

OR: 202100249433

01 November 2021

Dear Dr Kath Murray, Lisa Mackenzie and Lucy Hunter Blackburn,

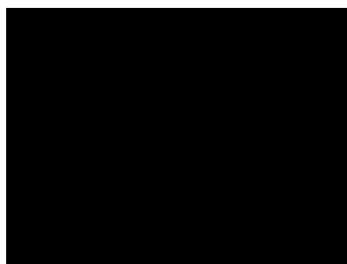
Thank you for your letter of 20 October 2021 to the Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture, regarding Scotland's Census legislation and the guidance accompanying the sex question. I have been asked to respond.

As you noted, Paul Lowe, the Chief Executive of National Records of Scotland (NRS), has previously stated that the interim conclusion of the High Court of England and Wales was in respect of the census in England and Wales only, and was not binding on Scotland.

NRS has published the guidance for the sex question in good time, more than 6 months in advance of census day. As stated in the [letter to the Office for Statistics Regulation dated 01 October](#), this guidance is the same as that discussed with the Scottish Parliament when the Census legislation was agreed.

All of the legislation required for Scotland's Census 2022 is now in force. There is no intention to introduce further legislation for the 2022 census. Further information about the legislation is available on our [website](#).

Yours sincerely,



Head of Census & Statistical Policy