

# FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

## PRESS RELEASE

17 March 2021

### Census day is here

Census 2021 is in full swing in Fenland.

Census Day is on 21 March, but letters with unique online access codes have gone out to all households across the district to allow them to take part now.

The census is a once-in-a-decade survey that gives the Office for National Statistics the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It has been carried out every ten years since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

Leader of Fenland District Council, Cllr Chris Boden, said: "The information the census collects provides the best picture of what our society needs now and what it will likely need in the future, and decides how services are planned and funded in our area. This could mean things like doctors' surgeries, housing, schools, or new transport routes.

"Residents can complete the questionnaire on their laptops, phones and computers and it takes just 10 minutes per person to take part. If you can't get online, there are paper forms available for those who need them. Now is the time to make your mark on history."

Operating in line with the Government's latest Covid-19 guidance, field officers will be deployed across the country to contact those who have not responded. They will offer help and advice to those who need it. They will also remind people that their census response is required by law.

This census is the most inclusive yet. Everyone can identify as they wish using search as you type online and write-in options on paper if they need it.

The questionnaire includes questions about your sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. And, for the first time, there will be a question asking people whether they have served in the armed forces, as well as voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations.

To complete your census, and find out how you can get help, visit [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk) or call 0800 141 2021.

**ENDS**

**For more information contact Fenland District Council press office on 01354 622226**