



Office for
National Statistics
Swyddfa
Ystadegau Gwladol

Item 5: Globalisation

Measuring the Sharing Economy of the UK

**Economic Commission for Europe
Conference of European Statisticians
Group of Experts on National Accounts**

Salle XI, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland
Wednesday, 23rd May 2018

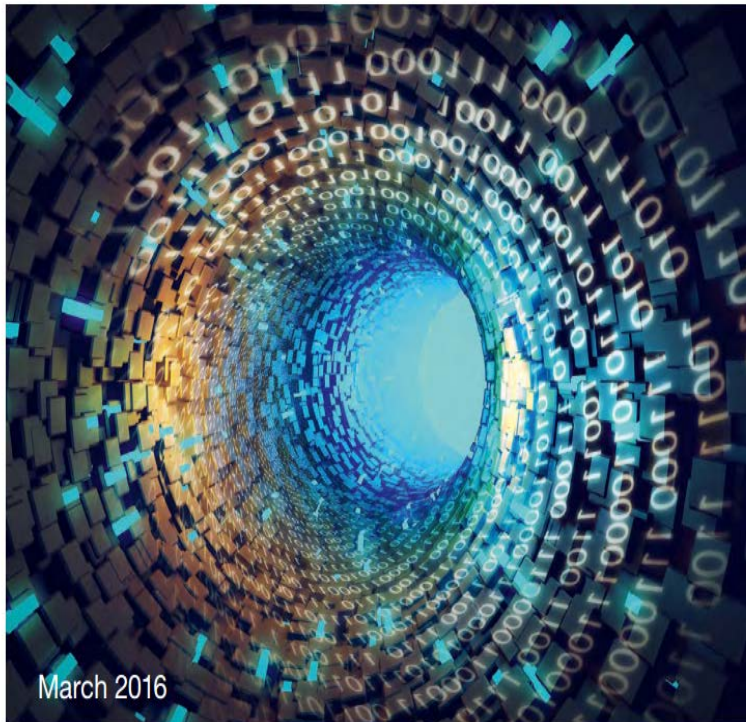
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Our interest

Independent Review of UK Economic Statistics

Professor Sir Charles Bean



“ONS will need to understand better how the **sharing economy** has affected their conventional economic statistics and what may be missing”

Professor Sir Charles Bean

Our aims

- To produce standalone official statistics on the size of the sharing economy in terms of:
 - Value
 - Impact on labour market
- Data will be used to inform policy making.
- Data will also provide an indicator of how UK sharing economy compares internationally.

Addressing the definitional challenge

- ONS definition:

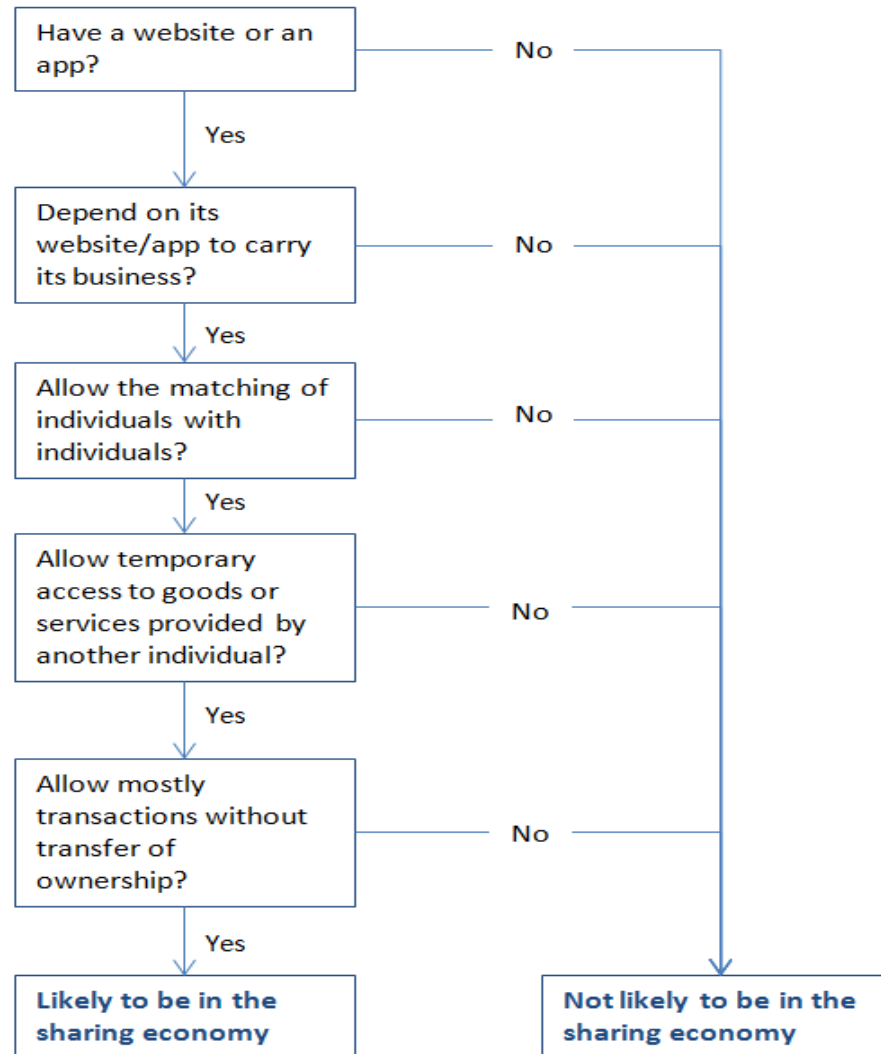
*Sharing of **under-used assets** through completing **peer-to-peer transactions** that are **only viable through digital intermediation**, allowing parties to benefit from usage **outside of the primary use** of that asset.*



- Decision tree used to identify sharing economy businesses.

Decision tree

Does the business...

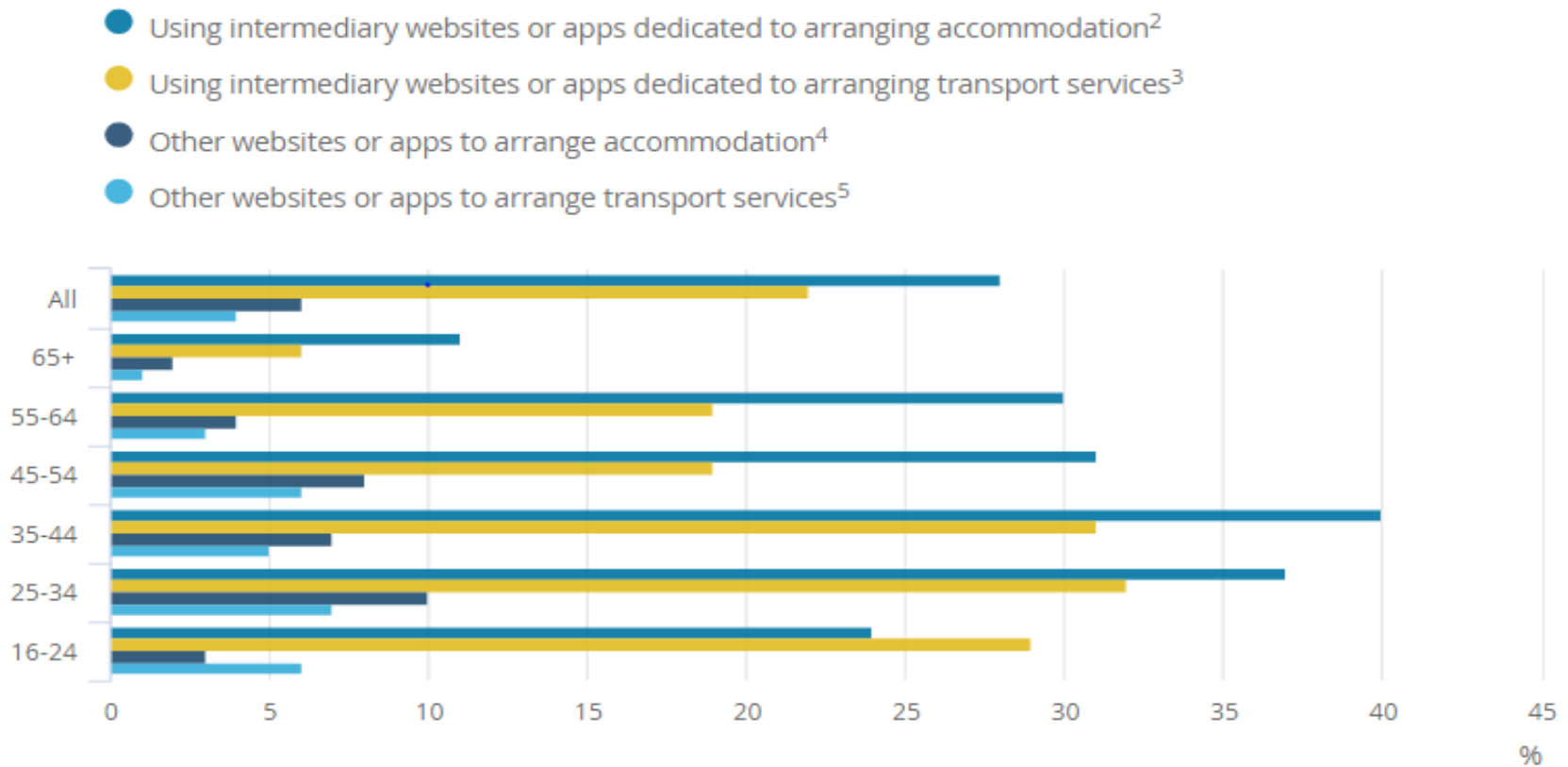


Work done to date

- Published three reports on the feasibility of measuring the “sharing economy”.
- Estimates from the Internet Access module.
- Capturing sharing economy businesses in some of our established business surveys such as the Annual Business Survey or E-commerce Survey.
- Exploring methods of identifying sharing economy businesses.

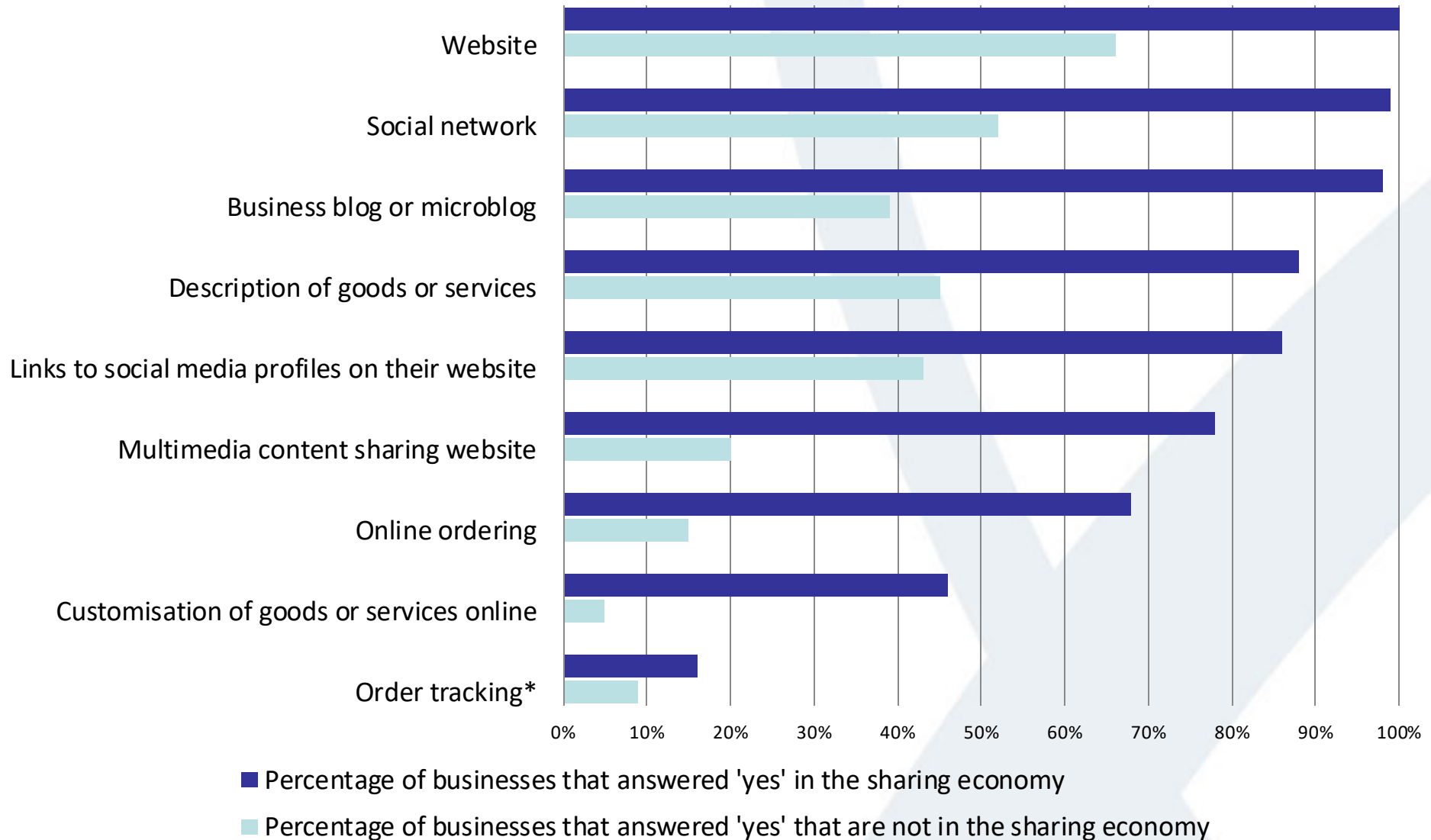
Internet Access survey results

Figure 7: Use of the internet to arrange accommodation or transport from another individual, by age group, 2017, Great Britain



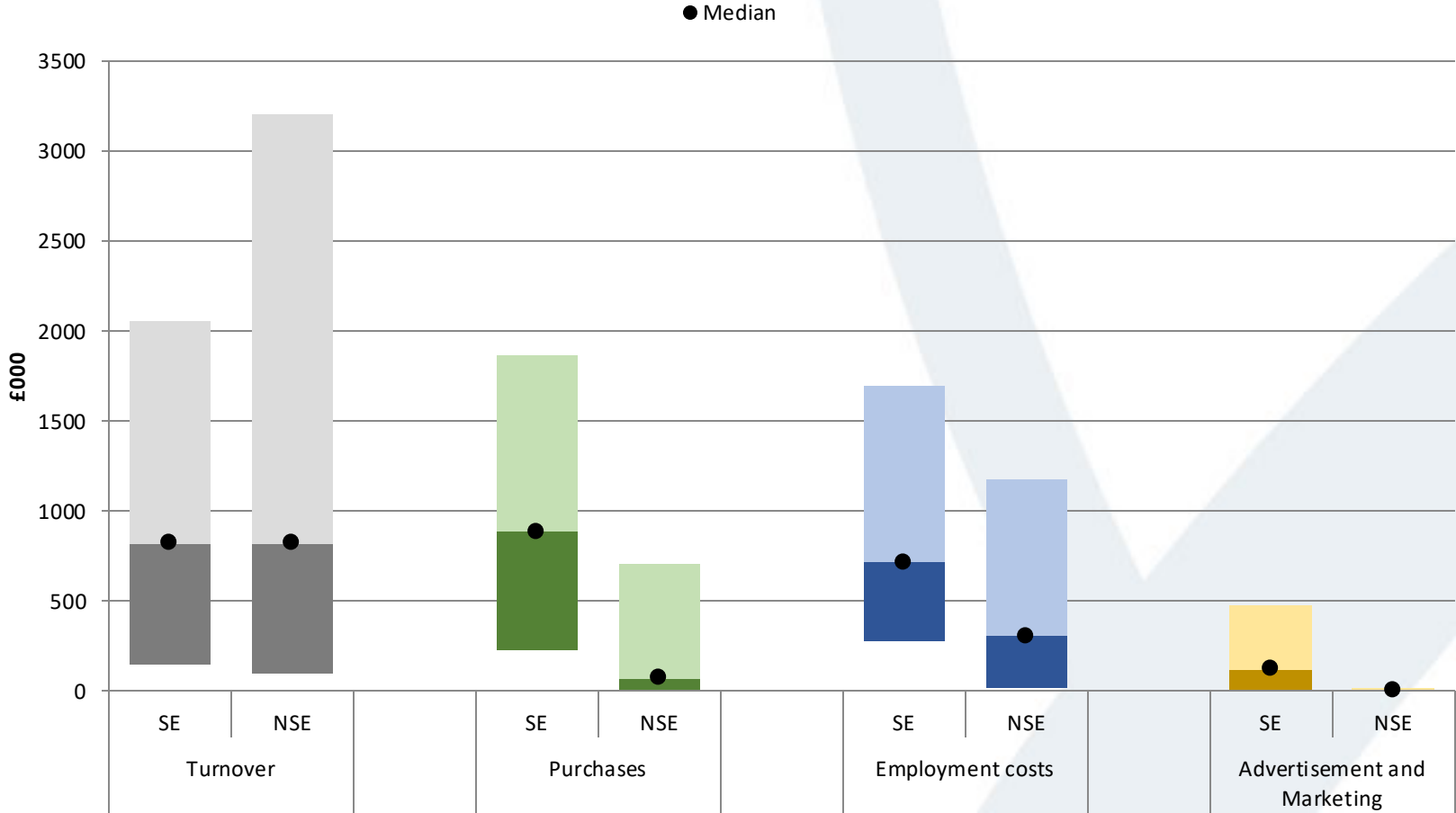
Source: Office for National Statistics

E-Commerce Survey results



Annual Business Survey results

Medians and Inter-Quartile Ranges



SE – Sharing economy businesses
NSE – Non sharing economy businesses

Main challenges

- Defining the sharing economy:
 - Many different definitions.
- Identifying sharing economy businesses/platforms.
- Understanding the structure of sharing economy businesses, including how their turnover is comprised.
- Obtaining information on the value of transactions hosted by these platforms.

Our progress

- Conducting reviews of potential administrative data sources and other ONS surveys which could be used to collect relevant information on the sharing economy such as the **Labour Force Survey**, the **Living Costs and Food Survey** and **Time-use Survey**.
- Engaging with stakeholders from across government and internationally such as: **Statistics China**, **StatCan** (Canada), **Statistics Denmark**, **VVA Economics and Policy** (GB), and **SEUK** (GB).
- Sharing economy group across government departments.

Future Work

- Improving data collection of sharing economy businesses (adding new questions to E-Commerce Survey) which will refine our data science analysis.
- Adding sharing economy questions to household surveys.
- Exploring administrative data (HMRC self-assessment).
- Web-scraping and web-crawling?
- Continuing to engage with other NSIs, sharing economy organisations, international organisations and researchers.

Any Questions?



Thank you
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