

**POPULATION AND MIGRATION STATISTICS (PAMS) COMMITTEE  
(SCOTLAND)**

**Alternative Sources Update.**

Feasibility research on administrative data has continued. We have received data from Office for National Statistics (ONS) relating to Scottish Higher Education (HE) students registered to study in England and Wales and NI Number allocations to migrant workers. The data sharing was enabled by the 2007 Statistics Registration Services Act (SRSA). Work with these data sets is now in progress.

Plans for incorporating 2011 Census records in the Scottish Longitudinal Study (SLS) are being developed. It is expected that the updated SLS will be released towards the end of 2013 in line with the other UK Longitudinal Studies. After encouraging feasibility results work on incorporating data on pupil attendance and achievement from the school census is going ahead. Expected completion is around the end of the year.

Progress on sharing data with Local Authorities to support work on census alternatives continues to be difficult. It is now unlikely that much will be achieved prior to the 2011 Census. To enable research to take place retrospectively we are proposing to ask Local Authorities that suitable 'snapshots' or extracts of relevant data at unit level are prepared and retained until such time as data sharing with General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) is resolved. Views on this proposal are welcomed.

**General Register Office for Scotland  
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