Paper Title: Household Estimates and Projections update

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Security marking	Not sensitive
Can this be shared wider than PAMS?	Yes
Aims for discussion	To update PAMS members on developments in Household Estimates and Projections, and seek feedback.
Key questions for PAMS members	Suggestions for specific pieces of analysis of census data on households in Scotland. Suggestions for improvements to the content of NRS website pages on household statistics.
What is required from PAMS members	Comments/feedback on the paper, in particular the key questions noted above

Population And Migration Statistics (PAMS) Committee (Scotland)

Household estimates and projections update

1.   Household and dwelling estimates

[Households and Dwellings in Scotland, 2022](#) was published on 22 June. This included statistics for 2022 on occupied dwellings, vacant dwellings (split into unoccupied exemptions and long-term empty properties), second homes and trends in household types. An analysis for the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation and Scottish Government Urban Rural classifications. An updated set of interactive data visualisations (to enable viewing of key charts and maps of the data for selectable choice of councils and years) was also released.

2.   Small area household and dwelling estimates

The small area (2011 Data Zone) household estimates data for 2022 were also released on 22 June, both on the [NRS website](#) and on [statistics.gov.scot](#).

This data included updated information on unoccupied exemptions (eg dwellings that are new builds not yet occupied, undergoing repair or awaiting demolition) and long-term empty properties. An updated version of the [app](#) to enable visualisation of the small area data through an interactive map was also made available.

Along with this data, dwellings by council tax band at small area level for 2022 were published, both on the [NRS website](#) and on [statistics.gov.scot](#).

Updated aggregations of the data zone level information to provide household and dwelling estimates for a number of [other geographies](#) were also made available:

- Electoral wards
- Scottish parliamentary constituencies
- UK parliamentary constituencies
- 2020 Urban/Rural classification (6-fold and 8-fold classes)
- 2020 SIMD deciles, for Scotland overall and broken down by councils and NHS health boards.

We have recently added household and dwelling estimates for Scottish Island Regions, and are in the process of finalising estimates for National Park areas which we expect to upload to the NRS website in the next few weeks.

The data for 2023 required as input for the next set of small area household estimates has all now been returned and is undergoing quality assurance. We are grateful to local authorities for their help with this data collection.

3.   Data governance

In order to follow best practice we have been updating or creating data governance documents to cover our data collections. In particular this involves a Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) with each local authority relating to our collection and use of postcode level information from council tax billing systems, and with the Scottish Assessors Association relating to the extract of data on dwellings from the Assessors portal on dwelling characteristics – dwelling type, council tax band and number of rooms. The DSA documents have all now been finalised and will be passed to NRS procurement colleagues to arrange sign off.

4.   UPRN data

In order to extend the scope and reach of our analysis of household estimates, we are investigating the feasibility of collecting data from local authorities' council tax billing systems at an individual address (UPRN) level in the future. This would open up the potential for more flexible analysis in combination with other data sets, eg data from the Assessors on dwelling characteristics.

We now have UPRN data sets for 2022 and 2023 for two councils - Argyll and Bute and Shetland. We are in the early stages of carrying out exploratory analysis of this data, eg looking at the coverage of UPRNs in the data and the matching rates between local authority and Assessors records via UPRN. An update on this work will be provided to the next PAMS meeting.

5.   Household projections

The 2018-based household projections published on 29 September 2020 remain the most recent set of projections available. These provided projections of household numbers by household type and age of household reference person over a 25-year projection period, to 2043. Detailed data from the projections are also available through statistics.gov.scot.

The timing of the next set of household projections is dependent on when the underlying population projections are next updated. The sub-national population projections for Scotland are now planned for early 2025, with household projections to follow by mid-2025. Both are planned to use the same base year of mid-2022. Confirmed release dates will be provided in due course. In the meantime we will consult the Household Analysis Review Group (HARG) and others on the methodology to be used in the next set of household projections. We will also be reviewing the format of the publication report for the projections.

6.   2022 Census data

The first release of results from Scotland's Census 2022 took place on 14 September. Further releases of census outputs including topic reports are expected to become available in phases from spring 2024. We are putting together outlines of a core set of tables on which to base analyses of the detailed topic data on housing and households from the census. Initially this will be focussed on enabling comparisons with the results of 2011 and previous censuses, and comparisons with other parts of the UK, see for example some of the ONS reports published on the 2021 Census data on housing and households in England and Wales. **We would also be**

interested in any suggestions from PAMS members for specific pieces of analysis of census data on households in Scotland.

We are also carrying out an exercise to compare census household estimates with our annual household estimates. A report of this analysis will be released alongside publication of the household estimates for 2023 (planned for June 2024).

7.   Statistics on people registered to vote (previously called Electoral Statistics)

The latest (as at 1 December 2022) summary statistics on people registered to vote in Scotland were published on 20 April. The next round of data collection – which will capture information on people registered to vote as at 1 December 2023 – is due to commence shortly. The data to be collected on people registered to vote in UK general elections will relate to the revised set of UK parliamentary constituencies which came into effect this year.

8.   Cross-government housing statistics group

The Cross-Government Housing Statistics Group (CGHSG) continues its work to review the quality, coherence and accessibility of official housing statistics across the UK. The Group is next due to meet on 13 November. An overview of the work being undertaken is this area is available on the Government Analysis Function website.

9.   Household statistics strategy

We are currently updating a draft strategy document to guide our work on household statistics over the next few years. Once completed we will share this with PAMS and with others to get feedback.

10.   Text for web pages

We are reviewing the text content of the pages on household statistics on the NRS website. This content has built up over time so has become unwieldy and out of date in places. Our aim is therefore to refresh it, and make it simpler to follow and easier to navigate. **We would welcome any suggestions from PAMS members to improve our web pages, eg on any useful links that could be added.**

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