

PUBLICATION

Proposals for housing data collections and statistical outputs 2021-22

This paper summarises a set of proposals arising from discussions and seeks feedback from Housing Information Group attendees.

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Background

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many of the housing data collections and statistical outputs regularly produced by the Welsh Government were cancelled or postponed during 2020.

In early 2021, the data collection team and the housing statistics team within the Welsh Government held a series of discussions with policy colleagues to determine ongoing evidence requirements and review the data submission/publication timetable for 2021-22 (capturing data for the 2020-21 period).

Consideration was given to when data on various topics was needed during the year, the burden placed on data providers and the data collection team, as well as how the order affects the validation between different collections.

This paper summarises a set of proposals arising from these discussions and seeks feedback from Housing Information Group attendees.

Summary of proposals

We are proposing the following changes to Welsh Government housing data collections and statistical releases for 2021-22:

 Homelessness accommodation / rough sleeper management information will continue to be collected from local authorities and published on a monthly basis until at least March 2022.

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- The annual 2020-21 statutory homelessness collection and release will be undertaken with some data tables removed. Data will not be requested for individual quarters (three month periods) and headline quarterly statistics will not be published.
- New house build data for 2020-21 will be collected and published on an annual basis only. Data will not be requested for individual quarters and headline quarterly statistics will not be published.
- The timetable and commissioning of some data collections will commence later than in previous years. This is due to the Welsh Government and data providers catching up with postponed collections from 2020-21.

Note that these proposals relate to 2021-22 only and will be reviewed for future years.

A detailed timetable of data collections is outlined in the table below:

Timetable of data collections

Data Collection / Release	Forms issued	Return date
Sales by Welsh social landlords 2020-21	19 May 2021	3 June 2021
Stock at 31 March 2021 and weekly rents 2021-22	21 May 2021	11 June 2021
Newbuild, annual: April 2020 to March 2021	21 May 2021	9 June 2021
Homelessness, annual: April 2020-March 2021	21 May 2021	15 June 2021
Affordable housing provision 2020-21	18 June 2021	16 July 2021
Social housing: rent agreement / SAP 2020-21	6 September 2021	20 September 2021
Social housing: vacancies 2020-21	22 October 2021	26 November 2021

Data Collection / Release	Forms issued	Return date
Social housing: lettings 2020-21	22 October 2021	26 November 2021
Social housing: rent arrears 2020-21	22 October 2021	26 November 2021
Demolitions, hazards and licences 2020-21	27 August 2021	8 October 2021
Assistance for housing improvement 2020-21	15 October 2021	12 November 2021
Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) 2020-21	15 October 2021	12 November 2021
Renewal area activity 2020-21	15 October 2021	12 November 2021

Note that data collections scheduled during the latter half of 2021-22 are currently under review. These collections may include a reduced data requirement but will not include any additional information to that requested in previous years.

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