ONS SDC Census Test 2017

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Content

• What is the ‘one ONS’ SDC platform vision?
• How did the 2017 Census test go?
• What did the platform do?
• What is in the ONS SDC platform?
• What are the next steps?
‘One ONS’ SDC platform objectives

• Delivery to be aligned to the ‘customer first’ agile service standards set by the UK GDS.
• To create a single secure integrated platform for the agile delivery of survey data collection capabilities scalable to deliver Census 2021.
• To streamline the on-boarding, collection and management of business and social surveys.
• To implement the technical services as loosely coupled PaaS deployed microservices for maintainability, portability and scalability.
How did the 2017 Census test go?

- The test was to evaluate the channel shift and user behaviour to inform the white paper on the 2021 Census.
  - 211,768 sample - digital uptake was 74.27%.
  - Page load times below 1 second, even under high load (1,700 concurrent users).
  - Up for more than 99% of the time across the test (the 1% was planned maintenance downtime).
  - Overall traffic profile: 60% coming from desktop, 20% mobile & 20% tablet devices.
What did the platform do?

- Respondent authentication is via an Internet Access Code (IAC) printed on their letter.
- Determine and launch the appropriate survey template (including presentation language) on the electronic questionnaire runners.
- Supports the respondent in navigating and answering the survey, including being able to save and resume, before completing.
- Ingest, validate and load responses into ONS
- Whilst **simultaneously** running 5 online business surveys and 12 offline surveys.
How does SDC map onto the GSBPM?

SDC is the new platform for collection.
What is in the ONS SDC platform?

• Several ‘products’ are deployed and interact to deliver the platform capabilities together.
  • RRM – Business survey management services
  • RM – Response management & integration hub
  • RH – Respondent Home provides the public access & IAC validation portal
  • EQ – electronic questionnaire execution tool
  • SDX – Survey data exchange (response import, validation & translation)
SDC principle data flows
Principle service / ‘product’ interactions
Deployment – public & private cloud
Demonstration

• Steps
  • Validation of the access code by ‘Respondent Home’.
  • Redirection to the ‘Electronic Questionnaire’ runner.
  • Data entry and navigation within the survey form.
  • Review of answers on the final page
  • Submission of the completed form to the ONS
Q & A

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