

RESPONDENT: 2939139831 – Carole Poulson
SECTOR: Unknown - Individual

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

I feel that the 10 yearly census, changed to be primarily online, will provide the most cost effective method for providing accurate and complete information to base future planning needs. Additionally it will help people in the future understand the current lives and times. Administrative data is likely to be less accurate as people have less commitment to providing good information if increased tax liability or decreased benefits is at stake. It also does not provide much suitable information for family historians. I feel strongly that the census should continue in a very similar form to that currently used and believe that significant cost savings can be made through further expanding use of the internet, as many government departments are already doing. (eg Inland Revenue, Department of Work and Pensions)

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.

For students of local, social and family history detailed statistics are very important to provide context to understand how their area/group and family fit into the bigger picture

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?

Medium

If medium or high please give further information.

Population trends would be seen more easily but annual statistics could be too expensive to justify the cost against the benefit

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?