

Richard Leonard MSP
Convener
Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh EH99 1SP

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By email: publicaudit.committee@parliament.scot

Dear Richard Leonard MSP,

SCOTLAND'S CENSUS 2022 – GENERAL REPORT AND LESSONS LEARNED

I am writing to inform you that National Records of Scotland (NRS) have today published 'Scotland's Census 2022: General Report'. It is prepared, and laid before Parliament, in accordance with the 'Census Act 1920'. A full copy of the report is available at: <https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/about/>.

NRS has gathered and analysed over a billion statistics from the latest census, telling the story of modern day Scotland. The statistics provide a valuable insight into how Scotland's population identify themselves and how they live their lives. Topics include education, transport, religion, migration and national identity.

The report sets out how NRS delivered these statistics and adapted to challenges during the multi-year programme. It also provides key lessons for the future of population statistics in Scotland, particularly in light of the wider trend of falling responses to surveys.

Committee members may also be interested to note that NRS has launched a new online tool allowing users to explore census data using maps. Data is available for local areas across Scotland in a highly visual format. The mapping tool is available at: <https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/atlas/>.

I hope that the information and statistics on Scotland's population will be of interest to you and the wider Committee.

Yours sincerely

Alison Byrne OBE
Registrar General for Scotland

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