Third Sector Statistics User Panel

Thursday 2nd May 2024, 10:00 – 12:00

Attendees			
Claire	Chick	CC	Cardiff Third Sector Council
Andrea	Cleaver	AC	Welsh Refugee Council
Scott	Clifford	ScC	Welsh Government
Mal	Colley	MC	Tenovus Cancer Care
Sam	Collins	SC	Welsh Government
Rosie	Cribb	RC	Social Firms Wales
Amanda	Everson	AE	CWVYS
Elinor	Jones	EJ	Welsh Government
Dave	Jones	DJ	Welsh Revenue Authority
Jessica	Laimann	JL	Women's Equality Network (WEN) Wales
Jen	Mills	JM	Women's Aid
Carys	Moseley	CM	Cytûn
AJ	Perkins	AP	Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Maddy	Young	MY	Tenovus Cancer Care
Speakers			
Neil	Bannister	NB	ONS
Nicole	Burchill	NiB	Welsh Government
Neil	Bannister	NB	ONS
Sam	Collins	SC	Welsh Government
Stephanie	Howarth	SH	Welsh Government (**Chair**)
Andrew	O'Rourke	AOR	Welsh Government
Minute Takers			
Ciaran	Lewis	CL	Welsh Government
Nathan	Hughes	NH	Welsh Government
Apologies			
Janine	Downing		Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Paul	Glaze		Council for Wales of Voluntary Youth Services
Gronw	ab Islwyn		Tenovus Cancer Care
Uzo	Iwobi OBE		Race Council Cymru
Ruth	Power		Shelter Cymru

1	Welcome and introductions	Actions
SH began by explaining the translation service and welcoming new members to the panel. This was followed with introductions for the sake of new members. An update on actions from the previous meeting was given, noting that all actions have been completed.		

2	Quarterly Statistics Newsletter and Demography newsletter	
SH gave updates regarding the quarterly statistical newsletters published in March, highlighting a number of areas: - New characteristics data on volunteering from the National Survey for Wales, as well as a dataset on school children volunteering . - Economic statistics: annual analysis on businesses in Wales, which includes estimates for the very smallest businesses that are often excluded from other data sources. Increased uncertainty with the ONS Labour Force Survey due to falling response rates and how to deal with this issue by using other sources on data such as the Annual Population Survey and HMRC data on payrolled employees. - Education and schools Statistics: releases are moving back to a routine schedule, My Local School website has been updated with key stage 4 data for the first time since the pandemic, and annual statutory school attendance data has been made available in a form that can compare with prior to the pandemic for the first time this year. Releases scheduled for this May cover the School Census and pupils educated outside school. Post-16 education releases are to be published as per usual timelines. - Housing statistics: more detail has been provided within the homeless accommodation data as well as changes in how the data is published to StatsWales. Any users of data on the private rented sector are invited to provide feedback on what data they use and what they need. - Health statistics: links provided in newsletter to the various health statistics releases. - National Survey for Wales update: there is a range of outputs still being produced from the 2022/23 NSW data, but there will be no annual update for this dataset for 2023/24 due to contract changes. - Poverty statistics: the publication of the annual poverty figures was noted which includes relative income poverty, material deprivation, and persistent poverty. A new measure called "Below Average Resources" is being developed by the DWP, and was explained further by SL. Next WIMD is scheduled to be published in late 2025. - Weekly statistics published regarding visas issued in response to the Ukraine Sponsorship scheme. - Equalities statistics: a range of equalities outputs published from the census, and there have been modifications to the format in which they are presented on StatsWales.	Action: Users of data on the private rented sector are data are invited to provide feedback on what data they use and need

- Welsh Language statistics: regular updates on the number of Welsh speakers from the Annual Population Survey, as well as the analysis of transmission of Welsh Language use from adults to children in the household. - Demography statistics: the ONS have published national population projections. **Discussion:** CM asked how WG collects the data on pupils educated other than at school, SL provided a link to this [release](#). AC asked whether the poverty statistics covered asylum seekers; SH said it comes from a household survey, so only would only cover those living in a private household. AC said that around 98% of asylum seekers are living in in government-supported housing so they are probably not covered. SH and SL recognised the user need.	
3 **ONS Future approaches to population and migration statistics: making sure inclusivity is at the heart** (Neil Bannister, ONS)	
NB from the ONS gave a presentation about the work ONS are doing around their use of admin data to produce population and migration statistics with a focus on characteristics of the population and inclusion of groups: - There are gaps currently in population and migration data, stemming from falling response rates to large population surveys. - Admin data can be utilised for far more than it currently is, so new models and techniques have been developed with the ONS Data Science Campus that allows for the use of admin data to help bridge these gaps. - Examples of the work done so far include population estimates produced from admin data by feeding it into a model, which is currently being assessed by OSR against the Code of Practice for Statistics. - In future population and migration statistics will be based on admin data, with other data sources being utilised in order to enhance the statistics. - The consultation on the future of population and migration statistics received feedback from a wide range of users, including a very detailed response from WG. - ONS aim to ensure that the work is not just focused on England but reflects data sources across the UK and to involve representatives from government and wider users. - Future work will focus collection of the data concerning Priority Characteristics (noted in the slides), implementing the recommendations following the consultation (once ratified by the UKSA board) and developing workplans to ensure good representation from government and the wider users. **Discussion:** AC asked about the gaps that have been identified mentioning as an example National Identity; what are the main barriers to addressing data gaps? NB said the way government agencies capture the data can be an issue, but there is work that can be done to work with	

members of the communities that don't traditionally engage with government data collection as to the best way to collect the data, explain the purpose of the data and the way in which it is handled. Data ethics and public acceptability are taken into account. He shared an indication of what datasets include information on national identity but recognised they only cover limited parts of the population. AC asked about household type; NB said they can identify numbers of households, but can't determine whether they are a family, so for instance in considering household income it would not be clear whether income is shared within the household. SH highlighted the issue of trust between different communities and government agencies which are capturing data.		
4	**Stats Wales update** (Nicole Burchill, Welsh Government and Michael Thomas, Marvell Consulting)	
[StatsWales](#) is a site where you can view and download data about Wales. Welsh Government currently have an ongoing programme to redevelop it. NiB and MT gave a general overview of plans to deliver a new data publishing platform for Wales (StatsWales 3) covering what they're doing and why what they will be doing next and how they'd like the members of TSSUP to get involved. MT covered: - The discovery phase of the project, where they interviewed different users of the service and identified their needs, pain points, and opportunities for improvement, while mapping out all the steps that are involved with gathering, producing, publishing and consuming the data on StatsWales. - Marvell Consulting is a small digital agency that specialises in delivering services within the UK public sector and are working with their partners, Register Dynamics, who are experts in data along with Welsh Government stakeholders, colleagues and users to deliver the new platform. - The benefits of using an agile and user-centred approach to design and develop the new service, which will make statistical data more easily available and help improve knowledge transfer and decision making in Wales. - Some examples of the prototypes they created and tested with users, such as the build your own table feature, the search and browse functionality, and the new design and layout of the website. - The next steps of the project, which include building and releasing a minimum viable product (MVP), a private beta, a public beta, and a live version of the new service. NiB explained how members of the user panel can get involved in shaping the project. The group were invited: - to fill in a [survey](#) on the current StatsWales site which would enable them to sign up to take part in the user research. - Attend the fortnightly '[show and tell' meetings](#), and read the [weekly project reports](#) to stay updated with the project progress. Information on these will be shared.	SH to consider whether support can be given to organisations that face a high barrier to participation to take part in the user research testing for the program. NB to share an invite to the [show and tell sessions](#) and [the survey](#), so that the link is available for anyone who was unable to join the meeting. Those who use the Odata service please contact SH to be kept aware if changes in the service.	

- It was highlighted that they are looking for more Welsh speakers to take part in the user research and testing, as they want to make sure the new service is fully bilingual and accessible. - If you have any further questions, please contact nicole.burchill@gov.wales Discussion: AC asked a question on the presentation design, which was done by a tool named Miro. AC also queried whether there is any inclusion funding available to help those organisations that face higher barriers to participation to take part in the user research and testing for the new StatsWales platform. SH noted that this had not been considered but that she would take reflect on whether it might be possible. SH asked the panel if anybody uses the Odata service and flagged a potential issue coming up with how that service operates before we move over to the new version of StatsWales. Therefore, if you do know anyone that does use the service, please let SH know so we can keep them aware of how it may be changing over the coming months. MT reminded everyone that the user research is a constant thing, so there will be plenty of opportunities to get involved.	
5 **New analysis from the 2021 Census** (Sam Collins, Edward Wilkinson, Andy O'Rourke, Welsh Government)	

Some supplementary links to this topic are available below;
  • Ethnic group differences in health, housing, education and economic status in Wales (Census 2021) | GOV.WALES
  • Disabled people's outcomes in health, housing, education, and economic status (Census 2021) | GOV.WALES
  • Sexual orientation and gender identity differences in health, education and economic status (Census 2021) | GOV.WALES
 	
SC introduced the Census 2021 analysis that her team produced, which aimed to provide more detailed and granular equality analysis by various social and socioeconomic outcomes to reveal disparities and inequalities that may be hidden otherwise. SC gave some background about the Census data and explained the benefits of using it, such as the large sample size, the ability to break down data into more specific groups, and the potential for some intersectional analysis. SC also outlined the outcomes that they explored, such as health, disability, qualifications, economic activity, socio-economic classification and housing and the population groups (ethnic groups, disabled people, sexual orientation and gender identity).
EW presented some findings from the above analysis showing some charts that illustrated how different groups varied in terms of education, economic activity, health, housing and other outcomes. He also highlighted examples of intersectional analysis and more granular breakdowns of the data to explore the interactions between different personal characteristics and outcomes, such as disability and sexual orientation.
	Equality Evidence Unit to explore with members the interest in more detailed breakdowns of ethnic groups

EW also mentioned some of the future projects the Welsh Government's Equality, Race and Disability Evidence Unit is planning, such as analysis of the Schools Health Research Network data and an equality data audit.

If you have any questions for this section, please contact Equalityevidenceunit@gov.wales

AO gave an overview of a piece of analysis conducted by his team looking at the characteristics of people in the most deprived areas of Wales (using WIMD 2019) using Census 2021 data.

- Gave a brief overview of what Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) is and how it is derived.
- Presented some findings on age, sex, disability, ethnic group, health, marital and civil partnership status, religion, unpaid care, and other characteristics. He also mentioned some of the limitations and challenges of the analysis
- Highlighted the ONS create a custom Census 2021 table online tool which was used to source the data for analysis here - you can choose what characteristics you want to analyse at different geographic levels.
- The full statistical article is available here - Analysis of population characteristics by area deprivation (Census 2021) | GOV.WALES

- There is also a StatsWales page for this release which provides statistics for the characteristics analysed.

If you have any feedback for this section, please contact stats.inclusion@gov.wales

Discussion:

AC asked whether the Equality Evidence Unit team have had the opportunity to do a deep dive into the economic inactivity of those identifying with the ethnicity of 'Arab' or within any 'other' ethnic groups. It was noted that the purpose of the analysis published so far was to provide a high-level overview of the census data, but the interest in exploring more detailed differences between ethnic groups in the future was acknowledged, appreciating the feedback.

AC looked to clarify the timelines of the Census publications and how it is distributed. It was highlighted that the data from the 2021 Census has come out in phased releases, with headline figures and then more detailed figures.

This also led to a question on how non-respondents are dealt with in the Census. It was noted that ONS use a Census coverage survey to understand and fill any gaps in the census data, however the Census in Wales in 2021 had a with a very good response rate of around 95% of the population.

CM questioned how people identify with an ethnicity in the Census. It was mentioned that specific information on detailed ethnicities reported is available through the Census flexible table builder and that Census data is based on people's self-reported identity. AO noted that there are a number of related Census variables in the flexible table builder (passports held, country of birth, age and year of arrival in UK) which may also be of interest.

In response to questions on particular elements of Census data:

	• It was explained that economically inactive includes those who are retired, studying, looking after home or family, long-term sick or disabled or other. • It was noted that the question on general health did not specifically specify mental or physical health.	
6	**AOB**	
	Next meeting is scheduled for 7 November. If you want to suggest an agenda item for the next meeting, please email the events team kasevents@gov.wales	

Third Sector Statistics User Panel for Wales 2 May 2024 Summary of Action Points		
1	Users of data on the private rental data are invited to provide feedback on what data they use and need.	All
2	SH consider whether support can be given to organisations that face a high barrier to participation to take part in the user research testing for the program.	Steph Howarth
3	Share an invite to the StatsWales show and tell sessions and the survey so that the link is available for anyone who was unable to join the meeting.	All
4	Those who use the Odata service, please contact SH to be kept aware if changes in the service.	Odata service users / Steph Howarth
5	Equality Evidence Unit to explore with members the interest in more detailed breakdowns of ethnic groups.	Equalities Evidence Unit team