

RESPONDENT: 2949724716 – Julian Oliver
SECTOR: Unknown - Individual

Q1 - What are your views of the different census approaches described in the consultation document?

I do not think the administrative data option drills down onto the details that emerge in the census. It is incomplete, and misses some small enclaves, for want of a better word, which can be picked up by the census. Annual sample surveys of 1 and 4% mean that 50% will be surveyed in a decade, so why not go for the census. Staying with the census gives a more accurate snapshot of the population, and selective administrative information is still available for focused projects

Q2 - Please specify any significant uses of population and housing statistics that we have not already identified.

Q3 - Please specify any significant additional benefits of population and housing statistics that we have not already identified.

Q4 - What would the impact be if the most detailed statistics for very small geographic areas and small population groups were no longer available? High, medium, low or no impact?

Medium

If medium or high, please give further information.

It would mean that small enclaves could be missed, failing to pick up some problems in a specific area, as the figures will be lumped in with a larger area and appear to be insignificant

Q5 - What would the additional benefit be if more frequent (i.e. annual) statistics about population characteristics were available for areas like local authorities and electoral wards? High, medium, low or no additional benefit?

Low

If medium or high please give further information.

Using administrative data, a lot of this will already be available

Q6 - Please specify any significant uses of census information for historical research that we have not already identified.

Q7 - What advantages or disadvantages for genealogical or historical research can you see from a move to a solution based on archiving administrative data sources?

Very few advantages compared to the full census

Q8 - What are your views of the risks of each census approach and how they might be managed?

The risk of the administrative data method is that we do not have a tradition of maintaining accurate data, therefore the output will be less accurate. Small scale compulsory samples may have a built in bias, unless 100%, because of the different characteristics of those that comply and those that still don't complete.

Q9 - Are there any other issues that you believe we should be taking into account?