Paper Title: Household Estimates and Projections update

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Security marking	Not sensitive
Can this be shared wider than PAMS?	Yes
Actions for PAMS members ahead of meeting	Review the paper and provide comments/feedback
Aims for discussion	To update PAMS members on developments in Household Estimates and Projections, and seek feedback.
Key questions for PAMS members	Do you have any feedback on the interactive data visualisations for household estimates and projections (section 5)?
What is required from PAMS members	Comments/feedback on the paper

Population And Migration Statistics (PAMS) Committee (Scotland)

Household estimates and projections update

1.   Household and dwelling estimates

The mid-2019 estimates of households and dwellings in Scotland were published on 18 June. As with the previous year's publication, these included updated statistics on occupied dwellings, vacant dwellings (split into unoccupied exemptions and long-term empty properties), second homes and trends in household types. The publication also included an analysis using the latest versions of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation and Scottish Government Urban Rural classifications. It was accompanied by an updated infographic (to illustrate the key findings) and an interactive data visualisations (to enable viewing of key charts of data for selectable choice of councils and years).

A Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) between National Records of Scotland and the Scottish Assessors to enable us to access and publish summaries of the relevant data on dwellings has still to be finalised. In the interim, the 2019 estimates included a breakdown of the dwellings by council tax band at council and data zone level, as this is information that is effectively already in the public domain via the Assessors Portal. Release of data on other characteristics of dwellings - dwelling type and number of rooms - will have to wait for the DSA to be in place.

2.   Small area household and dwelling estimates

The small area (2011 data zone) household and dwelling estimates data for 2019 were also released on 18 June, both on the NRS website and on statistics.gov.scot. This data included updated information on unoccupied exemptions (eg dwellings that are new builds not yet occupied, undergoing repair or awaiting demolition) and long-term empty properties. An app to enable visualisation of the small area data through an interactive map was also made available.

Dwellings estimates for 2011 Data Zones are available for each year back to 2014. Work to compile a back series of dwellings estimates for 2011 Data Zones for years prior to 2014 has resumed and it is hoped to release information in the New Year.

3.   Household projections

The 2018-based household projections were published on 29 September. These provided projections of household numbers by household type and age of household reference person over a 25-year projection period, to 2043. Separate projections were made for Scotland, council areas and National Park and Strategic Development Plan areas. In addition to the principal (or main) projection additional variant household projections were produced to illustrate the impact of different assumptions, for example on the levels of future migration. Detailed data from the projections are also available through statistics.gov.scot.

These latest household projections incorporated some modifications to the methodology, including:

- calculating headship rates based on census data about the 'household reference person' rather than the traditional - and slightly outdated - 'head of household' concept;

- dropping the 1991-2001 component from the past trend data used in the projections, as this period now carries relatively little weight in making projections forward to 2043;

- 2001-2011 headship rate trends are projected forward to 2021 and then held constant (previously these trends were projected all the way through to the end of the projection period).

Further details on the methodology used in the projections are included in the Sources and methods section of the publication.

4.   Electoral Register statistics

In order to inform the next review of (UK) parliamentary constituency boundaries, a one-off collection of data on the electoral registers as at 2 March 2020 was carried out in the autumn. This was designed to mitigate the potential impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the annual canvass exercise which Electoral Registration Offices carry out in order to help maintain and update the electoral registers. Summary statistics from this data collection are scheduled for publication on 5 January 2021. The Office for National Statistics are due to publish the corresponding statistics for England & Wales, and for the UK as a whole, on the same day.

Preparations are currently underway for the next regular collection of electoral register data (as at 1 December 2020).

5.   Interactive data visualisations

Interactive data visualisations provide a useful and flexible tool for users to drill down and identify patterns within data sets. The publications on household and dwelling estimates and on household projections were each accompanied by interactive data visualisations and maps. Since publication we have been working to further enhance these visualisations, also taking on board a number of suggested improvements that we received from users. Further details of this work are provided below.

Household estimates:

Estimates: https://scotland.shinyapps.io/nrs-household-estimates/

Working on some minimal formatting amendments.

Small area map: https://scotland.shinyapps.io/nrs-small-area-household-estimates/

Working on some improvements suggested by users, including:

- merging pages and separating out into headed sections
- moving the 'select council area' section above the variables, as users are more likely to select one area and change the variable rather than comparing one variable for multiple areas.
- tidying up a few minor quirks in selecting the Local Authorities, eg having to click outside the dropdown selection list of Local Authorities before being able to click the Update button

- introducing better coordination of the map and legend when the variable being mapped is changed (using radio button)
- synchronising the legend colour bandings and the colours used on map, and making the formatting of legend more consistent.

   Household projections: https://scotland.shinyapps.io/nrs-household-projections/

Some minimal formatting changes made and age classes adjusted to better align with the published statistics.

We would be interested to receive any further suggestions that PAMS members may have for additional improvements to the interactive data visualisations mentioned above, or any ideas for new visualisations.

6.   Cross-government housing statistics group

The Cross-Government Housing Statistics Group (CGHSG) continues its work to review the quality, coherence and accessibility of official housing statistics across the UK. The Group meets online every few months. An update on Scottish Government (SG) housing statistics for the September meeting is shown below:

- On 23 June, SG published their quarterly housing statistics, including affordable housing supply (January to end of March). This will be updated as usual throughout the Covid-19 pandemic as it has not relied on external data sources.

- No new housebuilding statistics as there were delays in getting data from local authorities (LA). Since then, SG have been working with LAs to agree revised deadlines and have now received new builds data for the delayed quarter. SG published some of these statistics on 29 September in their quarterly update. However, due to the impact of COVID-19 on the provision of new housebuilding data by some local authorities to the usual timescales, this has slowed the timing of the data collection process over this period. This publication therefore includes figures on all-sector new house building starts and completions only up to end December 2019, with more recent figures on social sector new builds only up to end March 2020. In addition, since this publication there have been some further delays and issues with the provision of new build data from some authorities, which has caused a delay in the planned publication of the next set of all-sector figures to end March 2020, which had initially been scheduled for release in December 2020 but which are now delayed with a revised publication date yet to be announced.

- On 29 September, SG published their latest quarterly affordable housing figures (April to end of June), which showed that levels of affordable housing supply across this quarterly period April to June 2020 had been impacted by the Covid lockdown measures, with the number of quarterly completions down 84% on the same quarter in the previous year. In Scotland, construction restarted on 22 June and house moves were permitted from 29 June.

- SG is looking at whether they can make more use of Energy Performance Certificates (EPC) management information as a leading indicator for the number of new homes completed, like what is being done in England and Wales. Currently Scotland don't have

EPC data publicly reported and this could potentially be added to new build publications.

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7.   Scottish Household Survey (SHS)

The Scottish Household Survey 2019 results were published on 15 September. This includes the latest SHS housing chapter material, which features a range of information relating to housing tenure, characteristics of households, housing aspirations and housing satisfaction etc. Further details are available from:

SHS annual report: https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-household-survey-2019-annual-report/pages/4/

and the

SHS Explorer tool: https://scotland.shinyapps.io/sg-scottish-household-survey-data-explorer/

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