From:
To:
CC:
Date Sent: 22/05/2014 15:09:43
Subject: SG Evidence 020514 - Excel tables format and analysis plan for Crime and Justice Survey
Hi
,

I think we had said that we would give you some feedback on the paper you sent us on the comparability work you're planning on doing on the recorded crime compared to the SCJS. Apologies that its taken so long to get back to you on this.

Just a couple of comments from us:

- Time series data comparing recorded crime with those in the SCJS who said they had reported the crime to the police will be particularly useful.
- Some information on the strengths and weaknesses of each of the data sets, and which is the most appropriate to use for different purposes, e.g. recorded crime data is reliable at local level, whereas the SCJS is not, would be very useful.
- Clarity provided on the differences between the two datasets and what they cover, such as different age groups, different crime types, and the implications for users.

The methodology note produced by E&W covers similar ground and might be a useful resource. I'm sure you've already seen it, but here is the link anyway:

http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/crime-statistics-methodology/methodological-note--analysis-of-variation-in-crime-trends.pdf

Hope this is helpful.



Further to my earlier email, please find attached a copy of the following two documents:

- i) an Excel file which shows the format and content of draft local authority interactive web tables (based on ten years of data up to, and including, 2012-13, by way of an example).
- ii) a brief synopsis of the work currently being undertaken comparing Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS)/police recorded crime data in the comparable category.

Regards

Safer Communities Analytical Unit Justice Analytical Services Scottish Government

From:

Sent: 29 April 2014 19:27

To: 19:27

Cc: ; Sandy Stewart; Halliday R (Roger); Edge N (Nicola);

Subject: Assessment - Recorded Crime - review of commentary

Hi

I understand from the meeting between the Scottish Government and the UK Statistics Authority on Friday 25th April, that the UK Statistics Authority has concerns with the commentary provided in the *Recorded Crime in Scotland* statistical bulletin.

As we have mentioned at earlier meetings, we are reviewing the format and content of the next publication. Some areas which we are reviewing include the following:

 Police reform and the establishment of Police Scotland means that we will no longer be providing commentary at police force area level but will instead be providing commentary on each of the crime groups, with references to local authority statistics. The focus on local authority level data means that we propose to make available web tables at local authority level, covering a ten year period.

We can provide you with a document showing the proposed new structure and summary of content of the forthcoming publication. We can also provide a file which shows the format and content of the local authority web tables (based on ten years of data up to, and including, 2012-13, by way of an example).

 As you are aware, the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) has moved to a biennial design. The most recent findings (for 2012-13) were published in March 2014 and we are proposing to include more detailed information on the SCJS and the comparisons with police recorded crime, in the next publication. We can provide you with an overview of the content of this section of the report. From the second half of last year, we have also been working with four nations crime statistics producer colleagues and have been engaged in activity relating to the comparability of crime and justice statistics, leading to a publication by ONS earlier this year. We have also been working with colleagues from ONS on the text contained within their quarterly crime statistics publication, relating to the comparability of police recorded crime statistics. We will include a corresponding section on the comparability of crime statistics in our next publication.

It would be helpful if myself and could meet with you to review the publication and discuss the areas of concern and consider whether the work we are currently undertaking is focussed in the appropriate areas, with the overall aim being for us to address any areas of concern in advance of the next publication and to incorporate any relevant additional material in the publication, as required.

I appreciate that this is short notice, but would it be convenient to meet with you to-morrow afternoon (Wed 29th April)? and I would be happy to come to your office in Edinburgh. Alternatively, we could discuss some of these topics by phone.

Kind regards,

Safer Communities Analytical Unit Justice Analytical Services Scottish Government

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