

Ready, steady, census

The decennial census is almost upon us.

Households across Cheshire West and Chester will soon be asked to take part in the nationwide survey of housing and the population. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

Information from the digital-first census will help decide how services are planned and funded in your local area. This could mean things like doctors' surgeries, housing or new bus routes.

Households will receive a letter with a unique access code in the post, allowing them to complete their questionnaire online*, on a PC, tablet or smartphone. Note that 10% will automatically receive a paper questionnaire, selected based on a wide range of criteria.

22 – 27 Feb Households get a postcard saying watch out for census letters coming soon.

1 – 12 Mar Initial contact letter with online access code and info leaflet arrives.
The census form can now be completed.

21 Mar 21 Census Day

There will be a series of up to 4 reminder letters sent to households that, according to records, have not yet completed the census, supported by household visits from Census Officers who will be able to provide assistance if needed.

*Accessibility options

For some disabled and elderly people for example, and those without digital access, these households can request a paper questionnaire using a freephone number on the letter. However, there are other options to help people to take part. These include accessible large print questionnaires, language support, a contact help centre by phone, webchat, webform, email and SMS, and field staff contacting households that have not yet filled in their form.

For more information, visit census.gov.uk.