



## **2011 Census**

### **Report on changes to Government Statement published in December 2008**

**8 November 2010**

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 In December 2008, Scottish Government ministers published proposals for the 2011 Census in [Scotland's Census 2011 - A Government Statement](#). This set out how questionnaires will be securely collected, processed and analysed to produce high-quality statistics.
- 1.2 The 2009 Census Rehearsal was subsequently used to test many of these processes and the [results](#) were very positive. That gave GROS assurance that the operational design underpinning the census will work well. While there will therefore be no wholesale changes to that design, there were a number of lessons learned that will be implemented.
- 1.3 The purpose of this short paper is to demonstrate what key changes have/will be made to the assumptions made in the Government Statement. It is important to note that not all changes are as a result of the rehearsal. The [questions](#) to be asked in the 2011 Census had to be approved by the Scottish Parliament (via the Census (Scotland) Order 2010) and this process led to a number of changes from the position as laid out in December 2008.

## 2. Topics

- 2.1 The following topics, as defined in the Government Statement published in December 2008, are the areas where the key changes have been made. In the tables that follow, the first column shows the assumptions made in the Government Statement and the second column shows how that position has changed:

- Selected Topics and Questions
- Enumeration Strategy
- Community Involvement
- Processing the data and publishing the results

## 3. Selected Topics and Questions

Government Statement	Change
Household income (page 24)	(H13) The proposed question was removed, to ensure that all census questions were acceptable to the public.
Type of central heating (page 24)	(H9) A write-in box was added to the 'Other central heating' option, so that respondents can record renewable forms of heating.
Religion (page 27)	(Q13) The revised wording makes clear that people can write in their Christian denomination if they are not Roman Catholic or Church of Scotland. The 'Pagan' tick box has been removed and, as in 2001, Pagans can use the write-in box to specify their religion.

Ethnic group (page 27)	(Q15) The revised wording replaces the 'African, Caribbean or Black' category by two separate categories - 'African' and 'Caribbean or Black'. In the 'White' category. An 'Other British' tick box also replaces separate tick boxes for English/Welsh/Northern Irish, although people can use the 'Other, please write in' box if, they wish to specify, for example, English ethnicity.
National identity (page 27)	(Q14) Tick boxes have been added for 'Welsh' and 'Northern Irish'. The tick boxes for 'Polish' and 'Indian' have been deleted but a write-in box is provided for people of these, and any other, national identities. People can still select as many national identities as they wish.
Language (page 28)	(Q16) The question was amended to include 'Scots' (previously in Q18), following Parliamentary consideration, to allow the collection of information on the full range of abilities in the Scots language.
Language (page 28)	(Q18) Tick boxes for 'Scots' and 'Scottish Gaelic' removed, due to their inclusion in question 16.
Health (page 28)	(Q20) The response options have been revised slightly, to make it clearer for respondents who have learning/developmental type disorders which box to select. Firstly, 'developmental disorder' has been separated into a category of its own. Autistic Spectrum Disorder and Asperger's Syndrome have been added as examples to help guide respondents. Examples have also been added to 'a learning disability' (Down's Syndrome) and 'a learning difficulty' (dyslexia).

#### 4. Enumeration Strategy

<b>Government Statement</b>	<b>Change (lessons learned from 2009 Rehearsal)</b>
Number of enumerators (page 35)	A decrease in the number of enumerators required to deliver and collect questionnaires from households from around 6,500 to around 5,800.
Enumeration of communal establishments (page 35)	Census Team Leaders (not enumerators) will enumerate communal establishments, to reflect the difficulty of this operational area and to allow enumerators to concentrate all efforts on household enumeration.
Enumerator follow-up (page 39)	The follow-up phase will be extended by a week, to lengthen the gap between first and second follow up visits to households by enumerators, thereby allowing householders more time to make a return before the second follow-up visit.

Census Quality Survey (page 40)	The CQS will be brought forward to May rather than July, as the gap between the census and the CQS operations meant that householders in the CQS sample could not always recall the question responses they provided in the census.
Census Coverage Survey (page 39)	GROS has decided not to make participation in the CCS a legal obligation.

## 5. Processing the data and publishing the results

<b>Government Statement</b>	<b>Change (lessons learned from 2009 Rehearsal)</b>
Data Capture & Coding (page 41)	Make improvements to the data capture & coding service, particularly the service specification, testing, coding and quality assurance processes and change the management structure to better reflect the size and complexity of this service.
Downstream Processing (page 42)	Introduce an automated process control system to ensure efficiency of the 2011 Downstream Processing solution.