

Response ID ANON-9XT3-EAS4-5

Submitted to 2021 Census Outputs Consultation Questionnaire

Submitted on 2021-11-10 11:59:45

Section 1.1: About you

Please provide your contact details.

Your name: Alan Mitchell

Are you answering this questionnaire on behalf of an organisation or as an individual?

Organisation - please specify:

Organisation:

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Consent

Yes, I consent to my name being published with my response

Section 1.2: Your usage of census data

Usage of Census data

- 1 Have you or your organisation used data or analysis produced by NISRA from previous censuses?

Yes

2 Which topic areas would you access 2021 Census data or analysis products on?

Demography (including aging),

Communal establishments,

Ethnic group, national identity, language, and religion,

Sexual orientation,

Health, disability and unpaid care,

Housing,

Education,

Labour market,

UK Armed Forces veterans,

Travel to work/place of study,

Migration

3 Are there any specific topics, areas or population groups you need data for?

Yes, areas (e.g. Causeway Coast and Glens)

If you selected 'Yes', please list the topics, areas and/or population groups in priority order:

As a local authority, the most important population group we require data for are the residents of the Fermanagh and Omagh District. This includes the district as a whole, appropriate sub-geographies such as District Electoral Areas and Electoral Wards and sub-populations, such as the older population, those who consider themselves to have a limiting-long-term-illness and/or those who are economically active.

Section 2.1: Methods of dissemination

Two main methods of dissemination

4 Do you plan to access 2021 Census results via the 'ready-made' tables system and/or the 'build-your-own' tables system?

Ready-made tables,

Build-your-own tables

- 5 Does the plan to release the 2021 Census results via “flat files” of information meet your requirements?

No

If you selected ‘No’, please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

The use of 'Flat Files' on MS Excel / other spreadsheet software requires a reasonable level of skill and experience to open, filter and make sense of before being able to 'find' the specific data you need. This has been evident through the use of 'flat files' in the recent years of Mid-Year Population Estimates.

There is also a concern that this 'flat file' format will remove the ability 'lay people' in the Community and Voluntary sector (and interested residents) to directly access the data. Instead, they will become dependent upon third-party sources to generate user friendly outputs on their behalf.

- 6 Into which analysis software do you plan to import 2021 Census results?

Excel

If you selected ‘Other’, please tell us which analysis software you plan to use:

N/A

Section 2.2: Release schedule

Pre-defined tables

- 7 Does the proposed list of ready-made tables for releases one, two and three meet your requirements?

Yes

If you selected ‘No’, please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

- 8 Does the proposal to publish all topics in the second and third releases simultaneously meet your data user needs?

No

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council ask that priority is given to topics whereby the Census is the sole source of information.

Therefore, the Council request that household data, particularly data on central heating and renewable sources of energy, and labour market data relating to travel-to-work trends be expediated.

This will ensure the Council has the best data available to make decisions regarding the development of its Community Plan, Corporate Plan and Local Development Plan.

- 9 Does the list of topics that will be included in the second and third releases meet your data user needs?

No

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council would like to see data at lower geographical tiers published within the second/third releases, even if it were at the headline level.

- 10 Do the proposed release dates for releases one, two and three meet your requirements?

No

If you selected 'No', please explain why and provide your requirements:

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council would like to see the data published as soon as it is readily available.

Flexible table builder

- 11 Do the proposals for the release of data in the flexible table builder meet your data user needs?

No

If you selected 'No', please explain why and provide your requirements:

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council tentatively welcome the development of a flexible table builder. However, whilst this will accommodate suitably skilled staff to develop their own tables, we have concerns that it will disenfranchise lay people from accessing detailed Census data regarding their own area of residence.

For example, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (and other funders) routinely require applicants to provide supporting evidence alongside their funding application. These often refer specifically to a sub-LGD area, such as a ward or neighbourhood.

Community groups often find this challenging at present, but they can be referred to specific table references in the existing Census. (The loss of specific table references may also lead to a loss of consistency / quality control too).

There is concern that a flexible table builder, with no pre-defined tables at sub-LGD level, will provide too complex for Community Groups or interested residents to access directly. Thus, they will become dependent on third party organisations - who may either charge for the service or provide biased narrative - to access this data on their behalf.

Therefore, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council propose that a range of pre-defined tables are provided for key univariate outputs at lower geographical tiers and for key multi-variate analysis.

Final staged releases

12 Does the proposed list of multivariate, ready-made tables meet your requirements?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Commissioned table service

13 Have you or your organisation used the commissioned table service from previous censuses?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please tell us what information you have previously requested via this service:

N/A

14 Do the proposals for the 2021 Census commissioned table service meet your data user needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please explain why, and provide your requirements:

N/A

Grid Square

15 Have you or your organisation used grid square statistics from previous censuses?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please tell us which grid square products you have used previously:

N/A

16 Do the proposals for a 2021 Grid Square product meet your data user needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information. Please also include any extra variables you require in addition to those available in 2011:

N/A

Workplace/Place of Study

17 Have you or your organisation used any of the microdata products from previous censuses?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please tell us which microdata products you have used previously:

N/A

18 Do the proposals for 2021 Census microdata products meet your data user needs?

N/A - no user need for microdata

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Ireland and Northern Ireland microdata product

19 If available, would you use an Ireland and Northern Ireland microdata product?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please describe the additional analysis that you plan to do, and the value of undertaking this research. Please also indicate the sample size and which variable(s) you would like in this dataset:

N/A

Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study incorporation of Census 2021

20 Have you or your organisation used NILS data in the past?

Yes

21 Do the proposals for the NILS incorporation of Census 2021 data meet your needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Administrative Data Research Northern Ireland (ADR NI) - availability of 2021 data

22 Have you or your organisation used any ADR NI data in the past?

Yes

23 Do the proposals for the availability of 2021 data within ADR NI meet your data user needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Ireland and Northern Ireland census report

24 Have you or your organisation used data or analysis from the Census 2011 Ireland and Northern Ireland report?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please tell us which data from the Ireland and Northern Ireland report you have used previously:

The Council have not specifically used data, but have reviewed and referenced the report on occasion.

25 Do you or your organisation have any needs for Ireland and Northern Ireland data for the 2021 and 2022 Censuses?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please tell us what information or key statistics you require and explain why you need this:

The Fermanagh and Omagh District Boundary accounts for approximately 40% of the NI/ROI land border.

Therefore, we believe it is important to be able to do a comparison analysis of Fermanagh and Omagh with neighbouring districts / counties on both sides of the border.

Whilst this can in theory be done without the requirement of a NISRA/CSO collaborative project, there is significant added value in NISRA/CSO doing this work, as it gives the data better quality assurance.

In addition, the work should focus on data where the Census is the only source, such as Commuting, Travel to work flows and travel to place of study flows. Ideally, this would be done at the LGD14 level. Cross-tabulations with sector, occupation, age, gender and qualification level should also be provided.

Section 2.3: Standard Variables

New variables in 2021

26 Do you require any additional output categories in the renewable energy systems classification?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Analysis of renewable energy systems

27 Do you require any additional cross-tabulations for renewable energy systems?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council believe it would be beneficial to have a cross-tabulation of renewable energy systems with some form of economic indicator, such as socio-economic classification, economic activity, occupation of HRP or industry of employment.

It would also be useful to include a cross-tabulation of the age of the HRP.

It would be important to the Council that these cross-tabulations are provided on as low a geographical tier as is appropriate, even if it resulted in a collapsed list of options.

This information is needed to support the Council in their Climate Change Strategy and Local Development Plan work.

Sexual orientation

28 Do you require any additional output categories in the sexual orientation classification?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Collapsed output classification

29 Does the collapsed output classification for more detailed cross-tabulations on sexual orientation meet your needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please tell us why the collapsed output classification does not meet your needs:

N/A

Analysis of Sexual Orientation

30 Do you require any additional cross-tabulations for sexual orientation?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Frequency of speaking Irish and Ulster-Scots

31 Do you require any additional cross-tabulations for Irish and Ulster-Scots?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

UK Armed Forces veteran

32 Does the proposed output classification for UK Armed Forces veteran meet your needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please tell us why the output classification does not meet your needs:

N/A

Analysis of UK Armed Forces veterans

33 Do you require any additional cross-tabulations for UK Armed Forces veterans?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Other standard variables in 2021

34 Aside from 'current religion' and 'religion/religion brought up in', do you have any additional needs for further religion outputs?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Full-detail tables

35 Do the proposals to produce full-detail tables in the same way as in 2011 meet your needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

36 Do you have any data needs for a full-detail table on Sexual Orientation?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please describe the analysis you would undertake and why the analysis is needed:

N/A

Section 2.4: Proposals for new derived variables

Education and employment

37 If available, which of the proposed new variables on education and employment would you have data needs for?

Route to highest level of education,

Adult Students,

Not in employment, education or training (NEETs),

Temporarily away from work,

Key/critical Worker,

Skills mismatch,

Economic risk created by the coronavirus pandemic indicator

If you indicated that you would use one or more of the new variables, please describe the additional analysis that you plan to do using the variable(s) and the value of undertaking this research:

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is committed to an evidence led approach. Therefore, whilst the Council may not undertake extensive original research utilising any of the new variables outlined above, we would certainly be consumers of the results and findings, to support activity on the following (not an exhaustive list):

- * Route to Highest Level of Education: Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and Community Planning Partnership are interested in identifying and working with students who do not take the 'traditional' route to higher education and perhaps have a period where they drop out of the education system. This data will help identify the extent of the issue in Fermanagh and Omagh.
- * Adult Students: Analysis of the previous Census and other sources (HESA data) suggested that proportionately Fermanagh and Omagh has a low level of adults undertaking higher education courses. This may be due to limited availability within the District. This data would help clarify the extent of this issue, and potentially whether advances in technology in the past decade have helped overcome the distance issue.
- * Temporarily away from work: Fermanagh and Omagh District Council are interested in this variable due to the potential for it to be linked to Economic Inactivity. For example, what is the % flow from 'maternity / paternity leave' to 'economic inactivity - looking after the family' or returning to the labour market on a full time / part time basis.
- * Economic Risk due to the pandemic: would support the work of our Community Services Division who are actively seeking to identify those most at risk due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. It is not expected that this will be a short term issue. Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has a higher proportion of employment in potentially vulnerable sectors such as retail, hair/beauty etc.

Health and living arrangements

38 If available, which of the proposed new variables on health and living arrangements would you have data needs for?

COVID-19 health risk,

Houses in multiple occupation (HMO),

Multigenerational households,

Living together/apart

If you indicated that you would use one or more of the new variables, please describe the additional analysis that you plan to do using the variable(s) and the value of undertaking this research:

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is committed to an evidence led approach. Therefore, whilst the Council may not undertake extensive original research utilising any of the new variables outlined above, we would certainly be consumers of the results and findings and thus see the value in undertaking this research and support it.

Accommodation type

39 If available, would you have any data needs for a “Care home resident” variable?

Yes

If you selected ‘Yes’, please describe the analysis you would undertake and why the analysis is needed:

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is committed to an evidence led approach. Therefore, whilst the Council may not undertake extensive original research utilising any of the new variables outlined above, we would certainly be consumers of the results and findings and thus see the value in undertaking this research and support it.

With an ageing population - 17% of the Fermanagh and Omagh population are aged 65 years or above in 2020, projected to rise to 22% by 2030 - the proportion of residents living within Care Homes is highly likely to increase. Therefore, we should have as much data as possible, as interacting with care home residents will become more important.

Additional data needs

40 Are there any new derived variables you require that have not been discussed in this consultation?

No

Specifics on additional derived variables required:

N/A

Section 2.5: Population base specifications

Workplace population

41 Do the proposals for workplace population outputs meet your data user needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Daytime population

42 Do the proposals for daytime population outputs meet your data user needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Out-of-term population

43 Do the proposals for out-of-term population outputs meet your data user needs?

Yes

If you selected 'No', please provide your requirements and explain why you need this information:

N/A

Small populations

44 Do you have any requirement for census information for a small population group?

No

Specific requirements for census information for a small population group:

N/A

Section 2.6: Taking a census during a period of change

Place of residence

45 Do you anticipate needing any additional data on place of residence to supplement 2021 Census data?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please detail your requirements and how the data would be used:

In the instance where higher education students who would normally be residing closer to their University of choice were living at home on Census day due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Council is concerned that this might over-estimate the 18-24 population in the district.

This may be incorporated in the Census data, but the Council would have concerns.

46 Are there any existing data sources that may meet your needs for place of residence data, either separately or in combination?

No

If you selected 'Yes, fully' or 'Yes, partially', please list the data sources and describe how they could meet your needs:

Not that the Council is aware of. The Mid-Year estimates in the long term may give an indication to the level of 18-24s who have returned to studying on-campus and residing close to their campus. However, if there is a revision to the Mid Year Estimates based on Census 2021 data, this correction may not occur.

47 Is there any new analysis of place of residence you are planning to use census data for due to the current period of social and economic change?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please describe the planned analysis and how it would be used:

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council would like to undertake analysis on place of residence - place of work (origin / destination) to understand commuting flows, particularly those who commute to ROI to work (and travel into the district from ROI to work). This study is related to Eu-Exit.

It would also be ideal if the Council could examine commuting trends to examine the impact of Covid-19 on 'working from home' trends, which might benefit the District. However, it is recognised that the Census 2021 is unlikely to be the sole source of data to facilitate this.

Economic activity and employment

48 Do you anticipate needing any additional data on economic activity and employment to supplement 2021 Census data?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please detail your requirements and how the data would be used:

Censuses are usually the most reliable (and almost only) source of self-employment data at a local government level. As a District with a typically above average proportion of total employment made up of those who are self-employed, this is important to us.

The Council is conscious that employment trends have changed significantly since March 2021, with some commentators suggesting an increase in self-employment following the pandemic, and other data suggesting certain small businesses have struggled and will close. The Council wish to monitor the situation, but in the absence of robust, reliable self-employment data on a regular basis will make this difficult.

Waiting for another 10 years to find out about self-employment trends feels like too long a time lag.

It has also been disused anecdotally that there are more people now who are economically inactive and likely to have 'disappeared' from 'the system' (in that they don't fall into any of the pre-existing economic inactivity categories). This may be only a short term issue driven by Covid-19, but it will need regularly updated. (As with self-employment, data on economic inactivity by reason is only available at LGD level through the Census).

49 Are there any existing data sources that may meet your needs for economic activity and employment data, either separately or in combination?

Yes, fully

If you selected 'Yes, fully' or 'Yes, partially', please list the data sources and describe how they could meet your needs:

Fermanagh and Omagh Council believes that data accessible through the DIME database, which is utilised for the Multiple Deprivation Measure would be beneficial in answering those questions.

It is recognised that there are 'legal gateway' issues with accessing and using this data, but this should be re-examined in light of the need for timely, robust data in an ever changing world.

50 Is there any new analysis of economic activity and employment you are planning to use census data for due to the current period of social and economic change?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please describe the planned analysis and how it would be used:

As noted in other responses in this section, the Council is likely to want to analyse economic activity trends and employment trends due to both EU-Exit and Covid-19, particularly cross-border issues, increased economic inactivity (potentially short term), self-employment and the impact of working-from-home on the district's labour market.

Travel to work/school

51 Do you anticipate needing any additional data on travel to work/school to supplement 2021 Census data?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please detail your requirements and how the data would be used:

As addressed in our response to question 47, the Council would like to analyse travel trends between Fermanagh and Omagh and ROI (in light of Eu-Exit), and potentially examine the impact of increased working-from-home on the local labour market (in light of the Covid-19 pandemic).

52 Are there any existing data sources that may meet your needs for travel-to-work/school data, either separately or in combination?

Yes, partially

If you selected 'Yes, fully' or 'Yes, partially', please list the data sources and describe how they could meet your needs:

As per the response to Q49, the DIME database may hold some relevant information on people's place of residence and place of work. However, it is recognised as a partial/potential solution only.

53 Is there any new analysis of travel to work you are planning to use census data for due to the current period of social and economic change?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please describe the planned analysis and how it would be used:

See responses to Q47 and Q51.

Workplace zones

54 Do you require data published using the workplace zone geography?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please detail your requirements and how the data would be used:

N/A

Impacts on other outputs

55 Do you anticipate needing any additional data to supplement 2021 Census data?

No

If you selected 'Yes', please detail your requirements and how the data would be used:

The Council does not believe we need any additional data beyond that outlined in this Consultation Response. (However, research needs frequently change!)

Section 2.7: Paradata

Paradata refer to information about how we collected the census.

56 If available, which of the proposed paradata for the 2021 Census would you use?

Household return rate,

Mode of completion (online, paper, telephone),

Language of completion (English, Irish, Ulster-Scots)

If you indicated that you would use one or more of the paradata, please describe the additional analysis that you plan to do using the variable(s) and the value of undertaking this research:

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council expressed concerns regarding the use of the 'online first' collection methodology applied in the 2021 Census. Therefore, we would like to see the return rate by mode of completion to examine if the poorer broadband availability in the district is an issue, and whether there is a difference in return rates in the Fermanagh and Omagh District vis-a-vis other LGDs and at the urban/rural level.

Section 2.8: Statistical Output Geography

Revision of statistical output geography

57 Other than the current local government districts, do you have any requirements for census statistical outputs aligned with any other geographies?

Yes

If you selected 'Yes', please tell us which additional geographies you need census statistical outputs to align with. Please also explain why you need this, including the analysis that you plan to do and the value of undertaking this research:

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is one of 11 local government districts. We require data that is co-terminus with the two lower geographical tiers that the Council utilise on a regular basis:

DEA 2014

Ward 2014

It is imperative that the data are published at these geographical tiers.

In addition, we support the publication of data at a Settlement level where possible.

This provides significant value to the Council, as we believe it will to other Councils. This will support the Council to fulfil its value as an evidence led organisation, support effective service planning and inform strategy development.

Section 3: Any other comments

58 Do you have any data or analysis needs related to any of the areas listed below that will not be met and you have not been able to note elsewhere in this consultation?

Not Answered

If you selected "Other", please provide more information about the topic area for which you have unmet data needs:

N/A

59 Describe your unmet data needs

Please provide your requirements and explain why you require this. For example, what policy or planning decisions would the results effect? Please make it clear what variables and geographies you would need in relation to each of your additional unmet needs:

None provided

60 If you have any further comments on the content of this consultation, please provide these below.

Further comments on the content of the consultation:

None provided