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Sam Gardiner MLA

Parliament Buildings

Northern Ireland Assembly

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During Oral Questions on Monday 14 June regarding the 2011 Census, you asked if it would it be possible to include in the Census a question on former residences and addresses, as well as one on date of birth, so that significant movement of population into Northern Ireland from other parts of the United Kingdom, the EU and beyond can be traced.

As I indicated, the 2011 Census questionnaire does include questions that will provide the type of information of interest to you. As in 2001, the 2011 Census questionnaire will include a question on date of birth and a question on address one year ago.

In addition, the questionnaire includes new questions aimed at gathering information on those that have lived outside Northern Ireland for a continuous period of one year or more, asking about the country last lived in and the month and year of last coming to Northern Ireland to live.

I trust this clarifies the position. A copy of this letter will be placed in the Assembly library and copied to the Speaker.

Yours sincerely

SAMMY WILSON MP MLA