

**MEETING OF THE POPULATION AND MIGRATION STATISTICS COMMITTEE
(SCOTLAND): 22 MAY 2002**

Present:

David Orr	GROS, Chair	Adam Redpath	ISD
Jenny Boag	Falkirk Council	Marion Lacey	SCVO
Norman Jamieson	City of Edinburgh Council	Maria Melling	Scottish Executive
Stephen Fraser	North Ayrshire Council	Duncan Gray	Scottish Executive
James Arnott	Glasgow City Council	Garnett Compton	GROS
Richard Belding	Aberdeenshire Council	Alan MacGill	GROS, Secretary

0. MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

(a) Apologies

0.1 Apologies were received from Paul Boyle, St Andrews University, Jacqueline Livingstone, Dumfries and Galloway Council, Robert Murdoch Greater Glasgow Health Board, James Reid, Edinburgh University, Ian White, ONS and Frank Thomas, GROS. In addition James Arnott was representing Glasgow City Council for this meeting in place of Jan Freeke.

(b) New Members

0.2 David Orr welcomed Marion Lacey, Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations, Maria Melling Scottish Executive and Alan MacGill GROS who had taken over as secretary from Wilma Smith. David Orr recorded the committee's thanks to Wilma.

1. MINUTES OF PAMS MEETING HELD ON 14 NOVEMBER 2001 – PAMS (01) 10

1.1 The minutes of the last meeting were approved with one amendment at paragraph 5.5 reference to 'Aberdeen' should read 'Aberdeenshire'.

2. UPDATE ON ACTION POINTS FROM THE LAST MEETING – PAMS (01) 11

2.1 All action points from the previous meeting were done other than:-

3.3 Revised Terms of Reference to be produced for the next meeting.

2.2 This work is ongoing and the Terms of Reference would be reviewed and placed on the SCOTSTAT website.

3.5 Members to send any issues they want addressed to the SCOTSTAT Board to David Orr, Jenny Boag or Wilma Smith.

2.3 This would be ongoing and would remain a constant action point.

3. SCOTSTAT

(a) First meeting of SCOTSTAT Board 22 January and follow up action – PAMS (02) 01

3.1 Jenny Boag introduced this item reporting on the proceedings of the first meeting expressing some concern at the relatively slow progress to date, on relatively straight forward actions. The time taken to establish the SCOTSTAT website was a contributing factor.

3.2 David Orr advised that on behalf of PAMS he had responded to the Board request for each Theme Group to register against each interest topic, indicating the type of role it plays in a particular topic such as primary, key secondary, secondary or no role in a particular topic. A paper showing the initial responses from the SCOTSTAT Committee was circulated.

(b) Registering subject matter interests with SCOTSTAT – PAMS (02) 04

3.3 David Orr introduced the paper and invited the committee to input to the template, which was to be completed and returned to SCOTSTAT Board by the end of May. It was agreed that a draft would be produced and cleared with Jenny Boag before forwarding to Scottish Executive.

Action: David Orr, Jenny Boag and Alan MacGill

3.4 It was agreed that there was a need to raise the profile of census data within the Scottish Executive and that this could best be served through SCOTSTAT Board. This would be pursued by Jenny Boag, she would also raise this with Peter Whitehouse, Chair of the Social and Welfare Group, because of the importance of small area deprivation measures.

Action: Jenny Boag

3.5 David Orr noted the increase in registrations of interest in the demography topic on SCOTSTAT and stressed the importance of PAMS members registering with SCOTSTAT and ensuring that SCOTSTAT holds their correct e-mail addresses.

Action: PAMS Members

(c) Multi Source Topic Reports – PAMS (02) 05

3.6 Paper PAMS (02) 05 invited the Committee to indicate a need for any additional tables to be commissioned that fall under the subject responsibility of PAMS.

Action: PAMS Members

3.7 It was agreed that SCOTSTAT Groups should be asked to consider what Census data they want to produce in the statistical reports for their forthcoming subjects for 2003/04 onwards which could enhance their reports.

Action: Jenny Boag

(d) Code of Practice

3.8 David Orr referred to the draft National Statistics Code of practice and the Scottish release Practices Protocol which had been issued by Scottish Executive and encouraged members to respond.

Action: PAMS Members

(e) Neighbourhood Statistics – PAMS (02) 06

3.9 Garnett Compton introduced the paper inviting members to note that the key PAMS input was Small Area Population Estimates and to comment on any omissions relevant to their area of responsibility.

Action: PAMS Members

(f) Scottish Statistical Plan – PAMS (02) 12

3.10 David Orr introduced this paper which gave GROS response to the comments received. It was agreed to pursue further the request from the institutional population estimates and that this could best be done through the Household Analysis Review Group and then feed into population estimates.

Action: Duncan Gray and Stephen Fraser

4. NON-CENSUS ISSUES**(a) Planned changes to Registrar General's Annual Report – PAMS (02) 02**

4.1 This paper had been provided for information following the consultation exercise, which had been carried out, on the proposed changes. Members were thanked for the comments and advised that generally the proposals had met with a favourable response. David Orr advised that the new style report was due to be published in September.

(b) Co-ordination of Population Projection synchronization – PAMS (02) 16

4.2 Garnett Compton presented the paper seeking members views and comments on how a possible solution could be arrived at in an attempt to resolve the difficulty between the release and timing of population projections and household projections. In discussion it was accepted that it was not feasible to align GROS projections and all the structure plans which used projections. Closer alignment of the timetables for population and household projections

may be possible, but the provision of household estimates by local authorities was a constraint. HARG would consider the timing issues for household projections.

Action: Duncan Gray and Stephen Fraser

(c) Longitudinal Study

4.3 Alan MacGill advised that Paul Boyle was producing a paper reporting on progress for the Scottish Longitudinal Study management committee, a copy of this paper would be issued to members.

Action: Alan MacGill

(d) Small Area Population Estimates Progress Report – PAMS (02) 07

4.4 Garnett Compton introduced the report seeking any feedback. Members were happy with progress. Garnett advised that the second meeting was in the process of being arranged.

(d) Household Estimates and Projections – PAMS (02) 08

4.5 Duncan Gray reported that Scottish Executive was considering methods of improving the compilation of data used in the preparation of the household estimates. They would be consulting local authorities for their views. HARG and PAMS members would be alerted.

Action: Duncan Gray

5. CENSUS

(a) Processing Progress – PAMS (02) 09

5.1 David Orr advised that good progress was being made, 2001 Census data was now captured and had gone through the edit system. Work on One Number Census and matching had commenced. We were still on schedule for the release of population figures at council area level for the end of August.

(b) 2001 Census Evaluation – PAMS (02) 10

5.2 David Orr introduced the paper inviting members to note GROS evaluation plans and encouraging members to comment on the evaluation findings as and when they are published on GROS website. It was agreed that the correct time to consult users on their views about the 2001 Census was after they had received the results. GROS undertook to consult users prior to any decisions on Future Census Options.

Action: PAMS Members

(c) Census Updates – PAMS (02) 13

5.3 Garnett Compton reported the paper was produced for information and outlined GROS plans to introduce Census Updates as replacement for Census News. It was presently intended that the first update would be issued in May.

[Secretary's Note: The first Update will now be issued in mid-June due to delays with the redevelopment of the Census website.]

(d) A guide to the results and how to obtain them – PAMS (02) 14

5.4 Garnett Compton introduced the paper explaining the purpose was to let everyone know what products were being produced and when they were likely to become available. Members were asked to comment on this draft version and advised that the draft guide would become available at the end of May. Members felt that the document was very helpful.

[Secretary's Note: The first update will now be issued in mid-June due to delays with the redevelopment of the Census website.]

(e) SCROL – PAMS (02) 15

5.5 Garnett Compton presented this Paper for information. He thanked those that provided feedback on the pilot, which had generally been well received. Work was now well underway on developing an operational system based on the pilot for disseminating the results from the 2001 Census in Scotland. As part of the development, GROS were in the

process of setting up user groups which would seek user input into the functionality, look and feel and content of the site as it developed.

6 UK Advisory Group Issues – PAMS (02) 03 and PAMS (02) 11

6.1 David Orr invited PAMS to note the papers. GROS policy on census disclosure control remained as previously announced.

7 Any other business

7.1 Duncan Gray advised that Local Government Finance distribution review work would be getting underway soon. GROS and local authorities input last time round was important. There was likely to be some discussion regarding the methodology, which should be used this time round including whether or not previous methodology was good enough.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8.1 It was provisionally agreed that the next meeting should be held in October. The secretary will consult members in due course.