

## SOC2010 Revision: Review of Major Groups 4 to 9

### SOC Revision Working Group Proposals

This document outlines the decisions made from the SOC Revision Working Group and in the majority relate to major groups 4 to 9. These decisions are all preliminary. Please refer to the spreadsheet on the GSS website for the proposed new structure for major groups 4 to 9.

Note numbers in **green** refer to SOC2020 groups. In black they refer to SOC2010 groups.

If you have any comments or evidence which supports or refutes any of these proposals, please send them to [socrevision@ons.gov.uk](mailto:socrevision@ons.gov.uk) by **Tuesday 15 May 2018**. These will be considered before any final decisions are made

#### **Issue 1: Can ‘service commissioners’ be identified in sub-major group 11 ‘Corporate Managers and Directors’?**

Research found that they can be identified in the survey data, but that their numbers are too small to form a viable unit group.

**Proposal:** No further action.

#### **Issue 2: Can ‘internal audit directors’ be identified in minor group 113 ‘Functional Managers and Directors’, and ‘internal audit professionals’ in ‘Chartered and certified accountants’ (2421), to form two new unit groups?**

Research found that they can be identified in the survey data, but that their numbers are too small to form viable unit groups.

**Proposal:** No further action.

#### **Issue 3: Should the unit group titles for ‘Managers and proprietors in early years and childcare services’ (1233), ‘Early years education practitioners’ (3232) and ‘Early years assistants’ (was Nursery nurses and assistants) (6111) be amended?**

Expert stakeholder feedback stated all the emphasis is on education for these unit group titles, that there are elements of both education and childcare for these occupations.

#### **Issue 4: Should the SOC2020 unit group for ‘Early education and childcare services managers and proprietors’ (1233) be disaggregated?**

Expert stakeholder feedback has stated managers in education and childcare generally have professional knowledge and should be coded to MG2.

#### **Proposal (issue 3):**

- amend the title of 1233 to ‘Early education and childcare services managers and proprietors’ amend the title of 3232 to ‘Early education and childcare practitioners’
  - amend the title of minor group 323 to ‘Teaching and Childcare Associate Professionals’
- amend the title of 6111 to ‘Early education and childcare assistants’
  - amend the title of minor group 611 to ‘Teaching and Childcare Support Occupations’
- move the unit groups within the new SOC2020 minor group 612 for ‘Childcare and Related Occupations’ to minor group 611. Minor group 612 will be removed.

**Proposal (issue 4) I:** Split Managers from owners/proprietors to form two new unit groups and one new minor group:

- amend title of 1233 to ‘Early education and childcare services proprietors’
- create new SOC2020 minor group 233 ‘Early Education and Childcare Services Managers’
  - create new SOC2020 unit group ‘Early education and childcare services managers’ (2330)

**Issue 5: Should the unit group ‘Barristers and judges’ (2412) be merged with arbitrators, mediators and conciliators?**

Expert stakeholder feedback was against this change, that the distinction between these occupations should remain.

**Proposal:** No further action.

**Issue 6: Should ‘customer service managers’ and ‘website moderators’ be moved out of major group 7?**

A review of the occupations coded to ‘Customer service managers and supervisors’ (7220) found that some occupations can be moved out of major group 7.

- customer service managers manage staff and operations; therefore, they are better suited to minor group 414 ‘Administrative Occupations: Office Managers and Supervisors’
- website moderators edit content and need to be proficient in the use of a computer, therefore they are better suited to minor group 313 ‘Information Technology Technicians’

**Proposal:**

- create new SOC2020 unit group for ‘Customer service managers’ (4143)
- move website moderators to new SOC2020 unit group ‘Database administrators and web content technicians’ (3133)
- amend name of unit group 7220 from ‘Customer service managers and supervisors’ to ‘Customer service supervisors’

**Issue 7: Should the unit group title for ‘Health associate professionals n.e.c.’ (3219) be amended?**

With the addition of the job title of ‘Comprehensive Pilates teacher’ to 3219 (as reported in the MG3 paper) it has been requested that the unit group name be updated to reflect this.

**Proposal:** Amend the group title for 3219 to ‘Health and physical activity teaching associate professionals n.e.c.’

**Issue 8: Should the unit group title for ‘NCOs and other ranks’ (3311) be expanded?**

It was agreed to amend the title.

**Proposal:** Amend the unit group title for 3311 to ‘Non-commissioned officers and other ranks’

**Issue 9: Can the occupations in minor group 411 ‘Administrative Occupations: Government and Related Organisations’ be organised by type of work undertaken (e.g. finance, human resources)?**

Research into the occupations coded to minor group 411 found that it is not possible to split the occupations by the type of work due to the level of information available in the survey data. For example, only a small proportion mentioned ‘finance’ in the job title.

**Proposal:** No further action.

**Issue 10: Can any occupations coded to ‘Security guards and related occupations’ (9241) be moved to more appropriate unit groups?**

Research into 9241 found that historical job titles in the SOC index for occupations that investigate fraud, and private investigators/detectives are now more appropriately coded to unit group ‘Protective service associate professionals n.e.c.’ (3319), and that park keepers and attendants should be moved to ‘Forestry workers’ (9112). The the unit group title for 9112 should be updated to reflect this move.

**Proposal:**

- move ‘fraud’ and ‘private investigator/detective’ occupations to 3319
- move ‘Park keepers and attendants’ to 9112
- amend the unit group title for 9112 to ‘Forestry and arboricultural workers’

### **Issue 11: Is the occupational term ‘typist’ still relevant for unit group ‘Typists and related keyboard occupations’ (4217)?**

Research was conducted on current job titles to understand whether the occupational term ‘typist’ was still being used to describe occupations. Analysis found that ‘typist’ is still a widely used term in both survey data and existing job adverts.

Analysis of 4217 found that ‘data entry’ occupations could be identified to form new viable unit group.

#### **Proposal:**

- retain the term ‘typist’ in unit group 4217
- create new SOC2020 unit group ‘Data entry administrators’ (4152)

### **Issue 12: Can the selected not elsewhere classified (n.e.c) unit groups listed below be disaggregated?**

- a. Research into ‘Other administrative occupations n.e.c.’ (4159) found that exam invigilators could be disaggregated to form a new unit group, and that their tasks and responsibilities show they are better suited to major group 9.

**Proposal:** Create new SOC2020 unit group ‘Exam invigilators’ (9234) to sit within SOC2020 minor group 923 ‘Elementary Security Occupations’.

- b. Research into ‘Electrical and electronic trades n.e.c.’ (5249) found that alarm and security system engineers could be created as viable new unit group. Electrical service and maintenance engineers could also be created, it would also include ‘electrical service engineers’ that currently code to ‘Electricians and electrical fitters’ (5241).

**Proposal:** Create two new SOC2020 unit groups with titles that are aligned with the International Standard of Occupations (ISCO08) for:

- 5245 Security system installers and repairers
- 5246 Electrical service and maintenance mechanics and repairers

- c. Analysis of ‘Construction operatives n.e.c.’ (8149) found that dry liners could be identified with sufficient numbers to create a new unit group.

**Proposal:** Create new SOC2020 unit group ‘Dry liners’ (8154).

- d. Research into ‘Elementary process plant occupations n.e.c.’ (9139) found that there were two distinct occupational groups that could be identified to create new viable unit groups. Research also found that textile workers and operatives that code to 9139 should be included in unit group ‘Textile process operatives’ (8133).

**Proposal:** Create two new SOC2020 unit groups for:

- 9133 Foundry Workers
- 9135 Material Handlers
- Move ‘textile workers and operatives’ to unit group ‘Textile process operatives’ (8133).

- e. Analysis of the unit group ‘Elementary security occupations n.e.c.’ (9249) found that the occupation ‘Door supervisors’ was distinct and has sufficient numbers to create a viable new unit group. The remaining occupations coding to 9249 will be coded to more appropriate groups. This left no remaining occupations within 9249.

#### **Proposal:**

- create new SOC2020 unit group ‘Door supervisor’ (9232)
- move occupations formerly coded to 9249 to other unit groups as follows:
  - cloakroom attendants – move to ‘Other elementary services occupations n.e.c.’ (9279)

- museum and gallery attendants – move to ‘Leisure and theme park attendants’ (9275)
- bailiffs – move to ‘Debt, rent and other cash collectors’ (7122)
- court ushers – move to ‘Security guards and related occupations’ (9241)
- lighting operatives – move to ‘Construction operatives n.e.c.’ (8149)
- remaining occupations will be coded to ‘Security guards and related occupations’ (9241)
- remove unit group 9249

f. There were no viable new groups possible for the following unit groups:

- Construction and building trades n.e.c (5319). Most of the group consisted of ‘general builders’, and that these ‘general builders’ tended to have no further information available to code them to a particular skill. The working group agreed that ‘general builders’ are appropriately coded to unit group 5319
- Animal care services occupations n.e.c. (6139)
- Customer service occupations n.e.c. (7219). There is not enough differentiation in the job titles in the survey data, to ascertain what roles are being undertaken in the group

**Proposal:** No further action.

**Issue 13: Is the occupational term ‘secretary’ outdated for the unit groups using the term within minor group 421 ‘Secretarial and Related Occupations’?**

Research was conducted on current job titles to understand whether the occupational term ‘secretary’ was still being used to describe occupations. Analysis found that ‘secretary’ is still a widely used term in both survey data and existing job adverts.

**Proposal:** No further action.

**Issue 14: – Should the unit group title for ‘Company secretaries’ (4214) be renamed or merged with ‘Personal assistants and other secretaries’ (4215)?**

As previously reported a new SOC2020 unit group has been created for ‘Chartered company secretaries’ (2426).

Research into 4214 shows that the unit group is a distinct group and should not be merged with 4215. The unit groups title is still valid, with 98% of those coding to 4214 in the survey data stating they are a ‘company secretary’. The survey data shows that they are not chartered or professionally qualified. If the unit group was renamed these occupations could potentially be miscoded to SOC2020 group 2426.

**Proposal:** No further action.

**Issue 15: Can ‘craft’ unit groups be more aligned with ISCO08?**

The following unit groups were examined for possible alignment to ISCO08:

- **5211 Smiths and forge workers**
  - as reported in major group 3 consultation documentation, this group is decreasing in size and will therefore be merged with SOC2010 group ‘Metal plate workers and riveters’ (5214)
- **5411 Weavers and knitters**
  - as reported in major group 3 consultation documentation, this group is decreasing in size and will therefore be merged with SOC2010 group ‘Textiles, garments and related trades n.e.c.’ (5419)
- **5412 Upholsterers**
  - maps to two ISCO08 groups. 5412 includes occupations in soft furnishings. It is possible to identify upholsterers as a distinct group, but the remainder coding to 5412 would not be a viable group
- **5441 Glass and ceramics makers, decorators and finishers**
  - maps to nine ISCO08 groups. No further disaggregation was possible to create viable unit groups
- **5442 Furniture makers and other craft woodworkers**
  - maps to five ISCO08 groups. No further disaggregation was possible to create viable unit groups

- **5423 Print finishing and binding workers**
  - maps to two ISCO08 groups. No further disaggregation was possible to create viable unit groups
- **5449 Other skills trades n.e.c**
  - maps to seventeen ISCO08 groups. No further disaggregation was possible to create viable unit groups

**Proposal:** No further action.

**Issue 16: Is the occupational term telecommunications still relevant for unit group 'Telecommunications engineers' (5242)?**

Analysis of job titles coded to unit group 'Telecommunications engineers' (5242) found that the term is still used but that 'telecoms' is more prevalent.

**Proposal:** Amend the unit group title for 5242 to 'Telecoms and related network engineers'. (also see issue 17 below).

**Issue 17: Should the unit groups that use the term 'engineer' in their titles in minor groups 524 'Electrical and Electronic Trades' and 531 'Construction and Building Trades', be amended to align more closely to the ISCO08?**

The working group propose that the following unit group titles are amended to align with ISCO08:

- 5225 Air-conditioning and refrigeration engineers
- 5242 Telecommunications engineers
- 5244 TV, video and audio engineers
- 5245 IT engineers
- 5314 Plumbers and heating and ventilating engineers

**Proposal:** Propose that the above unit groups titles are amended as follows:

- 5225 Air conditioning and refrigeration installers and repairers
- 5242 Telecoms and related network installers and repairers
- 5244 TV, video and audio servicers and repairers
- 5245 Computer system and equipment installers and servicers
- 5314 Plumbers & heating and ventilating installers and repairers

**Issue 18: Can previously merged occupations be disaggregated?**

- a. Research into 'Bricklayers and masons' (5312) found that bricklayers and stonemasons are distinct occupational groups with sufficient numbers for bricklayers to be coded as a separate group. There are a small number of 'related occupations' that will remain in 5312 with the stonemasons.

**Proposal:** Split 5312 into two unit groups:

- 5312 Stonemasons and related trades
- **5313** Bricklayers

- b. Research into 'Metal working machine operatives' (8125) found that 'shotblasters' and 'polishers' could be identified to create two new viable unit groups. As there are not enough available codes in minor group 812 'Plant and Machine Operatives', it is proposed that a new minor group be created to include the new unit groups. 8125 will move to the new minor group and become an n.e.c. (not elsewhere classified) group.

**Proposal:** Create a new minor group **813** 'Metal Working Machine Operatives' to include the following unit groups:

- **8131** Polishers
- **8132** Shotblasters
- 8139 Metal working machine operatives **n.e.c.**

- c. Research into 'Elementary construction occupations' (9120) found that 'groundworkers' could be identified to form a viable unit group.

**Proposal:** Create a SOC2020 unit group 'Groundworkers' (9121). 'Elementary construction occupations' will become an n.e.c. group (9129).

- d. Research into 'Elementary storage occupations' (9260) found that there are not enough 'stevedores', 'dockers' and 'slingers' to form a viable unit group. But 'warehouse operatives' and 'delivery operatives' could be identified.

**Proposal:** Create two new unit groups and 'Elementary storage occupations' becomes an n.e.c. group:

- 9252 Warehouse operatives
- 9253 Delivery operatives
- 9259 Elementary storage occupations n.e.c.

- e. There were no viable unit groups possible for the following occupations within the following SOC2010 unit groups:

- 5449 Goldsmiths and related occupations (also reported in issue 15 above)
- 8114 Synthetic fibre makers
- 8118 Galvanisers and tin platers
- 8125 Fettleers and dressers
- 8142 Paviments and kerb layers
- 9279 Hotel porters

**Proposal:** No further action.

**Issue 19: Should 'Footwear and leather working trades' (5413); Tailors and dressmakers' (5414); and 'Textiles garments and related trades (5419)' be moved to a higher major group?**

Research into occupations coding to these unit groups found that they should remain in MG5.

**Proposal:** No further action.

**Issue 20: Should community care workers be split from unit groups 'Care workers and home carers' (6145) and Senior Care workers (6146)?**

Research into 6145 and 6146 found that 'community care workers' could be identified; however, it cannot be ascertained whether those who just state 'care worker' as their job title are working in the community or in the home.

**Proposal:** No further action.

**Issue 21: Is the title for unit group 'Pharmacy and other dispensing assistants' (7114) still relevant?**

Research using survey data found that job titles coded to 7114 were either pharmacy or optical assistants; therefore, the term 'other' in the title will be amended to 'optical'.

**Proposal:** Amend group title to 'Pharmacy and optical dispensing assistants'.

**Issue 22: Should the unit group title for 'Sales supervisors' (7130) be expanded to distinguish from sales supervisors that code to 'Business sales executives' (3542)?**

The working group agreed that the unit group title for 7130 could be confusing to users of SOC.

**Proposal:** Amend the unit group title for 7130 to 'Sales supervisors - retail and wholesale'

**Issue 23: Can any new distinct supervisory groups be identified?**

Research across all unit groups was carried to review whether any supervisory groups could be identified. Three areas were identified as viable new SOC2020 unit groups;

- production, factory and assembly supervisors
- warehouse supervisors (to include warehousing, distribution, delivery, depot, despatch/dispatch, logistics, stores and yard supervisors)
- catering and bar supervisors

## Proposal

- create new SOC2020 minor group 816 'Production, Factory and Assembly Supervisors'
  - create new SOC2020 unit group 'Production, factory and assembly supervisors' (8160)
- create new SOC2020 unit group 'Warehouse supervisors' (9251)
- create new SOC2020 unit group 'Bar and catering supervisors' (9261)

### Issue 24: Is it possible to identify courier/delivery jobs that are now done by motor or pedal cycle?

Research into the survey data found that motor and pedal cycle courier/delivery occupations could not be identified through job titles. However further analysis found that the majority that coded to 'Van drivers' (8212) stated they were delivery drivers or couriers in the job title, therefore the unit group title would be amended to reflect this. The remaining occupations that do not state delivery or courier in their job title will form a new unit group 'Road transport drivers n.e.c.' (8219).

## Proposal:

- rename 'Van drivers' to 'Delivery drivers and couriers'
- create new SOC2020 unit group 'Road transport drivers n.e.c.' (8219)
- re-order minor group 821 'Road Transport Drivers' as follows:
  - 8211 Large goods vehicle drivers
  - 8212 Bus and coach drivers
  - 8213 Taxi and cab drivers and chauffeurs
  - 8214 Delivery drivers and couriers
  - 8215 Driving instructors
  - 8219 Road transport drivers n.e.c.

### Issue 25: – Can the unit group 'Cleaners and domestics' (9233) be disaggregated?

Whilst it is possible to identify groups of cleaners working in different environments, there is little difference in their cleaning activities to necessitate creating separate unit groups.

**Proposal:** No further action.

### Issue 26: Can any new unit groups be identified in minor group 927 'Other Elementary Services Occupations'?

Research into minor group 927 found that coffee shop workers and baristas could be identified in unit group 'Kitchen and catering assistants' (9272) to form a new unit group.

**Proposal:** Create new SOC2020 unit group 'Coffee shop workers' (9266).

### Issue 27: Should the UK SOC follow the structure of the US SOC?

The SOC2020 structure should be aligned with ISCO08 wherever possible, therefore following the structure of the US SOC is not possible.

**Proposal:** No further action.

If you have any comments or evidence which supports or refutes any of these proposals, please send them to [socrevision@ons.gov.uk](mailto:socrevision@ons.gov.uk) by **Tuesday 15 May 2018**. These will be considered before any final decisions are made