



Cabinet Office

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Dear Mr President, Mr Speaker and Honourable Members

I would like to follow up the urgent question asked by Mr Moorhouse on Tuesday regarding the 2021 Census.

As I mentioned, the Census Office is experiencing a large volume of calls. We have already been able to bring in an additional seven staff to support the existing team.

Honourable Members did ask a number of questions about delivering paper copies to constituents. While I am grateful for the offer, we would ask you to send the addresses of any constituents who may require a paper form to the Census Office (census@gov.im). This will allow the team to monitor who has had a paper form in order to avoid duplication. This will also ensure that the pre-paid returns are included with the forms.

It is also possible for people to visit the Census Office in person, at Nivison House on Prospect Hill where the team can assist them to complete their form or give them a paper copy to take away.

Although Census Night is 30 May 2021 and the information should be correct as of that date. The form itself does not have to be completed on that date.

As I mentioned in one of my answers, the census field officers will start to visit properties after 14 June. They will come with tablets and can assist people to complete the form there and then. These visits are likely to continue until the end of July. It is only after this period that any decisions will be made regarding fines for those who continually refuse to complete the form. It was also raised about whether someone could complete the form in advance, and most people will know with a good degree of certainty who will be living in their house on 30 May and can complete now. So far over 8000 households have now completed their form which is more than 2016 achieved by the end of the process.

Ms Edge asked about the security credentials that apply to the census data database. The ISO27001 and Cyber Essentials Plus accreditation relates to Microsoft Azure - the cloud platform hosting the census database in Microsoft Dataverse. In addition to ISO27001, which relates to information security, this service also meets ISO27701 on Privacy Information Management, ISO27017 Code of Practice for Information Security Controls and ISO27018 Code of Practice on Protecting Personal Data in the Cloud. Members interested in more detail can find all of these certifications [here](#).

In addition, I can confirm that we did consult the Information Commissioner regarding the Data Protection Impact Assessment for the Census, as provided for under Article 36 of the Applied GDPR.

Yours sincerely
[Signature redacted]

Hon R Harmer MHK
Minister for Policy and Reform