

BSPS News

www.bsps.org.uk

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Issue No. 105 September 2011

Welcome to the 2011 BSPS Conference

The venue for the BSPS conference for 2011 is the University of York. Once again there are an excellent range of papers to be presented, while there are two exciting plenary talks by Professor John Hobcraft of the University of York and Professor Ken Hill of the Harvard Centre for Population and Development Studies. Professor Hobcraft will talk about Multidisciplinary Demography Life -Course: Genesis of a 2020 Vision, while Professor Hill will present a plenary on Development Goals and Mortality Measurement in the Age of Immediate Gratification. Additionally, there will be a training session for Local Authority users of Demographic Information, which aims to expand knowledge and inform about the techniques and data sources needed to help to solve the awkward question of "What is the population within our Local Authority Area?".

As is traditional, the poster session will be held on the first evening at the same time as the drinks reception. This will be at 6pm in the communal and bar area. A large number of posters will be on display.

Delegates, whether staying on campus or not, are warmly invited to

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attend. Wine, soft drinks and nibbles will be served.

There are two fringe meetings during the conference. The first is a meeting of the *Radical Statistics Group*, while the second is run by *Population Matters*. BSPS would be keen to run more fringe events of this kind in future years.

The BSPS Annual General Meeting will be held directly after these fringe meetings on

Tuesday a t 7.15pm. This will in Session Room 1 and all BSPS members encouraged are to attend in order to discuss and debate the future direction of BSPS.

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Suggestions for articles in future editions of BSPS News welcomed.

Events

BSPS Conference Plenary Speakers

Professor John Hobcraft

A demographer with inter-disciplinary interests in the social, psychological, health and biological sciences, Professor Hobcraft has had a distinguished career studying the demography of both developed and developing countries, as well as in demographic methodology.



In 1994 he was a lead negotiator for the UK at the 1994 UN international Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, a landmark conference

regarding sexual and reproductive health and rights and the empowerment of women. Much of his work has also been related to the life-course, leading to the subject of his plenary address at BSPS. Much of his work uses the birth cohorts from 1958 and 1970 to study adult social exclusion. His expertise is currently being used as a Vice-Chair of the Governing Board for *Understanding Society* and as Chair of the Scientific Committee of the British Birth Cohort Series, with a particular focus on the inclusion of biomarkers in prospective surveys.

Currently a Professor of Social Policy and Demography at the University of York, he previously worked at the London School of Economics and the World Fertility Survey.

Professor Kenneth Hill

A Professor of the Practice of Global Health at the Harvard School of Public Health, Professor Hill's interests are in the measurement of mortality in developing countries and the interpretation of mortality change. One of his aims is to improve the methods for estimating adult mortality in developing countries and in the monitoring progress towards development targets such as the Millennium Development Goals.

After obtaining a PhD in demography from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine he worked in Costa Rica and the National Academy of Sciences in the U.S.A. before joining the Department of Population Dynamics at the John Hopkins University. In 2006 he joined Harvard. He has edited

t h e journal Demography and has produced large number of articles in journals, many including *The Lancet*, **Population** Studies, Population and Development Review and the Bulletin of World Health the Organization.



BSPS is pleased to advise that the plenary recordings plus the recording of Ian White's census history from Conference 2010 are now finally available on the BSPS website.

Events

BSPS Conference About York and the University

The University of York was established in 1963 and is currently within the top 100 universities in the world and, according to the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, is the 8th best research institution in the UK. It recently won the 'University of the Year' award in 2010 at the *Times Higher Education*

A wards.
The campus consists of about 200 acres and is well-known for its large

lakes and green spaces. The Chancellor of the University is Greg Dyke, while other notable alumni include Harry Enfield and Harriet Harman. It is a collegiate university, with each student a member of one of the eight colleges, of which Vanbrugh College is one, where the conference will take place.

The College was opened in 1967 and is closely connected to the Departments of History, History of Art, Language and Linguistics and Music. It provides accommodation for over 600 students in a wide variety of residences. It is named after Sir John Vanbrugh (1664-1726), a celebrated architect and dramatist, who was the creative force behind Castle Howard, to the north of York.

The City of York itself is estimated to have just over 200,000 residents, including the

students at the University. This has increased from about 17,000 in the Municipal Borough in 1801, while the population was about 75,000 at about 1900. During the 19th Century the population increased at between 10% to 15% every 10 years, although after the arrival of the railways in the 1840's the popu-

lation increased by over 25%.

The history of the city starts in about AD71 when 5,000

men of the Ninth Legion marched from Lincoln and set up camp in the place where the River Foss joins the River Ouse, naming the place Eboracum. In 1068 William the Conqueror marched to suppress discontent and built two castles in the city and also built the Minster, replacing the old fire damaged Saxon building. In 1080 Thomas of Bayeux be-

came Archbishop and started building the cathedral that can be seen today in the centre. The Minster is famous for the Great East Window, the world's largest single expanse of medieval stained glass.



The East Front of York Minster

Events

BSPS Conference

With the loss of Regional Statisticians, Regional Development Agencies and other bodies that have funded projects led by Local Authorities e.g. Homes & Communities Agency coupled with cuts in Local Government itself there is a real danger that Local Authorities will lose the capacity and knowledge to:

- provide the information that is needed to target the scarcer resources
- monitor their progress against centrally produced figures.
- understand the dynamics of their area

To address these challenges, BSPS is running a training session at the conference. The BSPS conference is low in cost compared to other conferences, but is good on quality attracting international experts in the field.

At the conference you will be able to:

- 1. Find out what other Local Authority Demographers are working on and apply them to your own situation.
- 2. Meet the people from ONS at the sharp end of development and methodology.
- Sound out your ideas on a range of experts Local Government, Central Government, Academics.
- 4. Learn about new uses and sources of data

- 5. Take the time to immerse yourself in demographic issues
- 6. Discover the faces behind ONS it is not as scary as you might think!
- 7. Find plenty of relevance as a huge range of topics are covered.
- 8. Ask those awkward questions to the experts.
- 9. Keep up to date with best practice, recent releases, publications etc.
- 10. This year it is hoped to include a specific training strand for Local Government Demographers or Information Analysts involved in using demographic information for local service provision.
- 11. Get an update on progress with the 2011 Census.
- 12. Have an opportunity to influence the way demographic and socio-economic data, vital to local authority financing and policy planning, are collected and produced in the future as ONS considers data collection beyond the 2011 Census.

The programme for last year is available at http://www2.lse.ac.uk/socialPolicy/BSPS/ annualConference/2010/2010%20Exeter.aspx

News

Young Lives Round 3 data now available

Young Lives, the unique 15-year longitudinal study of 12,000 children in Ethiopia, India, Peru and Vietnam, will release the data from Round 3 of its childhood poverty survey on 19 September 2011. The third round of this data will enable researchers to map changes in children's lives over an 8-year period, and to compare what is happening to the Younger Cohort (aged 8) with the Older Cohort who were that age in Round 1.



Vietnamese children whispering © Young Lives / Pham Viet Anh

Household, child and community data available on a wealth of variables, including the children's material and social circumstances, set against the environmental and social realities of their communities. This includes extensive cognitive achievement test and health data.

Poverty and health are closely interlinked. For that reason Young Lives has collected data on child's diet, self-rated health, injuries and long -term health problems in all survey rounds. These individual level data are complemented by information on access and use of healthcare, the health status of household members and household food security. Nutritional status is assessed by measuring each child's weight and height. Maternal height and weight was measured in Round 2

and 3. In Round 3 we also started to collect data on adolescent health risk behaviours (sexual health, tobacco and alcohol use, emotional well-being, experience of violence) in the Older Cohort (15-year-olds).

The household and child data from Round 3 (2009) and the community data from Round 1 (2002) and Round 2 (2006) will be released. Panel data will be released later this year. A methods guide and data visualisation tools will also be available on the Young Lives site (www.younglives.org.uk).

Alongside the data release, a series of Round 3 launch events is planned. Young Lives is convening panel on Education in Challenging Circumstances at the UKFIET conference in Oxford (13-15 September), followed immediately by another on Growing Up in an Age of Uncertainty at EADI DSA (19-22 September) in York. There will also be two international launch events, the first in The Hague at the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS) on 26 September and the second at the Department for International Development (DFID) in London on September.

For more information, email <u>younglives@younglives.org.uk</u> or go to www.younglives.org.uk

To access the data, go to http://www.esds.ac.uk/international/access/
http://www.esds.ac.uk/international/access/

News

Academy of Social Sciences

BSPS is a member of the Academy of Social Sciences (see http://www.acss.org.uk/). They are very active in the promotion of Social Sciences and provide regular updates of their work. This is a summary of some of the announcements that they have made.

REF Consultation

HEFCE has issued a consultation document on draft panel criteria and working methods for the REF. The document consists of a generic section and more detailed proposals developed by each Main Panel. For Social Sciences the relevant ones are Panels C and D.

The deadline for a response to this document is October 5th. In relation to the generic proposals in the documents the Academy is asking for matters of general concern that would be appropriate for the Academy to make a response on to be sent to them. The consultation document can be found at:

http://www.hefce.ac.uk/research/ref/

Report of the Academy AGM-7th July

David Halpern of the Cabinet Office spoke about investigating Wellbeing and the challenges of behaviour change Stephen Hicks of ONS spoke about measuring Wellbeing.

'Making the Case for the Social Sciences'

A series of reports on how the Social Sciences can contribute to discussions have been written. These include reports on Wellbeing, Ageing, Sustainability, the Environment and Climate Change and Crime. The fifth report, on Sport and Leisure, is to be launched as part of the ESRC Festival of Social Science at the end of October.

White Paper on Higher Education

The Academy's Consultations Group, headed by ex-VC Professor Michael Harloe AcSS, is putting together a response to the White Paper. The Campaign for the Public University is putting together an Alternative White Paper.

President's Lunch 2011

20th December 2011 at the Royal Society of Arts, London. Rt Hon John Denham MP and Professor Paul Boyle, CEO of the ESRC, will speak. Bookings now open.

Myths and Realities

"We've never had it so good? Food and diet in the UK". Public debate on 21st September at the British Library, London.

Science and Technology Committee on Peer Review

A report, to which the Academy contributed with help from member learned societies and Professor

Robert published.



News

Campaign for Social Science

The Academy of Social Sciences launched the Campaign for Social Science on the 20th January, 2011. It aims to raise the profile of social science in the public, media and Parliament, against the context of changes to funding teaching and research. The purpose is to raise the public profile of the social sciences, to set out their relevance to addressing societal issues, to promote the excellence of UK social science and to stress the value of a social science education.

The first newsletter was produced on the 1st August, 2011 and can be found at http://www.campaignforsocialscience.org.uk/node/84

It is intended to establish particular identities for the Campaign in the countries of the UK, starting in Scotland. It is hoped that a model can be established that can also be applied in Wales and Northern Ireland.

Academic social science in the UK is the best in the world, but the general public is probably unaware of this standing. When the QS World University Rankings (2010) are adjusted for population and other size factors, UK academic social science clearly comes out even better than the USA (otherwise the leader) on a range of excellence indicators. Psychology in the UK, according to the International Benchmarking

Review of UK Psychology, is, in some areas, "unsurpassed anywhere in the world". A priority for the Campaign is to highlight the quality of UK social science and demonstrate its impact.

Audrey Osler gives her view on what to say about the usefulness of social science to a public audience in her article "10 reasons why you need social science" (http://www.campaignforsocialscience.org.uk/sites/default/files/audrey_osler_10_reasons.pdf)

A comprehensive survey of social science capacity and capability at UK academic institutions is being undertaken thanks to the generous support of the University of Northumbria. Barbara Harrington, a research assistant there (barbara.harrington@northumbria.ac.uk) is conducting the survey, which will include both quantitative and qualitative elements. The findings will form the basis for subsequent comment by the Campaign. It is intended to repeat the survey at regular intervals to build a picture over time and identify trends.

The survey is endorsed by the Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (DASSH) group, who have contributed to its specification.



Social Science is everywhere.



Spotlight on Research James Robards PhD Student at Southampton

James Robards from the Division of Social Statistics at the University of Southampton is using the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Longitudinal Study (LS) to estimate the fertility of recent migrants to England and Wales. This dataset is unique among those available for England and Wales as it combines Census, National Health Service Central Register and ONS Vital Statistics data to produce a dataset which traces individuals through time and links in key events recorded by administrative data sources.

In the first part of his research using the LS James has created typologies for the forms of residence which female LS members have taken between the 1991 and 2001 census dates. Using these typologies James has identified a sample of female LS members exposed to risk of childbirth and calculated fertility rates for different groups of LS members. At the current time work is focused on using these forms of residence to establish if there is an elevated level of fertility among recent migrants to England and Wales associated with the migration event. This is a fertility trend which has been identified in other European countries. Research on the selection of female LS members and their fertility forms a paper in the summer (144) issue of Population Trends.

Prior to moving to Southampton James studied for an MA in Human Geography Research at the University of Sheffield where he completed a dissertation looking at family policy and fertility (and some years before, his first degree in Geography). He has also worked



James Robards, PhD student at Southampton

in consultancy as a Research Assistant for ECOTEC / ECORYS on a wide range of housing and regeneration research projects in the Midlands and North of England.

Away from work James is a keen cyclist and is planning to ride the route of the famous Paris-Roubaix race in summer 2012.

James is in the final stages of his PhD (supervised by Andy Hinde and Ann Berrington), is willing to discuss his research and can be contacted at james.robards@soton.ac.uk.

Any young demographers who would be interested in sharing their research should contact the editors.

Websites and Conferences Interesting Links

The World Population at 7 Billion

As you are aware (as you are a member of BSPS!), the world's population will reach 7 Billion at the end of 2011. The UN Population Division has stated that the 31st October will be the day that this milestone is reached.

The UNFPA has launched the '7 Billion Actions' Campaign. This will engage people on what it means to live in a world with 7 billion people and encourage action on issues that affect us all. The campaign can be found at:

http://www.7billionactions.org/

On a related note, BSPS received the following offer from Science, although there are no further details other than the offer itself. Science is publishing a Major Special Issue on Population, and invites BSPS members to sign up to receive a free copy (but you must to this quickly!). To request this go to:

http://membercentral.aaas.org/ populationissue/

The National Geographic magazine also has a series of issues on the world's population. Over 2011 each issue of the magazine has a different slant on population—looking at demographics, food security, climate change and so on. There are also some stunning photos and a good video graphic about the event.

http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/7-billion

Australian Census

On the 9th August, Australia conducted a census. The Australian Bureau of Statistics produced a great website to accompany this—in the typical Australian way. This is a great resource about the country and would be a good teaching resource. It can be found at:

http://spotlight.abs.gov.au/

2nd Asian Population Association Conference

The Asian Population Association have recently announced the Call for Papers for their 2nd bi-annual conference. It will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, between the 26th and the 29th August 2012.

Abstracts of not more than 500 words should be submitted online at http://www.aisianpa.org between the 15th September and 15th December 2011.

The conference will take place in Swissotel Le

Concorde, and the early bird registration fee is US\$250 (normal fee US\$300).

There are a wide range of themes in the conference, ranging from fertility, reproductive health, mortality, health and migration to education, the environment, development, gender and techniques for demographic analysis. The conference website is:

http://www.asianpa.org/conference

Position

Positions Advertised University of Southampton

Jobs

Three research posts are being advertised within Social Sciences at Southampton.

1. A 2 year post in the ESRC Centre for Population Change

The ESRC Centre on Population Change at the University of Southampton is recruiting a two-year Senior Research Assistant/ Research Fellow with interests in life course research and the accumulation of advantage or disadvantage over the life course. The Research Fellow will be responsible for the statistical analysis of secondary data, including those from the English Longitudinal Survey of Ageing, the Household Panel British Study Understanding Society. https:// www.jobs.soton.ac.uk/Vacancy.aspx? ref=041211CC

2. A one year post (maternity cover) on the Care Life Cycle Programme, funded by the EPSRC.

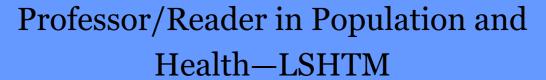
The EPSRC Care Life Cycle Research Programme is recruiting a Senior Research Assistant / Research Fellow to join a vibrant research team working on an exciting multi-disciplinary research programme. The post provides maternity cover. The post activities include conducting literature searches, carrying out statistical analysis of cross-sectional and longitudinal household survey data (data sets such as the BHPS, ELSA & HSE) using

STATA or SPSS, drafting conference and journal papers and engaging with stakeholders. https://www.jobs.soton.ac.uk/Vacancy.aspx? ref=041011CC

3. A 2 year post at the ESRC Centre for Population Change and other Projects

Social Sciences at the University Southampton is looking to recruit a twoyear research fellow with interests in demographic change to support research agenda of Prof Jane Falkingham whilst she is Head of the Academic Unit of Social Sciences. The post holder will be involved in a range of funded and unfunded research projects led by Prof Falkingham, including the ESRC Centre for Population Change and the ESRC China-South Africa Pathfinders Project. The post activities will include conducting literature searches, statistical carrying out analysis of quantitative survey data from both developed and developing countries (data sets include the GHS, BHPS and the World Bank LSMS) using software such as STATA or SPSS, drafting conference and journal papers participating the and development of research proposals. The post will also involve some international https://www.jobs.soton.ac.uk/ travel. Vacancy.aspx?ref=042511CC

Jobs



Department of Population Studies, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine,

The Department for Population Studies is seeking a full-time Professor or Reader in population and health. This is a prestigious post and the successful candidate would established reputation and have an research interests in the determinants and dynamics of population health. These interests might include, but would not necessarily be restricted to: sustainable development and health; environment, climate change and population dynamics; urbanisation and health; measurement, explanation and prediction of trends in fertility, migration and mortality; demographic dimensions of inequality; reproductive health; ageing.

Population and health is one of the strategic research themes of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. We are seeking an outstanding individual to assume leadership in this area who will bring methodological strength and an enthusiasm for developing research collaborations both within the School and with other institutions in the UK and elsewhere. He or she will also take a role in our post-graduate MSc, PhD and short-course teaching.

will be based in The post the internationally renowned Department of Population Studies which was established some 35 years ago, as the Centre for by the eminent Population Studies, demographer, Professor Bill Brass. It has a long history of work in low-, middle- and high-income countries, including the UK. The post has become available following the retirement of Professor John Cleland, the previous President of the International Union for Scientific the Study Population (IUSSP).

Applications should be made on-line via our website at http://jobs.lshtm.ac.uk. The reference for this post is PH1. Applications should also include a CV and the names and email contacts of 3 referees, one of whom should be the most recent employer, who can be contacted immediately if shortlisted. Any queries regarding the application process may be addressed to jobs@lshtm.ac.uk.





Courses

Certificate in Genetics, University of Cambridge

The University of Cambridge is currently accepting applications for the 2011/12 part-time Certificate in Genetics at the University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education (ICE).

The Certificate course is taught at first-year undergraduate level, and is equivalent to half a year of full-time study. No formal qualifications or previous experience are required, simply an interest in the field. Teaching consists of weekly evening classes and practical sessions at the ACE Science Education Centre, Homerton College, Cambridge.

This year's Certificate course focuses on evolutionary genetics. Students will discuss basic concepts and address recent advances and ethical issues in the subject.

Term 1: Genes and evolution. This unit explores the development of the theory of evolution, and the role of genetics in its widespread acceptance. Using specific case studies, students will go on to consider the insights that current research gives us into the mechanisms of evolution.

Term 2: Genetic ancestry and human migration. Students will examine the genetic evidence of human migration by studying population genetics. They will look at migration across continents and at case studies of island and local regions to analyse the variation that exists across populations.

Term 3: Project-based course. This unit comprises one taught session on research methodology and three one-to-one supervisions with a selected supervisor. Students will complete a project of 4,000 words on an agreed topic.

This year for the first time a number of bursaries are offered to self-financing students. Applicants who are new to ICE or who are state-funded teachers will be eligible to apply. Students will also have the option of paying course fees by instalments, to help spread the cost of study.

The deadline for course applications is 16 September 2011 and students can find out more about the course and apply online at http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/genetics-certificate

Next year's Certificate course will focus on the science of inheritance, and students are encouraged to register their interest in advance. Please contact Paul Ireland, Communications and Marketing Manager at the University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education for further information on +44 (0)1223 746417 or pi217@ice.cam.ac.uk

www.ice.cam.ac.uk





Courses

Advanced STATA: Programming and other techniques to make your life easier

A 5 day course from the Population Studies Department, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Date: Monday 7th November to Friday 11th November 2011

Cost: £1,000

The course is aimed at researchers and other professionals, from any discipline, who regularly use STATA for analysis but want to learn how to work more efficiently. It would be particularly suited to those who are about to embark on large analyses and who would like a quick guide on how to automate the repetitive parts of the process.

The course will cover:

- 1. Data handling and manipulation
- 2. Accessing and outputting results

3. Programming STATA

The course has been running since 2008 and response from participants has been very positive. Participants have commented on the excellent teaching, telling us "I learnt so much in such a short time" and "I would recommend this course to others".

Full details of the course can be found at: http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/short/sasta1.html

The application form can be downloaded from:

http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/prospectus/howto/advanced stata application form 2011.pdf

How to Join BSPS

Details of how to apply and the application form are on the website. Rates are:

Full Member -£25 Country (Live outside S. E. train region) and overseas -£20

Corporate – £40 Overseas (LEDCs only) – £7.50

Retired (from work) - £7.50

Full-time Student — £7.50

5 minutes with... Anne Shepherd

In this issue we briefly talk with Anne Shepherd, who is instrumental in organising the conference and in making sure we all do what we should be doing!

Can you introduce yourself and your background in 2-3 sentences?

Born and brought up in Yorkshire, Londoner since 1965. Bookseller for 35 years, until ten years ago when, seeing the way the wind was blowing for independents, the bookshop I co-owned closed its doors. Looking around for something else to do, I came across an ad in the Guardian for a job at the PIC, and the rest is history.

How long have you been involved in BSPS?

Since shortly after I arrived at the PIC in 2001.

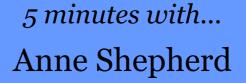
Has the Society changed over the time you have been involved?

The annual conference has doubled in size, with a nice mix of academic, NGO and local authority interest. Plus it's now a much more international gathering. But membership numbers remain much the same, as people

drift in and out, apart from the hard core of long-term members.

What else do you do in your role?

I actually work for the PIC i.e. they pay me and looking after the BSPS Secretariat is part of the PIC's charitable purpose. All the PIC's income comes from sales of the PIC-owned Journal, Population Studies, and the surplus funds a couple of Masters scholarships a year plus the BSPS Secretariat. For the last three years, the scholarship scheme has been enhanced with the involvement of the ESRC and I now look after the joint scheme which awards up to 8 scholarships a year to students planning a Masters with a high proportion of demographic training, with the aim of building capacity in the discipline. Last year was hectic, as I also had a 6-month project to archive the PIC's historical records, which are now safely in the care of the Wellcome Archive. Plus, of course, I look after the admin for the Journal and the editors, liaise with production, deal with contracts, keep the PIC and BSPS books, and look after both PIC and BSPS websites (continued on Page 15).



What do you think the future of BSPS is?

That's up to the members. At the moment, it's really a loose association of people working in population studies in the UK with a variety of interests. I'm not sure I can see that changing.

Tell us something we don't know about you!

I loathe housework and cooking.

Do you think that you know more about Demography and Population

Studies now than lots of so-called 'experts' due to your time working at BSPS?

I have a reasonable overall grasp, I think, of the different areas people are working in, and different concepts and theories, but I could do without those Friday afternoon phone calls from the media who must have an expert on migration into the UK, ethnic make-up of the population, divorce-rate etc etc to speak live on air in three hours time.

What are your plans for the future?

Ask me in two years!

New Members

We are delighted to welcome the following new members to BSPS. Membership of the society is growing all the time and further applications are always welcome.

Jamal Abdul Nasir, Postgraduate student, University of Southampton

Rachel Bennett, Postgraduate student, University of Southampton

Thomas Emery, Postgraduate student, University of Edinburgh

Marta Favara, Postgraduate student, ISER, University of Essex

Professor Allan Hill, Professor of Demography, Harvard and University of Southampton

Richard Kapend, Postgraduate student, University of Southampton

Rebecca Lacey, Postgraduate student, UCL

Jim Newman, ONS

Rafael Novella, Postgraduate student, ISER, University of Essex

Richard Potter, Consultant

Simon Ross, Chief Executive Officer, Population Matters

Paula Sheppard, Postgraduate student, *LSE*