

# census 2021

Census happens every 10 years and counts every person and every household in England and Wales. To do that, we here at the Office for National Statistics need a big team of around 35,000 census field officers to do that smoothly.

Field officers play a key role in helping make sure everyone has the opportunity to take part. Working outside in the field, they'll visit people who haven't yet completed their census form and help encourage them to take part. This work will start after census day, which is on the 21st of March this year.

Health and Safety is our number one priority. We follow all government safety guidelines regarding Coronavirus. And you'll see from this film, all the procedures and personal protective equipment we put in place to keep you and our census field officers safe at all times.

## **Our Personal Protective Equipment**

Census officers will be provided with face coverings. Hand Sanitiser, sanitising wipes, posting peg, Hi-Viz vest, and a bag to carry their kit.

## **Approaching a property**

When an officer is approaching a property, they should use hand sanitizer to maintain good hand hygiene and then put on their face covering. When the officer arrives at the property and knocks the door they should step back two metres to establish a safe social distance.

## **The Doorstep Routine**

When the householder answers the door, the officer should show them their identification badge and ask them if they're comfortable with the conversation taking place at two metres.

“No, it's fine thanks, I can understand you fine with the mask on. “

If for any reason closer contact is needed, for example handing over documentation, this can still be done safely as the officer will be wearing a face covering and it will be a very short duration.

## **Visits will be socially distanced, operating in a similar way to postal or food deliveries, attending only for a brief conversation to help people take part.**

When there's no answer at the address the posting peg can be used to post documents through the letterbox.

Once the visit is completed safely. The officer can use the sanitising wipes to clean the equipment and then prepare in the same way for the next visit.

We've demonstrated in this film the procedures and equipment we use during Census. Health and Safety is our number one priority and we follow all government safety guidelines about Coronavirus. And you can see that the procedures and personal protective equipment that we put in place will keep you and our census field officers safe at all times.