Response ID ANON-W52Q-QMW1-N

Submitted to Census 2031 topic consultation
Submitted on 2025-11-16 15:24:15

Introduction

About you

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

On behalf of an organisation

About you

What is the name of your organisation?

What is the name of your organisation?:
Community Planning Alliance

About you

What is your name? Please include your first and last name.

What is your name? Please include your first and last name:
Marj Powner

What is your email address?

What is your email address?:
marj.powner@gmail.com

What sector do you work in? Please select all that apply.

Charity or community sector

Other, please specify::

Please can the ONS contact you to discuss your requirements for population statistics?

Yes

To support transparency in our decision-making, responses to this topic consultation will be made public. This will include the name of the responding organisation. We will not publish your name or email address with your response. Please be aware that any information provided in response to this topic consultation could be made publicly available if requested under the Freedom of Information Act.

Information on census topics

Basic demographics and household composition

Does your organisation expect to use basic demographics and household composition Census 2031 data? Selecting No will move the survey on to the next topic group.

Yes

Basic demographics and household composition

At what geographical levels does your organisation expect to use basic demographics and household composition Census 2031 data? Select all that apply.

National, Regional, Local authority, Middle layer Super Output Area, Lower layer Super Output Area, Output Area

Other, please specify::

What are your organisation's requirements for basic demographics and household composition Census 2031 data? Please include examples of why you need them.

What are your organisation's requirements for basic demographics and household composition Census 2031 data? Please include examples of why you need them.:

We produce documents and reports using demographics and household composition data, typically only analysing by age, sex and household.

Please include detailed examples in your answer to the following question, focused on describing the uses most important for your organisation.

What purpose does your organisation use basic demographics and household composition census data for?

What purpose does your organisation use basic demographics and household composition data for?:

We produce documents and reports using demographics and household composition data, typically only analysing by age, sex and household.

Our reports are typically focused on influencing local, regional and national strategies and policies related to planning, transport, energy, housing and employment.

The questions in this section will ask you about how your organisation uses basic demographics and household composition census data.

How, if at all, does your organisation use basic demographics and household composition census data at small geographies?

How, if at all, does your organisation use basic demographics and household composition census data at small geographies? :

We are an umbrella group, with over 700 communities registered on our map (https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?ll=54.51315906614599%2C-0.8864293488427277&z=9&mid=1nFg3i1Ft5-K4LadaEMCb0wr17-I33Kk). Many of those groups produce data at a small geography level to, for example, influence local strategies. policies and plans, and to support responses to planning applications.

How, if at all, does your organisation use basic demographics and household composition census data to understand more about small population groups?

How, if at all, does your organisation use basic demographics and household composition census data to understand more about small population groups?:

How, if at all, does your organisation compare basic demographics and household composition census data with earlier censuses?

How, if at all, does your organisation compare basic demographics and household composition census data with earlier censuses?:

We do make comparisons between census data and earlier censuses, particularly to understand trends and how accurate previous projections may have been.

How, if at all, does your organisation use census data on basic demographics and household composition combined with other census variables (otherwise known as multivariate analysis)?

How, if at all, does your organisation use census data on basic demographics and household composition combined with other census variables (otherwise known as multivariate analysis)?:

How, if at all, does your organisation compare basic demographics and household composition census data to geographical areas outside England and Wales?

How, if at all, does your organisation compare basic demographics and household composition census data to geographical areas outside England and Wales?:

How, if at all, are these current uses different from your organisation's (future) needs for Census 2031 data on basic demographics and household composition?

How, if at all, are these current uses different from your organisation's (future) needs for Census 2031 data on basic demographics and household composition?:

We anticipate that our future needs will be similar to those we use today.

Basic demographics and household composition

How, if at all, do alternative (non-census) sources of data on basic demographics and household composition meet your organisation's requirements? Please include detailed examples in your answer.

How, if at all, do alternative (non-census) sources of data on basic demographics and household composition meet your organisation's requirements? Please include detailed examples in your answer.:

We prefer to use census and other ONS data as our main and trusted source. We recognise that other organisations do use alternative data sources, but our experience is that they typically factor in variables which are biased in favour of the organisation's ambitions.

We firmly believe the government should ensure that all the data it needs to determine strategic and policy regulations is included within ONS data sources to give confidence to communities that decisions are based on fact, rather than being influenced by lobbyists with deep pockets and unreliable, erroneous data.

What would the consequences be, if any, for your organisation if basic demographics and household composition data were not collected in Census 2031?

What would the consequences be, if any, for your organisation if basic demographics and household composition data were not collected in Census 2031?:

Whilst, for a short period of time, existing data could be used to estimate future trends, we do not believe we could continue to produce the necessary documents to influence local, regional and national strategies and policy decisions if the basic demographics and household composition data were not collected in Census 2031.

Basic demographics and household composition

What else, if anything, would you like to add about your organisation's requirements for basic demographics and household composition Census 2031 data?

What else, if anything, would you like to add about your organisation's requirements for basic demographics and household composition Census 2031 data?:

We would like to be able to capture the data relating to National Parks, as they are planning authorities.

Housing

Does your organisation expect to use housing Census 2031 data? Selecting No will move the survey on to the next topic group.

Yes

Housing

At what geographical levels does your organisation expect to use housing Census 2031 data? Select all that apply.

National, Regional, Local authority, Middle layer Super Output Area, Lower layer Super Output Area, Output Area

Other, please specify::

What are your organisation's requirements for housing Census 2031 data? Please include examples of why you need them.

What are your organisation's requirements for housing Census 2031 data? Please include examples of why you need them.:

We produce documents and reports using housing data, typically only analysing by type, number of bedrooms, and number of cars/vans.

Please include detailed examples in your answer to the following question, focused on describing the uses most important for your organisation.

What purpose does your organisation use housing census data for?

What purpose does your organisation use housing census data for?:

We produce documents and reports using housing data, typically only analysing by type, number of bedrooms, and number of cars/vans.

Our reports are typically focused on influencing local, regional and national strategies and policies related to planning, transport, energy, housing and employment.

The questions in this section will ask you about how your organisation uses housing census data.

How, if at all, does your organisation use housing census data at small geographies?

How, if at all, does your organisation use housing census data at small geographies? :

As mentioned in our response to question 10, we are an umbrella group, for over 700 communities. Many of those groups produce data at a small geography level to, for example, influence local strategies. policies and plans, and to support responses to planning applications.

How, if at all, does your organisation use housing census data to understand more about small population groups?

How, if at all, does your organisation use housing census data to understand more about small population groups?:

How, if at all, does your organisation compare housing census data with earlier censuses?

How, if at all, does your organisation compare housing census data with earlier censuses?:

We do make comparisons between census data and earlier censuses, particularly to understand trends and how accurate previous projections may have been.

How, if at all, does your organisation use census data on housing combined with other census variables (otherwise known as multivariate analysis)?

How, if at all, does your organisation use census data on housing combined with other census variables (otherwise known as multivariate analysis)?:

How, if at all, does your organisation compare housing census data to geographical areas outside England and Wales?

How, if at all, does your organisation compare housing census data to geographical areas outside England and Wales?:

How, if at all, are these current uses different from your organisation's (future) needs for Census 2031 data on housing?

How, if at all, are these current uses different from your organisation's (future) needs for Census 2031 data on housing?:

Please see our response to question 30 as we would like to be able to analyse data about homelessness, housing conditions and affordability.

Housing

How, if at all, do alternative (non-census) sources of data on housing meet your organisation's requirements? Please include detailed examples in your answer.

How, if at all, do alternative (non-census) sources of data on housing meet your organisation's requirements? Please include detailed examples in your answer.:

Please see our response to question 16.

What would the consequences be, if any, for your organisation if housing data were not collected in Census 2031?

What would the consequences be, if any, for your organisation if housing data were not collected in Census 2031?:

Please see our response to question 17.

Housing

What else, if anything, would you like to add about your organisation's requirements for housing Census 2031 data?

What else, if anything, would you like to add about your organisation's requirements for housing Census 2031 data?:

We strongly believe that there needs to be more data collected on homelessness, those in inappropriate (unhealthy) housing conditions and the affordability of housing.
We would like new sections should be added to the census to request information such as:
• Have you ever been homeless, if so, when (give dates)
• If you are currently homeless what is the nature of your accommodation (for example emergency shelter)
• Are you on a social housing waiting list (with individuals being able to indicate that they are, or have been, on more than one district's list)
• How long have you been on a social housing waiting list
• Have you ever been on a social housing waiting list
• Does your housing have any damp/mould
• How affordable is your rent/mortgage (what percentage of your income is spent on your rent/mortgage).

We would also like to understand whether the properties people have bought were previously social housing.

Migration and citizenship

Does your organisation expect to use migration and citizenship Census 2031 data? Selecting No will move the survey on to the next topic group.

No

Ethnicity and national identity

Does your organisation expect to use ethnicity and national identity Census 2031 data? Selecting No will move the survey on to the next topic group.

No

Religion

Does your organisation expect to use religion Census 2031 data? Selecting No will move the survey on to the next topic group.

No

Language

Does your organisation expect to use language Census 2031 data? Selecting No will move the survey on to the next topic group.

No

Sexual orientation

Does your organisation expect to use sexual orientation Census 2031 data? Selecting No will move the survey on to the next topic group.

No

Gender identity

Does your organisation expect to use gender identity Census 2031 data? Selecting No will move the survey on to the next topic group.

No

Health, disability and unpaid care

Does your organisation expect to use health, disability and unpaid care Census 2031 data? Selecting No will move the survey on to the next topic group.

Yes

Health, disability and unpaid care

At what geographical levels does your organisation expect to use health, disability and unpaid care Census 2031 data? Select all that apply.

Other, please specify::

What are your organisation's requirements for health, disability and unpaid care Census 2031 data? Please include examples of why you need them.

What are your organisation's requirements for health, disability and unpaid care Census 2031 data? Please include examples of why you need them.:

Please include detailed examples in your answer to the following question, focused on describing the uses most important for your organisation.

What purpose does your organisation use health, disability and unpaid care census data for?

What purpose does your organisation use health, disability and unpaid care census data for?:

The questions in this section will ask you about how your organisation uses health, disability and unpaid care census data.

How, if at all, does your organisation use health, disability and unpaid care census data at small geographies?

How, if at all, does your organisation use health, disability and unpaid care census data at small geographies? :

How, if at all, does your organisation use health, disability and unpaid care census data to understand more about small population groups?

How, if at all, do you use health, disability and unpaid care census data to understand more about small population groups?:

How, if at all, does your organisation compare health, disability and unpaid care census data with earlier censuses?

How, if at all, does your organisation compare health, disability and unpaid care census data with earlier censuses?:

How, if at all, does your organisation use census data on health, disability and unpaid care combined with other census variables (otherwise known as multivariate analysis)?

How, if at all, does your organisation use census data on health, disability and unpaid care combined with other census variables (otherwise known as multivariate analysis)?:

How, if at all, does your organisation compare health, disability and unpaid care census data to geographical areas outside England and Wales?

How, if at all, does your organisation compare health, disability and unpaid care census data to geographical areas outside England and Wales?:

How, if at all, are these current uses different from your organisation's (future) needs for Census 2031 data on health, disability and unpaid care?

How, if at all, are these current uses different from your organisation's (future) needs for Census 2031 data on health, disability and unpaid care?:

We would like to be able to analyse data about the causes of long-term health conditions, particularly conditions caused by air, noise, light, vibration and water pollution (this could be respiratory issues or mental health issues).

Health, disability and unpaid care

How, if at all, do alternative (non-census) sources of data on health, disability and unpaid care meet your organisation's requirements? Please include detailed examples in your answer.

How, if at all, do alternative (non-census) sources of data on health, disability and unpaid care meet your organisation's requirements? Please include detailed examples in your answer.:

What would the consequences be, if any, for your organisation if health, disability and unpaid care data were not collected in Census 2031?

What would the consequences be, if any, for your organisation if health, disability and unpaid care data were not collected in Census 2031?:

Health, disability and unpaid care

What else, if anything, would you like to add about your organisation's requirements for health, disability and unpaid care Census 2031 data?

What else, if anything, would you like to add about your organisation's requirements for health, disability and unpaid care Census 2031 data?:

As mentioned above, we would like to be able to analyse data about the causes of long-term health conditions, particularly conditions caused by air, noise, light, vibration and water pollution (these could be, for example, respiratory issues or mental health issues).

We would like to see additional/new sections added to capture the reasons for these health conditions. Questions such as do you believe your condition has been caused by (for example) genetics, pollution, injury, work-related, etc.

Education

Does your organisation expect to use education Census 2031 data? Selecting No will move the survey on to the next topic group.

No

Labour market

Does your organisation expect to use labour market Census 2031 data? Selecting No will move the survey on to the next topic group.

No

Labour market

At what geographical levels does your organisation expect to use labour market Census 2031 data? Select all that apply.

Other, please specify::

What are your organisation's requirements for labour market Census 2031 data? Please include examples of why you need them.

What are your organisation's requirements for labour market Census 2031 data? Please include examples of why you need them.:

Please include detailed examples in your answer to the following question, focused on describing the uses most important for your organisation.

What purpose does your organisation use labour market census data for?

What purpose does your organisation use labour market census data for?:

The questions in this section will ask you about how your organisation uses labour market census data.

How, if at all, does your organisation use labour market census data at small geographies?

How, if at all, does your organisation use labour market census data at small geographies? :

How, if at all, does your organisation use labour market census data to understand more about small population groups?

How, if at all, does your organisation use labour market census data to understand more about small population groups?:

How, if at all, does your organisation compare labour market census data with earlier censuses?

How, if at all, does your organisation compare labour market census data with earlier censuses?:

How, if at all, does your organisation use census data on labour market combined with other census variables (otherwise known as multivariate analysis)?

How, if at all, does your organisation use census data on labour market combined with other census variables (otherwise known as multivariate analysis)?:

How, if at all, does your organisation compare labour market census data to geographical areas outside England and Wales?

How, if at all, does your organisation compare labour market census data to geographical areas outside England and Wales?:

How, if at all, are these current uses different from your organisation's (future) needs for Census 2031 data on labour market?

How, if at all, are these current uses different from your organisation's (future) needs for Census 2031 data on labour market?:

Travel to work

Does your organisation expect to use travel to work Census 2031 data? Selecting No will move the survey on to the next topic group.

Yes

Travel to work

At what geographical levels does your organisation expect to use travel to work Census 2031 data? Select all that apply.

National, Regional, Local authority, Middle layer Super Output Area, Lower layer Super Output Area, Output Area

Other, please specify::

What are your organisation's requirements for travel to work Census 2031 data? Please include examples of why you need them.

What are your organisation's requirements for travel to work Census 2031 data? Please include examples of why you need them.:

We produce documents and reports relating to transport and travel.

Please include detailed examples in your answer to the following question, focused on describing the uses most important for your organisation.

What purpose does your organisation use travel to work census data for?

What purpose does your organisation use travel to work census data for?:

We produce documents and reports relating to transport and travel. Our reports are typically focused on influencing local, regional and national strategies and policies related to planning, transport, energy, housing and employment.

The questions in this section will ask you about how your organisation uses travel to work census data.

How, if at all, does your organisation use travel to work census data at small geographies?

How, if at all, does your organisation use travel to work census data at small geographies? :

As mentioned in our response to question 10, we are an umbrella group, for over 700 communities. Many of those groups produce data at a small geography level to, for example, influence local strategies. policies and plans, and to support responses to planning applications.

How, if at all, does your organisation use travel to work census data to understand more about small population groups?

How, if at all, does your organisation use travel to work census data to understand more about small population groups?:

How, if at all, does your organisation compare travel to work census data with earlier censuses?

How, if at all, does your organisation compare travel to work census data with earlier censuses?:

We do make comparisons between census data and earlier censuses, particularly to understand trends and how accurate previous projections may have been.

How, if at all, does your organisation use census data on travel to work combined with other census variables (otherwise known as multivariate analysis)?

How, if at all, does your organisation use census data on travel to work combined with other census variables (otherwise known as multivariate analysis)?:

How, if at all, does your organisation compare travel to work census data to geographical areas outside England and Wales?

How, if at all, does your organisation compare travel to work census data to geographical areas outside England and Wales?:

How, if at all, are these current uses different from your organisation's (future) needs for Census 2031 data on travel to work?

How, if at all, are these current uses different from your organisation's (future) needs for Census 2031 data on travel to work?:

Whilst we anticipate that our future needs will be similar to those we use today, we would like to be able to understand whether modal shift to sustainable transport options is happening. Please see our response to question 150 below.

Travel to work

How, if at all, do alternative (non-census) sources of data on travel to work meet your organisation's requirements? Please include detailed examples in your answer.

How, if at all, do alternative (non-census) sources of data on travel to work meet your organisation's requirements? Please include detailed examples in your answer.:

Please see our response to question 16

What would the consequences be, if any, for your organisation if travel to work data were not collected in Census 2031?

What would the consequences be, if any, for your organisation if travel to work data were not collected in Census 2031?:

Please see our response to question 17

Travel to work

What else, if anything, would you like to add about your organisation's requirements for travel to work Census 2031 data?

What else, if anything, would you like to add about your organisation's requirements for travel to work Census 2031 data?:

We would like to be able to understand whether modal shift to sustainable transport options is happening and would like to see additional sections or questions added as relevant, such as:
• Why do you use a car to travel to work? (give options such as home or workplace are in remote, isolated areas, no reliable public transport, public transport is unaffordable, public transport does not operate at convenient times, public transport would be inconvenient due to the need to transport tools or other equipment to and from work, etc)
• Are there alternative options for you to travel to work?

We would also like to understand how children are travelling to school, are they cycling, walking or are parents taking them in a car, would they use school transport if it was provided?

These questions are important to understand how we can tackle increasing congestion and the related air, noise, light, vibration and water pollution.

UK armed forces veterans

Does your organisation expect to use UK armed forces veterans Census 2031 data? Selecting No will move the survey on to the next topic group.

No

Requirements for topic data not collected before

Type of health condition, impairment or disability

How, if at all, do alternative (non-census) sources of data on type of health condition, impairment or disability meet your organisation's requirements? Please include detailed examples in your answer.

How, if at all, do alternative (non-census) sources of data on type of health condition, impairment or disability meet your organisation's requirements? Please include detailed examples in your answer.:

Would your organisation expect to use type of health condition, impairment or disability 2031 Census data if they were available?

No

Income

How, if at all, do alternative (non-census) sources of data on income meet your organisation's requirements? Please include detailed examples in your answer.

How, if at all, do alternative (non-census) sources of data on income meet your organisation's requirements? Please include detailed examples in your answer.:

Would your organisation expect to use income 2031 Census data if they were available?

No

Additional new topics

What, if any, other additional new topics would your organisation propose for Census 2031? Please specify each topic.

Topic 1::
Homelessness, Housing Conditions and Housing Affordability

Topic 1: How would your organisation expect to use these census data? Please include detailed examples in your answer. :

Please see our response to question 30, we would like to see data collected about homelessness, inappropriate housing conditions and the affordability of housing.

Topic 2::
Long term health conditions

Topic 2: How would your organisation expect to use these census data? Please include detailed examples in your answer. :

Please see our response to question 114, we would like to see data collected about the reasons for long-term health conditions, including mental and physical health implications of air, noise, light, vibration, dust and water pollution.

Topic 3::
Achievement of Modal Shift

Topic 3: How would your organisation expect to use these census data? Please include detailed examples in your answer. :

Please see our response to question 150, we would like to see data collected to determine whether modal shift is occurring (ie the move from car travel to more sustainable transport options, including active travel) and we would like data to be collected about how children travel to school.

Topic 4::

Topic 4: How would your organisation expect to use these census data? Please include detailed examples in your answer. :

Topic 5::

Topic 5: How would your organisation expect to use these census data? Please include detailed examples in your answer. :

Geographies

The ONS produces a number of core statistical and administrative geographies.

What additional geographies, if any, does your organisation require for Census 2031?

What additional geographies, if any, does your organisation require for Census 2031?:

It would be useful to be able to understand the information related to National Parks for housing, households, working and travel (they are planning authorities).

Census definitions and population bases

Census definitions, such as usual resident and dwelling, describe how individuals and accommodation are counted and grouped.

What additional definitions and groupings does your organisation require for Census 2031, if any, that were not used for Census 2021?

What additional definitions and groupings does your organisation require for Census 2031, if any, that were not used for Census 2021?:

In relation to households, we would like to have more information about the shared households which might have been able to form into separate households if accommodation was more affordable.

The ONS currently produces outputs against the usually resident population, the daytime population and the out-of-term population

What additional population bases, if any, does your organisation require from Census 2031?

What additional population bases, if any, does your organisation require from Census 2031?:

Communal establishments

Does your organisation expect to use communal establishments data from Census 2031?

No

Harmonisation

In which topic areas or data items, if any, would greater harmonisation help your organisation bring together data from different sources more effectively? Please include detailed examples where a lack of harmonised standards has made it difficult to combine or compare data.

In which topic areas or data items, if any, would greater harmonisation help your organisation bring together data from different sources more effectively? Please include detailed examples where a lack of harmonised standards has made it difficult to combine or compare data. :

Anything else

What, if anything else, would you like to add about your organisation's Census 2031 data requirements?

What, if anything else, would you like to add about your organisation's Census 2031 data requirements? :

Thank you