

## Working Together for the Community

### How Local Authorities, Community Groups and the Office for National Statistics benefit by working together

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) understands that Local Authorities know more than we do about their own communities. During the 2001 Census, we learned how much better the Census process works when the organisations who know an area - the Local Authorities and Community Groups - work with ONS. Partnership with local authorities during the 2011 Census will help ONS collect the most accurate and complete information about everyone. This, in turn, will give your Local Authority the facts it needs to plan for and serve local people.

All of the five Local Authorities taking part in the 2007 Census Test have appointed a Census Liaison Manager to work with ONS throughout the Test. As a team we will make sure that we:

- add new addresses to our list and improve the accuracy of those we already have
- use the best enumeration (counting) procedures
- approach the right people during the test
- understand the different groups living in a community, what they need and how best to reach them
- publicise the Test and
- have enough people to take the Census and answer questions from the public

After 13 May the Local Authorities and ONS will review what worked well and what did not during the Test. Using our findings, we will improve the plans for the national 2011 Census.

### Reaching those hardest to reach: community liaison

ONS will also work with other key local organisations that know the community well. There are people in the local community who may have special needs but who are sometimes hard to reach - for example older people, disabled people, ethnic minorities, people with language or learning difficulties and faith communities. It is important that their needs are recognised and that they have the opportunity to take part in the Census.

Together we have set up a Community Liaison Programme. To make an impact in your area it will:

- look at how community groups can provide local information that will be useful to the Census programme
- advertise the Census and explain its use and value
- provide help and guidance to local community groups and members of the public
- help develop language and disability strategies
- help provide translation and interpreting materials and facilities
- help provide a source of field staff and
- help give those staff information and guidance



Telephone  
**0845 603 2011**



Textphone (for hearing impaired people)  
**0845 604 2011**



Web  
**[www.statistics.gov.uk/censustest](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/censustest)**

The 2007 Census Test will give ONS the opportunity to measure how well we work with Local Authorities and community organisations. From this, we can strengthen our shared ties and goals to co-operate as effectively as possible during the 2011 Census.

The organisations and bodies that ONS have identified as being potential partners in working on the Community Liaison Programme include:

- Action for Irish Youth
- Age Concern
- Big Issue
- Board of Deputies of British Jews
- British Institute for Learning Disabilities
- British Ravidassian Society
- British Sikh Federation
- Carers UK
- Citizens Advice
- Commission for Racial Equality
- Communities First (Wales)
- Disability Rights Commission
- Federation of Irish Societies
- Federation of Poles in Great Britain
- Gypsy Council for Education
- Help the Aged/ Help the Aged Wales
- Hindu Forum for Britain
- Interfaith Network for the UK
- Ligali Organisation
- Liberty
- Lord Lieutenants Association

- Mencap
- Mind/Mind Cymru
- Muslim Council of Britain/ Wales
- National Association of British Arabs
- National Association of Councils of Voluntary Organisations
- National Association of Local Councils
- National Centre for Languages
- National Federation of the Blind
- National Literacy Trust
- NHS Direct
- Polish Social and Cultural Association
- Refugee Council
- RNIB
- RNID
- SCOPE
- Shelter/Shelter Cymru
- Stonewall
- Welsh Language Board

If you have any questions or comments about the Census Test 2007, please contact the Census Helpline on **0845 603 2011**

A Textphone is available for people with hearing impairment: **0845 604 2011**

Large Print and Braille booklets are available to help people with a visual impairment to complete the questionnaire.



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