

HOUSEHOLD ANALYSIS REVIEW GROUP:

Minutes for the meeting of February 24th 2004

Meeting room 1-F55, Victoria Quay, 2-4pm

Present:

Duncan Gray (Chairman)	Scottish Executive Development Department Analytical Services Division
Elizabeth Fraser	Scottish Executive Development Department Analytical Services Division
Jan Freeke	Glasgow City Council
Steve Morley	North Ayrshire Council
Sara Grainger	Communities Scotland
Alistair Harvey	City of Edinburgh Council
Tom Snowling	Aberdeen City Council
Cecilia Macintyre	General Register Office for Scotland
Helen Wood	Scottish Executive Development Department Planning Services Division
Jan Young	Scottish Executive Development Department Analytical Services Division

Apologies:

Stephen Fraser	Stirling Council
Blair Melville	Homes for Scotland
Derek Neill	North Lanarkshire Council

AGENDA ITEMS 1 AND 2: INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES, MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

- 1.1 The Chairman welcomed members of the group to the meeting.
- 1.2 Action 2.4 Jan Freeke felt that the paper in question was not really relevant to the group and so it was agreed that this action would be dropped.
- 1.3 On point 6.1, GHA should be changed to Communities Scotland.
- 1.4 On point 1.2 VFUS stands for Vacant Follow up Survey – this was not clarified in the last minutes. Jan Freeke also asked for an update to when the result would be made available. Elizabeth Fraser informed the group that at a recent meeting with GROS, it was agreed that they would publish results on their website.
- 1.5 Action 1.3. This was not done for this meeting, although a paper has been circulated detailing proportions used for the 2002 household projections. It is noted that ongoing measurements for communal establishment proportions is an issue as there is no straight forward way to project the proportions over time.

AGENDA ITEM 3: METHODOLOGY FOR COMPILING HOUSEHOLD ESTIMATES FROM 2002

- 2.1 Duncan Gray introduced the item and explained that finding a base for 2002 estimates has brought up issues about the Census 2001 data. He invited members of HARG to comment on the methodological shift and the need to consult again with local authorities before publishing.
- 2.2 The main differences between the council tax base and stock based estimates were highlighted. The council tax data method seems to be favoured by some local authorities and is available earlier than the return necessary for a stock based approach. In turn, using the council tax data to produce estimates would mean we could publish estimates sooner than we currently do. While the stock based method is more precise, assumptions made about vacancy and sharing rates make this a riskier method.
- 2.3 Jan Freeke expressed his concern that the council tax based method had not been tested or approved by local authorities. He was concerned that the council tax data would not give a good count of vacants.
- 2.4 **A letter would be sent out to local authorities seeking comments on plans to move to a council tax based household estimate [Action: Jan Young].**
- 2.5 It is planned to release household estimates at the end of March 2004.

AGENDA ITEM 4: 2001 ESTIMATES – ISSUES

3.1 Duncan Gray brought members attention to Annex A – a paper by Frank Thomas of GROS, on Shared Dwellings in the 1991 and 2001 Censuses. The paper had been written following a previous HARG meeting but was relevant to the current issue of sharing allowances in the stock based household estimates. Jan Freeke was still concerned that due to collection methods, some sharing has been lost in the 2001 Census.

3.2 Elizabeth Fraser had asked Frank Thomas at a recent meeting on the Vacant Follow up Survey (VFUS) about whether the Census Coverage Survey would give any idea about any adjustments made to counts of households for properties which were not classified as Vacant but which were actually vacant. The VFUS found properties which were thought to have been Vacant but which were not and so we need some way of finding the properties which were not classed as Vacant and should have been.
GROS were going to look into the CCS to see if they could help.

3.3 It had been hope that VFUS data would have been available for this HARG meeting. Unfortunately, data was not received in time but **Jan Young agreed to send a paper to HARG members containing some VFUS data. [Action: Jan Young]**
GROS also plan to put tables of VFUS data onto their website in the near future.

ITEM 5: HOUSEHOLD ESTIMATION PROCEDURE FOR AUTHORITIES IN GLASGOW AND THE CLYDE VALLEY AREA

4.1 Jan Freeke asked HARG members for comments on his paper (HARG 2004(7)) He also enquired about whether Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics (SNS) would be providing stock figures by Tenure. Duncan Gray replied that it would not but that there were plans to roll out a Social Rented Database containing information on socially rented housing.

4.2 It was felt that other local authorities would probably find this paper useful.

ITEM 6: PROJECTIONS OF POPULATION IN COMMUNAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

5.1 Jan Young explained that the population projections are based on private household population projections and to get these, the communal establishment population has to be removed from GROS population projections. This has been done by finding, from 2001 Census data, the proportion in each age group, sex and local authority that live in a communal establishment. These proportions are then applied to population projections.

5.2 HARG members were invited to comment on the proportions which were available in a table attached to the paper (HARG 2004(8)Annex A)

ITEM 7: METHODOLOGY FOR 2002 BASED PROJECTIONS

6.1 Duncan Gray outlined the different approaches taken to produce 2002 based household projections. It was feared at the last HARG meeting that the use of a 10% sample to produce 1991 Household Reference Person headship rates might produce odd results, especially in some of the smaller council areas. This has proved to be the case with some oddities in the resulting projections for smaller councils like Clackmannanshire and Orkney. As a result, it has been decided to use the Head of Household headship rates to produce 2002 household projections.

6.2 Another decision to be made is which household estimates to anchor the projections on. Analysis has been done using 2002 stock based estimates and 2003 council tax based estimates. It is planned to release 2002 Household Projections during the beginning of April and we will put as much on the website as possible with a press release.

It is also noted that Local Authorities are interested in the headship rates and so these will be sent to councils with the letter regarding estimates methodology (see Action 2.4).

[Action: Jan Young to send headship rates to local authorities]

6.3 Headship rates will also be made available on the website with as much information on how the projections are calculated as possible

ITEM 8: FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF ESTIMATES AND PROJECTIONS

7.1 Duncan Gray said that there have been discussions with Rob Wishart and David Orr regarding the future of household estimates and projections. There is a 99% certainty that GROS will take on the role of producing the household estimates and projections at all geographical levels.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 There was no other business from anyone in the group.