

MEETING OF THE POPULATION AND MIGRATION STATISTICS COMMITTEE (SCOTLAND): 26 MAY 2004

Present:

David Orr	GROS, Chair	Ian White	ONS
Jenny Boag	Falkirk Council	Duncan Gray	Scottish Executive
Richard Belding	Aberdeennshire Council	Ian Máté	GROS
Jan Freeke	Glasgow City Council	Cecilia Macintyre	GROS
Laura MacDonald	East Dunbartonshire Council	Frank Thomas	GROS
Marion Lacey	Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations	Alan MacGill	GROS, Secretary
Ruth Gordon	Clackmannanshire Council		
Jennifer Bishop	Information Statistics Division		

0. MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

(a) Apologies

0.1 Apologies were received from Paul Boyle St Andrews University, Tim Riley Edinburgh University, Robert Murdoch Information Statistics Division, Jackie Livingstone Dumfries and Galloway Council, Catriona Hayes Scottish Executive and Peter Scrimgeour Scottish Executive.

(b) New Members

0.2 Jenny Boag advised that at the Local Authority meeting held earlier in the day they had decided Alistair Harvey City of Edinburgh Council would replace Jackie Livingstone Dumfries and Galloway Council. David Orr welcomed the appointment. David also intimated that this would be his last meeting of the group as he was moving to a new post within Scottish Executive. Peter Scrimgeour would be taking over from him.

1. MINUTES OF PAMS MEETING HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2003 – PAMS (03) 26

1.1 Minutes were approved. Jan Freeke asked if any decision had made on his request to reproduce 1991 Special Migration Statistics and the Special Workplace Statistics with detailed tables for the current local authorities. Frank Thomas advised that GROS would estimate the cost for doing this work.

2. UPDATE ON ACTION POINTS FROM THE LAST MEETING - PAMS (03) 27

2.1 Action point 3.3. David Orr to pursue work with ONS to agree recommendations for appropriate use of SMRs. No real progress - will be pursued by Graham Jackson.

Action Graham Jackson

2.2 Action point 4.1 GROS to consider the position of a complete re-issue of SCROL CD's with complete and corrected data as expected by customers. GROS to re-issue CD's 1-7.

2.3 Action point 4.2 Members to provide any views or comments they have to Frank Thomas on the specification for the 5% Small Area Microdata. Frank to write to members about deprivation indexes on the SARs. No comments were received on specification of 5% Small Area Microdata. Frank still to write to members on deprivation indexes.

Action Frank Thomas

2.4 Action point 4.3. GROS to pursue with Scottish Executive details and practicalities of what data should be released in their Statistical Bulletin on Vacant Follow up Survey. Scottish Executive plan to put preliminary analyses from Vacant Follow up Survey on their website this week.

2.5 Action point 4.4. Members to provide Ian Máté with any comments they have on Future Census Options. No comments received.

2.6 Action point 5.1. David Orr to consider whether Cecilia Macintyre would continue with her role on Household Analysis Review Group (HARG) on taking up her post in GROS. Agreed, Cecilia would continue on HARG.

2.7 Action point 5.4. GROS to continue to press for longer-term improvement in the measurement of emigration. Cecilia Macintyre advised in consultation with ONS GROS would produce a paper on research on sub national allocations of international migrants.

Action Cecilia Macintyre

2.8 Action point 5.5. Cecilia Macintyre to produce a paper setting out the England and Wales position and suggesting a Scottish line to take for group members to provide their comments. This will be part of seminar discussed in PAMS paper (04) 06 Population and Social Statistics System Plan and Proposed Seminar.

2.9 Other action points from the previous meeting had been completed.

3. SCOTSTAT

(a) Board meeting update (5th meeting 15 January 2004) - PAMS (04) 01

3.1 Jenny Boag introduced this item reporting on the proceedings of the fifth meeting highlighting that progress was slow with nothing making particularly fast progress or particularly relevant to PAMS Group. Attendance at meetings shows that there is limited interest from non local authority representatives. Jenny advised that she will be unable to attend the next meeting of the SCOTSTAT Board. Richard Belding volunteered to attend.

(b) Scottish Statistics Plan 2004/05 Population and Migration – PAMS (04) 07

3.2 David Orr advised paper was provided for information. It was agreed that GROS would consider structure of sub-groups of SCOTSTAT PAMS and Housing committees in light of decision to transfer small area household estimates and household projections to GROS. This may lead to a better forum to review the methodology for household projections.

Action David Orr/Peter Scrimgeour

(c) Review of PAMS work programme

3.3 David advised that this is the usual return that we provide to SCOTSTAT and he would write to the board providing update on membership and workplan.

Action David Orr

(d) SCOTSTAT Board Request for information

3.4 A letter from Jill Alexander Secretary of ScotStat Board was circulated to members this contained some information on the areas the board were looking for any form of comment from Committees.

- (i) cross cutting issues/activities. One area where PAMS needs to initiate cross-cutting discussions with other ScotStat Committees is consultation about the question content for a future Census of Population and ensuring an appropriate scrutiny of alternative ways of meeting such data needs. This will be initiated during 2004 with a consultations on topics for inclusion in the 2006 Census Test. Direct inputs to and from other ScotStat committees will be required. Another key cross-cutting area relates to the plans to achieve more integration between population, household and dwelling information. In the light of plans for GROS to play a greater role in the household and dwelling aspects, PAMS agreed that there was a need to review the structure of the existing PAMS working groups including the Housing Analysis Review Group. This is being added to PAMS workplan for 2004-05. David Orr suggested if any members had any questions or further comment they should contact SCOTSTAT theme groups.
- (ii) data sharing. Jenny Boag said this was not particularly relevant to PAMS as most of what we have is in the public domain already.
- (iii) feedback to data suppliers. David Orr advised this does not really apply to PAMS.
- (iv) more non-Scottish Executive involvement in agenda setting. David Orr indicated that earlier requests had shown that this was not a major issue for this committee although he would welcome further papers and agenda items from members.

Action David Orr and Jenny Boag

- (v) other issues. PAMS noted that information about the various ScotStat committees, dates/agendas for meetings etc was not circulated widely and felt that the ScotStat Board or its support group could facilitate this. PAMS also looked to the centre to provide mechanisms for weeding and updating out of date registrations on the ScotStat register if the register was to play any useful role. Where the ScotStat Board had initiated work eg on Income Data, PAMS felt that the Board could do more to make it clear who was responsible for leading particular strands of work, so that those interested in checking progress had a clear contact point. PAMS felt that the mechanisms whereby those with a registered interest were made aware of forthcoming products was very variable and central guidance would be helpful.

(e) Neighbourhood Statistics

3.5 David Orr advised members the Scottish Index on Multiple Deprivation was due to be published on 1 June, and, 2004 updated Neighbourhood Statistics based on datazones due to be published on 24 June. Cecilia Macintyre advised that GROS would not be producing Small Area Estimates for postcode sectors or wards. If members required this rather than for datazones they should write to Rob Wishart Neighbourhood Statistics Team.

4 CENSUS

(a) Progress on delivering 2001 output, dissemination, progress and feedback. – PAMS (04) 02

4.1 Frank Thomas introduced the paper highlighting completed work since previous meeting and plans for future release of data. Frank pointed out that due to some problems being experienced by Scottish Executive the preliminary findings of the Post Census Vacants Survey were not yet available. He also advised that the reissue of CD's would also now include CD7 which corrected some errors, and bulk supply would be reissued in full

4.2 On Sample of Anonymised Records Frank advised that the 3% sample was planned for September and the 1% planned for December. He also advised members he would write to them stating the position on putting the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation on the Samples of Anonymised Records and also the possibility of arranging a meeting in Scotland about SARS. There was still also the question of whether or not to add an area measure of deprivation to SAR records and, if so, which one. Frank agreed to write to members.

Action Frank Thomas

(b) 2011 Census Options progress and plans - PAMS (04) 03

4.3 Ian Máte outlined paper covering the detail of work toward a conventional Census in 2011 seeking members' views and comments on the proposed consultation process and the 2006 census test. Members expressed the view that there was a need for the income question and also more detailed question on disability. Some members also suggested that the questions on central heating and amenities could be dropped.

Action Members

5 Non-CENSUS ISSUES

(a) Household Estimates and Projections progress and plans - PAMS (04) 04

5.1 This paper was produced jointly Cecilia Macintyre and Duncan Gray. Duncan advised that household estimates and projections were published in April. He highlighted a review of the methodology used for household estimates will be undertaken within the HARG work programme for 2004–05 and also that overall the household projections are significantly lower than previous projections due to the lower population projections and lower growth in the proportion of the population forming households between 1991 and 2001 than between 1981 and 1991. Cecilia outlined the proposed reorganisation of work that would see the transfer of responsibility for the production of housing based statistics to GROS.

(b) Population estimates and projections progress and plans – PAMS (04) 05

5.2 Cecilia Macintyre introduced the paper which summarised the recent work on population statistics. Cecilia also advised she had received a request from 2 Health Boards for projections for their part areas. This request will be considered. There was some discussion on the pre announcement procedures which have been changed in recent times. It was pointed out that GROS do pre announce forthcoming publications via the website and information is also passed

to Scottish Executive. Members present were content with the recent arrangement for the release of estimates data. Members were asked to note the content of the paper and provide written comments to Neil Bowie.

Action Members

(c) Population and Social Statistics System plans and proposed seminar. - PAMS (04) 06

5.3 Ian Máté introduced the paper. There were some suggestions regarding the potential list of invitees such as possibility of extending invitations to members of other SCOTSTAT Theme Groups who may have an interest, the Academic community network and LARIA. Members were asked to provide comments/suggestion on the paper to Ian.

Action Members

(d) Update on PAMS Paper (03) 12 Demographic Trends in Scotland

5.4 David Orr provided an oral update on developments since the production of the paper by Lisa Bird. He advised that there had been a meeting on 17 May, jointly organised by Scottish Executive, ESRC and GROS to discuss the issues raised in the paper. David advised he was happy to provide the note that was produced for the meeting and, a note resulting from the meeting which indicates the direction and priorities. Jenny Boag suggested details of those who attended and the institution they represented would also be of interest.

Action David Orr

6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Jenny Boag on behalf of group thanked David for all his hard work on the group over many years and wished him best wishes in his new post.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.1 The date for the next meeting will be advised. The secretary will consult members in due course.