

Minutes of Statistics Users Group Meeting

Date of meeting: **28 July 2011**; 5th floor CLMH

Present: Charles Clarke (Chair), Marie-Louise Backhurst, Mary Friswell, Jenny Holley, Natasha LeDain-Cyples, Ray Shead, Rozanne Thomas
Duncan Gibaut

Apologies: Peggy Gielen, Martin Richardson, Peter Surcouf,

1. Minutes of last meeting

Agreed and signed off by the Group.

Matters arising:

Requests for production of additional official statistics:

DG informed the group that apart from the ongoing data requests from many parties, both on- and off-Island, there were currently no requests for the production of official statistics involving significant additional resource allocation. The Group welcomed the opportunity to provide guidance on any such future requests.

SUG membership: Steve Duquemin had announced at the April 2011 Group meeting his decision to stand down from the Group. It was decided to assess the membership status of all current members at the next Group meeting (provisionally in October 2011).

2. Update on Statistics Unit activity

DG summarised recent publications and ongoing work of the Statistics Unit:

i. Recent:

- Survey of Financial Institutions 2010
- HPI: inclusion of Share Transfer properties
- Retail Sales; Business Tendency Survey; Retail Prices Index;
- Registered unemployment

ii. Ongoing

- Census 2011

the Group recommended that now was the time to convene another meeting of the Census Board (Chief Minister's Dept.); the Board had last met just prior to Census Day.

Action: DG to organise

MLB suggested that the Unit discuss the issue of form scanning with the States Archivist. DG informed the Group that such discussions were taking place.

- Household Expenditure Survey: report to be published on 29 July 2011

3. New initiatives

Katie Falle (Statistical Officer in the Statistics Unit) provided an overview of two new initiatives currently under development in the Unit:

- Housing Affordability Indices
- Better Life Index

4. **AOB**

CC: Internal Audit

CC informed the Group that he would pursue the issue with the States Treasurer.

RT: Heating oil prices

RT inquired about the Statistics Unit publishing heating oil prices for Jersey. DG informed the Group that, due to disclosure issues, these were more appropriately published by the Jersey Consumer Council within their periodic publications and that the Unit had previously explained to the Council the methodology for compiling such data.

Duncan Gibaut, Statistics Unit
