Background

ASBS and subsequently SBS run by SBS, DTI, BERR and subsequently BIS since 2003.

Cross sectional surveys of between 5k and 10k SMEs (0 to 249 employees).

Designed to provide data on SME performance and the factors that affect this.

SBS reports

Separate **reports** for businesses with and without employees are here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/small-business-survey-reports

SBS datasets can be accessed through UK data archive

http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/

Longitudinal Small Business Survey

Decision taken in 2015 to establish a longitudinal SBS.

Resurvey same businesses each year for five years.

Longitudinal Small Business Survey

Year 1 sample of 15,500 SMEs.

Sampled from IDBR (registered business/employers) and D&B (businesses with no employees). Sample stratified by sector, country and size of business.

•	Unregistered non-employers	15%
•	Registered non-employers	15%
•	Micro (1-9)	25%
•	Small (10-49)	25%
•	Medium (50-249)	20%

Telephone survey (average length 25 minutes).

Resurvey same businesses each year for five years.

(Sample topped up with new businesses each year to maintain representativeness).

Longitudinal Small Business Survey

- LSBS will have real *explanatory power*. For example, it will provide reliable evidence of how business activities such as innovation, use of business support and investment in skills development shape future performance.
- The sample for the first sweep of the survey is quite large >15.5k
 SMEs). This means that the survey provide *reliable data on key* subgroups of businesses, such as MEG-led businesses and exporting businesses, which we could not do using the smaller sample used in previous SBS surveys.

Survey content

SECTION A: ABOUT THE BUSINESS

SECTION B: EMPLOYMENT

SECTION C: EXPORTS

SECTION F: BUSINESS CAPABILITIES

SECTION G: OBSTACLES

SECTION H: FINANCE

SECTION I: PENSIONS

SECTION J: INNOVATION

SECTION K: BUSINESS SUPPORT

SECTION N: TRAINING

SECTION O: TECHNOLOGY

SECTION P: TURNOVER

SECTION R: FUTURE INTENTIONS

Timing

- The fieldwork for LSBS 2015 started in July and will be completed by November 2015.
- We plan to publish the year 1 reports by March/April 2016.
- Datasets will be available as soon as the research reports are published.
- Fieldwork for Year 2 will start in July 2016.

Maximising the usefulness of the data

BIS will analyse the data – but we have limited resource.

Potential to undertake considerably more analysis that we will be able to undertake in house.

Keen to make the data available to academic researchers.

Data set will be available through the Data Archive in the New Year.

Alternatively BIS would be happy to consider working with the academic community on projects of interest to them.

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