



## Advisory Group Paper AG (02)14

### REVISED 2001 CENSUS OUTPUT SCHEDULE

*This note revises the output schedule first published in early March 2002 in the 2001 Census Output Prospectus for England and Wales.*

*The first results from the 2001 Census were published throughout the UK on 30 September 2002, and the next results for England and Wales - Key Statistics for Local Authorities - will be released on 13 February 2002. The rest of the main results are then scheduled to follow over a period of 32 weeks. This note gives the planned timings and a broad indication of the scope of output for each type of area, subject to final confirmation.*

**Advisory Group members are asked to note the proposed revised timetable and the intention to produce exact-fit statistics for a single hierarchical geography.**

#### Background

- 1 The 2001 Census Output Prospectus for England and Wales, when first issued in March 2002, scheduled the main output to be delivered in the period from the release of the Key Statistics for Local Authorities in December 2002 to the completion of Reports to Parliament and complete availability of Standard Area Statistics in June/July 2003, with workplace and migration statistics becoming available somewhat later.
- 2 It was announced on 31 July 2002 that the Key Statistics for Local Authorities would be released on 13 February 2003, and the timetable for release of subsequent output, including the release of the Standard Tables and the Census Area Statistics, would be reviewed. Further factors relating to harmonisation of boundaries and to output for overlapping geographies are also affecting the timings. There are still uncertainties but we are now issuing a new schedule, revised on the basis of current best estimates, to help users prepare for receipt of the output.
- 3 Any subsequent changes will be issued through *Census News*, and the 2001 Census Output Prospectus will be amended accordingly.

## **Revised output schedule**

- 4 This paper up-dates the schedule issued previously in the 2001 Census Output Prospectus, and shows timings for the release of:
  - Reports to Parliament in printed form and on the ONS Online Website; and
  - the release of output not included in the Reports but to be available through the ONS Neighbourhood Statistics Website or in other electronic media.
- 5 It is now intended to release the latter, including Key Statistics for Output Areas (OAs), the Census Area Statistics (CAS) for OAs, and Standard Tables for wards, at a single time for each main geographical level, rather than in the 'tranches' previously planned, which would have split the content of each set into several batches. Availability on the Website and through other media will generally be synchronised.
- 6 The order of some of the outputs has been adjusted in order to bring forward some releases. For example, the Reports containing Standard Tables at Local Authority level have been brought forward in the schedule.
- 7 The revised schedule is shown at Annex A.

## **Boundaries**

- 8 Output Areas (OAs) will fit those ward and parish/community boundaries legally in force at the end of 2002; this would include ward boundaries to be operative in a number of Local Authorities in May 2003 and in some others in May 2004. This means that production of OAs will be completed in mid-January 2003. The adoption of boundaries current at the release date of the statistics was a widely stated requirement in consultation.

## **Overlapping geographies**

- 9 The adoption of small cell adjustment for disclosure control impacts on the disclosure risks arising from the differencing of standard sets of statistics for overlapping areas, as explained in the consultation. Consequently, exact statistics will be produced for only a single geography - OAs, Civil Parishes/Communities, Wards and areas built exactly from them as at 31 December 2002. Other geographies will be built from a 'best fit' of these component building bricks.

## **The scope of output**

- 10 A major part of output is therefore dependent on the availability of OAs, and this is reflected in the rescheduling.
- 11 Output for geographies built from best fitting OAs would in general be limited to the CAS released at OA level. This is to avoid any risk of disclosure by the differencing of more detailed statistics for 'non standard' areas. Further consideration is being given to the risks in releasing the fuller Standard Tables that are likely to be needed for certain areas, often with large populations, such as Health Authorities (which may not always build from wards), Parliamentary Constituencies, National Parks, and large aggregates of OAs such as 'rural' England.
- 12 The final scope of output for each type of area will be confirmed through *Census News and* through the 2001 Census Output Prospectus.

## **Action**

- 13 **Advisory Group members are asked to note the proposed revised timetable and the intention to produce exact-fit statistics for a single hierarchical geography.**

**Revised schedule for release of 2001 Census results**

<b>Output</b>	<b>Date</b>
Key Statistics Report for Local Authorities (Part 1) (local authority level)	Feb 13th 2003
Report for England (Standard Tables for local authorities and above)	March/April 2003
Report for Wales (Standard Tables for unitary authorities) (bilingual)	March/April 2003
Key Statistics Report for Local Authorities (Part 2) (ward level)	April 2003
Key Statistics for Output Areas	April 2003
Standard Tables for wards	April/May 2003
CAS for OAs (including Civil Parishes in England and Communities in Wales)	May 2003
Key Statistics Report for Health Authorities in England	May/June 2003
Standard Tables and CAS for Health Authorities	May/June 2003
UK Parliamentary Constituency Report (containing Profiles, Key Statistics and CAS)	June 2003
Postcode Sector Report (containing Profiles, Key Statistics and CAS)	July 2003
Key Statistics Report for Urban and Rural Areas (including larger urban areas and urban/non-urban splits for Counties and Unitary Authorities)	August 2003
Key Statistics Reports for Urban Areas: four 'regional' reports (all urban areas)	September 2003