

RESPONDENT: 2940188793 – Mrs Gillian Smith
SECTOR: Unknown

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

Once a decade with random or even specific intermediary surveys, mainly online, would provide most detail. If a census is not carried out (even though people do not complete it or are economical with the truth when they are supposed to fill it in), there will soon be huge regrets and extra expenditure by various Government departments. There may be grumbles, but folk will soon accept that filling in another form is a 'way of life' in this modern age.

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.

We have such a rapidly changing population.

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?

High

If medium or high please give further information.

A single source, such as a census, would save a lot of searching through many other sources, unless everything is kept online safely .

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

There is the potential for careful tracing of trends which are not immediately apparent in a wider picture. (Diseases, population movements, housing problems, family sizes, job prospects)

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?

We do not know what the future holds or how data might prove to be extremely useful.

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

Online, there is a better chance of finding anomalies or omissions in returns. These then could be followed up by doorstepping.

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