

RESPONDENT: 2826127372 – Eleanor Page
SECTOR: Unknown - Individual

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

The first method consisting of a census once a decade, primarily conducted online, is my preferred option. This method would provide greater continuity and seems to me to be less risky. It also recognises the need to make better use of online communication. The second option would avoid the duplication of data collection and make use of data that is already available. However I would be concerned that the quality of the data cannot be assured in the same way as that provided through the Census. The adoption of the second approach would entail a significant amount of uncertainty for everyone who accesses the data. I feel such a big change would also make the information less accessible to users without in depth statistical knowledge. Additionally, the uncertainty around the resources required to ensure effective transfer of data is likely to inflate the costs of the second method, at least in the short term.

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?

High

If medium or high, please give further information.

The use of data at a small geographical level is particularly important for local service providers, businesses and community groups. Without this information they will be less able to design goods and services to meet the needs of local people.

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.

There would be an additional benefit from more frequent annual statistics. However I feel that the data produced would be of a less coherent nature and would be of lower quality.

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?

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

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

The accessibility/usability of the data produced should be considered in more depth.