



Address List Development Update

AG (06) 03

Introduction

1. This paper outlines the approach that ONS is taking to the selection and development of address sources for the 2011 Census. The paper is provided for information, to give advisory groups an update on the current position.

Action for Advisory Groups

2. **The paper is for information only, but questions and comments will be welcome at the meeting.**

Background

3. A comprehensive address register is fundamental to the success of the 2011 Census. Current initiatives to create a National Spatial Addressing Infrastructure appear to have stalled. Planning for the next Census is therefore based around the assumption that no single national source for addresses will be available. ONS is currently assessing Ordnance Survey's MasterMap Address Layer 2 and the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) as potential sources to support the 2011 Census.
4. The assessment of national spatial address products against their ability to support the Census is a long-term exercise. ONS plans to make a final decision about which address sources to use in May 2008. This will allow Census planners to go into a 2009 Dress Rehearsal with settled systems that they can take forward to 2011. In the interim one product will be used operationally to support the 2007 Test. The choice of this product will be made in May 2006 but will not necessarily be significant to the longer-term decision. The two major products mentioned above will both be used to support activities in the field designed to improve address information.

Current activity

5. ONS is currently engaged in four major streams of activity associated with addressing:
 - ONS Geography has begun to assess national spatial address products against the Census requirement matrix in Annex A.
 - ONS Census has agreed a process through which Local Authorities will be actively engaged in the quality assurance of addresses for the 2007 Test with a view to building on this for 2011.

- ONS Census is investigating the use of other sources of information to accurately categorise addresses in order to distinguish residential properties and identify communal establishments.
- ONS Census is carrying out a series of small scale tests to determine the most effective way of using field staff to increase the quality of address information

Assessment of products

6. Phase 1 of ONS Geography's assessment of address products began in **November 2005** with a comparison of an alpha release of Ordnance Survey's MasterMap Address Layer 2 for Manchester and National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) data for the same area. The initial investigation has now ended and the results have been shared with the data providers.
7. Phase 2 of the assessment will focus on the 5 Test Local Authorities and will again assess OS and NLPG data. Information gathered from the field during the Test will feed into the assessment. Results of this research will be shared with data providers and Local Authorities. **By the end of 2007** ONS will have a good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the address products in the test areas.
8. Phase 3 of the assessment will be driven by what ONS Census has found out in the Test and from discussions with Local Authorities. It is also likely that further enhancements to data sources will have been made. ONS may need to assess the affect of changes to the BS7666 address standard. Both address products may be enhanced by improved linking to other sources such as Valuation Office Agency Data. Detailed planning of phase 3 of the assessment will begin in **June 2007**.

Local Authority Liaison

9. ONS is committed to engaging Local Authorities in quality assurance of addresses and has outlined a realistic approach to:
 - identifying and isolating inconsistencies in address sources;
 - reconciling differences; and
 - ensuring that addresses remain consistent during the operation.
10. The following procedures will be assessed during the 2007 Test:
 - ONS will create counts of residential addresses from both the NLPG and the OS Address product by area in the five Test areas;
 - significant difference between the counts will be isolated to a lower level:
 - Postcode; (and possibly)
 - Building;
 - Local Authorities and ONS will jointly investigate discrepancies and agree on areas affected, but not matching at address level;

- Information will be passed on to Census field staff;
- ONS will target more intensive address checking procedures;
- Share results of address checking in order to identify areas for further checks closer to Census

Following the Test ONS and Local Authorities will jointly review these procedures and agree proposals for 2011.

Categorisation of addresses

11. As part of the Local Authority Liaison Action Plan, ONS will share its categorisation of addresses with Local Authorities. A significant part of this work will involve the identification of communal establishments. Identification of communal establishments is important for two main reasons:
 - the categorisation will determine the way in which an address is enumerated; and
 - categorisation of addresses as communal establishments has an impact on the number of addresses enumerated in an area.
12. To expand on the second point ONS needs to think about properties such as University Halls of Residence. In one address source these may be disaggregated to separate individual addresses while in another they may appear as a single aggregated address. ONS Census and Local Authorities need to agree how such properties should be counted.
13. The current plan is that ONS will send the information on communal establishments at the beginning of May 2006. Local Authorities will be asked to assess the information, suggest improvements, provide additional data and agree the final breakdown of establishments before the 2007 Test.

Field procedures

14. Fieldwork remains a significant factor in improving the address framework underpinning the Census. Current thinking on an address checking methodology is outlined in paper AG (06) 01 and needs to be seen as part of the overall commitment to address improvements.

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April 2006

Census Requirements for an address register

REQUIREMENT	WEIGHT	ASSESSMENT				STANDARD
		NLPG		OSAI		
	B (%)	A Score (1-100)	Weighted Score A*B/10	A Score (1-100)	Weighted Score A*B/10	
1. COMPLETENESS						
1.1 Territorial Extent						
Suitable for use in Census as a framework for delivery, collection and coding of Census questionnaires in England and Wales	2					Territorial extent of UK. <i>.(NB although delivery and collection will be limited to England and Wales the coding of address responses will require access to UK addresses)</i>
1.2 Coverage						
All residential units and their postal address. All static non-permanent structures - caravans - houseboats - temporary buildings Locations for mobile non-permanent structures together with size - campsites - boat moorings - caravan sites - travellers sites - work camps - persons sleeping rough	38					- high level of coverage (99.9%) of residential addresses - consistent coverage across all areas - no duplication - no spurious entries
1.3 Building identification						
Association of addresses with buildings.	5					The ability to determine the building in which an address sits. This information is important in being able to isolate disparities in address information between address products and may also be useful in supporting enumeration procedures.
1.4 Area variation						
The ability to determine the degree of confidence in address coverage by area.	5					An indicator of whether an address has been checked for multiple occupation and how the check was carried out
2. RELEVANCE						
2.1 Address type						
Address type identified	10					99.9% accurate identification of following address types : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • residential • business • mixed

2.2 Occupancy type						
Occupancy type identified	8					99.9% accurate identification of following address types : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • private • communal
2.3 Occupancy status						
Occupancy status identified	1					90% accurate of identification of following occupancy status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vacant • occupied
2.4 Property status						
Property status identified	1					90% accurate of identification of following property status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • planned • existing • demolished • derelict
2.5 Access to address or site						
Indicator of site and property access restriction	2					90% accurate identification of sites with controlled access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gated communities • military bases • other restricted access sites • buildings with controlled access
3. POSITIONAL ACCURACY						
3.1 Positional accuracy						
A high resolution grid reference including accurate grid reference for all business addresses.	2					99.9% of all surveyed residential addresses located within the correct building footprint 90% of business addresses located with the correct building footprint An indicator of how the grid reference has been assigned having the following categories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unsurveyed new address • approximate reference applied • accurate reference assigned during survey <i>NB many business addresses are associated currently with a main sorting office through PO boxes and non-geographic postcodes</i>
4. TIMELINESS						
4.1 Currency of address						
On the ground changes updated rapidly	4					Changes to an address recorded in the data source within 1 month of change on the ground
4.2 Currency with Census						
Releases timed to support Census timetable	2					2007 Test Areas available for use by June 2006 2009 Test Areas available for use by June 2008 Fully developed England and Wales version by June 2010
4.3 Availability						
Frequency of production	3					Updates available on customer-driven spot dates, such as Census day Facility for electronic access

5. COMPARABILITY					
5.1 Data linkage					
Addresses can be linked to other sources to facilitate data linkage.	4				Assigned Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN) Assigned Ordnance Survey Address-Point reference (OSAPR) Assigned PAF address key
5.2 Historic data					
Ability to code historic addresses.	1				Data source contains historic addresses. <i>(NB this requirement is associated with the need to code data associated with workplace and previous addresses that are no longer current)</i>
5.3 Address format					
Addresses compliant with national standards	1				Addresses compliant with BS 7666 standard Compliant with government interoperability standards (e-GIF)
5.4 Business Addresses					
Consistent business names	1				Addresses matched to IDBR
5.5 Names and codes					
Names and codes to an acceptable standard	1				Names and codes to follow National Statistics standard names and codes
6. ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY					
6.1 Management & ownership					
Effectively managed	2				Maintained through a regular streamlined process Clear ownership and accountability Held centrally Address introduction and termination dates recorded
6.2 Quality assurance					
Effectively quality assured	3				Subject to constant quality assurance including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment against local government sources • Assessment against central government sources • Regular on the ground assessment Of a high reputation among key users <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities • Other local bodies • Government • Academics
6.3 Welsh language					
Welsh addresses available in the welsh language	1				Welsh language version of addresses located in Wales.