Summary of changes: FRS 2016/17

This document summarises the changes that were made to the Family Resources Survey (FRS) Questionnaire following the Summer 2015 consultation. Please note that this document does not include details of processing changes/improvements.

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Implications of EU-SILC

From April 2012 the FRS has been used to capture the cross-sectional data requirements for the EU Survey of Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC). Completed FRS interviews form the sample frame for a follow-up survey, which ONS will use to meet the longitudinal EU-SILC requirements.

More information about EU-SILC can be found: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/main

As a result of changes in EU-SILC requirements, including the change of the trailer module, the following changes have been made to the questionnaire:

New questions

- Cost of childcare:
 - Where childcare has no cost, does someone else in the household pay for childcare (CostOTH)
 - Does the household cover the full cost (EUCCProp)
 - If the cost is subsidised, who by (EUCCCont1)
 - Ease of meeting the cost of childcare (EUCCDiff)
 - Needed childcare in the last week but unable to make arrangements (EUCCMore)
 - Main reason for not arranging childcare (EUCCMreWhy)
- Help given and received (care)
 - Household cost of professional care (EUCareCost)
 - o Ease of meeting cost of professional care (EUCareDiff)
 - Sufficient professional care received (EUMoreHC)
 - Need professional care (EUNeedCare)

- Need care (professional or otherwise) (EUNeedHlp)
- If needs care but does not receive it, must it be by professional health/care workers (EUProfCare)
- Main reason for not receiving (enough) professional home care services (EUCareWhy)
- Health and ability to work
 - Benefit unit use of healthcare services in the last 12 months (EUHCare)
 - Contribute towards the cost of healthcare services (excluding contributions made through tax) (EUHCCost)
 - Ease of meeting cost of healthcare services (EUHCDiff)
- Was dental treatment received if needed, adults and children over 15 (EUDenRecY and EUCDenRecY)
- Was medical treatment received if needed, adults and children over 15 (EUMedRecY and EUCMedRecY)
- Tuition:
 - Contribute towards the cost of tuition fees for any formal education (EUTFPay)
 - Meet the full cost (EUTFProp)
 - If the cost is subsidised, who is the main contributor (EUTFCont1)
 - Ease of meeting cost of tuition fees (EUTFDiff)
 - Like to participate in any formal education over the last 12 months (EUEdLike)
 - Main reason for not participating (EUEdWhy)
 - Participation in any training courses, seminars etc. primarily related to leisure, sports or hobbies over the last 12 months (EULeisTrain)
 - Participation in any vocational education or training courses, seminars etc. related to their professional activity over the last 12 months (EUWorkTrain)
 - Main reason for not participating in professional activity (EUWkTrnWhy)

Amended questions

- Dental care question wording changed, adults and children over 15 (EUDenRec and EUCDenRec)
- Medical care question wording changed, adults and children over 15 (EUMedRec and EUCMedRec)
- Internet access is now specifically from home (EUIneternet)

Removed questions

- Social and Cultural Paticipation module:
 - Attendance at:
 - Cinema (EUCinema)
 - Live sporting events (EUSport)
 - Live performances (EULivePer)
 - Cultural sites (EUCulture)
 - Artistic activities (EUArtAct)
 - Meet with family (EUMeetFam)
 - Meet with friends (EUMeetFri)
 - Contact family (EUTalkFam)
 - Contact friends (EUTalkFrd)
 - Interacting on social networking sites (EUSocNet)
 - Ability to ask for help (EUAskHelp)
 - Personal conversations (EUTalkMat)
 - Formal voluntary work (EUVolunteer)
 - Informal voluntary work (EUInformVol)
 - Participation in the community (EUActive) and reasons if not (EUActiveNo)

Non-EU-SILC related changes

New Questions

- Number of GCSEs a dependent child is studying for (GCSENow)
- Intergenerational worklessness (Northern Ireland only):
 - Employment status of father when respondent was 14 (FthWrk)
 - Has father ever been in paid employment (FthEvWrk)
 - Employment status of mother when respondent was 14 (MthWrk)
 - Has mother ever been in paid employment (MthEvWrk)
- Employment and Support Allowance group following assessment phase (ESAGroup)

Deleted Questions

- Questions on pension rebates have been removed as it is no longer possible to do this:
 - Personal pension rebate (PPReb)
 - o Personal pension rebate by Government (PPRebGov)
 - Stakeholder pension rebate (SPReb)
 - Stakeholder pension rebate by Government (SPRebGov)
- Time in receipt of Pension Credit (ISWks and ISWks2)

Amended Questions

- Free early years childcare question amended to improve questionnaire flow (FreeCC)
- In work credit and return to work credit have been removed from the options at Other Benefit (OtherBen)
- Outstanding student loan question now includes those where the respondent has not started repaying (SLOs)

Documentation Changes

No changes planned at present.

Other Changes

No changes planned at present.

Reviewed February 2017