



Advisory Group paper – CAGW (06) 02

COMMUNITY LIAISON PROGRAMME UPDATE

Introduction

1. This paper outlines progress on the Community Liaison Action Plan.

Action requested of Census Advisory Groups

2. **Members are invited to note this progress update. Feedback is welcomed at the meeting.**

Summary

3. **The advisory and steering role that community organisations have contributed to continues to be valuable and one-to-one meetings between ONS/community organisations mutually very useful.** We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks for this help. However, there have been wide variations in timeliness and provision of information requested by ONS.

4. Since community organisations are limited in their capacity to provide the amount of information initially envisaged (although they are providing a helpful advisory role), we need to clarify where it is feasible and practicable to adopt particular elements of the plan for the 2007 Census Test for future evaluation. Overall, progress and written response to the actions requested of community organisations contained in the Community Liaison Action Plan has been, with one or two exceptions, of limited practical assistance in informing the enumeration intelligence.

5. Some operational issues have been identified and either addressed or noted for consideration during 2007 Test evaluation process after which, the plan will be revised for the Rehearsal and again (if necessary) for the 2011 Census.

Background

6. Ron May, Local Authority and Community Liaison Manager, took up post full-time on 2 May, visiting a number of community organisations over the summer. Some 31, mainly national community organisations, have been directly contacted, 19 of which have been met with and two Strategic Community Partnership meetings held with two of the 2007 Test Local Authorities (list of communities at Annex A). Meetings were limited over the summer period partly due to leave absences (on both sides) and the operational need to spend the majority of available time on Local Authority Liaison during its most intense work period.

7. ONS are fully committed to working in partnership with minority and special interest groups in order to encourage their co-operation and participation in the 2011 Census.

Following on from the Special Populations Advisory Group (now Diversity Advisory Group - DiAG) meeting on 4 May and subsequent bilateral meetings with a number of key community stakeholders, the draft action plan and timetable for taking forward the 2011 Census Community Liaison Programme was presented to all Census Advisory Groups (May 2006). Comments received by 27 May were considered, the draft action plan revised and presented to the 2011 Census Operations Delivery Board (ODB) in July 2006. Long-term resources will be addressed to take forward Community Liaison work. ODB stressed the importance of maintaining relationships with groups up to and as far as, the 2011 Census, and that relevant information is passed back to these groups and they are kept informed of results.

8. The Board's attention was drawn to the issue of Race Impact Assessment (RIA) and it is proposed to bring in a consultant to lead in this work. RIA could impact on both field staff recruitment and questionnaire content.

9. ODB decided the Action Plan required further quality assurance within ONS and it was circulated in October for formal QA to key representatives of ONS, including Methodology, HR and the Diversity Officer (HR Policy), Social and Health Analysis & Reporting, Census Questionnaire Design and Content, Census Quality Management, Communications Division and Census Data Collection.

10. Responses are due by 12 December, after which an amended plan will be resubmitted to ODB and circulated to the Diversity Advisory Group (DiAG) and the Census Advisory Group for Wales (CAGW) for information. Further revision will follow from the 2007 Test evaluation.

11. For operational reasons, responsibility for the LA and Community Liaison was transferred from Communication and Census Legislation Branch Programme to Data Collection Branch within ONS on 18 September.

Progress Report

Progress against Community Liaison Action Plan

12. See **Annex B** for a table of progress against the **Community Liaison Action Plan**, **Annex C** sets out actions due at 1 June.

Publicity

13. Due to the design of the Test areas, it is going to be difficult to communicate the participation messages other than by a direct leafleting approach without risking too much spread outside of the selected Enumeration Districts. However, with limited options for publicity, there is a risk the very people the Test is trying to target, within the hard to count groups, will not be sufficiently informed or encouraged to participate.

14. Publicity material will be produced wherever possible within the RNIB guidelines regarding font size and colour. The recommended minimum font size is 12pt which will be used for the Information Leaflet as space is limited. Other material will be produced in 14pt font where space permits.

15. Materials will be available in Braille and large print on request to the Contact Centre. Welsh Language or bilingual versions of the materials will be printed for use within Carmarthenshire. The Information Leaflet will list the ten languages for which assistance will be available. The Test Questions (without tick-boxes) and Information Leaflet will be published together in the form of a Translation Leaflet in the ten selected languages. This leaflet will be used as a guide for completing the English version of the questionnaire. The ten languages currently being considered are:

Albanian
Arabic
Bengali/Sylheti
Cantonese
French
Polish
Portuguese
Punjabi
Somali
Urdu

16. Press releases will be targeted at local media outlets (radio and newspapers) within the local authority areas to inform people of the various stages within the Test programme and to act as a reminder of the importance of a Census.

17. Communication with community organisations will ensure they are kept informed of releases of publicity materials and the timetable of events.

18. A basic set of Frequently Asked Questions will be held on Census web pages with further information available via the Contact Centre. Fact sheets will be available in English and Welsh.

Address Intelligence

19. Early analysis of the pre-Test areas addresses has indicated that 9,000 new household addresses have been identified, the greatest number being in Camden (6,000), most of these being subdivisions (flats and bed sits) within existing known addresses but new addresses were found in all areas. The exercise has also yielded a number of operational findings. Estimates about how long the check would take in rural areas were too short and in Carmarthenshire the exercise was more resource intensive than anticipated.

Health and Safety information

20. LAs were concerned about sensitivities around local problem areas. Community safety teams and Police authorities have given verbal briefings to field staff on local areas.

Taking forward the programme and emerging issues

21. ONS will consider whether DiAG might be better served, divided into two groups with very broadly similar interests covering i) disability groups and the elderly and ii) ethnic minority, religious and other groups. One obvious drawback would be for organisations that

straddle both group types (i.e. Commission for Equality and Human Rights – CEHR from autumn 2007) but on the positive side, it may help for more focused and relevant discussion.

22. ONS will consider re-focusing the Community Liaison Action Plan and relationship with communities to be primarily on the advisory role, where it has so far been of most practical benefit. In particular one-to-one meetings between ONS/community organisations have proved to be mutually very useful indeed.

23. ONS will continue to develop the use of local community networks, wherever they exist for practical assistance, to help ensure fullest possible coverage of previously under-represented population groups.

24. ONS need to continue to firmly establish from communities what they want to get from the Census generally and, more specifically, from the Test. ONS aims to demonstrate what we are doing to meet community organisations' requests, to reassure their concerns/issues are taken seriously, that they are being properly considered/addressed and to determine how communities can best help.

25. ONS will consider whether some area profile or address data might be better derived from national sources, partly for consistency and ease of collection. Formats for data interchange between ONS/community organisations to be standardised, wherever possible.

26. ONS will take fully into account the general duty to promote equality of opportunity between disabled persons and other persons; and the need to take steps to take account of disabled person's disabilities, even where that involves treating disabled persons more favourably than other persons.

27. Finally, ONS will prioritise key national and local communities to identify the needs to be addressed to further develop strategies to:

- facilitate enumeration and ensure fullest possible coverage;
- help to publicise the Census and underline its use and value;
- provide help and guidance to local community groups;
- provide assistance with the provision of language and disability strategies, and in particular, the provision of language translation and interpreting materials and facilities;
- help provide a source of potential field staff; and
- provide intelligence, guidance and support to field staff locally

Key dates

28. May 2008: Final Community Liaison strategy presented to DiAG and CAGW.

June 2008-March 2009: Local community contacts established in Rehearsal areas.

October 2008: White Paper sets out Government's proposals for the 2011 Census including plans for local and community liaison.

Evaluation following the 2007 Test

29. Some of the questions and issues that will be addressed evaluating the 2007 Test include:

How many national community organisations were contacted?

How many community organisations had local networks in the test areas?

Which organisations provided practical help to community members?

What percentage of field staff were of non-white ethnic group?

Did ONS identify those languages prevalent in the test areas?

How many census forms were requested in:

(a) Braille?

(b) large print format?

(c) in foreign languages?

Was the data helpful to Field or of little value?

How much better than from central sources?

How much effort to provide data?

Standard approach

Is there a standard way to get data?

What are we going to ask community organisations to provide for 2011?

Streamline process

Best format for supply?

Capture lessons learnt

Evaluate different sources of data

How can community liaison be improved?

How effective were the National community organisations?

How well did we engage the local community and gain co-operation?

Ensure fitness for purpose, challenge assumptions

Effective prioritisation, better at stopping things to make room for doing more

What elements of Action Plan have worked?

Identify faults with plan

Is it the sort of information we need and collected in right way?

Amount of effort required to bring data in

Evaluate process

Scalability, added value

Timeliness of data

Ron May

2011 Census Community and Local Authority Liaison

ONS

October 2006

Community Liaison Organisations

Action for Blind People
Age Concern
Big Issue
Board of Deputies of British Jews
British Dyslexia Association
British Institute of Learning Disabilities
British Ravidassia Society
British Sikh Federation
Carers UK
Carmarthen Chamber of Commerce
Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Organisations
Citizens Advice Bureau
Commission for Racial Equality
Communities First (Wales)
Disability Rights Commission
DWP Language Unit
Ethnic Researchers Network
Federation of Irish Societies
Federation of Poles in Great Britain
Foundation for Assistive Technology
Gypsy Council for Education, Welfare and Civil Rights
Help the Aged
Henshaws Society for Blind People
Hindu Forum for Britain
Home Office Racial Equality Unit
Homeless Link
Human Rights for Race Equality
Interfaith Network for the UK
Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants
Liberty
LinkAge
Lord Lieutenant's Association
Making the Connections (Wales Assembly Government)
MENCAP
MENCAP Wales
Mind
Minority Press
Muslim Council of Britain
Muslim Council of Wales
Nat Association of Councils of Voluntary Organisations
National Association of British Arabs
National Association of Local Councils
National Centre for Languages
National Federation of the Blind
National Literacy Trust
National Talking Newspapers and Magazines
NHS Direct

Nystagmus Network
Pia - Accessible publishing solutions including Welsh translations
POSK Polish Social & Cultural Association Ltd
QAC Queen Alexandra College
Refugee Council
Refugee Council Wales
RNIB
RNID
Royal National College for the Blind
SCOPE
Shelter/Shelter Cymru
St Mungo's London Homeless Charity
St Vincent's School for Blind and Partially Sighted Children
Stonewall
The 1990 Trust
The Ligali Organisation
Welsh Language Board
Welsh National Centre for Religious Education

ANNEX B

COMMUNITY LIAISON ACTION PLAN: TIMETABLE FOR FUTURE ACTION AND EVENTS

When	What	Who	Update/comments
2006			
Throughout year		ONS	Strategy approved at ODB on 25/10/2006
April		ONS	ONS requested data from LAs on 16/5 on-going
		ONS	Approved at ODB on 13/7/06
April-June		ONS	ONS System Design producing aggregate address counts. This should allow us to isolate areas where there may be a problem with address coverage.
3 May		SPAG (now DiAG)/CAGW	Presented at May round of Advisory groups, revision period closed end May
May		ONS	Completed - announced on 23 May: http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/about/census/census2011/2007_test.asp
May-June		ONS/Community organisations	Being addressed corporately.
		Community organisations	Overall, very little data provision received in ONS.
		LAs	Data from 3 LAs received to date.
June		Community	

When	What	Who	Update/comments
June-July		<p>organisations ONS</p> <p>ONS Board</p> <p>Community organisations</p> <p>ONS/ Community organisations</p>	<p>Data from 3 LAs circulated for QA. Completed: http://www.hays.com/jobs/ons/ops.html</p> <p>Para 9 refers.</p> <p>Para 15 refers.</p> <p>Some useful offers, on-going with individual community orgs.</p>
June-Sept		<p>ONS</p> <p>ONS/ Community organisations</p> <p>ONS</p>	<p>Advice continues to be received.</p> <p>On-going.</p> <p>Some useful contacts given at meetings with individual community orgs.</p>
June-Dec		<p>ONS/local organisations</p>	<p>Limited resource available to do this on any significant scale.</p>
August		<p>ONS</p>	<p>Profile format decided, LA data nearing completion. Profiles due around Dec.</p>
Summer-Autumn		<p>ONS</p> <p>LAs</p>	<p>Address checking complete. http://www.hays.com/jobs/ons/</p> <p>Ron May spoke to BaNES Strategic partnership meeting on 12 July. Stoke-on-Trent 5 September.</p>
September		<p>ONS</p>	<p>Published 31/10/06</p>
Sept-January 2006		<p>Community organisations</p>	<p>So far, little received in ONS.</p>

Emailed to Community organisations 1/6/06

Actions from Community Liaison Action Plan - next steps

The period for comments on the 2011 Census Community Liaison Draft Action Plan closed on 27th May. May I take this opportunity to thank those who have responded, in the next few weeks I will be issuing a revised version of the Action Plan.

There are a number of actions timetabled for May to Dec 2006.

I would be grateful for information, limited to the five 2007 Test Areas (Bath and North East Somerset, Camden, Carmarthenshire, Liverpool, and Stoke-on-Trent), by end June if possible on:

- lists of local community contacts; and
- locally-held available data sources; and
- local communication channels to serve as publicity outlets.

As well as contact name it would be helpful to have the full postal address, telephone, email and web address.

Feed back on provision of data and information

It would be useful to know how difficult it was for you to provide this data and the level of resources required to do this. This is to try and ensure that any requests made for the 2011 Census are realistic in terms of benefits to ONS with reference to burden to the individual Community organisations providing it.

If you could fill in the feedback form attached (*below*) to the covering email, it would be very useful, please note that we are not expecting any long answers.

(Note- further request with attachments, sent 25/7/06 asking for help identifying main languages and reminding of outstanding actions due for completion)

Community Organisation

Contact details: Name

Email address

Phone number

Information item	Can provide data			Cannot provide data	Would be happy to provide if required for 2011	Additional Comments
	Where data sourced from within organisation	Manual collection required	Resource required			
<i>Expected level of answer</i>	<i>Data source</i>	<i>None A little Lots e.g., person required to collate information for different sources</i>	<i>Low Medium High Or In terms of man hours</i>	<i>Not applicable Not available No resources Systems not set up to provide simply</i>	<i>Yes No</i>	<i>Feel free to add any other comments you may have about providing this information</i>
lists of local community contacts						
locally-held available data sources						
local publicity outlets						