



**The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough 2021 Census Liaison Team
Cambridgeshire County Council & Peterborough City Council
Business Intelligence Service**

Census 2021 Update – July 2021

- The Office for National Statistics (ONS), the agency responsible for delivering the Census, has reported provisional household return rates (based on proportion of occupied households) above target, of:
 - A return rate of over 97% over England and Wales (target was 94%),
 - A return rate of over 90% in every Local Authority (LA) (target was 80%), and
 - The target of minimising variability in return rates between areas within LAs has also been met in every LA.
- The ONS is now working on the quality assurance and data validation stages of the Census. This includes organising an additional survey of universities as a further means of validating their Census returns for students.
- The first Census outputs - on population - are scheduled to be published in March 2022, with the remaining outputs due to be released over the following twelve months.

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough 2021 Census Liaison Team

- The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough 2021 Census Liaison Team continues its strategic, partnership and engagement work on Census 2021.
 - We have met with the ONS Census 2021 Quality Assurance team to discuss data validation and quality assurance for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. We have provided local data and highlighted local issues requiring particular attention, for example differences between Cambridgeshire County Council's mid-year population estimates and ONS' mid-year population estimates. This will be an ongoing engagement process, with the window open to January 2022.
 - The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Census 2021 Network Group, which brings together colleagues from the county and district councils, continues to collaborate. This Network gives us the opportunity to share our ideas and working practices, work collaboratively where we can, support one another, and avoid potential duplication of work around Census 2021.
 - We will soon be launching a survey to establish our users' needs for Census 2021 outputs. The survey will be asking for feedback on areas such as what level of geographical analysis would best suit users' needs. We are aiming to reach a wide audience and so would really value your support with both participating in the survey and promoting it with your networks.

If there is anything you would like to discuss, or you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Tom Barden, Census Liaison Manager (tom.barden@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or Anna Jones, Assistant Census Liaison Manager (anna.jones@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) for Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council.