Sharing Government Administrative Data: new research opportunities

Paul Boyle, Chief Executive
Today’s aims

▶ To review progress against the five recommendations of the Administrative Data Taskforce
▶ To identify the challenges still remaining
▶ To consider how to work together to overcome these challenges
▶ Our mission: to unlock the research potential of government administrative data, for the benefit of society and the economy
Today’s agenda

- Recap of the ADT and its scope and recommendations
- Session 1 – the ADRN infrastructure
- Session 2 – the legal landscape
- Session 3 – the stakeholders
- Session 4 – what next? (agreeing actions to enable sharing of government administrative data for the purpose of research)
So, why do we need the ADRN?

Routinely collected administrative data are a rich and largely untapped source of information for research and policy evaluation in the UK, the value of which continues to appreciate over time. Such data are often high quality, nationally comprehensive, provide information for long periods of people’s lives, and are relatively inexpensive to exploit, compared to the costs of establishing specially commissioned surveys.

Boyle, ADT Report Foreward
So, why do we need the ADRN?

There are examples in the UK of administrative data being linked between government departments and used productively in research projects. However, the number of examples is too few, the time taken to get agreement to use such data is too long, inconsistent decisions are being taken within government departments concerning rules of access and, most frustratingly, the legislative framework provided to allow for linkages to be made across departments is cumbersome and inefficient.

Boyle, ADT Report Foreward
Our vision

- More consistent management of, and access to, routinely collected government administrative data
- A robust and trusted system of safeguards to protect individual privacy
- Stronger academic and government researchers partnerships
- Improved public understanding of the value of such research
- Methodological innovations to generate more value
- Training to provide the next generation of researchers
- Better research and policy making
- Better Knowledge, Better Society