

Population and Migration Statistics (PAMS) Committee Scotland

Minutes of the Population and Migration Statistics (PAMS) Committee (Scotland)
1st May 2019

Present

Organisation

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Alan Ferrier (Chair) | NRS |
| Alex Pritchard (Minutes) | NRS |
| Anneli Lyon | NRS |
| Callum Purdie | NHS ISD |
| Denise Patrick | NRS |
| Emma McCallum | Scottish Government |
| Emily Knipe | ONS |
| Heather Smith | Highlands & Islands Enterprise |
| Jack Reid | NRS |
| Martin Macfie | Scottish Government |
| Mike Atkinson | Highland Council |
| Nick Cassidy | Improvement Service |
| Paedar Morgan | Bord na Gàidhlig |
| Ryan Scott | NRS |
| Steve Morley | North Ayrshire Council |
| Sarah Nodwell | Scottish Water |
| Sam Hunter | NRS |
| Sandy Taylor | NRS |
| Xander Flatt | Edinburgh City Council |

1 Welcome and introductions

1.1 Everybody present introduced themselves around the table.

1.2 The minutes of the previous meeting (PAMS (18) 22) were approved without comment.

1.3 Action points from previous meetings (PAMS (19) 1)

Action point 2018.19 – Sandy Taylor to update William Langdon on latest plan for HARG. Update email issued to all HARG members – NRS are proposing a meeting of the group in June.

Action point 2018.20 – Mike Atkinson to share details with Denise Patrick of the methodology that has been used for aggregating from data zones. Closed – Mike Atkinson to present methodology during this meeting.

Action point 2018.21 – Mike Atkinson to present his work on local populations in Highland council at the next PAMS meeting. Closed – Mike Atkinson to present methodology during this meeting.

Action point 2018.22 – Liam Cavin to provide detailed statement on Census geographies. Closed – An email with formal explanation was sent to PAMS members by Martin on behalf of Liam on 27/11/2018.

Action point 2018.23 – Liam to provide Mike Atkinson with contact details to Geography colleagues for discussing about the methodology for producing COA and data zones. Closed – Details have been passed on and a number of Local Authorities are keen to engage.

Action point 2018.24 – Liam Cavin to contact the National Parks so they can feed into comments about the COA data zone design. Closed – Loch Lomond reviewing on behalf of both National Parks.

Action point 2018.25 – William Langdon to share with Denise Patrick copy of the Centre for Housing Market Analysis (CHMA) guidance. Closed – Denise discussed CHMA guidance with Charles Brown in SG.

Action point 2018.26 – Denise to contact Murdo MacPherson and Charles Brown to clarify the CHMA guidance to Councils not to produce their own projections. Closed – Denise discussed CHMA guidance with Charles Brown in SG.

2 Branch Updates

2.1 Statistics Engagement and Promotion (PAMS (19) 2)

Ryan Scott gave an update on recent developments from the Statistics Engagement and Promotion branch which has now been setup for over a year. Currently there are two teams within the unit: the Statistical Promotion and Analysis team and the Statistics Dissemination team which includes the customer service, historic census work and website teams. A third team is also being created which will focus on helping users to access NRS microdata for research purposes.

Much of the recent work of the Statistics Engagement and Promotion branch has focused on increasing the reach and impact of NRS publications to a wider audience. Since the last meeting this has included a presentation on 'How is Scotland's population changing?' to audiences at the recent Data Festival events, the Gathering and to audiences such as the Improvement Service and to various teams within the Scottish Government.

The team have also been running workshops on data visualisation using infographics and Twitter and recorded versions of these workshops will soon be available on YouTube. Work has also continued to develop [infographics and interactive data visualisations](#) to help people better understand NRS data. The team are continuing to use [Twitter](#) for the promotion of NRS statistics, in particular during periods when there are no forthcoming publications.

Finally, historic census tables are still being made available via the [Scotland's Census website](#). More details on each aspect of team's recent work are provided in the accompanying paper.

Ryan noted that the branch would be keen for feedback from PAMS members on any aspect of their recent work, in particular in relation to the new team working on NRS microdata and on data visualisation and infographics workshops.

Finally Ryan informed the group he has taken over as the Head of Statistics Engagement and Promotion branch after Kirsty MacLachlan's retirement in September and that Hannah Smith is now heading the Statistics Dissemination team which includes Jack Reid, Jake Twigg, Fraser Amos and Clare Leadbetter.

- 2.1.1 Xander Flatt asked about the software that NRS uses for public facing infographics and whether or not any particular software has been licensed for this purpose. Ryan Scott noted that Scottish Government and NRS have a paid account with a service, and details of this will be passed on. Ryan Scott also indicated that NRS will soon be releasing a video guide which will explain how public facing infographics and data visualisations are developed.

Action point 2019.1: Ryan Scott to forward details of software used by NRS for public facing infographics on to Xander Flatt.

Action point 2019.2: NRS to share infographics and data visualisation video guide with PAMS members when this is available.

- 2.1.2 Emily Knipe commented that the ONS Population and Migration statistics team have adopted a "Popstat of the day" feature for Twitter to increase awareness and interest in the work of the team.

Action point 2019.3: Ryan Scott to follow up with Emily Knipe about ONS social media strategy.

2.2 Household Statistics (PAMS (19) 3)

Sandy Taylor updated the group on the recent work of the Household Statistics branch. The publication of the mid-2018 set of household estimates is scheduled for 18th June. The team are currently waiting for an updated Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) to be finalised between NRS and Scottish Assessors to enable access to data on dwellings. If this can be finalised soon then dwellings statistics will be included in the June 18th

release, otherwise these will be a supplementary release. Sandy Taylor noted that the team are currently looking at ways to improve this publication to ensure it meets user needs and, as such, are planning to use Survey Monkey to gather responses to a short set of questions. This survey will be issued to PAMS members on 2nd May with responses sought by 17th May.

Small area household estimates for 2018 are also scheduled for release on June 18th both on the [NRS website](#) and on statistics.gov.scot and corresponding small area estimates on dwellings will be prepared once the Scottish Assessors DSA is finalised. The team has also been working on making historic dwelling estimates available using 2011 data zones. However the team are proposing to discontinue the publication of household and dwelling estimates for 2001 data zones based on their limited usage and NRS are keen for feedback from PAMS members on this proposal.

Sandy informed the group that the method used for household projections is currently being reviewed. NRS has been comparing the methodology used in Scotland with that used by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in England and Wales. The team will write up and discuss findings from this methodology review with the Household Analysis Review Group (HARG). Sandy noted at this point that the team are keen for new volunteers for the HARG.

An updated set of electoral register statistics was [published](#) on 22nd March.

Finally, Sandy reminded the group of the work of the Cross-Government Housing Statistics Group (CGHSG) which has launched it's [2019/20 workplan](#) for which it is currently inviting users to complete a [feedback survey](#).

2.2.1 Mike Atkinson noted during the morning session of the PAMS meeting there were no objections to the discontinuation of household and dwelling estimates using 2001 data zones. Mike Atkinson is also keen to be involved in the HARG.

2.2.2 Mike Atkinson asked Sandy Taylor how confident NRS was of finalising the DSA with Scottish Assessors in time for the June 18th release date and whether or not the quality of the data will be fit for purpose.

Action Point 2019.4: Sandy Taylor to follow up with Mike Atkinson on DSA progress and determine suitability of data once this has been acquired.

2.3 Vital Events (PAMS (19) 4)

Julie Ramsay was not able to attend this meeting so Alan Ferrier gave an update for the Vital Events branch. NRS published healthy life expectancy estimates for the first time on 27th February. These statistics had previously been published by the Information Services Division (ISD). NRS has adopted the methodology used by ONS to enable comparability with life expectancy estimates in England and Wales.

The team have also continued work on assessing reasons for changes in mortality trends and are developing an academic paper with colleagues in NHS Scotland and ISD which will be submitted to a journal in the next few weeks.

The baby names publication was released on 19th March and an update to the baby names app now allows for users to compare two different names

(<https://scotland.shinyapps.io/babynames/>). There are numerous other forthcoming publications from the vital events branch, details of which are included in the accompanying paper.

2.4 Population and Migration Statistics (PAMS (19) 5, 6 &7)

Denise Patrick gave an update on the recent work of the Population and Migration Statistics branch. Work has begun to develop the 2018-based national population projections in conjunction with ONS colleagues. Consultations with users will take place over the summer and the team is in conversation with ONS about a Scottish user event.

The team have also been working on sub-council area projections, for which a significant user need has been identified. This project is currently being scoped out but it will likely include training and guidance for POPGROUP for users keen to produce their own estimates. Denise noted that the LGA POPGROUP steering committee have a vacancy for a Scottish representative, details of which are included in the annex of the accompanying paper (PAMS (19) 5).

Work is about to start on mid-2018 Small Area Population Estimates (SAPE) which will be published in August 2019. The team are also working to produce a consistent back-series of SAPE on 2011 Data Zone boundaries for mid-2001 to mid-2010. Details of this work are included in the additional PAMS Paper (19) 7).

The annual update of the detailed migration tables has been brought forward from July to 25th April to coincide with publication of the mid-2018 population estimates. The team are also investigating how the dissemination and accessibility of migration statistics can be improved. Part of this work has been exploring the possibility of turning the [Local Area Migration](#) spreadsheet into an interactive app/dashboard to be available on the NRS website. Denise noted that NRS are keen for feedback from PAMS members on the Local Area Migration spreadsheet and views on plans to develop an interactive app/dashboard. Denise also encouraged anyone who would be interested in testing early versions of the app/dashboard to get in touch (email: daniel.burns@nrscotland.gov.uk).

Finally, the release of the next update of the Population by Country of Birth and Nationality, scheduled for release on 23rd May 2019, is likely to be pushed back a day, to the 24th, given that the UK may have to hold European Parliamentary elections on this date. [Note: the release date for this publication has now been confirmed as 24th May 2019.]

More detail on each of these strands of work are included in the accompanying paper.

- 2.4.1 Steve Morley noted that the Local Area Migration spreadsheet is very important for many Local Authorities in carrying out their own analysis and would prefer that the interactive app/dashboard be introduced alongside the spreadsheet rather than replace it. Denise Patrick noted that there may be an option to download the data via the app/dashboard and work will continue to ensure that the needs of all users are met.

3 Scotland's Census 2021

3.1 General Update (PAMS (19) 8)

Esta Clark was unable to attend the meeting so Anneli Lyon updated the group on recent work and developments from the Scotland's Census 2021 programme. Question development is now largely complete for Census 2021 and work continues to develop and user test questions to ensure that they maximise response, minimise respondent burden and ensure good quality data which meets user needs. A particular focus of this testing has been on how questions are presented online. On the whole, most questions are staying the same. However, there are some changes to questions and respondent guidance to improve data quality and a small number of new questions are being recommended. Details of these changes and a complete copy of the rehearsal question set is included in the accompanying paper.

Work is also continuing around the Census (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill whose purpose is to make answering the new census questions on sexual orientation and transgender status/history voluntary. The Bill was laid before Parliament on 2 October 2018 and has now gone through numerous stages which are detailed in the accompanying paper. The progress of the Bill can also be followed on the [Scottish Parliament website](#).

The Census team has also been developing plans for the Census rehearsal in autumn 2019 and how relevant systems and services will be set up before 2021. This will include ongoing meetings with all Local Authorities to talk through plans for the rehearsal and the full Census.

Work has also been continuing to investigate the use of administrative data during Census 2021 and beyond. NRS are keen to make use of administrative data in the collection, production and quality assurance of population statistics going forward.

Finally, Anneli reminded the group that details of Census events and workshops are available on the [Scotland's Census website](#) and that feedback on all aspects of the work undertaken so far is welcome (email: scotlandscensus@nrscotland.gov.uk). The [Scotland's Census Mailchimp](#) newsletter can also be used to keep up to date with all the latest updates from Scotland's Census 2021.

3.2 Census Sex Question (Presentation (19) 1)

Anneli Lyon gave a presentation on recent developments around the sex and transgender status questions that are to be recommended for inclusion in Scotland's Census 2021.

- The 2011 Census question on sex asked a binary self-identified question with guidance that informed members of the trans population to answer as they identified irrespective of whether or not they held a gender recognition certificate.
- During the NRS Census Topic Consultation in 2015, evidence was provided by users indicating that there continues to be a strong user need for the key demographic variable, sex. The consultation also highlighted that gender identity and transgender were topics that should be considered for further investigation based on user requirements.
- As such, following the topic consultation, NRS held a stakeholder event to provide users an opportunity to indicate their need for data on sexual orientation and transgender status.

- Users indicated that that they were happy with the self-identified sex question but also wanted the question/guidance to be changed such that the non-binary population would be able to answer. This consultation also indicated a user need for identifying the size and location of the transgender population in Scotland.
- Following an extensive programme of acceptability, cognitive and quantitative testing a new set of questions was proposed for inclusion in Census 2021 (shown in Presentation (19) 1). This proposed question would allow the non-binary population to respond to the sex question using an “Other” category but outputs from the question would remain binary (“Other” responses would be randomly assigned to female or male in outputs)
- During the Census (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill the revised sex question came under scrutiny and two main issues were identified by some of the respondents providing evidence to the Parliamentary committee.
 - There were issues with the non-binary response (“Other”) option
 - Some respondents also indicated issues with a self-identification sex question.
- Given the recent feedback during the Bill process, NRS will now engage more widely with data users and stakeholder groups. As such, Anneli indicated that NRS are keen for feedback from PAMS members on the 2011 sex question and how well it met their needs. In particular the team are keen for comments on the self-identified nature of the sex question, thoughts on a non-binary sex question with binary outputs and requirements for outputs from the sex question (please email: anneli.lyon@nrscotland.gov.uk)

3.2.1 Denise Patrick asked what ONS plan to include in the 2021 Census for England in Wales with respect to a sex question. Anneli Lyon and Emily Knipe indicated that ONS are recommending the inclusion of a binary sex question and a separate gender identity question.

3.2.2 Sandy Taylor asked if the sex question was liable to change further after the Census rehearsal had been completed. Anneli indicated that, given the current scrutiny surrounding the sex question, the version to be included for Census rehearsal will be the 2011 question with 2011 guidance. NRS will take on board comments and recommendations from the Parliamentary committee once the Census (Amendment) Bill process is complete and further engagement will be undertaken before finalising the Census 2021 sex question.

3.2.3 Alan Ferrier asked whether there was any indication as to the size of the non-binary population in Scotland. Anneli Lyon indicated that while there are no firm estimates on the size of the non-binary population in Scotland, it will almost certainly be less than 1% of Scotland’s population.

3.2.4 Paedar Morgan asked whether the reassignment of the non-binary population back to male and female in Census outputs would be truly random. Anneli Lyon indicated that this is still under consideration but reassignment might, for example, take account of overall numbers of males/females in Scotland. This reassignment method was used during the most recent Australian Census and NRS are consulting with colleagues in Australia to discuss best practice when implementing this method.

Action Point 2019.5: Anneli Lyon to circulate a summary to PAMS committee members and to Local Authority representatives for discussion and feedback on the 2021 sex question.

Action Point 2019.6: Heather Smith to forward contact details for the Highlands & Islands Enterprise equalities manager on to Anneli Lyon.

4 Population and Migration Statistics

4.1 Summary of key findings from Mid-2018 Population Estimates & future developments (Presentation (19) 2)

Denise Patrick gave a presentation to the group which outlined some of the headline findings from the most recent publication of the [mid-year Population Estimates](#) and to talk about some of the possible future developments.

- Key findings from the mid-2018 Population Estimates:
 - Scotland's population is at a record high of 5.44 million but population growth has slowed since 2016.
 - Migration is driving Scotland's population increase as natural change (birth minus deaths) is not contributing to population growth. There is in fact a natural decrease as the mid-2018 estimates show deaths are exceeding births. This is the largest natural decrease on record for Scotland.
 - Scotland's population is ageing. These estimates show 19% of people in Scotland are aged 65 or over.
 - Population growth varies across Scotland. 14 council areas experienced depopulation and these were mainly rural or island councils as well as areas in the West of Scotland. Meanwhile many of the council areas experiencing the fastest rate of population growth are in the East of Scotland (Midlothian, the City of Edinburgh and East Lothian for example).
- NRS welcomes feedback on the latest Population Estimates publication and related outputs. The team are particularly keen to hear from PAMS members about the impact of the data, how the data is being used and whether there are any known policy responses being planned in relation to these latest figures.
- An ambitious programme of work is also underway to transform the production of population and migration statistics which is being led by ONS in close cooperation with NRS and NISRA. This body of work is exploring the use of administrative data (from sources such as DWP, HMRC and HESA) as a key source of evidence on international migration and population statistics.

4.1.1 Mike Atkinson noted that the interactive slider tool which has been introduced for the mid-year population estimates is very useful.

5 Updates from other organisations

5.1 The address point method – creating population estimates for local development plans (Presentation (19) 3)

Mike Atkinson gave a presentation outlining the method used by Highland Council to create estimates for local development planning using the address point method. This work was motivated by the fact that settlement and locality geographies created by NRS do not always represent geographies that Local Authorities recognise or use. This has

meant that Highland Council has, in recent years, created its own population estimates for settlements in a geography more useful for Highland stakeholders.

- The method used by Highland Council for many years is the “Address Point Method”. In more recent years the “Council Tax Properties” dataset has been used instead as a proxy for “Residential Properties”.
- This method allows for a proportionate allocation of the population based upon the count of “Residential properties” falling within the partial Data Zones intersecting any geography. A map based illustration of this method indicating how it has been implemented for Inverness population estimates is included in the accompanying presentation.
- Mike noted that it would be appropriate to apply the same method to a range of other data relevant to people and places. This method is also useful for re-aggregating Census based and Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) information. Mike is also exploring further work to automate this method.

5.1.1 Denise Patrick noted that it would be interesting to hear whether this method or similar methods are being used by other Local Authorities. Denise also noted that engagement with PAMS members and other Local Authority representatives would be useful to inform the development of NRS geographies in the future to ensure that user needs are met and that consistency is maintained across Scotland as far as possible.

5.1.2 Martin Macfie asked about the methodology for analysis involving things like the SIMD for geographies which include partial Data Zones. Mike Atkinson indicated that using the residential multiplier (outlined in the accompanying presentation) is appropriate for these purposes.

5.1.3 Alan Ferrier asked whether there was any forum, outside of PAMS, for Local Authorities to share tools such as the address point method. Mike Atkinson indicated that at the moment PAMS meetings are one of the only forums for this kind of methodological discussion.

Action point 2019.7: Denise Patrick to keep PAMS updated on plans for future releases of settlements and localities.

5.2 Open Data and Scotland’s Open Government Action Plan 2018-2020 (Presentation (19) 4)

Martin Macfie from the Scottish Government Open Data Team presented to the group on Open Data and Scotland’s Open Government Action Plan.

- Martin outlined some of the core principles underlying the open government commitments for the Scottish Government and reminded PAMS members of the [Open Government in Scotland Action Plan](#), published in January this year.
- Martin discussed Scotland’s Statistics Open Data Portal statistics.gov.scot which provides free and open access to data from a wide range of statistics producers, including NHS ISD, Scottish Government and NRS. Martin reiterated the Scottish Government’s commitment to develop open data by increasing the amount of official statistics published as open data, improving the communication of insights from data and future work to increase data literacy amongst data users.
- Martin then talked through the commitments outlined in the Action Plan which are included in the accompanying handout to this presentation.

- Finally, Martin discussed some of the recent work of the Open Data Team which has included work to develop a publishing method for the National Performance Framework datasets. The team has also been delivering analyst training on producing visualisations and apps using open data. Work to promote open data has also taken place at events such as DataFest, the Gathering and the Scottish Household Survey user day.

5.2.1 Ryan Scott noted that analyst training outlined in the accompanying presentation was mainly focused on the use of web applications. Ryan asked about whether support and guidance could be made available for organisations that did not use web apps and were more focused on the use of tools such as CSV files. Martin Macfie agreed that this would be useful.

Action point 2019.8: Martin Macfie to discuss visualisation training with Ryan Scott.

5.2.2 Alan Ferrier asked whether training on the use of statistics.gov.scot had expanded to include organisations outside of Scottish Government. Martin Macfie indicated that the team are keen to engage with organisations outside of the Scottish Government to gather information on their requirements and establish the need for training on using the open data portal.

5.3 Scottish Household Survey (Presentation (19) 5)

Emma McCallum from the Scottish Household Survey team gave a presentation outlining the nature of the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) and the way the team has promoted its use.

- The SHS has expanded since 1999 to now essentially include three surveys: the Scottish Household Survey, the Scottish House Condition Survey and the Transport Scotland Travel Diary. The survey is an interviewer led 1hour survey and is a vital tool for collecting evidence on the opinions and attitudes of Scotland's people.
- Response rates have been falling since 2009 but are currently stable for the SHS at 64% which corresponded to around 10,500 interviews in 2017. Detailed information on the methods used for sampling and selecting interviewees and the wide range of content covered during the survey is included in the accompanying presentation slides.
- Some of the findings from the most recent SHS are: 61% of adults in Scotland, think that climate change is an immediate and urgent problem, 93% are engaged in cultural activities, 81% had taken part in physical activity in the previous four weeks and that 14% did not use the internet. A range of other indicative statistics from the SHS are included in the accompanying presentation slides and Emma referred the group to the [SHS page](#) on the Scottish Government website where more information on a wide variety of topics is available.
- The findings from the SHS are reported at the national level every autumn in the Scotland's People: Annual Report and approximately four to six weeks later the same data is made available for Local Authorities. More recently the team has worked to develop a smaller, key findings report focusing on National Indicators in the SHS which incorporates infographics to make the SHS findings more accessible.

- Alongside this, Topic Reports are now also produced (for example a report focusing specifically on Climate Change from the 2017 SHS).
- The SHS team has started producing innovative dissemination tools such as a data comic, bespoke Local authority reports and an interactive app on the Scottish Government open data portal, statistics.gov.scot, created using R-shiny.
- A technical report alongside the SHS results publications is also produced which explains the underlying survey methodology.
- The SHS team are also able to create Ad-hoc tables on request and can provide access to microdata under supervision.
- The next SHS report will be released in September 2019 with a provisional date for Local Authority Tables being November 2019. Emma encouraged PAMS members to get in contact to discuss any methodological or data use aspects of the SHS or to discuss the possible inclusion of new questions (shs@gov.scot) and more contact information is included in the accompanying slides.

5.3.1 Martin Macfie commented that the [Scottish Surveys Core Questions](#) survey is another useful source of open data statistics.

5.3.2 Emily Knipe asked if there are any plans to transform the way the SHS is Carried out to try to improve/maintain response rates, for example using online collection. Emma McCallum commented that the nature of the SHS makes online collection difficult, particularly given that access to the internet is one of the key topics covered during the SHS. Emma also noted that response rates to online and telephone collections are often very low and therefore may not provide a representative sample.

5.3.3 Denise Patrick asked if the Local Authority level data was likely to continue to be produced in Excel spreadsheets. Emma McCallum indicated that this year the team will trial the use of R-Markdown to produce Local Authority tables but will continue to produce the Excel spreadsheets if there is a user need amongst stakeholders.

6 Feedback

6.1 PAMS meetings and future agendas (PAMS (19) 9)

Alan Ferrier asked committee members to review and offer feedback on the PAMS 19 (09) paper which outlines some suggestions for future content of PAMS meetings to ensure that that content of meetings is relevant and useful to the committee members.

7 A.O.B.

7.1 Ryan Scott informed the committee that, with the upcoming release of the latest Registrar General Annual Report (RGAR), in August, NRS are keen to gather user stories on how data is being used from stakeholders so that these can be included in the RGAR. These user stories are likely to take the form of short (100 word) summaries on a way that NRS data has been used. As such if PAMS members have used data for a piece of work or are aware of other pieces of work which have used NRS data and are keen to contributed these stories, please get in touch to discuss potential inclusion in the upcoming RGAR.

- 7.2 Alan Ferrier noted that he will be stepping down as the chair of PAMS committee meetings and Ryan Scott will be chairing future meetings.
- 7.3 Alan Ferrier informed the group that the Centre for Longitudinal Studies are hosting a free workshop: "Longitudinal Data Across the Life Course: An Introduction to using Cohort Data" which will be taking place in Edinburgh on the 17th May. Also of interest to PAMS members, The British Society for Population Studies will be hosting their annual conference in Cardiff from September the 9th-11th 2019. NRS can provide more information on either of these events for those interested.
- 7.4 Alan Ferrier asked PAMS members to forward on contact details for anyone that may be interested in attending future PAMS committee meetings.
- 7.5 Steve Morley noted that it would be useful to have an update on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) at the next PAMS committee meeting.

Action point 2019.9: Alan Ferrier to request an update from the Scottish Government team working on the SIMD for discussion at the next PAMS committee meeting.

Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday 13th November 2019 (tentative)