

NEWS RELEASES

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND PERSONNEL

19 December 2002

FINANCE MINISTER WELCOMES RELEASE OF CENSUS REPORT

The Minister of Finance & Personnel, Ian Pearson MP, has welcomed the publication of the second report from the 2001 Census of Population and Housing in Northern Ireland.

Commenting on the publication the Minister said: **"The information published today provides summary statistics for the majority of questions covered by the Census. The information, in printed form at the Northern Ireland and Northern Ireland administrative unit level, together with the more detailed geographical information available on the Census Office website, provides a wealth of data to inform policy development, monitoring and evaluation.**

"More detailed results, including cross-tabular data, will be published in early 2003. Ministers will be considering the results in detail to inform how we can best meet the needs of everyone in Northern Ireland.

"I would also like to express my thanks to the public for their participation in the Census and to all those who worked on it to produce the valuable information published today."