

FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

PRESS RELEASE

10 May 2021

“Amazing response” to Census 2021

The response to Census 2021 has exceeded all expectations, with over 90 per cent of households in Fenland making sure they count when it comes to local services like school places, GP surgeries and hospital beds.

This is above the pre-census target of 80 per cent target for local authority areas. But for those who haven't yet completed the Census yet, time is running out. The simple, online questionnaire will close on 17 May. Visit: www.census.gov.uk.

Now the main census has ended, around 350,000 households across England and Wales will be invited to take part in the Census Coverage Survey (CCS). This short, separate, interviewer-led survey will enable the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to get a final view of the response rates.

“There has been an amazing response to Census 2021, with over 90 per cent of households in Fenland responding – exceeding the ONS pre-census target of 80 per cent,” said Fenland District Council Leader, Cllr Chris Boden.

“Those who have taken part have ensured they are represented for their local area. I'd like to thank everyone who has filled out their form so far as well as all the community groups, organisations and local authorities who have helped us make this census a success.”

It's not too late to respond to the Census 2021 online. If you have lost your census letter visit www.census.gov.uk to request an online completion code for your address via SMS text message. After 17 May, only paper questionnaires will be available.

If people refuse to take part, they could be taken to court and issued with a £1,000 fine and criminal record. The census non-compliance operation will begin on 25 May.

The Census Coverage Survey (CCS) is an important part of making sure the census produces the most accurate population statistics. It asks similar questions to the main census, just fewer of them, at addresses in a selection of postcodes across England and Wales. Interviewers will carry out doorstep surveys which take around 15 minutes.

A sample of households will shortly receive a card through the post asking them to take part in the CCS. After that, an interviewer, following the government's COVID-19 guidelines, will visit the address and fill in the questionnaire with you on your doorstep. The interviewer will be able to show an ID badge on a Census 2021 branded lanyard.

For more information on the CCS, visit: www.census.gov.uk/about-the-census/about-the-census-coverage-survey

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