

Specific detailed recommendations:

- “The **Office for National Statistics** can play a key role in advising and supporting the development of suitable questions and coding schemes for variables relevant to community cohesion, and ensuring that these are collected in national surveys to provide a baseline for measurement.
- The **Department for Constitutional Affairs** could consider examining the potential of the Electoral Roll (and CORE registration of voters) and the development of additional uses and ‘dictionaries’ for software such as *Nam Perchan*.
- The **Home Office** could consider making wider use of its S95 data, and whether these can become more widely known and used.
- The **National Health Service**, in the move towards an Electronic Patient Record needs to consider the centrality of key variables such as ethnic origin, language and religion for service provision, ensuring that these are provided with consistent coding schemes and locations within all datasets contributing to the overall record
- **Primary Care Trusts** in the NHS should consider the potential for ‘Patient profiling’; and ethnic record keeping (data capture) in primary care to feed into the EPR and reduce the need for repeated collection (checking will still be needed at key events: e.g. death and hospital admission)
- **Acute Care Trusts** are already under statutory expectations to collect ethnicity data (and religion etc as above) for all ‘inpatient events’ and to establish ‘race equality schemes’. We understand that the Commission for Racial Equality is in discussion with the NHS about their perception that this is not being achieved. These discussions and requirements could be linked to the needs to monitor referrals in a newly framed commissioner-led healthcare system and also to combat possible ‘health tourism’.
- **Data Protection** issues need to be debated and consensus guidance made available
- **Vital Event** registration (Births and Deaths) could incorporate more data collection on the characteristics of registered individuals including ‘ethnic origin’
- Recording of data on ‘**migration status**’ (including identification of refugee and asylum seeker users) might be encouraged, while recognising the risk that this might form a barrier to use of certain critical services: this needs extra consultation.
- The **National Asylum Support Service** could develop its ‘case management’ system to be able to derive anonymised and localised data reporting
- Agencies in the **Criminal Justice System** could consider monitoring and reporting on the provision of interpreter, translation and other language support services
- There is scope to develop, or provide guidance on the use of the **schools census data** and other pupil level information to give ‘early warning’ of groups of non-English-speaking background
- There is at present no substitute for the decennial **Census**. While we understand that there have been suggestions to replace it with ‘rolling data’ collection, these are unlikely to be implemented in the near future: we feel that it might be worth recalling the value of the intercensal ‘sample census’ (as was held in 1966 and 1976)
- The **Office for National Statistics** should consider the design of the ‘continuous population survey’ in the light of requirements to monitor community cohesion, at

least until confirmation of the implementation of a national identity card system and move towards a national 'population register' (and thereafter, give consideration to how monitoring outputs can be provided without causing controversy).

- The **Audit Commission** and National Audit Office have a role to play in monitoring the use made of community cohesion data and ensuring that bodies under their inspection are collecting these data to an adequate standard
- The **Greater London Authority** and other regional **Observatories** should exchange information and consult together to establish mechanisms or advice and guidance on monitoring community cohesion: ICoCo might organise a national workshop for all of these bodies.
- The **Gangmaster Licensing Authority** has a key role to play and should liaise actively with the **Department for Work & Pensions, Work Permits UK** and **DEFRA**, both to collect data more proactively, and to resolve concerns over the issue and use of National Insurance numbers
- The **Commission for Racial Equality** (and/or the successor body, the **Commission for Equality and Human Rights**) and local Race Equality Councils, as well as the new **Commission on Integration and Cohesion**, will need to play a significant role in action and debates over monitoring community cohesion.
- Police and **Crime Reduction Partnerships** could play a key role, but there will be sensitivities about their involvement and this might need careful consultation.
- **Social Care** departments of Local Authorities have historically collected good quality data on sensitive issues including ethnic origin and should reconsider their role and potential contribution.
- There is clearly enormous potential for the use of **Geographical Information Systems** or geo-referencing software: this may require further research
- **Housing** Registers are under-used, having once been a primary source of relevant data: this may require development of registration of Landlords and in the Private Rented Sector, especially 'housing in multiple occupation' and on short lets.
- **All public data registers** (including Visual Impairment and Cancer registries, for example) should be recording key community cohesion variable such as ethnic origin and faith, to meet 'Race Equality Scheme' requirements.
- It is important to recognise that 'ethnic record keeping' is not solely about monitoring 'visible minority' groups (as covered by the Race Relations Acts) but is relevant to all communities including 'New Migrants' and minority ethnic groups of 'White Other/European' origin.
- It is necessary to record and monitor not only 'arrivals'; but also 'departures', both at a national and a local level.
- All agencies and political bodies need to recognise the highly specific legal entitlements of different types of 'asylum seeker and refugee' and use the terms accurately, while avoiding and discouraging 'media scare stories'.
- There is across all agencies a need for collaboration and development of congruence in agreeing common variables or 'descriptors' for data collection, and ensuring that these evolve to reflect changing needs: it is not clear who should lead this process."