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2021 Census Outputs Strategy Consultation for Northern Ireland (<https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/nisra-census-office/2021-output-questionnaire/>)

Response
900759231

Section 1: About you

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(https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/nisra-census-office/2021-output-questionnaire/consultation/publicated_select_respondent?uuld=900759231)

☐ Include unanswered questions

(i). Are you answering this questionnaire on behalf of an organisation or as an individual?

Please select one item
published_select_respondent?
(Required)

- ☐ Individual
- ☒ Organisation – please specify:

Belfast City Council

(ii). Please provide your contact details.

Your name (Required)

Christine Robinson

(iii). Which of the following best describes the sector you work in? - Please select one. This will assist us in monitoring the range of users the consultation has reached.

Please select one item

(Required)

- ☐ Central government
- ☒ Local government
- ☐ Statutory body (for example, health, education, transport, housing, etc.)

- ☐ Private sector
- ☐ Social / Academic research
- ☐ Market research / Data analytics
- ☐ Charity / Community / Voluntary
- ☐ Utility provider
- ☐ Press / Media
- ☐ Genealogist / Family historian
- ☐ Other – please specify

(iv). May we contact you to discuss your response to this consultation?
This may be to follow up any specific points we need to clarify.

Please select one item

(Required)

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

(v). May we contact you in future about the 2021 Census? For example, to provide you with a link to the results of this consultation, to inform you of further consultations or provide updated information on the 2021 Census.

Please select one item

(Required)

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Section 1 continued: About you

(vi). Do you consent to your name being published with your response?

Please select one item

(Required)

- ☒ Yes, I consent to my name being published with my response
- ☐ No, please remove my name before publishing my response

Section 2: Background

1. What are your main topics of interest? Tick all that apply

Please select all that apply

- ☒ Age
- ☒ Car or Van Availability
- ☒ Central Heating
- ☒ Country of Birth
- ☒ Ethnic Group
- ☒ Economic Activity
- ☒ General Health
- ☒ Household and Family Relationships
- ☒ Long-term health problem or disability
- ☒ Main Language
- ☒ Marital and Civil Partnership Status
- ☒ Migration
- ☒ Number of Rooms
- ☒ Occupation
- ☒ Passports Held
- ☒ Provision of Unpaid Care
- ☒ Qualifications Held
- ☒ Religion
- ☒ Sex
- ☒ Tenure and landlord
- ☒ Travel to Work or Place of Study
- ☒ Type of Accommodation
- ☒ Type of Long-Term Condition
- ☐ Other – please specify

2. Which geographies from the 2011 Census results did you use? Tick all that apply

Please select all that apply

- ☒ Assembly Area
- ☒ Education and Library Board
- ☒ Health and Social Care Trust
- ☒ Neighbourhood Renewal Area
- ☒ Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics
- ☒ Small Area
- ☒ Super Output Area
- ☒ Postcode
- ☒ Settlement 2015
- ☒ Electoral Ward
- ☒ 26 Local Government Districts
- ☒ 11 Local Government Districts
- ☒ District Electoral Area 2014
- ☒ Travel to Work Area
- ☒ Grid Square
- ☐ Other - please specify

3. What did you use the 2011 Census results for? Tick all that apply

Please select all that apply

- ☐ Commercial purposes
- ☒ Resource allocation
- ☒ Service planning and delivery
- ☒ Policy development and monitoring
- ☐ Academic research
- ☐ Personal interest
- ☐ Other purposes – please specify

Section 3: Accessibility and Flexibility

4. I would prefer earlier access to data after census day via an online flexible dissemination system rather than waiting for tables to be developed by NISRA.

Please select one item

- ☒ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree nor Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Not Sure

5. Being able to define my own tables is more useful to me than using predefined tables.

Please select one item

- ☒ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree nor Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Not Sure

6. I would find it useful to be provided with a small number of univariate tables, similar to the Key Statistics and Quick Statistics tables produced for the 2011 Census outputs, alongside those I can generate through the flexible dissemination system.

Please select one item

- ☒ Agree
- ☐ Neither Agree nor Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Not Sure

7. Currently, NISRA are considering releasing 2021 Census data using the flexible dissemination system, but we'll also aim to provide an application programming interface (API). Would an API to access 2021 Census data be useful to you?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Section 3 continued: Accessibility and Flexibility

9. Which supporting information did you use in 2011? Tick all that apply

Please select all that apply

- ☒ Definitions and output classifications
- ☒ Methodology overview
- ☒ Quality assurance reports
- ☒ Guidance notes
- ☒ Comparability of 2001 and 2011
- ☐ Other - Please specify

10. Where would you expect to access supporting information? Tick all that apply

Please select all that apply

- ☒ In the data tables
- ☒ In a link next to the data table
- ☒ Accessed via another part of the NISRA website

11. In 2011, did you read the accompanying analysis and commentary?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No (I didn't need to)
- ☐ No (I didn't know it was available)

12. What format of accompanying commentary do you find most useful? Tick all that apply

Please select all that apply

- ☒ Statistical bulletin describing key outputs
- ☒ Interactive data visualisations
- ☒ Infographics

- ☒ Short stories
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other - Please specify

Section 4: Timeliness of Release

14. Are you content with the proposed release schedule?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Section 5: Public Confidence

17. Do you support the use of targeted record swapping as a form of Statistical Disclosure Control?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Section 5 continued: Public Confidence

19. Do you support the use of cell key perturbation as an additional form of Statistical Disclosure Control?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

21. In 2021, would you be content with slightly inconsistent table totals in order to receive the results in a more timely manner?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Section 6: User Acceptability

24. Did you use UK data from the 2011 Census?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

25. How important is being able to access and compare data for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland for your work?

Please select one item

- ☒ Important
- ☐ Not important
- ☐ Not sure

26. In 2021, which of the following would you be interested in? Tick all that apply

Please select all that apply

- ☒ UK statistics totals
- ☒ Small area statistics for different geographies across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

27. How would you expect to access UK data?

Please select one item

- ☐ Access data about each UK country through a single website for example, select data about Scottish local authorities through the NISRA website
- ☒ Visit each UK country website to access data about that country

28. Any other comments?

Re. q27 is this not all available through ONS website?

Section 6 continued: User Acceptability**29. Did you use the Ireland and Northern Ireland joint report from the 2011 Census?**

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

30. How important is it being able to access and compare data for Ireland and Northern Ireland for your work?

Please select one item

- ☒ Important
- ☐ Not important
- ☐ Not sure

Section 6 continued: User Acceptability

32. In 2021, Census Office are considering two alternative options for releasing data at different geographic levels. It should be noted that due to the risk of disclosure Census Office can only provide one of these. Annex 2 of our consultation document highlights the differences in the 2021 Census outputs which would be produced by each of the options detailed below. Please select which option you would prefer.

Please select one item

- ☐ Census Office are considering the production of 2021 Census statistics for the administrative and statistical geographies used in both the 2001 and 2011 Censuses. This will allow comparability of census information at consistent geographies across 2001, 2011 and 2021. However, due to the risk of disclosure, 2021 Census statistics would not be made available for the new Electoral Wards.

- ✓ An alternative option is the production of results for a new small area statistical geography. This would allow the production of 2021 Census results for a new set of statistical geographies consistent with the 2015 revision of local government boundaries. This new geography would nest within the new Electoral Wards. However, 2021 Census data would therefore not be made available for the old local government boundaries or electoral wards, therefore users would be unable to compare 2001-2011-2021 census results for these geographies.

33. As previously stated, NISRA will not be able to provide 2021 Census results for both options above. In deciding the overall design of 2021 Census outputs geographies, NISRA will take the following into consideration; legislative requirements, national and international obligations, stakeholders needs, the allocation of public money, the most appropriate statistical geographies at that time, efficiency and any other factors that users believe are necessary. Please use the box below to detail any other suggestions or comments you have?

As a result of the Local Government Reform, Belfast City Council (BCC) area is now made of 10 District Electoral Areas (DEA), which in turn are comprised of between 5 and 7 Electoral Wards. As such, there are presently 60 Wards within the city. With DEAs being the basic electoral unit for local government elections, it would be that each Ward represents a seat on the Council – although, strictly speaking, councillors are not elected to a particular Ward, they are elected to represent the District Electoral Area. This in turn means they are elected to represent the DEA and so an electoral areas will be represented by 5, 6 or 7 councillors, depending on the number of Wards it contains. And so, from the Belfast City Council perspective, it is these two geographies that our councillors can both identify and would have the strongest affinity with. BCC strongly believes that NISRA should continue to release outputs that are consistent with the administrative boundaries in place at the time, as suggested within the consultation guidance. By the principle of the creation of statistical geographies, which are designed to nest within administrative boundaries, we feel that the second option is most appropriate. We acknowledge that the new statistical geographies have not currently been developed, however the changing characteristics in smaller areas have created the need for their redevelopment. For example within Belfast according to the MYE, more than one third of the SOA's have experienced a population change (-/+) of more than 15% since 2001. Furthermore the Ardoyne 1 SOA has increased by 40% and the Legoniel 1 decreased by 43%. Similarly, at an NI level almost 30% of SOA's have changed by at least 20%. BCC uses the census outputs at a local area level for service planning and delivery, area working, resource allocation and evidence-based policy development and monitoring. It is therefore imperative that we have access to the census information and other data at an electoral ward level. This will become increasingly important as we develop the local dimension of community planning. We understand the benefits of having comparable data between 2001-2011-2021 census results however, whilst a comparison over time is important from an

evidence base perspective, this is generally undertaken at LGD level and so changes to lower level geographies would be less important. Many of the statistics used from 2001 and 2011 are modelled to the new LGD level. For things like population counts, the MYE's between census' are more important for trend based analysis.

Section 6 continued: User Acceptability

34. Did you use the 2011 Census grid square product?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

35. Would you use a 2021 Census grid square product if it were made available?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

36. How important is it to your work to have a 2021 Census grid square product?

Please select one item

- ☒ Important
- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Not Sure

Section 6 continued: User Acceptability

37. Did you use 2011 Census origin and destination data?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

38. Would you use 2021 Census origin and destination data if it were made available?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Section 6 continued: User Acceptability

39. In 2011, which alternative population statistics did you use? Please tick all that apply

Please select all that apply

- ☒ Short-term residents
- ☒ Daytime population
- ☒ Workplace population
- ☐ None

40. Would you use 2021 Census alternative population data if they were made available?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Section 6 continued: User Acceptability

41. Did you use the 2011 Census bulk download facility?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

42. Would you use a 2021 Census bulk download facility if it were made available?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Section 6 continued: User Acceptability

43. In 2011, which microdata products did you use? Please tick all that apply

Please select all that apply

- ☐ Microdata teaching file
- ☐ Secure microdata
- ☐ Safeguarded microdata
- ☒ None

44. Would you use 2021 microdata if it were made available?

Please select one item

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

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