



Cornish Democracy *Democratieth* *Kernow*

The Centre for Cornish Policy Review

12 January 2026

Online Office for National Statistics, (ONS) Consultation (Cornwall Critical)

Dear XXXX,

Re: Online Office for National Statistics, (ONS) Consultation (Cornwall Critical)

On 15 July 2025, the UK government commissioned the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to conduct a census of England and Wales in 2031, to ensure data collected meets the needs of people, organisations and local communities by collecting the right evidence to inform decisions made by public bodies.

It has been an exceptional few weeks in Cornish cultural/political life, and there is a great deal happening beneath the surface that is not immediately apparent, but for which your support is crucial to be able to measure progress as also is the timing.

Please keep reading to the end, as we have something to ask of you, specifically.

In the next 12 to 18 months important legislation will be put forward that will secure Cornwall's status as a special case, aiming to tackle Cornwall specific challenges: the housing crisis, long standing health and educational inequalities, having only one major hospital, the lack of high-quality jobs, and energy poverty.

In 2014 the Cornish people were awarded status as a National Minority, but this is not enough, and the people of Cornwall remain invisible within most public bodies, and we continue to suffer reduced services across the board.

It is crucial we secure a TICK BOX for Cornish ethnicity. This compels public bodies to collect and report information about Cornwall and not merge data with a larger area, as is happening in some cases. This will make health, education and economic inequalities visible and ensure Cornwall is not forgotten.

The consequences are not restricted to services, but economic development funding, transport improvements, environmental protection, Cornish language broadcasting, social mobility and heritage education. The tick box prevents Cornwall and those that identify as Cornish from being invisible or at least underestimated as is the case with only a 'write in' opportunity.

Your support and that of your organisation are crucial, so please follow the steps below and pass this letter on to other organisations and individuals that you feel would support this.

All you/your organisation needs to do is,

1. Use this letter as a template if you wish, or write your own, stressing the need for a CORNISH TICK BOX
2. Either follow the link [here](#),
3. Or send your letter by email [here](#),
4. Or send by post to the address provided below.

Please do not delay, as the deadline is 4th February.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and add your voice.

Kind regards,

Stephen Horscroft BA (Hons), DMS, FRSA

Deborah Hinton OBE

Serena Skerratt RGN BSc

Dr. Garry Tregidga ALCM, MPhil, PhD

Andrew Climo BSc

Further Information

Complete the Consultation Online here: [Complete the consultation](#)

Send via email or post: Emails to: Topic.Consultation@ons.gov.uk Sent by post: ONS Consultations Team, Post Room, Office for National Statistics, Segensworth Road, Titchfield, Hampshire, PO15 5RR

More information is available here:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/aboutcensus/census2031/census2031topicconsultation>