# Content recommendations on topics for the 2016 Volume Test

# **Purpose**

 To best prepare decision makers to make informed decisions on which topics are included and excluded from the 2016 Volume Test.

# In scope of this document

- This document highlights potential content change (for trial in the Volume Test or for parallel testing)
- QMD and RI perspectives have been considered as part of content considerations and these perspectives are included for reference

# Out of scope of this document

- This document does not detail topics included but with no change and these are detailed in linked documentation.
- Variables Specifications are living background documents. A comprehensive Volume Test version of these will be made available for reference during this decision making process and for development of systems and tools.
- This document does not address final wording of forms which will be signed off in a separate process driven by RI in June 2016.

# **Primary Content Test Objective**

Test the proposed 2018 Census new and changed questionnaire content:

- a. Is assessed as feasible for a self-completed questionnaire where concepts are clearly defined and individual questions are clearly understood by respondents
- b. meets requirements and customer's needs for data quality expected quality

# **Opportunity**

Cognitive and mass completion testing to date has been paper based. The Volume Test is an important opportunity to test both internet and paper forms. Internet form design may provide solutions to some issues raised through testing to date.

# **Towards Census Test 2017**

The Volume Test is a key opportunity to gather evidence in a test driven census environment. It is not the only opportunity. Parallel testing will be progressed for key topics to feed into content considerations for Census Test 2017. What goes into the Volume Test may be different from what goes into Census Test 2017.

# Census content Volume Test recommendations

# **Content to be included - Individual Form**

Existing content to remain	New content	Changes to existing content
the same		
Name	Second residence	Sex
Age	Usual residence one year ago	Post-school qualification
Usual residence	Step-families	Highest qualification
Years at usual residence	Main means of travel to	Disability/activities limitation
Usual residence five years	education/address	Main means of travel to work
ago	Sexual orientation	Tenure holder (yet to be
Census night address		confirmed – proposed new
Birthplace		licence to occupy category
Years since arrival in New		removed, but other changes
Zealand		possible)
Ethnicity		
Languages spoken		
Maori descent		
lwi affiliation		
Religious affiliation		
Partnership status in current		
relationship		
Living arrangements (and the		
existing range of derived		
family and household		
variables)		
Legally registered		
relationship status		
Cigarette smoking behaviour		
Number of children born		
alive		
Highest secondary school		
qualification		
Study participation		
Total personal income		
Sources of personal income		
Work and labour force status		
Status in employment		
Occupation		
Sector of ownership		
Industry		
Workplace address		
Hours worked per week		
Unpaid activities		

# Content to be included – Dwelling Form

Existing content to remain	New content	Changes to existing content
the same  Dwelling address  Dwelling counts and types of unoccupied dwellings (note – this isn't just from the dwelling form, it also requires information from the field)  Number of occupants on census night  Relationship to reference person (and the existing range of derived family and household variables)  Number of bedrooms  Number of rooms  Tenure of household (but minor changes possible)  Weekly rent paid by household	Housing quality – access to basic amenities, dampness, mould	Occupied dwelling type Sector of landlord Access to telecommunication systems (fax category dropped) Type of heating (previously fuel types) Number of motor vehicles (output change)

# Census volume test - content recommendations Dwelling form

# Included

# New content

# Housing quality - damp, mould and amenities

#### **Content recommendation**

We recommend including mould, damp and access to basic amenities in the VMO.

# **Content summary**

It is important to keep testing and gather evidence on the following variables together:

- Mould
- Dampness
- access to basic amenities.

There is a high level of customer interest in this data and content have ranked this topic highly in the determination process.

The content team acknowledges current issues in questionnaire development but the importance of these topics as a cluster makes gathering further quantitative evidence is a high priority. Inclusion in the Volume Test will allow quantitative analysis and assessment of overall data quality.

In addition there will be minimal impact on the flow of or the rest of the the questionnaire.

Note collecting information on insulation has already been considered and discounted, as indicated in the variable spec.

#### Mould

Both QMD and RI have questioned how A4 mould size relates to effects on health and the usefulness of this as an indicator. This information is currently used to assess risk of negative health effects at the population level. (A4 size equates to category 2 on the mould severity scale they used in fit for purpose rental housing research. This amount of mould was highly predictive of wheezing). Also, it is a practical way of quantifying the extent of mould and more reliable than a subjective question that asks respondents whether mould is a minor problem, major problem, or no problem.

#### **Dampness**

Further external engagement about dampness confirmed that this information is an important measure of the indoor environment, has an independent effect on health, and would be very important information, especially if it was combined with the mould question.

18	Mark as many spaces as you need to show which of these are in this dwelling.  Don't include anything that is disconnected or broken.	
or	cooking facilities tap water that is safe to drink bath or shower toilet electricity supply none of these	
20	Is this dwelling damp?	
	A damp dwelling may feel or smell damp, or have damp patches on the walls, ceiling, floor or window frames.	
or	yes – always yes – often yes – sometimes no don't know	
21	Can you see mould inside this dwelling that, in total, is larger than an A4 sheet of paper?	
	<ul> <li>mould (mildew) may grow on the walls, ceiling, floor, doors, window frames, curtains or blinds.</li> <li>mould can be black, white, green, brown, red, etc.</li> <li>an A4 sheet is the size of this page.</li> </ul>	
	yes	
	no	
or	don't know	

#### Amenities

Those lacking amenities are expected to be a small population so it's important to include this in a large scale test. An amenity has to be useable (functional) to be counted.

Some changes to the amenities question may be needed – see the recently updated variable spec. Changing to the opposite approach can be considered but would make the question style different from others such as telecoms and might lead to respondent error.

Another idea is separate yes/no questions, but this would take up more space.

One intended use of the amenities data is to help measure severe housing deprivation

#### **QMD**

#### Mould

Recommended for inclusion in Volume Test, with some reservations

#### **Dampness**

Recommended for inclusion in Volume Test, with some reservations

#### **Amenities**

Not recommended for inclusion in Volume Test in current format.

Recommend further testing in communities where we expect some deprivation of these basic amenities to be prevalent.

# RI

#### Mould

Disagree with inclusion

#### **Dampness**

Disagree with inclusion

#### **Amenities**

Disagree with inclusion

- Further customer consultation on housing quality
- Paralell testing and development as required with target small population groups

# Changes to existing content

Agree with inclusion

Minor - refinements to question wording

**Next Steps** 

# **Number of rooms** Content recommendation 14 For each type of room listed below, count the number in this dwelling. We recommend inclusion but with some minor · Count open-plan rooms like this: kitchen-loungechanges. dining is three separate rooms. • Write '0' if this dwelling has no rooms of the type in **Content summary** Agree that use of caravans is probably relatively lounges, living rooms or family rooms uncommon, and testing so far may not have included many in this situation, however this is part of what's dining rooms defined as a bedroom in the standard and it's bedrooms, including any sleepouts furnished as important to include them, as we've done previously. a caravan this household uses as a bedroom Not including them could affect data comparability conservatories you can sit in over time and artificially inflate household crowding studies, studios, hobby rooms rates. As discussed with QMD, it might be awkward to add another bullet point about caravans. The 2013 approach had bedrooms as a separate question so it worked then. Other possible options discussed with QMD to address the caravan issue were: Move the caravans category to the bottom of the list (would this help) Have a 'bubble' for it. But there doesn't seem to be space for that. Have a guidenote. But people may not realise they need to think about caravans they use as a bedroom and so may not refer to the guidenotes. Not discussed with QMD - Maybe add the necessary wording to the bedroom response option. But this would make it long. **QMD** Recommend this question format for inclusion in Volume Test, with the removal of 'caravans ...' as a standalone category.

# **Heating appliances**

# **Content recommendation**

We recommend this be included, possibly with some further refinement to the question.

## **Content summary**

Central heating is probably quite rare in NZ and doesn't warrant its own response option, but open fires may need its own response category, possibly one for wood and one for coal. Some research on where these can still be used is needed.

We would like to stick with asking main method for now. We need to know whether respondents can tell us this information and see the level of multiple response. A guide note has already been written to help respondents answer this question.

The 'most often' wording is a way of operationalising 'main'. The content team have suggested using the word "main" in the question but this may be too vague.

# **QMD**

Recommend this question format for inclusion in Volume Test with some tweaks

#### RI

Agree with inclusion

#### **Next Steps**

Minor refinements to question

15 Mark one space. Which type of heating is used most often for this dwelling?
heat pump
electric heater (including bar, panel, oil-filled or fan)
fixed gas heater
portable gas heater
wood burner
pellet fire
coal burner
other. Print type of heating used:
or don't use any form of heating

# **Excluded**

We recommended the following be excluded from the VMO.

# New content

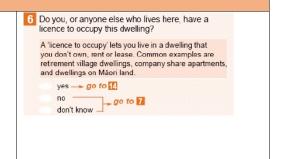
# Licence to occupy

#### **Content recommendation**

It is recommended that this be excluded from the volume test due to the issues that have arisen with people not understanding this term.

## **Content Summary**

The 2013 approach was to only mention LTO in the guidenotes, however we may want to consider if the previous guidenote should be changed or kept the same.



See the Individual Form, licence to occupy (tenure holder) for further comments on this.

QMD

Not recommended for inclusion in the Volume Test

RI

Agree with exclusion; strongly recommend looking into admin data instead, given that all respondents tested (including those that had a license to occupy) were confused by the question/response option

Next Steps

Continue to develop and test outside VMO

Includes testing 2013 Census approach

# Housing quality - cold

# **Content recommendation**

This is recommended for exclusion due to the variation in how it may be answered by different people living in the same household.

Go back to external experts to discuss significant issues and to explore administrative data sources

# **Content Summary**

In the consultation, this came out as lower priority for collection in the census as it is more difficult to come up with a good question that gets good quality data on this due to its subjective nature.

Note – we have already considered whether information on insulation could be collected and discounted this, as indicated in the variable specification. Many people would not know the answer to this question so it would not be possible to collect good quality data.

# **QMD**

Recommended for inclusion in Volume Test, with some reservations

#### RI

Agree with exclusion

#### **Next Steps**

Inform experts of decisions and monitor responses

19	In w	vinter, is this dwelling difficult to heat and/or	П
		p warm?	
		yes – always	
		yes – often	
		yes – sometimes	
		no	
or		don't know – I haven't lived here in winter	
01		don't know - i haven't hved here in whiter	

# Census Volume Test - content recommendations Individual form

# Inclusion

New content

#### **Sexual orientation**

#### Content recommendation

Sexual orientation is recommended for inclusion.

#### **Content Summary**

Sexual orientation data has been identified as an ongoing unmet information need, due to the distinct health needs of the lesbian and gay subpopulations, need for an indicator to inform research as well as the need for national and subnational counts to inform policy decisions.

The question format proposed has been implemented by the ONS and in New Zealand (MOH) in interviewer administered surveys. Thus far it has performed adequately in QMD testing and has recommended for inclusion in the Volume Test to assess how this question will perform in a 'real world' environment.

Unlike the gender identity question tested, this variable will not conflict with the existing sex and number of children born alive questions.

#### **QMD**

Recommend inclusion of Sprint 5 question version for Volume Test with help information available.

#### ΡI

Agree with inclusion; though more work needs to be done around how the data will be output and the suitability of asking this question without any age limitations

- Continue parallel testing
- Continue to work with CS &D on planning for a new classification
- Monitor international trends
- Establish inclusive experts working group for ongoing advice (internal and external)

32 Which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself? heterosexual or straight
gay or lesbian
bisexual
other. Please state:
or prefer not to say

#### Second address

#### **Content recommendation**

Recommended for inclusion

Request that this question be implemented towards end of sprint timelines

# **Content Summary**

Second residence was strongly rated as an information need, particulally for highlighting shared care arrangements of children, and better understanding the service populations of many councils.

However, there are a number of issues highlighted during testing. The reference of 30 days per year is difficult for some respondents. They also had difficulties in interpreting the response categories with 'other' being most popular. Parents with shared arrangements found it difficult to determine which was their childs usual and second residence. There is a concern the question may impact how people answer usual residence.

While it is acknowledged there a number of difficulties to overcome, we believe it is important that this variable be included in the Volume Test. It is a valuable opportunity to get large scale quantitative data, and to see if extra address questions place too great a burden on respondents.

#### QMD

Not recommended for inclusion in the Volume Test. Recommend further testing for possible later inclusion (Census Test 2017).

#### RI

Disagree with inclusion

- Changes to the latest question are recommended before the Volume Test. For instance, an open text field for "other" in Q8 would allow us to see these responses are.
- Any other cognitive testing done before the Volume Test can also feed into question development. However, large scale changes are not expected.
- Further testing can be done in parallel with the Volume Test.
- Agree best option to tease out effects of one address question on another
- Investigate relationships between alternative current, 1 and 5 yr address questions on 2<sup>nd</sup> residence

In the last 12 months, did you stay at another New Zealand address for more than 30 days in total?				
no → go to 9 yes – please give that address:				
street number flat number				
street name				
suburb or rural locality				
city, town or district				
The address you gave in 7 is:  a holiday home				
a working away from home address				
a term-time address for a secondary student				
a home address for a tertiary student another parent or caregiver's address				
or other				

# Usual residence one year ago and usual residence five years ago

# **Content recommendation**

Both Usual residence one year ago and usual residence five years ago are recommended for inclusion in the Volume Test.

### **Content Summary**

In our preliminary view we suggested that both usual residence one year ago and usual residence five years ago be included. However, if a trade-off needed to be made, usual residence five years ago was considered by some customers to be a lower priority. Address five years ago ties in with the date of the previous census and so enables all the inter-censal components of population change to be estimated.

Due to its importance in helping with national and sub-national population estimates there was strong advocacy for usual residence one year ago to be included in the 2018 Census. Population projections are very important for infrastructure planning and social service provision.

The content team has recently gone back to internal stakeholders challenging the need for both one and five years ago.

Feedback was still strongly in favour of having both usual residence one and five years ago. The combined data from the two questions give the best possible insights into migration flows including return and repeat migration. Some consideration has been given to the IDI offering alternative linking opportunities for five years ago. However, feedback from IDI is that there are problems relying on the IDI for this information. In addition, the continued inclusion of five years ago is considered useful in any further linking work.

The addition of a question for usual residence one year ago is relatively straightforward, although the main issue may be respondent burden, especially with the introduction of second residence and education address.

However, it is our view that the best way to find out about the impact of this burden is to include all addressing questions in the Volume Test.

#### OME

Recommend inclusion of "address 1 year ago' only in the Volume Test

#### RI

Will need further investigation with Population Statistics and other SMAs about prioritisation

<u> </u>				
10 Where did you usually live one year ago on 30 March 2015?				
not born one year ago				
at my usual address, given in 4				
at the address given in 7				
at the address given in 9				
in New Zealand at another address. Please give that address:				
street number flat number				
street name				
suburb or rural locality				
city, town or district				
or not living in New Zealand. Print the name of the country where you lived one year ago:				

# Next Steps Investigate relationship of this address gu

Investigate relationship of this address question to other address questions

# Step families

# **Content recommendation**

This is recommended for inclusion because it would be useful to have a large scale test of this to see how well it is answered, including by Maori, and assess data quality.

# **Content Summary**

We need to investigate moving this question away from the living arrangements question and trying a new, simpler question.

We are checking whether a different approach can be used that would still meet information requirements

Inclusion in the Volume Test would allow quantitative analysis of responses such as cross-tabulation with ethnicity which will help us assess how different ethnic groups are answering this question. It is expected to be a small population group so inclusion in a large scale test is important to allow us to assess overall data quality.

# **QMD**

Not recommended for inclusion in the Volume Test. Recommend further testing for possible later inclusion (Census Test 2017).

#### RI

Disagree with inclusion – concerns around Māori view of stepfamilies

- Investigate alternative approaches to collecting this information
- Progress concept work within a Māori world view with internal Māori advisors
- Dicuss testing progress and quality of data issues with internal and external experts on step families seek advice on further testing of concept
- Investigate potential impacts of inclusion of this question on household and family data

2	Mark as many spaces as you need to show which, i any, step-family live with you at your usual address.
	I don't have any step-family
	I have step-family, but not at my usual address
	I live with my step-parent
	I live with my step-child or step-children
	I live with my step-brother or step-sister
	other, for example step-grandparent

# Travel to education/address

#### Content recommendation

Recommend inclusion of travel to education and usual travel means of travel to education.

## **Content Summary**

Consultation demonstrated strong support for travel to education.

Consistency with 'travel to work' means that 'usual' is preferred to census day travel to education.

As indicated in the variable specification collecting information on usual travel will provide better information. This will provide better information for transport planners and this would also be consistent with the proposed approach for travel to work. For example - travel will not be subject to the weather on census day, data will be more comparable over time, more inclusive. In addition this approach helps to resolve the issue of many people using a broader window of time to complete forms than census day itself.

The information for the address can be cut down to name, campus (suburb), and city/town. That would be sufficient to meet the information need. This has implications for ICS development and for processing.

#### **QMD**

Recommend inclusion in Volume Test, with following changes:

- Revert to travel on census day (which will require response option of "did not travel to study on census day").
- Ask only for 'name of educational institution' and 'city, town or campus' rather than exact street address of educational institution.

#### RI

Agree with inclusion

#### **Next Steps**

Investigate sources of addressing data

23 Are you attending, studying or enrolled at school or anywhere else?
yes - full-time
(20 hours or more a week)
yes - part-time → go to 24
(less than 20 hours a week)
or no - neither of these $\rightarrow go$ to 26
24 What is the one main way you usually travel to your place of education - that is, the one you use for the greatest distance?
<ul> <li>If you don't have a usual method, select the method you used most recently.</li> </ul>
study at home → go to 26
school bus or other educational institution bus
public bus
train
drive a private car, truck or van
passenger in a private car, truck or van
motorbike
bicycle
walk or jog
other, for example TAXI, FERRY Print the main way you travelled for study:
25 Where are you attending, studying or enrolled?
Print the full name and physical address. Give all of these, if possible:
name of pre-school, school or other place of education
street number
street name
suburb or rural locality
city, town or district

# **Activities limitation (disability)**

#### **Content recommendation**

Activities limitation is recommended for inclusion in the Volume Test.

#### **Content Summary**

Output data on disability or functional limitations at a subnational level has been an ongoing identified need by customers.

The Washington Group questions are the recommended approach to fulfill this need by SMAs and have been run in the 2016 GSS question set.

QMD has identified a number of issues around interpretation of the questions and categories for respondents. Given the 'fixed' state of this question set, modifications to the set are undesirable outside of what has already been implemented (matrix style on paper form).

Quantitative evidence will help to assess whether the issues identified by QMD impact the data of quality to be output.

This will provide stronger evidence to justify inclusion/exclusion to customers.

## **QMD**

Not recommended for inclusion in the Volume Test. Conduct further, targeted, cognitive testing for possible future inclusion (Census Test 2017).

#### RI

Disagree with inclusion

- Go back to Washington Group experts and seek advice on appropriateness of using these questions in a self-complete matrix format
- Check with SNZ experts on comparability of Volume Test data with GSS outputs
- Go back to Disability reference group to discuss testing progress and concerns raise
- Assess quality (fit for purpose) of output data from Volume Test with internal and external experts

19	This question is about difficulties you may have doing certain activities because of a health problem.				
	Do you have difficulty with any of the following? Mark one space for each row.				
		no difficulty	some difficulty		cannot do at all
	seeing, even if wearing glasses				
	hearing, even if using a hearing aid				
	walking or climbing steps				
	remembering or concentrating				0
	washing all over or dressing	0	0	0	0
	communicating using your usual language, for example understanding or being understood	•		•	-

# Changes to existing content

# Sex

#### Content recommendation

Testing of a third category for the sex question is recommended for the Volume Test.

#### **Content Summary**

The 2013 Census sex question presents a binary concept of sex. It is compulsory for people to complete census forms. Only those who consider themselves to be 'male' or 'female' could honestly answer this question. Alternative responses were coded as 'male' or 'female' by Statistics NZ.

The existing sex standard has never had a full review. It allows for a third category and will accommodate collection of another category which counts all those not included by the terms 'male' and 'female'.

A human rights complaint has recently been lodged against Statistics NZ.

Consultation demonstrated a clear need for baseline information on the sup-population of people who are niether 'male' or 'female' from health sectors and the affected groups. This potential new census information was not considered high priority by other key customers. If the information was available there is a possibility that it would be more widely used.

Testing in the Volume Test will provide larger scale evidence about the feasibility of a third category and its potential impacts. As sex is a Priority 1 variable there is an identified risk to key counts. The best way to understand the realities around this risk is to test a third category. Classifications have pointed out that this risk will only kick in for census data itself rather than Volume Test.

Classifications are interested in using an 'other...please specify' response in the Volume Test to inform their understanding of how a future review of the sex classification might be considered. This evidence will also inform thinking around statistical standards across sectors.

It will also help to assess public response to this question format in a real world context. A third category has tested satisfactorily in QMD testing thus far and any evidence gathered from the Volume Test will help to inform any future decision for this variable.

Further work will be required to understand implementation impacts of a third category on 2018 Census edits, derivations and imputation.

What sex are you?  male female	
intersex	

#### QMD

Recommend inclusion of Sprint 5 question version for Volume Test with help information available.

#### RI

Agree with inclusion

# **Next Steps**

- Clarity on the intent of the third category in the classification would help further development of this question.
- Assess the interest in subpopulations of interest within a third category and work further on definitions and revise topic specification
- Learn from Australian census and other international initiatives in this area

# Travel to work

#### Content recommendation

Recommend continued inclusion but with change to usual means of travel to work.

# **Content Summary**

There was strong support for changing it to usual means, as indicated in the variable spec.

Note, for people with multiple jobs, they should indicate the means of travel used to get to their main job, so that the information fits together with the workplace address information, which will be for their main job.

There is customer interest in understanding more about multi-mode travel behaviour in NZ. This has been discounted for further testing at this stage.

# QMD

Recommend inclusion in Volume Test, with small wording changes

#### RI

Agree with inclusion

### **Next Steps**

Continue to test gather evidence on respective viability of 'usual' and 'main' means of travel to work

50 What is the one main way you usually travel to work - that is, the one you use for the greatest distance? · If you don't have a usual method, select the method you used most recently. work at home public bus train drive a private car, truck or van drive a company car, truck or van passenger in a car, truck, van or company bus motorbike bicycle walk or jog other, for example TAXI, FERRY. Print the main way you usually travel to work:

# **Highest qualification change**

#### **Content recommendation**

We recommend continued inclusion of highest qualification. There will be two minor questionnaire changes to this variable.

# **Content Summary**

The level of post-school qualification will be collected in a tick box as opposed to a free text field. There will still be a free text field to collect subject of post-school qualification. We also propose a tick box question added to indicate whether the qualification was gained overseas.

Changing the response options to tick boxes was recognised as being an improvement to data quality and helping to reduce the time and cost of processing.

There has been a need identified to collect information on post-school qualifications gained overseas. The reasons for this was to improve the accuracy of estimates of the costs and benefits of obtaining a qualification in NZ and to understand the profile of those in the workforce with overseas qualifications.

Respondents have coped well with the question changes in testing. The main issue is respondents cannot easily recall the level of their qualification (but is not due to questionnaire changes). No issues have been observed with the overseas qualification question.

#### $\mathsf{QMD}$

Recommend inclusion in Volume Test, with one potential tweak

#### RI

Agree with inclusion

## **Next Steps**

Look at classification and consider potential to collapse some response options

36 What is your highest qualification? Level 1 Certificate (for example Introduction Level Certificate) Level 2 Certificate (for example Foundation Skills Certificate Level 3 Certificate (for example Pre-trade Certificate) Level 4 Certificate (for example Trade Certificate) Level 5 Diploma (for example Advanced Trade Certificate) Level 6 Diploma (for example National Diploma/Certificate) Bachelor Degree or Level 7 Qualification Bachelor Hons or Postgraduate Certificate/Diploma Masters Degree other qualification. Print what it is: 37 Print the main subject of your highest qualification, subject: ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING 38 Was your highest qualification gained in New Zealand or overseas? New Zealand

overseas

Voluntary work	
Content recommendation Inclusion of the 2013 Unpaid Acitivities format is recommended for the Volume Test.	TBC
Content Summary Voluntary work (with hours) was tested in order to assess whether the census could better meet users needs in this area. QMD testing indicated that respondents were having difficulty with the time component of the question. Given that a time component is not viewed as feasible for a census style questionnaire, the 2013 format is recommended in order to retain data comparability and the positive respondent interactions with the previous format.	
QMD Recommended for inclusion in Volume Test, with	
RI Agree with inclusion of the 2013 Census version of this question for Volume Test	
Next Steps Inform external experts of direction for the Volume Test and monitor responses Confirm direction for Volume Test with internal experts re removal of time component	

# **Excluded**

We recommended the following be excluded from the Volume Test. Please note that exclusion in the Volume Test does not neccesarialy mean we recommending exclusion in 2018.

# New content

#### **Gender identity**

#### **Content recommendation**

Gender Identity is not recommended for the Volume Test.

# **Content Summary**

A question on gender identity question was tested in order to assess the ability of a question to meet the needs of health providers for identifying transgender and other gender diverse populations, as well as providing a baseline national count and and indicator to inform researchers.

QMD testing has indicated that while a simple gender identity question 'works' in terms of gathering responses, any potential format will not necessarily identify the subpopulations this variable needs to identify in order to meet the information need identified. A sex and gender question on the same form was also causing issues and confusion for respondents. Therefore it is not recommended for inclusion.

## **QMD**

Recommend inclusion of Sprint 5 question version for Volume Test with help information available.

#### RI

Agree with exclusion

# **Next Steps**

Further testing outside the Volume Test to gather evidence on alternative wording and approaches to the topic cluster gender identity fits within.

31 What gender do you identify as?	
male	
female	
gender diverse	
gender diverse	

# License to occupy

#### **Content recommendation**

We are recommending for exclusion of the licence to occupy category.

We recommend retaining a tenure holder question in the Volume Test in both the DF and IF.

# **Content Summary**

The re-design of this question is partly to address issues with family trusts, not just for identifying licence to occupy and it would be useful to see how well this change is working in a large scale test.

have a licence to occupy it hold it in a family trust own or partly own it, with or without a mortgage	hold it in a family trust own or partly own it, with or without a mortgage	3	Thinking about the dwelling that you usually live in, do you yourself:
own or partly own it, with or without a mortgage	own or partly own it, with or without a mortgage		have a licence to occupy it
			hold it in a family trust
none of these	none of these		own or partly own it, with or without a mortgage
		or	none of these

Dropping the licence to occupy category means the quetion wording may need minor tweaking and we may also need to think about guide notes for those who know they have a licence to occupy. This would help respondents know how to answer but wouldn't meet the information need for separate identification of those with a licence to occupy.

The information collected on the IF (Tenure holder) is different from that collected on the dwelling form, which is tenure at the household level. It is considered useful to have both measures. A dwelling may be owned by someone with a household, but not everone within that household may own it. There could be adutl children, flatmates, relatives etc who do not themselves own the dwelling. Asking it at the individual level also allows analysis with personal characteristics such as age and ethnicity, which is very useful.

#### **QMD**

Licence to occupy category not recommended for inclusion in the Volume Test.

Recommend guestion revert to 2013 approach.

# RI

Agree with exclusion; strongly recommend looking into admin data instead, given that all respondents tested (including those that had a license to occupy) were confused by the question/response option

# **Next Steps**

Given the issues that have arisen with licence to occupy, more work is required on this. It is an important information need, so we do not recommend dropping it completely. It may be possible to try a different way of collecting this information eg by exploring whether we could derive information on whether a dwelling is in a retirement village and estimate LTO fom that, or by asking directly whether a dwelling is in a retirement village. This could possibly identify the vast majority of licence to occupy situations.