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

Response  
919714033

Section 1: About you

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☐ 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:

**(ii). Please provide your contact details.**

Your name (Required)

Carl McClean

**(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

Population

### 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

None

### 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

**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

**18. If you have selected no, please explain why.**

The information collected should be limited enough to render this unnecessary.

## 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

**20. If you have selected no, please explain why.**

per box 18

**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

## 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



**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

## Section 7: Final Comments

**46. Do you have any final comments about the areas covered in the 2021 Census Outputs Strategy Consultation document?**

I believe there is a presumption that far more questions should be asked of people than is justified. I believe questions should not be collected about 'religion', 'community background', which tend to encourage sectarian responses. Likewise I do not feel questions around gender and sexuality are justified in a poll people are legally compelled to complete, nor is it sensible particularly in this political climate. This is not to say such questions are not useful, or useful to some, helpful to some, etc. One could think of many requests that could be legally compelled which may have a benefit, but be offensive to the concept and promotion of freedom and basic rights, without too much imagination. The fact this consultation does not ask what should be collected, or invite comment as to this by suggesting questions, is a cause for concern.

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