Government Statistical Service

Cross Government Housing and Planning Statistics 2018/19 Work Programme: Final Status as at 04 April 2019.

Please note that there is a new workplan covering 2019/20. Progress against actions which started in 2018/19 but are continuing can be tracked in this new workplan: https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/HousingWorkPlan1920.pdf.

Action	Target Date	Owner	Final Status
Improving Coherence			
Prioritise topics on which to provide insight across the four countries of the UK, using existing data, starting with the Private Rented Sector (PRS)	July 2018	Tony Wilkins (ONS)	**Initial prioritisation is complete.** Following on from the Private Rented Sector, affordable housing and homelessness have been identified as the next topics. Progress in these topic areas can be tracked in the new 2019/20 workplan[1].
Publish a UK article on the Private Rented Sector, bringing together existing data sources to assess comparability, coherence, and assess any data limitations	Late 2018	Chris Jenkins (ONS)	**Complete.** The article was published 18 January 2019[2].

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[1] https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/HousingWorkPlan1920.pdf
[2] https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/articles/ukprivaterentedsector/2018

Action	Target Date	Owner	Final Status
Develop a Conceptual Framework across the UK for housing and planning statistics to illustrate how we are measuring the housing and planning landscape, and assist in identification of priority topics for further improvement	September 2018	Tony Wilkins (ONS)	**First iteration complete. Further work ongoing.** An Experimental Framework[3] was published in September 2018. We are undertaking discussions with policy officials and wider users to inform the next iteration of the framework. Progress can be tracked in the new 2019/20 workplan[1].
Improving Quality			
Improve new House Building statistics for England and Wales: - Produce initial plan to improve coherence between quarterly and annual estimates for House Building statistics for England - Assess options for improving the coverage and quality of New House Building statistics for Wales	June 2018 Ongoing	Daniel Shaw (MHCLG) Sue Leake (WG)	**Completed**. The plan was published 28 June 2018[4]. **Work ongoing.** Discussions with Building control specialists, MHCLG and policy colleagues are ongoing. Progress can be tracked in the new 2019/20 workplan[1].

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[3] https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/guidances/working-with-users-2/housing-and-planning-statistics/
[4] https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/improving-the-measurement-of-new-homes-built-action-plan

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Improve the measurement of Homelessness and Rough Sleepers, taking into account the country specific requirements relating to legislation / policy.	To required timescales	Ruth Davies (ONS) Ricky Taylor (MHCLG) Sue Leake (WG) James Sampson (DfC NI) Adam Krawczyk (SG)	**Work ongoing.** Progress can be tracked in the new 2019/20 workplan[1]. **England** – First homelessness estimates based on H-CLIC data were released on 13 December 2018 by MHCLG. **Wales** – A feasibility study into introduction of individual case level homelessness data collection is ongoing. **NI** - DfC are working alongside NI Housing Executive to produce a standalone biannual homelessness statistics publication. A prototype is currently being worked on. **Scotland** - Already collects individual case level data on homelessness, use of temporary accommodation and preventative Housing Options activity, with summary statistics and analysis published on a biannual basis. Options on improving the measurement of Rough Sleepers are being considered by the Centre for Homelessness Impact (CHI), in liaison with the Scottish Government.
Plan next priorities for quality improvement or to fill gaps in user need, taking a topic based approach	September 2018	Debra Prestwood (ONS)	**Complete.** Homelessness and Affordable housing have been identified as next topics. Research has started and articles will be planned for release. Priorities will continue to evolve as cross UK user engagement develops. Progress can be tracked in the new 2019/20 workplan[1].

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Implement new methodology for Household Projections for England	September 2018	Richard Pereira (ONS)	**Complete.** Statistics based on the new methodology were published 20 September 2018. A blog on National Statistical was published 19 October 2018 giving more explanation of the publication[5].
Publish first Housing Conditions data for Wales since 2008	November 2018	Sue Leake (WG)	**Complete.** Headline report on Welsh Housing Conditions Survey was published on 6 December 2018[6]. Further topic reports to continue throughout 2019 see Welsh Housing Conditions Survey publication plan[7].
Scope the potential to create a comprehensive and consistent profile of Northern Ireland Housing Stock	November 2018	James Sampson (DfC NI)	**Complete.** Scoping exercises to identify 'viable' housing stock have shown little difference to published housing stock figures.
Implement initial improvements to Dwelling Stock by Tenure statistics for England and Sub National Housing Affordability statistics for England and Wales	March 2019	Nigel Henretty (ONS)	**Complete.** The research article was published 01 March 2019[8].

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[5] https://blog.ons.gov.uk/2018/10/19/what-our-household-projections-really-show/
[6] https://gov.wales/welsh-housing-conditions-survey
[7] https://gweddill.gov.wales/docs/statistics/2018/181206-welsh-housing-conditions-survey-2017-18-publication-plan-en.pdf
[8] https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/researchoutputssubnationalstockofsecureddepositsheldbythetenancydepositprotectionschemes2010to2017

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Create relevant UK Subnational Housing analyses in areas with limited official statistics such as landlords, mortgages and communal establishments.	Throughout 2019	Nigel Henretty (ONS)	**Work ongoing.** Initial analysis of first-time buyer housing affordability was published July 2018[9], using new mortgages data. Work has started using a linked address and property transactions dataset from Ordnance Survey to assess the feasibility of improving the statistics on transaction of newly built dwellings. Progress can be tracked in the new 2019/20 workplan[1].
Improving Harmonisation			
Produce a work programme for developing harmonised UK definitions across the four countries, where feasible, or promoting transparency where definitions are based on devolved legislation	Throughout 2019	Sean Mattson (ONS)	**Work ongoing.** High level deliverables have been incorporated into the 2019/20 workplan[1].
Conduct feasibility work and aim to develop a UK understanding of Homelessness definitions as a first priority	November 2018	Sean Mattson (ONS)	**Complete.** A feasibility report[10] into the harmonisation of definitions of homelessness in UK official statistics was published in February 2019. Work continues to produce a conceptual framework for UK homelessness statistics to explain the comparability in a user-friendly format. Progress can be tracked in the new 2019/20 workplan[1].

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[9] https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/housing/articles/firsttimebuyerhousingaffordabilityinenglandandwales/2017
[10] https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/guidances/harmonisation/0-harmonised-principles/homelessness/

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Improving Accessibility to Data			
Develop a summary guide for users showing availability of data by producing body	July 2018	Debra Prestwood, Chris Jenkins (ONS)	**Completed.** An experimental overview guide linking to existing datasets for the policy departments and ONS was published on 10 August 2018[11]. Next steps are to make the guide more interactive and progress can be tracked in the new 2019/20 workplan[1].
Building upon open data initiatives in the four countries, consider how to improve user accessibility to data given the multi-producing bodies, including collaboration with external partners and inhouse strategic solutions	Throughout 2019	Debra Prestwood (ONS)	**Work ongoing.** It was agreed in September 2018 to pilot Dwelling Stock by Tenure data for the four nations on the "GSS Data Project" which is prototyping producing a data repository for linked data across government producers of statistics. Progress can be tracked in the new 2019/20 workplan[1].
Review England Housing and Planning statistical releases to align with user interest as opposed to data collection streams, starting with Social Housing statistics	Throughout 2019	Daniel Shaw (MHCLG)	**Work ongoing.** MHCLG has published a number of updated and improved housing and planning statistical bulletins with additional contextual information included. Related releases such as Social Lettings and Social Housing Sales were published on the same day. In January 2019 MHCLG published a 'call for user views[12]' on possible changes to social housing and intend to consult more formally on final proposals in summer 2019. Progress can be tracked in the new 2019/20 workplan[1].

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[11] https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/UK-Housing-and-Planning-Statistics-Overview.pdf

[12] https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/778085/LAHS_Bulletin_call_for_user_views.pdf

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Take forward work on developing a Housing Stock Analytical Resource for Wales, bringing together a range of data on the condition and energy efficiency of housing stock	Throughout 2019	Sue Leake (WG)	**Work ongoing.** A progress report[13] was published in September 2018. We are working with the newly established Administrative Data Research Unit – Wales to seek access to further relevant administrative data. Progress can be tracked in the new 2019/20 workplan[1].
Improving User Engagement			
Consider the optimal user engagement model with government and non-government users across the four countries of the UK to feed into continuing review of priorities	September 2018	Debra Prestwood (ONS)	**Completed.** A cross UK engagement model was agreed by the Cross Government Housing Steering Group in Autumn 2018. Existing country events will incorporate sessions on cross UK coherence. The first of these was the Wales Housing Information Group seminar on 24 January 2019 and a cross UK event in London was held on 14 February 2019. Progress can be tracked in the new 2019/20 workplan[1].

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[13] https://gov.wales/docs/statistics/2018/180921-housing-stock-analytical-resource-progress-report-september-2018-en.pdf