.1	1.4	1.7	0.7	1.8	0.7			1,970
North Lanarkshire	90.2	1.4	4.5	0.8	3.2	0.9	2	0.6			3,800
Orkney Islands	76	3.3	20.7	3.2	1.5	0.7	1.7	1.1			1,540
Perth & Kinross	74.5	2.5	15.6	2	4.6	1.3	5.1	1.3			1,810

Renfrewshire	88.6	1.6	5.4	1	2.1	0.6	3.7	1.1	2,310
Scottish Borders	71	2.6	22.2	2.4	3.6	1.1	3.1	0.9	1,760
Shetland Islands	77	3.3	14.8	2.7	3.8	1.5	4.4	2	1,490
South Ayrshire	86.1	1.9	9.6	1.6	2.1	0.8	2.2	0.8	1,940
South Lanarkshire	89.2	1.2	6.4	0.9	2.1	0.6	2.4	0.6	3,550
Stirling	76.7	2.6	16.2	2.3	3.6	1.1	3.4	1.1	1,670
West Dunbartonshire	91.3	1.5	4.8	1.1	1.2	0.5	2.6	0.9	1,900
West Lothian	82.9	2	8.1	1.3	5	1.2	3.9	1.1	2,080
<b>Respondent Age Group</b>									
16-24	76.9	1.4	9.9	1	5.6	0.7	7.4	0.8	5,640
25-34	69.9	1.1	10.3	0.7	9.6	0.7	10.1	0.7	10,410
35-44	70.9	1	11.4	0.7	7.7	0.6	9.8	0.7	11,370
45-54	80.2	0.8	11.9	0.7	2.8	0.4	4.9	0.5	13,030
55-64	83.4	0.7	12	0.6	1.5	0.2	2.9	0.3	14,050
65-74	84.1	0.7	12.4	0.6	1.4	0.2	2.1	0.3	13,580
75+	85.4	0.8	11.5	0.7	1.5	0.3	1.6	0.3	10,740

**Country of birth**

	Weighted Response %								Totals Unweighted N
	Scotland		Rest of UK		EU		Rest of World		
	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	
<b>Scotland</b>	78.2	0.4	11.3	0.3	4.5	0.2	5.8	0.2	78,810
<b>Local Authority</b>									
Aberdeen City	68.6	2	9.7	1.3	9.8	1.3	11.8	1.3	3,520
Aberdeenshire	77.3	1.7	15.1	1.4	3.6	0.8	4	0.8	3,260
Angus	83.9	2	10.1	1.6	3.4	1.1	2.6	0.9	1,670
Argyll & Bute	72.6	2.7	21.2	2.5	3.5	1	2.6	0.8	1,920
Clackmannanshire	81.8	2.9	11.6	2.2	3	1.4	3.6	1.8	1,460
Dumfries & Galloway	74.1	2	21.4	1.9	2.2	0.8	1.8	0.6	2,710
Dundee City	77.3	2.5	9.1	1.7	4.9	1.2	8.8	1.9	1,790
East Ayrshire	90.7	1.5	6.3	1.3	1.5	0.6	1.4	0.6	1,910
East Dunbartonshire	86.1	2	7.7	1.5	1.9	0.7	4.2	1.2	1,760
East Lothian	80.8	2.2	12.3	1.8	3.6	1.1	3.2	1	1,790
East Renfrewshire	85.8	2.1	7.4	1.5	1.3	0.5	5.5	1.5	1,640
Edinburgh, City of	60	1.6	16.3	1.2	10.5	1	13	1	6,200
Na h-Eileanan Siar	82.5	2.4	13.6	2.2	1.5	0.7	2.4	0.9	1,710
Falkirk	86.4	1.8	7.2	1.3	3.7	1	2.6	0.9	2,070
Fife	78.9	1.5	12.9	1.2	3.8	0.7	4.2	0.8	4,740
Glasgow City	72.5	1.3	7.8	0.7	5.9	0.7	13.7	1	7,010
Highland	70.4	2.1	20.7	1.8	5.3	1.1	3.6	1	2,710
Inverclyde	93.5	1.3	4.5	1.2	x	x	x	x	1,720
Midlothian	83.8	2	9	1.6	3.9	1	3.3	1	1,730
Moray	71.2	2.7	21.8	2.5	4.3	1.2	2.7	0.8	1,690
North Ayrshire	88.4	1.7	8.1	1.4	1.7	0.7	1.8	0.7	1,970
North Lanarkshire	90.2	1.4	4.5	0.8	3.2	0.9	2	0.6	3,800
Orkney Islands	76	3.3	20.7	3.2	1.5	0.7	1.7	1.1	1,540

Perth & Kinross	74.5	2.5	15.6	2	4.6	1.3	5.1	1.3	1,810
Renfrewshire	88.6	1.6	5.4	1	2.1	0.6	3.7	1.1	2,310
Scottish Borders	71	2.6	22.2	2.4	3.6	1.1	3.1	0.9	1,760
Shetland Islands	77	3.3	14.8	2.7	3.8	1.5	4.4	2	1,490
South Ayrshire	86.1	1.9	9.6	1.6	2.1	0.8	2.2	0.8	1,940
South Lanarkshire	89.2	1.2	6.4	0.9	2.1	0.6	2.4	0.6	3,550
Stirling	76.7	2.6	16.2	2.3	3.6	1.1	3.4	1.1	1,670
West Dunbartonshire	91.3	1.5	4.8	1.1	1.2	0.5	2.6	0.9	1,900
West Lothian	82.9	2	8.1	1.3	5	1.2	3.9	1.1	2,080
<b>Respondent Age Group</b>									
16-24	76.9	1.4	9.9	1	5.6	0.7	7.4	0.8	5,640
25-34	69.9	1.1	10.3	0.7	9.6	0.7	10.1	0.7	10,410
35-44	70.9	1	11.4	0.7	7.7	0.6	9.8	0.7	11,370
45-54	80.2	0.8	11.9	0.7	2.8	0.4	4.9	0.5	13,030
55-64	83.4	0.7	12	0.6	1.5	0.2	2.9	0.3	14,050
65-74	84.1	0.7	12.4	0.6	1.4	0.2	2.1	0.3	13,580
75+	85.4	0.8	11.5	0.7	1.5	0.3	1.6	0.3	10,740



**Marital Status**

	Weighted Response %												Totals Unweighted N
	Never married - single		Married/Civil partnership		Separated		Divorced/Dissolved civil partnership		Widowed/Bereaved civil partner				
	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±			
<b>Scotland</b>	36.1	0.5	46.6	0.4	2.2	0.1	7.8	0.2	7.2	0.2		78,810	
<b>Local Authority</b>													
Aberdeen City	40.3	2.2	44.5	2.2	1.8	0.4	7.6	0.9	5.7	0.7		3,520	
Aberdeenshire	25.8	2	57.7	2.1	2	0.5	7.9	1	6.4	0.8		3,260	
Angus	30	2.8	48.9	2.9	3.1	0.9	10	1.5	7.9	1.2		1,670	
Argyll & Bute	30.5	2.6	51.2	2.8	1.4	0.6	8.6	1.4	8.2	1.1		1,920	
Clackmannanshire	33	3.3	47.9	3.5	2.5	0.8	8.2	1.5	8.5	1.4		1,460	
Dumfries & Galloway	29	2.3	52.4	2.4	1.9	0.5	8.2	1.1	8.5	1		2,710	
Dundee City	45.1	2.9	35.4	2.6	2.3	0.6	9.7	1.4	7.6	1.1		1,790	
East Ayrshire	35.7	2.8	45.2	2.8	2.2	0.6	8.6	1.3	8.2	1.1		1,910	
East Dunbartonshire	28.2	3	56.2	3.1	1.4	0.6	5.5	1.1	8.5	1.2		1,760	
East Lothian	31.1	2.9	52.1	2.8	1.8	0.5	8.1	1.4	6.9	1.1		1,790	
East Renfrewshire	27.1	3.2	57.3	3.1	1.6	0.6	5.4	1.1	8.4	1.3		1,640	
Edinburgh, City of	46	1.6	40.9	1.5	1.4	0.3	6.2	0.6	5.4	0.5		6,200	
Na h-Eileanan Siar	33.2	3.1	47.9	3.2	1.9	0.7	6.6	1.4	10.3	1.6		1,710	
Falkirk	32.5	2.5	50.1	2.6	2.2	0.7	7.9	1.2	7.4	1		2,070	
Fife	33	1.8	47.9	1.8	2.2	0.4	8.7	0.8	8.1	0.7		4,740	
Glasgow City	49.5	1.4	34.9	1.3	2.8	0.4	6.4	0.5	6.3	0.5		7,010	
Highland	30.1	2.2	51.2	2.4	1.9	0.5	9.3	1.1	7.3	0.8		2,710	
Inverclyde	36.7	3	44.5	3.1	2.3	0.8	7.8	1.3	8.6	1.3		1,720	
Midlothian	33.6	3	50.5	3	1.9	0.7	6.8	1.3	6.9	1.1		1,730	
Moray	31.3	3.1	49.3	3	2.2	0.7	9.8	1.5	7.4	1.2		1,690	
North Ayrshire	33.4	2.6	45.4	2.7	2.3	0.7	9.9	1.3	9.1	1.2		1,970	

North Lanarkshire	36	1.9	45.5	1.9	3	0.5	8.4	0.9	7.2	0.8	3,800
Orkney Islands	27.9	3.7	57	3.9	1.8	0.8	6.4	1.4	6.8	1.4	1,540
Perth & Kinross	28.3	2.8	54.6	2.8	1.9	0.6	7.2	1.2	7.9	1.2	1,810
Renfrewshire	36.2	2.5	45.9	2.5	2.6	0.6	8	1.1	7.3	1	2,310
Scottish Borders	26.8	2.8	55.3	2.9	1.9	0.6	8.5	1.4	7.2	1.1	1,760
Shetland Islands	33.1	3.6	48.8	3.7	2.2	0.7	7.9	1.6	7.9	1.8	1,490
South Ayrshire	30	2.8	49.8	2.8	2.4	0.7	8.6	1.3	9.2	1.3	1,940
South Lanarkshire	32.6	2	49.2	2	3	0.6	7.6	0.9	7.4	0.7	3,550
Stirling	36.3	3.1	50.3	3.1	1.6	0.7	5.9	1	5.9	1.1	1,670
West Dunbartonshire	39.4	2.9	42.2	2.8	2.3	0.7	8.6	1.3	7.3	1	1,900
West Lothian	33.9	2.6	49	2.7	2.4	0.7	8	1.2	6.7	1	2,080

**Respondent Age Group**

16-24	96.7	0.5	2.8	0.5	x	x	x	x	x	x	5,640
25-34	65.9	1.1	31.4	1.1	1.3	0.2	1.3	0.2	x	x	10,410
35-44	34.6	1	56.1	1.1	3.1	0.3	5.7	0.5	0.3	0.1	11,370
45-54	22.9	0.8	58.9	1	4.2	0.4	12.3	0.6	1.6	0.2	13,030
55-64	13.7	0.6	63	0.9	3.1	0.3	15.6	0.7	4.5	0.3	14,050
65-74	7.5	0.5	64	0.9	1.7	0.2	12.2	0.6	14.6	0.6	13,580
75+	5.8	0.5	45.4	1.1	0.9	0.2	5.2	0.4	42.7	1.1	10,740

**Marital Status**

	Weighted Response %												Totals Unweighted N
	Never married - single		Married/Civil partnership		Separated		Divorced/Dissolved civil partnership		Widowed/Bereaved civil partner				
	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±	%	±			
<b>Scotland</b>	36.1	0.5	46.6	0.4	2.2	0.1	7.8	0.2	7.2	0.2		78,810	
<b>Local Authority</b>													
Aberdeen City	40.3	2.2	44.5	2.2	1.8	0.4	7.6	0.9	5.7	0.7		3,520	
Aberdeenshire	25.8	2	57.7	2.1	2	0.5	7.9	1	6.4	0.8		3,260	
Angus	30	2.8	48.9	2.9	3.1	0.9	10	1.5	7.9	1.2		1,670	
Argyll & Bute	30.5	2.6	51.2	2.8	1.4	0.6	8.6	1.4	8.2	1.1		1,920	
Clackmannanshire	33	3.3	47.9	3.5	2.5	0.8	8.2	1.5	8.5	1.4		1,460	
Dumfries & Galloway	29	2.3	52.4	2.4	1.9	0.5	8.2	1.1	8.5	1		2,710	
Dundee City	45.1	2.9	35.4	2.6	2.3	0.6	9.7	1.4	7.6	1.1		1,790	
East Ayrshire	35.7	2.8	45.2	2.8	2.2	0.6	8.6	1.3	8.2	1.1		1,910	
East Dunbartonshire	28.2	3	56.2	3.1	1.4	0.6	5.5	1.1	8.5	1.2		1,760	
East Lothian	31.1	2.9	52.1	2.8	1.8	0.5	8.1	1.4	6.9	1.1		1,790	
East Renfrewshire	27.1	3.2	57.3	3.1	1.6	0.6	5.4	1.1	8.4	1.3		1,640	
Edinburgh, City of	46	1.6	40.9	1.5	1.4	0.3	6.2	0.6	5.4	0.5		6,200	
Na h-Eileanan Siar	33.2	3.1	47.9	3.2	1.9	0.7	6.6	1.4	10.3	1.6		1,710	
Falkirk	32.5	2.5	50.1	2.6	2.2	0.7	7.9	1.2	7.4	1		2,070	
Fife	33	1.8	47.9	1.8	2.2	0.4	8.7	0.8	8.1	0.7		4,740	
Glasgow City	49.5	1.4	34.9	1.3	2.8	0.4	6.4	0.5	6.3	0.5		7,010	
Highland	30.1	2.2	51.2	2.4	1.9	0.5	9.3	1.1	7.3	0.8		2,710	
Inverclyde	36.7	3	44.5	3.1	2.3	0.8	7.8	1.3	8.6	1.3		1,720	
Midlothian	33.6	3	50.5	3	1.9	0.7	6.8	1.3	6.9	1.1		1,730	
Moray	31.3	3.1	49.3	3	2.2	0.7	9.8	1.5	7.4	1.2		1,690	

North Ayrshire	33.4	2.6	45.4	2.7	2.3	0.7	9.9	1.3	9.1	1.2	1,970
North Lanarkshire	36	1.9	45.5	1.9	3	0.5	8.4	0.9	7.2	0.8	3,800
Orkney Islands	27.9	3.7	57	3.9	1.8	0.8	6.4	1.4	6.8	1.4	1,540
Perth & Kinross	28.3	2.8	54.6	2.8	1.9	0.6	7.2	1.2	7.9	1.2	1,810
Renfrewshire	36.2	2.5	45.9	2.5	2.6	0.6	8	1.1	7.3	1	2,310
Scottish Borders	26.8	2.8	55.3	2.9	1.9	0.6	8.5	1.4	7.2	1.1	1,760
Shetland Islands	33.1	3.6	48.8	3.7	2.2	0.7	7.9	1.6	7.9	1.8	1,490
South Ayrshire	30	2.8	49.8	2.8	2.4	0.7	8.6	1.3	9.2	1.3	1,940
South Lanarkshire	32.6	2	49.2	2	3	0.6	7.6	0.9	7.4	0.7	3,550
Stirling	36.3	3.1	50.3	3.1	1.6	0.7	5.9	1	5.9	1.1	1,670
West Dunbartonshire	39.4	2.9	42.2	2.8	2.3	0.7	8.6	1.3	7.3	1	1,900
West Lothian	33.9	2.6	49	2.7	2.4	0.7	8	1.2	6.7	1	2,080
<b>Respondent Age Group</b>											
16-24	96.7	0.5	2.8	0.5	x	x	x	x	x	x	5,640
25-34	65.9	1.1	31.4	1.1	1.3	0.2	1.3	0.2	x	x	10,410
35-44	34.6	1	56.1	1.1	3.1	0.3	5.7	0.5	0.3	0.1	11,370
45-54	22.9	0.8	58.9	1	4.2	0.4	12.3	0.6	1.6	0.2	13,030
55-64	13.7	0.6	63	0.9	3.1	0.3	15.6	0.7	4.5	0.3	14,050
65-74	7.5	0.5	64	0.9	1.7	0.2	12.2	0.6	14.6	0.6	13,580
75+	5.8	0.5	45.4	1.1	0.9	0.2	5.2	0.4	42.7	1.1	10,740



[redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** Scotland's Census 2022 - Coherence Assessment Team

Hi all,

Thank you for agreeing to sit on the SG Chief Statistician's Scotland's Census 2022 – Coherence Assessment Team.

We are aiming to hold two (or three meetings if needed) with you before the first outputs from Scotland's Census are published.

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August: 10am to 11am: Virtual on Teams: The first session will cover the background to our strategy for quality assurance and our enhanced methods which includes the increased use of admin data.

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August 1pm to 4pm: Hybrid: In the second NRS will present the evidence from the quality assurance of the census estimates.

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August 1pm to 4pm: Hybrid: A third meeting may then be needed the following week if the Coherence Assessment Team would like to see further analysis.

I have looked in calendars and these times seem to be the best options given our tight timelines. [redacted] I understand [redacted] is off just now, hopefully she will be back in time for these sessions.

Thanks

[redacted]

[redacted]

Scotland's Census 2022

National Records of Scotland

## **Email 36**

**From:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 2:10 PM

**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; Head of Justice Analytical Services <headofjas@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: SG Coherence Group - thank you

[redacted],

Thank you for this updated and taking on board our concerns constructively.

Alastair (Ally) McAlpine

Chief Statistician

[Read my latest blog here](#)

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 12:53 PM

**To:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; Head of Justice Analytical Services <[headofjas@gov.scot](mailto:headofjas@gov.scot)>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** SG Coherence Group - thank you

Hi Ally,

Many thanks to you and other members of the SG Coherence Group for your help and advice.

As you know we are publishing First Outputs on 14 September and this was pre announced on 18 August on our website and through a news release.

When we spoke last week I talked you through the final change we have made to implementing the household adjustment and you asked me to send a short explanation to this group. We also discussed this change with [redacted] in ONS who sits on ISG.

The group may recall from our discussions that this adjustment is made to households and then fed through into the population estimates. The change we have made is to our assumption that the bias affected all those people within the household equally. Now we assume the non-responding households we didn't detect due to bias are likely to be similar to those non-responders we detected in coverage estimation, particularly in terms of household size. Therefore to account for this in the final estimates, we stratified households by household size and distributed the total correction in each LA in proportion to the average size of non-responding households in that LA. More detail will be available in our Quality Report which will be published alongside the estimates.

Best wishes

[redacted]

## **Email 37**

**From:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>

**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2023 10:59 AM

**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** Coherence Assessment

Folks,

I just wanted to thank you for your time and effort in helping with the coherence assessment.

[redacted] and [redacted] thank you for your comments, which I incorporated – they were very much appreciated.

Apologies that I didn't get to run the final version past you both, but in the interests of time, I sent it off last night.

As I was finalising the draft I recognised that this could be quite useful for ET to get some assurances. So I will send up a sub to PS later on today. I am happy to include you in that or please do feel free if you want to provide any comments to go into that paper.

Have a great weekend (or annual leave) and thank you again.

Ally

Alastair (Ally) McAlpine  
Chief Statistician  
Deputy Director Statistics and Data

Tel: [redacted]

## **Email 38**

**From:** Audrey MacDougall <Audrey.MacDougall@gov.scot>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 11:21 AM

**To:** DPDR : Office of the Chief Researcher <[redacted]@gov.scot>; DPDR : SG Central Analysis <[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** FW: Scotland's Census - First outputs will be published on 14 Sept

Colleagues

Many of you will be interested to see this, the first outputs from the Scottish census out on 14 Sept followed up by a programme of publication.

Audrey

Dr Audrey MacDougall FAcSS (she/her)  
Scottish Government Chief Social Researcher  
Head of SG Central Analysis Division

Email: [redacted]@gov.scot

*If your email requires a response within 2 hours please send a TEAMS message. Out of office hours please text me on [redacted]*

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 9:25 AM  
**To:** Audrey MacDougall <Audrey.MacDougall@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** FW: Scotland's Census - First outputs will be published on 14 Sept

Hi all

In case you've not already seen - useful update from [redacted] in NRS on plans for publishing the first outputs from the census.

[redacted]

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2023 12:32 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@fiscalcommission.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Scotland's Census - First outputs will be published on 14 Sept

Hi all,

Just in case you hadn't heard yet, the first census outputs will be published on 14 September. This will include:

- Population by age and sex at Scotland and Local Authority level (rounded)
- Number of households at Scotland and Local Authority level (rounded)

There is some more info in the attached census newsletter, and on the [census website](#).

Best wishes,

[redacted]

[redacted]

Head of Population and Migration Statistics  
National Records of Scotland  
[www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk)  
[redacted]

## Attachment





Scotland's Census

Shaping our future

A' dealbhadh ar n-àm ri teachd

# Welcome to Scotland's Census 2022 **August Newsletter** ▶

# Date announced for the first results from Scotland's Census 2022 ▶

The first results from Scotland's Census 2022 will be published by National Records of Scotland (NRS) on Thursday 14 September 2023.

These results will include estimates of the total population of Scotland and the population size in every local authority area, including a breakdown by five-year age groups and sex.

There will also be figures showing the change in population since the last census in Scotland in 2011 – both at national and local authority level – as well as population density and household numbers.

For more than 200 years Scotland has used the data the census provides, and it remains the best way to gather vital information about Scotland's people which local and central government, the NHS and a range of other data users in the public, private and third sectors need.

NRS Chief Executive Janet Egdell said:

*"The information published through census outputs will help to shape Scotland for future generations. The results on 14 September are the first step in publishing a wide range of unique data that will be used by government and other public bodies to plan vital public services and infrastructure across Scotland in the years to come."*



## Next steps ►

- Following the first population estimates released in September, NRS will publish further results from the census from spring 2024 onwards. This will include detailed population data which supports community planning.
- In summer 2024, a series of topic data will be published, providing new insights into the characteristics of Scotland's people, including data on ethnicity, religion, the labour market, education and housing.
- For the first time, it will also include information on armed forces veterans, sexual orientation and gender identity.
- [Access more information](#) about the release schedule for census data.
- Contact us at [scotlandscensus@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:scotlandscensus@nrscotland.gov.uk)
- Follow us on Twitter and Facebook @Scotcensus2022

## **Email 39**

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk> **On Behalf Of** NRS : Scotland's Census Mailbox

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 4, 2023 4:25 PM

**Subject:** Scotland's Census outputs webinars - Follow-up

Good afternoon,

Thank you for participating in our Scotland's Census outputs webinars last week. As promised, see attached the slides (provided in email 59) of the presentation and a summary of the Questions and Answers.

Your feedback is important to us, so please take 2 minutes to complete our **survey before Monday, 10 July 2023**.

Feel free to forward this email to your colleagues and should you have any questions, contact us.

Best wishes

Census communications team

## **Attachment**



## **Scotland's Census 2022 - Outputs webinars - June 2023**

### **Questions & Answers summary**

**Question 1 – Is my understanding right that population estimates for age range x gender x area x Gaelic language fluency will be released in Summer 2024?**

Yes, data from the question on Scottish Gaelic will be published during the topic data phase which is scheduled to begin in Summer 2024. We aim to publish breakdowns of topic variables by age and sex where appropriate.

**Question 2 – How much information will be published on the confidence intervals of the estimates, what stage will this be shared?**

Confidence intervals will be published as part of a package of quality information alongside the first release.

**Question 3 – How were those without online access included?**

90% responded online. If respondents were unable or unwilling to respond online, we provided a range of alternatives including paper questionnaires and telephone interviews. This approach was consistent with that taken in both England & Wales and Northern Ireland.

**Question 4 – How do you use logistic regression for population estimate?**

The logistic regression approach uses a single national model to calculate record level non-response weights which are used to estimate council population and households. The model in effect predicts the likelihood of a person responding to the census accounting for age, sex, ethnicity, and other potential variables.

**Question 5 – Of the approx 10% that did not respond, were you able to estimate if most were from a particular demographic?**

Published statistics will include information on the demographics of those who did not respond. In our coverage survey we collected information on characteristics most associated with the profile of non-respondents from previous censuses so that our estimation modelling will account for this. Information on coverage rates by characteristics will be made available when we publish estimates on the detailed characteristics in 2024.

**Question 6 – Over what period will the topic data be released - weeks or months?**

The topic data phase is scheduled to begin in Summer 2024. Topic releases will be staggered. We aim to minimise the time between releases but it is likely to take a few months to work through all of the topics we collected data on. We will update users as soon we have confirmed the order of topics and the timing for each release.

**Question 7 – Will the information will be provided by industry and LAs?**

Yes, data on the industries people work in will be published during the topic data phase which is scheduled to begin in Summer 2024. We aim to publish breakdowns of topic variables by age and sex where appropriate.

**Question 8 – Do you know if the data zone / intermediate zone redrawing work has been completed yet?**

The work to redraw data zones will be carried out when we have produced small area statistics (spring 2024). As after each census this work is important to ensure that there is consistency in the size of each area.

**Question 9 – Do I understand correctly that we might be informed of when the information about the 8 themes will be published next summer will be available soon? Is it possible to be more specific about what 'soon' means?**

We will update users as soon we have confirmed the order of topics and the timing for each release.

## **Email 40**

**From:** [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 10:24 AM  
**To:** [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Agenda item at the next Geography Policy Cross Office Group

Hello [redacted],

I hope you are enjoying the summer?

[redacted] has suggested that I ask you to add an agenda item at the next Geography Policy Cross Office Group about adding the Scottish islands region (2023) geography to stats.gov.scot, or even the Census Outputs.

Would this be OK?

The Scottish Island Regions geography reports published on 20<sup>th</sup> June.

Here's the links -

<https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781805259657> - Scottish islands region (2023) Overview

<https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781805259664> - Scottish islands region (2023) Data Zones

NRS website: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/2011-based-special-area-population-estimates/population-estimates-by-island-region>

Population app: <https://scotland.shinyapps.io/nrs-islands-dashboard/>

Metadata page now live (<https://spatialdata.gov.scot/geonetwork/srv/eng/catalog.search#/metadata/77581afc-9f8b-477d-9b8c-f130af35a283>), which includes links to download the zipped shapefile and the lookups.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted] Scottish Government  
Work Mobile: [redacted]

I am currently working from home but contactable by mobile, email or Teams.

[redacted]

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 4:44 PM

**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: Thank you

Hi [redacted],

Thanks very much, I appreciate it. Good to hear there were a lot of people on the call.

I think it would be worth you raising this as an agenda item at the next Geography Policy Cross Office Group meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> August (if you're able to attend), to discuss if there might be a requirement in future to add the geography to stats.gov.scot, or even the Census Outputs (which would mean it would need to be added to the Census geography lookups – I know NRS are currently in the process of defining the specifications for their geography products).

Kind regards,

[redacted]

[redacted]

GIS Analysis Manager  
Geographic Information Science & Analysis Team (GI-SAT)  
Data Division, Digital Directorate  
The Scottish Government

For GIS Requests please email the [GIS Casework Mailbox](#)

## **Email 41**

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2023 2:04 PM

**To:** All Statisticians <[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** Learning and Development - September update

Good Afternoon,

Hope everyone is well.

See below L&D Update for September . I have also attached our L&D menu (live link here).

[redacted – out of scope]

### 1. Upcoming Analytical Seminar - Scotland's Census 2022 statistical methods deep dive, Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> August , 13:00 – 14:00

This will be a deep dive into how admin data has been used in census coverage estimation. - [Register here to attend](#)

[redacted – out of scope]

All the best,

[redacted]

[redacted] | Office of the Chief Statistician  
[redacted]

## Email 42

**From:** Alastair McAlpine <Alastair.McAlpine@gov.scot>

**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2023 4:29 PM

**To:** DIG : Statistics and Data Access <[redacted]@gov.scot>; DIG : Data Division <[redacted]@gov.scot>; DIG : Digital Citizen Unit <[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** Data Domain - update

Hi Folks,

I think this is the first email for a while from the Division heads. There is a lot to cover but I have tried to keep this as brief as possible.

[redacted – out of scope]

### Census

Finally I want to share with everyone some work that I have been doing with National Records of Scotland. You may be aware of the problems in getting responses to the Census in 2022 which were publicised extensively in the media at the time. What is less well know is the fabulous work that we have been doing across the Data Domain with



NRS. We have supported them to gain access to and use administrative data. This has complimented the superb work done by the demographic teams in NRS to address the problems related to people who did not complete their census form. The work they have done has helped to build a full census database and ensure everyone in Scotland in March 2022 has been properly counted.

Yesterday I sent a letter to the Registrar General, Janet Egdell, which summarises the work that senior analysts from across Scottish Government have done to assess the results from the Census. I have attached ([redacted]) the letter I sent here, and I would point out the paragraph where I have stated "I am satisfied, based on this review, that the first outputs from the Census 2022 will provide the robust population statistics to support the wider statistical system and that analysts and the general public can have confidence in the outputs, and that they can be published on 14 September 2023."

A big thank you to everyone who has supported the work done in the past year. There are many of you who have contributed to this successful outcome but I would like to pick out special praise for [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted].

**Have a great weekend when it comes!**

Ally

Alastair (Ally) McAlpine  
Chief Statistician  
Deputy Director Statistics and Data

Tel: [redacted]

## **Email 43**

**From:** [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 4:02 PM  
**To:** More Homes Business Management <MoreHomesBusMan@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Census 2022 outputs - session for you and your teams?

Many thanks for letting me know [redacted].

Cheers

[redacted]

[redacted]  
Housing & Planning Co-ordinator  
More Homes Division  
Scottish Government  
4 Atlantic Quay  
York Street  
Glasgow  
G2 7AE

Mobile:- [redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** More Homes Business Management  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: Census 2022 outputs - session for you and your teams?

Hi [redacted],

There was a bit of confusion as the invite was supposed to be only for DDs or up to 2 subs from their command. We have [redacted] and [redacted] going.

[redacted]

[redacted] Business Management Team / More Homes Division  
Working from home – contact by email  
[redacted]

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**From:** [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 3:57 PM  
**To:** More Homes Business Management <[MoreHomesBusMan@gov.scot](mailto:MoreHomesBusMan@gov.scot)>  
**Subject:** RE: Census 2022 outputs - session for you and your teams?

[redacted],

Sorry I missed the deadline for this but would it be possible to attend?

[redacted]



**Cc:** Director for Local Government and Housing <[DirectorForLocalGovernmentandHousing@gov.scot](mailto:DirectorForLocalGovernmentandHousing@gov.scot)>; Better Homes Business Management Unit <[BHBMU@gov.scot](mailto:BHBMU@gov.scot)>; More Homes Business Management <[MoreHomesBusMan@gov.scot](mailto:MoreHomesBusMan@gov.scot)>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; Chief Planner <[Chief.Planner@gov.scot](mailto:Chief.Planner@gov.scot)>; Building Standards <[BuildingStandards@gov.scot](mailto:BuildingStandards@gov.scot)>; Cladding Remediation PMO <[CladdingRemediationPMO@gov.scot](mailto:CladdingRemediationPMO@gov.scot)>  
**Subject:** RE: Census 2022 outputs - session for you and your teams?

Hi all,

Thank you to those who came back to me on this. Unfortunately the time below is no longer do-able for NRS Scotland. The new time will be 13:00-13:30 on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>. As mentioned before, [redacted] would like as many of you to attend as possible but is aware this may not be possible due to leave etc. I know some of you have already done so but could you please cascade the invitation to your relevant teams so we can try have representation from all areas.

Grateful if you could please confirm who from your area will be attending so I can let the organisers know.

Many thanks,  
[redacted]

[redacted] | Assistant Business Manager | Local Government & Housing Directorate | [redacted]@gov.scot

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**From:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Director for Local Government and Housing

**Sent:** Friday, June 30, 2023 4:48 PM

**To:** [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

**Cc:** Director for Local Government and Housing <[DirectorForLocalGovernmentandHousing@gov.scot](mailto:DirectorForLocalGovernmentandHousing@gov.scot)>; Better Homes Business Management Unit <[BHBMU@gov.scot](mailto:BHBMU@gov.scot)>; More Homes Business Management <[MoreHomesBusMan@gov.scot](mailto:MoreHomesBusMan@gov.scot)>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; Chief Planner <[Chief.Planner@gov.scot](mailto:Chief.Planner@gov.scot)>; Building Standards <[BuildingStandards@gov.scot](mailto:BuildingStandards@gov.scot)>

**Subject:** Census 2022 outputs - session for you and your teams?

Hi all,

Please see below. [redacted] encourages as much of you to attend this as possible although I realise annual leave plans will mean this won't be do-able for everyone. Slot we are looking at is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July at 14:30.

Thanks,  
[redacted]

[redacted] | Assistant Business Manager | Local Government & Housing Directorate | [redacted]@gov.scot

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**From:** Janet Egdell <[Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:Janet.Egdell@nrscotland.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** Monday, June 5, 2023 5:23 PM

**To:** Director for Local Government and Housing <[DirectorForLocalGovernmentandHousing@gov.scot](mailto:DirectorForLocalGovernmentandHousing@gov.scot)>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Fiscal Policy and

Constitution <[DirectorofFPC@gov.scot](mailto:DirectorofFPC@gov.scot)>; Director for Equality, Inclusion and Human Rights <[DirectorforEIHR@gov.scot](mailto:DirectorforEIHR@gov.scot)>

**Cc:** NRS : RG-Keeper Mailbox <[RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk)>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]<[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>

**Subject:** Census 2022 outputs - session for you and your teams?

Dear [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted]

We would like an opportunity to brief you on what to expect when we start to publish the results from last year's Census, as we know it will have impacts on your various funding allocations. Can I ask for 30 mins of your time in late June / early July?

Since the Collect phase in 2022, my colleagues have been processing, cleansing and analysing the data, including genuinely ground-breaking work using administrative data sources as part of how we produce the statistics.

We are on track for early autumn publication of the first outputs providing robust local authority high level stats. This will provide a sound basis for the Scottish statistical system and decisions it informs. This will then be followed, through 2024, by small area detail (down to 50 households) and information covering a myriad of individual topics, providing an updated evidence base. [Census outputs schedule | Scotland's Census \(scotlandscensus.gov.uk\)](#)

Your stakeholders may have questions around the robustness of the evidence base, and we would like a chance to talk you through what we have done to mitigate any such concerns.

Could you let [redacted] in my office know if you are content in principle, and if there is anyone else in your area (eg analytical colleagues) that you would like us to involve? We'll then get some dates in diaries.

Thank you in advance  
Janet

Janet Edgell | Interim Chief Executive  
Registrar General for Scotland | Keeper of the Records of Scotland

National Records of Scotland | HM General Register House | 2 Princes Street | Edinburgh | EH1 3YY  
[redacted] | [RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:RG-Keeper@nrscotland.gov.uk) | [www.nrscotland.gov.uk](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk)

## Note 1

### Minutes – 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023

Note that this meeting was cancelled. These notes provide written updates in place of the meeting.

### **Actions from last meeting**

- [redacted – out of scope]
- Census update - It is unclear when the next version of SG urban-rural classification (and NRS settlements and localities) will be published. Action – [redacted] to check and share once he knows more ([redacted]) - **DONE - It has been agreed with [redacted] (RESAS) that the next SGUR will be published as soon as possible after the new 2022 DZs are finalised, so that a DZ\_22 to SGUR\_22 lookup can be created.**
- [redacted – out of scope]

### **Census Update ([redacted] / [redacted])**

- No major updates at this time – NRS are continuing their quality assurance work and preparing outputs as per the plan.

### **New geographies**

- Islands Geography ([redacted] / [redacted])

The Scottish Island Regions geography and reports were published on 20<sup>th</sup> June:

- <https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781805259657> - Scottish Islands Regions (2023) Overview report
- <https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781805259664> - Scottish Island Regions (2023) Data Zone best-fit report. This was published to highlight two caveats with the DZ lookup which has been created, namely that it doesn't strictly follow the GSS policy as a DZ has been removed deliberately, and also we have highlighted the slightly poor quality of fit for the Shetland Outer Islands.
- NRS website: <https://www.nrsotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/2011-based-special-area-population-estimates/population-estimates-by-island-region>
- Population app: <https://scotland.shinyapps.io/nrs-islands-dashboard/>
- Metadata page, which includes links to download the zipped shapefile and the DZ lookup and list of NRS Islands within each Scottish Island Region: (<https://spatialdata.gov.scot/geonetwork/srv/eng/catalog.search#/metadata/77581afc-9f8b-477d-9b8c-f130af35a283>)

The recent release of the Scottish Islands Region Geography has facilitated new islands evidence sources, including the [Scottish Island Regions population dashboard](#) and the [Sub-Scotland Economic Statistics database](#).

In addition, the next routine release of house price data by Registers of Scotland in November 2023 and National Records of Scotland Household estimates publication (June 2024) including the occupied and vacant dwellings data will be published for Scottish Islands Regions. It shows that 21% of all second homes in Scotland are in the Islands.

These sources and this new geography have been used in this new dashboard compilation of Scottish Islands evidence, in conjunction with other sources:

<https://infogram.com/1pgp9gly9zx7ymc9m3k159k96kaww5z2dq7?live>

[redacted – out of scope]

- [redacted – out of scope]

## Note 2

### Equality Evidence Strategy 2023 – 2025 – Progress Monitoring – October 2023

Action #	Action description	ASD	Completion date	Name of action lead	Status @ July 2023	Status @ October 2023	Lines
[redacted – out of scope]							
Action 43	<p>Scotland's 2022 Census included questions on all characteristics previously included. Additionally, new census questions gathered information on the characteristics of sexual orientation and trans status/history. The planning and delivery of the 2022 Census predates the development of this plan, including actions that we know will improve equality data, but is ongoing through the period of the next Equality Evidence Strategy so is presented in this improvement plan. Actions include: Consultation and planning – gather feedback and review, then finalise plans. Live Census collection. Processing and quality assurance for the Census. Producing outputs – National Stats Accreditation and UK Harmonisation.</p>	National Records of Scotland (NRS)	2023-2025	[redacted]	On course	On course	<p>During 2022 census question development, NRS engaged with stakeholders including individuals and organisations representative of the protected characteristics to ensure that question wording and response options were appropriate.</p> <p>Census collection is now complete and data processing and quality assurance activities are underway.</p> <p>NRS has carried out a further consultation to gather feedback from data users on their requirements for census outputs, including those related to protected characteristics. Outputs on sexual orientation and trans status/history, new for 2022, will allow for new analysis.</p> <p>The first outputs from Scotland's Census 2022 were published September 2023. This included rounded population and household estimates for Scotland and Council Areas. Topic data will be released in the next phase of census outputs that will be published summer 2024.</p> <p>The Census 2022 statistics published were assessed as National Statistics by the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR). This is the result of a rigorous assessment of the quality, trustworthiness and value of these statistics and the compliance of National Records of Scotland (NRS) with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. More information about the assessment can be found on the OSR website.</p> <p>NRS has published an updated release schedule. Topic data (incl., data on protected characteristics variables) will be released in phases starting in summer 2024.</p> <p>We are also in regular contact with census colleagues at ONS and NISRA to explore the feasibility of UK harmonised outputs.</p>
[redacted – out of scope]							



### **Note 3**

#### Equality Evidence Strategy 2023 – 2025 – Progress Monitoring – July 2023

Action #	Action description	ASD	Completion date	Name of action lead	Status	Lines
[redacted – out of scope]						
Action 43	<p>Scotland's 2022 Census included questions on all characteristics previously included. Additionally, new census questions gathered information on the characteristics of sexual orientation and trans status/history. The planning and delivery of the 2022 Census predates the development of this plan, including actions that we know will improve equality data, but is ongoing through the period of the next Equality Evidence Strategy so is presented in this improvement plan. Actions include: Consultation and planning – gather feedback and review, then finalise plans. Live Census collection. Processing and quality assurance for the Census. Producing outputs – National Stats Accreditation and UK Harmonisation.</p>	National Records of Scotland (NRS)	2023-2025	[redacted]	On course	<p>During 2022 census question development, NRS engaged with stakeholders including individuals and organisations representative of the protected characteristics to ensure that question wording and response options were appropriate.</p> <p>Census collection is now complete and data processing and quality assurance activities are underway.</p> <p>NRS has carried out a further consultation to gather feedback from data users on their requirements for census outputs, including those related to protected characteristics. Outputs on sexual orientation and trans status/history, new for 2022, will allow for new analysis.</p> <p>NRS has published an updated release schedule. The first release of 2022 census data will be in autumn 2023 – this release will include high level population estimates. Topic data (incl., data on protected characteristics variables) will be released in phases starting in summer 2024.</p> <p>We are also in regular contact with census colleagues at ONS and NISRA to explore the feasibility of UK harmonised outputs.</p>
[redacted – out of scope]						

