

General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) Consultation on Statistical Outputs

1. Background

Between December 2010 and February 2011 GROS asked for views to help determine the shape of its future Demography Statistical Work Programme. Budget reductions announced in the 2010 Spending Review mean that GROS has to consider where savings can be found. It is critically important that our statistical outputs reflect our users' priorities. The consultation was intended to provide the basis for informing the planning of demography statistical work and outputs over the next few years.

2. Summary of Responses

We received a large number of responses for a consultation of this type, we are happy that Household Analysis Review Group (HARG) members and other users engaged and identified the importance of these statistics. An analysis of the consultation responses has been published at: <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/files2/stats/consultation-groups/stats-consultation-analysis-report.pdf>

The 59 respondents reported their use of Household Statistics as follows:

Statistical Output	Users
Estimates of Households and Dwellings	35
Household Projections for Scotland, 2008-Based	31
Household Projections for Scotland's Strategic Development Plan Areas and National Parks	10
Small Area Household Estimates	29
Dwelling counts at data zone level	24

The reasons for use included service planning and provision, calculating housing need, research and teaching amongst many others. Those replying did so voluntarily, each with their own particular motivation and interpretation of the issues involved. The consultation was open to anyone who wished to respond but tended to capture the views of established demography users.

3. Next Steps

GROS will be preparing a draft statistics plan for work going forward which will be circulated prior to the May meeting of PAMS and to those that responded to the consultation. This plan will then be published on the GROS website.