Progress of the England and Wales 2021 Census including impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic

Cal Ghee
Current status

Census collection
End February – early May

Coverage survey
May

Non-compliance and Quality survey
June

Processing, first outputs to March 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total return rate</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local area return rate</td>
<td>Over 80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

High self-response

High overall response

Remaining non-responding addresses: have basic data

UNECE Census Experts meeting, May 2021
Management information system

Previous day’s return information
Fieldwork updates
Visual and tabular
Flag up problem areas
21/03: census day

- Total daily submissions: approx. 5 million
- Peak submission time: 11am-12 noon
- 425,000 submissions during peak hour, 240,000 more than previous day’s peak
- Max hourly peak 50% of Total Capacity
Website Request Per Second and TV features/adverts

UNECE Census Experts meeting, May 2021
Daily requests for access codes and paper forms

Requests for household access codes and paper forms

Requests for individual access codes and paper forms

UNECE Census Experts meeting, May 2021
Returns by initial contact mode and returned mode

Paper-first initial contact responded on paper
Online-first initial contact responded on paper
Online-first initial contact responded online
Paper-first initial contact responded online

88.9% online share

UNECE Census Experts meeting, May 2021
Pandemic Impact - Issues Faced

Adaptations made

Pandemic impact on where people are living

Most effective way to remind

Alternative data insight

UNECE Census Experts meeting, May 2021
Next steps

- **Census collection**: End February – early May
- **Coverage survey**: May
- **Non-compliance and Quality survey**: June
- **Processing, first outputs**: to March 2022
- **Investigating any contingencies (eg students)**
Thank you