

## Population And Migration Statistics (PAMS) Committee (Scotland)

### **Draft of NRS Statistics Plan and Vision for 2018-2020**

#### **Introduction**

At the last meeting in November 2017, we provided an update on progress against our statistical plan for 2016-18. This paper provides an initial draft of our “Vision for Demographic Statistics” which will also be the basis for the NRS 2018-2020 Statistics Plan.

#### **Purpose**

The “Vision for Demographic Statistics” will serve as the business strategy for the Statistics directorate within NRS – explaining who we are, how we work, and our goals and priorities. This will also include details on the core values we expect our teams to work by, and how we intend to further develop the strengths and skills of our staff to help better meet the evolving needs of our users and stakeholders. We are also planning to monitor the success of this strategy using a series of measures to ensure we can continue to improve as a team going forward.

The NRS 2018-2020 Statistics Plan flows from the “Vision for Demographic Statistics” and we intend to report progress against the objectives on an annual basis. We are designing the Statistics Plan to ensure each of our team’s individual objectives nest within the overall directorate objectives. Also, following the recent restructure within NRS, our new Statistics Plan will be designed to complement and support the overarching NRS Business Plan and key commitments.

An excerpt of the draft Vision and the draft objectives of our 2018-2020 Statistics Plan are included below.

We hope to finalise the Vision and Statistics Plan over the summer.

#### **Recommendation**

**The PAMS committee is invited to comment on this initial draft and our provisional objectives for 2018-20.**

National Records of Scotland  
May 2018

# Vision for Demographic Statistics

**NRS: Statistics and Registration Directorate**

**2018-2020 Statistics Plan**

*Who we are, how we work, and our goals and priorities*

**May 2018**

# NRS Purpose & Business Plan

## Overall NRS Purpose

To collect, preserve and produce information about Scotland's people and history and make it available to inform current and future generations.

## Business Plan Priorities

- Deliver a successful Census for 2021
- Continue to deliver high quality public services
- Continue to deliver high quality statistics and registration services
- Produce a strategy for the future of NRS archive services
- Improve our organisational infrastructure
- Transition to a single sustainable NRS IT function

# Our Statistics Vision and Ambitions

## Our Statistics Vision

To produce high quality demographic statistics of public value and worthy of trust, from skilled and motivated staff, delivering innovative analysis to help improve outcomes in Scotland.

## Our Ambitions

**To continue to collect, analyse and publish important information about the people of Scotland, exploring the potential of existing administrative data sources to further enhance our data and analysis**

**To increase our reach and impact and be recognised as an influential leader across Scotland**

**To be recognised as a trusted, expert and professional organisation, continuously improving our customer and digital services**

# Delivering our Ambitions

## Our Objectives for 2018-2020

While our long-term ambitions contribute to the success of the organisation and the delivery of our vision, they are underpinned by our directorate objectives and our annual team-specific objectives.

# Ambition 1 – Key Objectives

**To continue to collect, analyse and publish important information about the people of Scotland, exploring the potential of existing administrative data sources to further enhance our data and analysis**

**Producing relevant data and analysis to meet the needs of all users, publishing in line with our annual publications schedule**

**Ensuring that statistical methodologies will be reviewed regularly to respond to user need and allow best possible statistics**

**Working with key partners to improve the depth and robustness of Migration statistics**

**Produce high-quality and timely census outputs that meet user needs and maximise benefits**

**Engage with stakeholders to find out what demographic statistics they need and/or find helpful**

**Exploring the use of administrative data to develop efficiencies in the production of future demographic statistics**

**Maximise the overall response to the census and deliver in a cost-effective way**

**Improving data collection methods where possible to improve the reliability of key statistics e.g. ethnicity of the deceased**

# Ambition 1 – Key Objectives (cont.)

To continue to collect, analyse and publish important information about the people of Scotland, exploring the potential of existing administrative data sources to further enhance our data and analysis

**Continue to improve our local area profiles and enhance access to local area statistics**

**Continuing to enhance the RGAR annual review, ensuring it meets a wide range of user needs**

# Ambition 2 – Key Objectives

**To increase our reach and impact and be recognised as an influential leader across Scotland**

**Work collaboratively with key partners across the public sector and academia, to help deliver at both a Scottish and UK level**

**Continue to support local authorities to develop relevant local area statistics e.g. sub-national population projections**

**Improve the dissemination of our statistics through increased Engagement and promotion**

**Playing a key role in improving demographic literacy in Scotland**

**Work with public sector to increase public trust and understanding in the use of personal data**

**Make recommendations for the approach to future censuses in Scotland**

**To increase the use and impact of our longitudinal datasets, such as the Scottish Longitudinal Study**

**Provide informed advice to support the uses of our statistics by Ministers and other key stakeholders**

# Ambition 2 – Key Objectives (cont.)

**To increase our reach and impact and be recognised as an influential leader across Scotland**

**Develop new infographics and visualisations to improve our delivery of key messages, to help reach new users**

**Lead and participate in regular consultation and steering groups across the demographic statistics network**

**To promote the use and value of our statistics by presenting at key events and seminars regularly**

**Using social media to reach a wider audience and to reach them more quickly**

**Promoting the use of census microdata and linkage to feed into national and local decision making**

# Ambition 3 – Key Objectives

**To be recognised as a trusted, expert and professional organisation, continuously improving our customer and digital services**

**Ensuring we have comprehensive and up-to-date data sharing protocols, in line with GDPR**

**Look for opportunities to develop our geospatial analysis, as part of wider geography information strategy**

**Continue to develop the quality and use of the NHSCR as the key population database, adding value within the data linkage arena**

**Provide a high quality and responsive customer service, to meet bespoke user needs**

**Develop our approaches to data linkage and safe access to data to facilitate legal, ethical and public value research**

**Protect, and be seen to protect, confidential census information**

**Collaborate with SG and ISD, sharing best practice and analytical tools**

**Explore potential for statistics tabulation tools, for census and other demographic data**

# Ambition 3 – Key Objectives (cont.)

**To be recognised as a trusted, expert and professional organisation, continuously improving our customer and digital services**

**Regularly review our IT capabilities to ensure we are holding and maintaining information safely and responsibly**

**Ensuring our NRS Statistics website is reviewed regularly, enhancing access to our wealth of resources**

**Publishing more open data, encouraging the use of APIs to allow users to have continuously updated information**

**Anticipating and reacting, in an agile way, to the ever-changing opportunities of the digital age**