

**Population And Migration Statistics (PAMS) Committee  
(Scotland)**

## Household estimates and projections branch update

### 1. Household and dwelling estimates

The council tax base data required as input to the preparation of our annual household estimates has all now been received and quality assured. We are grateful to local authority colleagues for their help with this. Publication of the mid-2018 set of household estimates is scheduled for 18 June. As with the previous year's publication, this will include updated statistics on occupied and vacant dwellings, second homes, and trends in household types. The publication will also include analysis using the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation and the latest (2016) Scottish Government Urban Rural classification. An updated infographic (to illustrate the key findings) and an interactive data visualisation (to enable viewing of several key charts for selectable council areas and years) will also accompany the publication.

We are currently awaiting finalisation of an updated Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) between National Records of Scotland and the Scottish Assessors to enable us to access the relevant data on dwellings - council tax band, type of property and number of rooms. If the DSA is signed off in the next couple of weeks we may still be able to include the dwellings statistics in the household estimates publication on 18 June. Otherwise they will be issued as a supplementary set of statistics later in the year.

We have been looking at ways to improve and develop this annual publication and its associated products, to best meet the needs of users. To help with this, we plan to use Survey Monkey to gather responses to a short set of questions. The survey will be issued on 2 May (with an email alert to PAMS members and a Scotstat message) with responses sought by 17 May. The proposed set of survey questions is included as an Annex to this paper.

### 2. Household and dwelling estimates for small areas

The small area (2011 data zone) household estimates data for 2018 are also scheduled for release on 18 June, both on the [NRS website](#) and on [statistics.gov.scot](http://statistics.gov.scot). Corresponding small area estimates for the number and characteristics of dwellings will also be prepared once the Data Sharing Agreement with the Scottish Assessors (referred to earlier in this paper) has been finalised.

Dwelling estimates for 2011 data zones are currently available for each year back to 2014. We have been working on compiling a back series of dwelling estimates for this geography for all years between 2003 and 2013 and plan to issue this later in the year.

Household (2007 to 2014) and dwelling (2003 to 2017) estimates for 2001 data zones are now, on the basis of metrics from the NRS website, little used in comparison to those for 2011 data zones. We therefore plan to discontinue the publication household and dwelling estimates for 2001 data zones unless strong user demand is expressed for them. **We would welcome comments from PAMS on this proposal.**

### 3. Household projections

Since the publication last July of the [2016-based household projections for Scotland](#), we have been reviewing the methodology used to produce the household projections. This has included testing the sensitivity of the projections to changes in some of the underlying assumptions, for example on the proportion of the population that are assumed will live in communal establishments. We have also been comparing our current projections methodology with that used by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in producing the household projections for England, most recently for the [2016-based household projections in England](#).

We plan to write up and discuss the findings our projections methodology review work with ONS colleagues and, separately, with the Household Analysis Review Group (HARG) at a meeting in June. As some members of the HARG group have moved on since it last met a couple of years ago, we have been looking to refresh its membership. We do have some new recruits, **but would welcome suggestions/ volunteers from PAMS.**

### 4. Electoral Register statistics

An updated set of electoral register statistics – reflecting the position as at 1 December 2018 - was collected from Electoral Registration Offices and [published](#) on 22 March.

### 5. Cross-government housing statistics group

The Cross-Government Housing Statistics Group (CGHSG) - formed in early 2018 – has continued its work to review the quality, coherence and accessibility of official housing statistics across the UK.

The Office for National Statistics has made a [blog post](#) providing an updated on the work of this group, launching the new [2019/20 workplan](#) and inviting users to complete a [feedback survey](#). The blog also notes that it is aimed to run a user session on cross UK statistical coherence on the housing and planning topic later this year.

The Office for Statistics Regulation have also published a positive [blog](#) on the work being carried forward by the CGHSG.

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## Annex - NRS annual publication of Estimates of Households and Dwellings

### Survey on NRS "Estimates of Households and Dwellings" publication

We have been looking at ways to improve and develop this annual publication and its associated products, to best meet the needs of users. We would value the input of our stakeholders on this.

1. Which of these statistical outputs do you use? (more than one answer possible)

Publication	
Tables	
Charts	
Infographic of key findings	
Interactive data visualisation	
Small area statistics on households and dwellings spreadsheets	

2. Which format of the tables do you use?

Excel file	
Csv file	
Both	
I do not download the tables	

The number of dwellings that are occupied and vacant, and information on the characteristics of dwellings such as dwelling type and number of rooms at data zone level are published in the small area statistics page. Information is given for both 2001 Data Zones and 2011 Data Zones. For 2011 Data Zones the information starts from 2013.

3. Do you use the estimates for 2001 data zones?

Yes	
No	

4. We are planning to discontinue the publication of the dwelling estimates for 2001 data zones. Would this cause any issues for you?

No	
Yes	

If you answered Yes, please give examples of how you use the estimates for 2001 data zones

5. We are planning to produce dwellings estimates for 2003-2013 on 2011 Data Zones. Are you interested in these back series for 2011 data zones?

Yes	
No	

6. Please give brief details of any case studies or examples of how you use the information from the publication and/ or its associated products in your work. This will help us better understand and describe how the data is used.

7. Do you have any other comments on the published statistics on household estimates or household projections?

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