Jersey Statistics Council
Minutes of a formal meeting
held on Wednesday 25 March 2026 at 11:00

Venue	**Via Teams and in person at Government of Jersey meeting room R1.007**		
Attendees			
Chair	**Dr Kathryn Chamberlain OBE (KC)**		
Council Members	**Anya van Heerden (AH),** **Beverley Bissett (BB),** **Duncan Millard (DM),**	**Greg Boyd (GB),** **Murray Norton (MN),** **Mark Pragnell (MP)**	**Rebecca Millar (RM),** **Siobhan Carey (SC),**
In attendance	**Ian Cope (IC), Chief Statistician** **Daniel Edmunds (DE), Principal Statistician** **Jonathan Corfe (JC), Senior Strategy Officer**		
Secretariat	**Phoebe Chambers (PC), Administrator**		

Supporting documents	ITEM 01 2026.03.25 FINAL Agenda	ITEM 08, 2026.03.25 Cover Page Agriculture Statistics
	ITEM 02, 2025.12.10 FINAL DRAFT Statistics Council Formal Meeting Notes	ITEM 081, 2026.03.25 Letter on Agriculture Statistics
	ITEM 02, 2025-2028 Statistics Council Action Log	ITEM 082, 2026.03.25 Availability and Quality of Jersey's Published Agricultural Statistics – Economy Response
	ITEM 03, 2026.03.25 Cover Page Chairs Report	ITEM 09, 2026.03.25 Cover Page Social Media and Web Update
	ITEM 04, 2026.03.25 Cover Page for Chief Statisticians Annual Report	ITEM 10, 2026.03.25 Cover Page Recruitment of Additional Members
	ITEM 041, 2026.03.25 Statistics Jersey Annual Report v0.4 Working Doc	ITEM 11, 2026.03.25 Cover Page User Engagement
	ITEM 05, 2026.03.25 SJ business case – for Stats Council March	ITEM 14, 2026.03.25 Cover Page Council Annual Report Update
	ITEM 07, 2026.03.25 Cover Page Review of 2024 SUG Survey	ITEM 141, 2026.03.25 JSC Annual Report 2025
	ITEM 07, 2026.03.25 SUG Survey Results Review	ITEM 15, 2026.03.25 Cover Page Skills Audit
		ITEM 16 2026.03.25 (2025.12) Statistical Issues Log

1.	**Welcome, Apologies, Declarations of Interest**	**Actions**
	The Chair welcomed those present. The objectives of the meeting were summarised. All were invited to participate, challenge, raise issues provide input and feedback. JC introduced himself as the officer who will be supporting KC and the Council from 1 April 2026 Statistics Council Members confirmed that the Register of Interests was up to date.	None
2.	**Minutes of 10 December 2026, Review of Action Log**	**Actions**
	- Minutes for the Council meeting on 10 December 2025 were approved. - The Action Log was presented to the Council for review. Most open actions are items on this Agenda The July meeting will include discussion of the workplan. The following action remains open. • gov.je email addresses are still not available for Members. Head of Policy Francis Walker (FW) continues to pursue.	**KC, JC** to confirm a process for Members to formally sign-off minutes between meetings so that they can be published on the Council's gov.je page at the earliest opportunity **IC** to confirm to KC the nature (length, style) of the lunch and learn for the wider analytical community **ALL** to consider attending and presenting at Lunch and Learn event, alongside KC **KC** to send letter to Chief of Police by the end of the week **FW** to continue pursuing the provision of email addresses
3.	**Chair's Report**	**Actions**
	- The Chair reported on Jersey Statistics Council activities since the last formal meeting and thanked Member's for their contributions. - The Council discussed the governance of output in the name of the Council. It was agreed that any proposed output should be circulated to Members for comment within a specified timeframe, and that nil responses will be taken as approval. Where there is any significant disagreement a short meeting will be convened to discuss the particular issue. - In the context of the Council aiming to be as transparent as possible it was agreed that correspondence about issues will be considered for publication when such correspondence has been agreed by Members and has reached a conclusion. However, the Council recognised that there may be occasions on which some or all of such correspondence may need to remain confidential.	**KC** to confirm the framework process for agreeing items for publication

	- It was agreed that Items for publication should be a standing item at meetings. - It was noted that Members need to be mindful of the restrictions that apply during the imminent pre-election period. During this period Members need to be mindful of language used in any published material. - Statistics Council Chair and Chief Statistician will be presenting at a Chamber of Commerce lunch meeting on 22 April. KC thanked MN for organising this. - Members were invited by The Chair to propose any items that they would like considered at future meetings	**KC** to include "Items for publication" at future meetings **ALL** to contact MN for tickets if they would like to attend the Chamber of Commerce lunch **ALL** to propose to KC or JC any items they would like considered at future meetings
4.	**Chief Statistician's Items - Statistics Jersey's Annual Report**	**Actions**
	The Chief Statistician presented an update of Statistics Jersey activity - **Statistics Jersey's Annual Report (draft shared)** Likely to be published after the election, from July 2026. Number of KPIs has increased from one to ten, and an additional Strategic Priority has been added to make a total of six Strategic Priorities. The Chair acknowledged the Statistics Council's intent to engage with and gather stakeholder views on Statistics Outputs and Strategies.	***Draft Statistics Jersey Annual Report*** **ALL** to review the draft, particularly the highlights section, and provide comments and observations. **ALL** to read the rest of the report for its structure and content. Where references are made to Statistics Council provide any comments/advice. **IC** to provide a further draft in due course, for further comment ***Output Plan and Strategy*** **IC** to develop a timetable for the Output Plan and Jersey Statistical System Strategy for the benefit of the Council and plans for stakeholder engagement.
5.	**Chief Statistician's Items – Business Cases**	**Actions**
	- **Business Cases** Neither **The Living Cost and Household Income Survey (LCHIS)** nor support to implement the Stats Law Amendments were included in the 2026-29 budget. A business case for LCHIS will be submitted (for a fourth time) as part of the 2027 Budget. The Cabinet Office Chief Officer has agreed to support Statistics Jersey in meeting its statutory obligations. It was highlighted that included Tier 1 Statistics which by Law, requires a minimum frequency of every five years. Should the Business Case for 2027 not be approved, the requirement set by Law would not be met.	***Letter from Cabinet Office Chief Officer to IC*** **IC** to share with Council

	The Council discussed the role of Council in influencing or commenting on government decisions regarding Business Cases and recommendations to Ministers. Options for Council include writing to Ministers to confirm the importance of long-term surveys that support the Statistical System and the societal impact arising. Members observed that observations and recommendations made by The Council must hold credibility. Members agreed that other stakeholders would likely have opinions if Tier 1 Statistics are not released in a timely manner. The Business Case for **Census 2031** is likely to be submitted for the 2028-31 budget, having considered in 2026 the range of options for undertaking the census. There is a potential for public consultation if Jersey is to move away from the traditional approach.	***Letter to incoming Chief Minster or Council of Ministers (CoM)*** **KC** to write to the incoming Chief Minister noting the importance of long-term surveys, recommending approved Business Cases, their Societal Impact, highlight the need for funding, Law etc.
6.	**Chief Statistician's Items Continued**	**Actions**
	- **Election period considerations** Public Servants should provide reasonable information on enquiries to help candidates and the public make informed decisions. Statistical publication will continue during the period. - **Statistics Jersey (SJ) Publications** Members are invited to explore all SJ reports and provide feedback. - **User Requested Data** Stats.je has published 25 user requested data sets going back to November 2025. User requested data will be published monthly. Where data is related to policy under development it will be published at a suitably-delayed date. - **Other Website Developments** More-accessible and interactive reports have been developed on stats.je, focussing initially on the most frequent surveys, and this will continue. Statistics Jersey welcomes any feedback on the accessibility of their content on stats.je. - **Statistics Jersey Briefings** Briefings are not routinely offered by SJ except for more complex publications, though are available on request.	**ALL** to note guidance published as Assembly Report R.32/2026 **ALL** to explore SJ reports **ALL** to provide feedback to IC or DE

	Progress Updates	
7.	**Review of SUG Survey (BB, AH)**	**Actions**
	- **SUG Survey Results Review** The draft paper has been shared. - Issues Log to be updated as per recommendations made in this review. - A key finding is that only two-thirds of survey participants felt that the statistics met their needs.	**IC** to advise BB on availability of data relating to ethnicity (as an example of data being hard to find) **JC** to publish the SUG Survey Review Paper on gov.je alongside these minutes **BB** to write to IC with paper and to present to Analysts Network (ANET) on 4 May. **BB** will also present on this work in the session with Statistics Analysts and Departmental Leads (SADLs) on 16 Jul **ALL** to engage with stakeholders to discuss why statistics are not used. **KC** to include in the stakeholder engagement prompts.
8.	**Agriculture Statistics (MP)**	**Actions**
	A letter of enquiry to Chief Officer for The Economy, prompted contact with the sector lead for Rural and Marine, who has set up a gov.je web page. The small scale of statistics produced now relates to a substantial reduction in resourcing. Council needs to determine whether the level of statistics produced is appropriate and proportionate given the user needs. It is noted that agriculture is the only directly subsidised sector in Jersey (currently £7 million), there need to be systems in place to hold Agriculture to account. It was suggested that a useful focus would be the democratic accountability of the Agriculture subsidy. Agriculture should be able to show that they are adding value.	**MP and IC** to meet with the Economy agriculture sector lead **MP** to identify specific users and needs **MP** to draft and circulate a report ahead of discussion at the next Council meeting
9.	**Social Media (RM) and Webpage (PC)**	**Actions**
	A LinkedIn account has been created and we continue to build and grow Statistics Council Profile. A Statistics Council page has been set up on gov.je.	**RM** to continue to develop the LinkedIn presence and network

	The reference to Statistics Council on Stats.je needs to be updated, to include a link to the Statistics Council gov.je page.	**IC** to review stats.je Council page contents and link to the gov.je page
10	**Recruitment of New Candidates**	**Actions**
	Two new Jersey-based Statistics Council Members have been selected. The Chief Minister will confirm the proposal to the Assembly before the pre-election period starts on 20 April 2026.	**JC** to onboard the two new members
11	**User Engagement (GB)**	**Actions**
	Little progress to report. GB to lead coordination and momentum of user engagement.	**GB/JC** to add StatisticsCouncil@gov.je contact details to User Engagement paper **ALL** to book stakeholder meetings
12	**JOLS Panel (DM)**	**Actions**
	DM has reviewed the requests for questions to be included. This year prioritisation and pruning was not required as all could be accommodated. IC observed that Chairs for all the Scrutiny Panels (that were approached last year) may be different after the election. The Scrutiny Panels had therefore not been approached to put forward questions/contributions for this JOLS survey. The Survey, which will include questions about voting, will go live after the Jersey Election.	None
13	**CYPES Survey Panel (SC)**	**Actions**
	The CYPES survey was oversubscribed requiring prioritisation and pruning. SC observed that excellent documentation of discussions, recommendations and decisions had taken place with users. Much work has been done and there is still work to be done consolidating the number of questions. SC praised the Panel. The meeting was held in February and felt to be productive A revised questionnaire has recently become available end needs to be reviewed. IC asked Members to note his appreciation of SC's contributions to the CYPES Panel.	**SC** to review the revised set of CYPES Survey questions
14	**Statistics Council Annual Report (KC)**	**Actions**
	KC confirmed the intent to produce an Annual Report for 2025 and is aiming to publish it in July, after the election. Members are invited to review the draft and propose contributions. IC advised that the work required to set-up the Statistics Council should be included in the report.	**ALL** to provide shorter biographies for the purposes of the Annual Report **JC** to share the next draft of Annual Report in Word format and encourage tracked updates by the end of April
15	**Skills Audit**	**Actions**
	Information on Members' skills is intended to be a Statistics Council resource and not for sharing onwards.	**ALL** to complete by 10 April

16	**Statistical Issues Log**	**Actions**
	To be updated based on the User Group work Agriculture work in train. Crime letter to be sent It was noted that consideration of the recent analysis of FOI requests for statistical information may also provide a useful insight into unmet user need.	**BB** to update the Council's statistical issues log based on the User Group work
17	**Forward Look**	**Actions**
	Future Statistics Council meetings - 16 July 2026: Informal meeting with Statistics Analysts and Departmental Leads (SADLs). Need to build on meeting 4 May. - 17 July 2026: Formal meeting in-person on Jersey - 26 November 2026 **Other** - SADL meeting, 4 May 2026 - 12 June Analysts Network (ANET) Meeting: An opportunity exists for in-person representation from the Statistics Council.	**ALL** to note **JC** to start arranging travel and accommodation **KC/IC** to develop the agenda **ALL** to contact IC if they would like to attend the ANET meeting in-person on 12 June
18	**AOB**	**Actions**
	- **David Speigelhalter will be giving a talk to the Analytics Network (ANET) on 12 June** from 1030 to 1230 at Pomme d'Or Hotel (in-person only). Members are invited to join if they are in Jersey on that date. - KC thanked PC for all her work in helping to set up the Statistics Council	**ALL** to let IC know if they would like to attend

The next formal Jersey Statistics Council Meeting will be held on 17 July and will be in-person in Jersey.