Ninth Meeting of the National Statistician's Inclusive Data Advisory Committee

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Agenda and Papers

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11am – 4 pm

Agenda

10th September 2024

Manchester – LHA room, Tootal Buildings, M1 6EU

Video Conference - Microsoft Teams

Chair: Dame Julia Cleverdon DVCO CBE

Item no. and time	Subject	Presenter
10:30-11:00	Arrival (tea and coffee)	
1 11 – 11.20am	Welcome	Dame Julia Cleverdon
2 11:20 am– 12:05pm	Future of Population and Migration Statistics updates	
	Introduction *For information;* approach to Characteristics and Inclusion	Neil Bannister, Shona Horter, Josephine Foubert (ONS)
3 12.05pm 12.15pm	*For discussion*: Equalities and Inclusion newsletter	Alex Buckley (ONS)
4 12:15pm – 12:25pm	Review of minutes and key actions	Dame Julia Cleverdon
12:25 – 1.10pm	***Break for lunch***	
5 1:10pm – 1:40pm	*For discussion*: Proposed Discovery research on non-private household populations	Jesse Ransley (ONS), Catherine Barham, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)
6, 7, 8 1:40pm – 2:40pm	ONS Local	Becky Tinsley, ONS Local
	Equalities data at a local level	Lucy Woodbine, Greater Manchester Combined Authority
	Discussion	All
9, 10 2:40pm – 3.40pm	Children's information: Improving lives through better listening and better data	Dr Polly Vizard, London School of Economics and Political Science and Professor Leon Feinstein, University of Oxford
	BeeWell Survey in Manchester	Professor Neil Humphrey, Manchester University
	Discussion	All
11 3.40 – 3.50pm	Forward agenda items	Amie Dede-Benefor, ONS
12 3.50 – 4.00pm	Any other business	Dame Julia Cleverdon

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 11th December 2024

National Statistician's Inclusive Data Advisory Committee

Proposed discovery research on non-private household populations

Purpose

1. This paper seeks feedback on a proposed discovery research project exploring non-private household populations in local administrative data sources. The project will involve collaboration with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) on an initial 'case study', with learning to inform subsequent development of the project and contribute insights for the inclusion of non-private household groups in the Future of Population and Migration Statistics (FPMS) programme.

Recommendations

2. NSIDAC members are invited to provide feedback on the proposed discovery research project, particularly:

    i. Does NSIDAC have particular members who'd like to be invited to the workshop(s) to hear what we hear?
    ii. Do NSIDAC have any specific ethical questions you would like us to address as we design this work?
    iii. Are there other potential, subsequent 'case study' local authorities that NSIDAC suggest we explore working with?
    iv. Are there any other specific issues or concerns NSIDAC would like us to consider as the project develops?

Background

3. The ONS Inclusion teams now sit within the Characteristics and Inclusion Division alongside those teams working on user need, requirements and data solutions for demographic characteristics within the [Future of Population and Migration Statistics](#) (FPMS) programme. This provides an opportunity for the teams to feed directly into the research around an admin data-first system.

4. Data on and for non-household populations was identified by NSIDAC as an additional priority for their work programme up to March 2025 (March 2024 meeting, Agenda Item 2).

5. We are also mindful of previous advice from NSIDAC (December 2022 meeting, Agenda item 2) to move beyond the binary conceptualisation of household/non-household populations and think in terms of 'living spaces' rather than specific non-household populations in order to better recognise the heterogeneity of these populations and movement within and between these 'groups'.

6. Within the FPMS programme, research is currently underway on producing household estimates that align to admin-based population estimates. However currently a lack of data sources with unique property reference numbers (UPRNs) and an Address Index with limitations results in a group of individuals who cannot be attributed to either household or communal establishment. There is a research need to better understand this 'noise', identify ways to improve the capture of individuals living in non-private household settings and to improve the identification of establishments on the address frame.

Discussion

7. The proposed discovery research aims to put aggregate level data about people's living spaces into context. The research will seek to better understand how people in different living circumstances appear, or do not appear, in local administrative data. It will focus broadly on non-private household populations including those in communal establishments, mobile groups and those in transition, with a particular focus on people at greater risk of (multiple) disadvantage.

8. This will comprise working with and listening to those who collect and use data at a local level, as well as people who feature in the data, in order to apply any findings and insights to better understand and more effectively identify people's living spaces in aggregate level data. It will also seek to better understand data gaps, including those who do not appear in the data and, notably, how those in transition may or may not be identifiable in the current local data landscape.

9. ONS's Inclusive Data and Analysis team will work with the Qualitative Research team to take a 'mixed methods' approach to the research.

10. We will be working in collaboration with Catherine Barham's Vulnerable People, Data and Analysis Division at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). They will support the design and development of this research with advice and expertise around aggregate-level data gaps, data sources and their previous work (e.g. the Changing Futures Programme), as well as with access to advisory groups, stakeholders and networks.

11. We will be collaborating with Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) on an initial 'case study'. The case study will begin with data workshop(s) in Manchester in the autumn for those who work with non-household populations (along with voluntary group partners). The workshop(s) will focus on identifying challenges in data around non-private household populations in Greater Manchester and will inform the next phases of this research.

12. We note that data for non-private household populations, and particularly people in transition between living spaces, are not consistent across local authorities, and we are aware that GMCA have a strong track record and expertise in this area. In recognition of that, MHCLG have offered to provide input on potential, subsequent 'case studies' (potentially including local authorities who are more challenged in this area, rural and/or smaller LAs). We will bring our findings from

this first piece of discovery research to NSIDAC for further feedback and input as any potential subsequent case studies develop.

Conclusion

13. We are seeking NSIDAC feedback on a proposed discovery research project exploring non-private household populations in local administrative data sources. The project will involve an initial 'case study' in collaboration with Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), which will inform subsequent development of the project (as well as contribute insights for the inclusion of non-private household groups in the FPMS programme).

    i. Does NSIDAC have particular members who'd like to be invited to the workshop(s) to hear what we hear?
    ii. Do NSIDAC have any specific ethical questions you would like us to address as we design this work?
    iii. Are there other potential, subsequent 'case study' local authorities that NSIDAC suggest we explore working with?
    iv. Are there any other specific issues or concerns NSIDAC would like us to consider as the project develops?

14. As well as NSIDAC input at this early planning stage, we would value continued advice and input from NSIDAC as the project develops through the discovery phase and will keep the Committee updated.

Jesse Ransley, Characteristics and Inclusion Division, ONS, 10 September 2024