

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

### Household estimates and projections branch update

#### 1. 2014 Estimates of households and dwellings

The [2014 estimates of households and dwellings](#) were published in July. The small area statistics were produced based on the new 2011 Data Zone boundaries. We have also produced equivalent data based on the 2001 Data Zone boundaries, which is available if requested. We are working on producing revised time series for the dwelling counts, based on 2011 Data Zone boundaries (though this is not possible for the small area household estimates).

The [Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics](#) (SNS) website is being replaced with a new Scottish Statistics website. A test version of the new website is available at <http://statisticsbeta.com/>. It is not possible to put statistics using the new data zone boundaries onto the old SNS site, and as the replacement website is still in a test version, we haven't been able to publish the small area statistics there either. For now, we have just written 'Until this new website is up and running we are happy to provide the neighbourhood data on request'. No-one has requested this data yet, and we would appreciate it if PAMS members could confirm if they use these statistics.

PAMS members are asked to confirm if they use our small area statistics on households and dwellings

For now, we will publish our small area statistics on the National Records of Scotland (NRS) website, until the full replacement for SNS is launched.

Note that if anyone has any comments on the test version of the new website, you should contact [statistics.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:statistics.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk), rather than NRS.

#### 2. 2015 Estimates of households and dwellings

We collect small area household estimates, based on information from Council Tax systems. This has generally worked well, though some councils have always had issues with the data the report produced. However, the recent changes to the Council Tax charges for empty properties have caused bigger problems for this data collection, so we are now planning to contact the software suppliers, via the Institute of Revenues Rating and Valuation (IRRV), to try to modify these reports to fix these issues, so that they accurately produce the data we need.

#### 3. 2014-based household projections

The next household projections are due to be published in 2016. Normally, we publish the household projections in June or July, a few months after the sub-national population projections are published. However, this year, a review is being carried out of the sub-national population projection method, which means that the sub-national population projections will be published later than usual, in June. Therefore, the household projections will also have to be published later than usual – probably October. We apologise for this delay.

In the past, the projections for National Parks and Strategic Development Plan areas have been published a few months after the projections for council areas. For the 2014-based projections, we are planning to publish them at the same time.

#### 4. Data visualisations and infographics

NRS now has a single [section](#) where you can find all our infographics and interactive data visualisations. We have been publishing an infographic alongside our key publications, which aims to summarise the key points in a way that is very accessible and quick and easy to understand.

Recent work has included:

- [Population projections infographic](#)
- ‘Scotland’s Population 2014’ [infographic booklet](#) to accompany the Registrar General’s Annual Review of Demographic Trends. This booklet aims to give a short, accessible overview of the key trends in Scotland’s population.
- Interactive data visualisations on [Cause of death](#) and [Birth rates](#) as well as an update to [Internal migration](#).
- Mid-year population estimates [infographic](#).

NRS is also using Twitter more to highlight our news releases, infographics and key messages. You can follow us on Twitter at [@NatRecordsScot](#).

Feedback on any of this would be very welcome.

#### 5. Registrar General’s Annual Review of Demographic Trends (RGAR)

We have been considering whether to substantially shorten the [RGAR](#) publication. We decided to stick to the same format for this year’s publication, just improving the appearance of the publication, and doing a lot of work to improve the infographic booklet that accompanied it. We plan to do the same thing for next year’s RGAR, keeping the format similar to this year’s publication.

#### 6. Staff changes

Happily, we have approval for all our posts!

- Debbie Amabile will continue to work on the household estimates.
- Amelia Brereton will be joining us shortly to work with Debbie on the household estimates.
- Hannah Rutherford will remain in the branch, but will work on the household projections instead of the household estimates.
- Vicky Avila is moving from Census to take over Claire McFadden’s work on infographics and data visualisations across NRS.
- Esther Roughsedge remains as the branch head.

Any comments on anything in this paper would be very welcome.

Esther Roughsedge  
NRS: Household estimates and projections branch  
November 2015