

Census Information Scheme

Annual Report 2012-13

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Foreword



The Census Information Scheme (CIS) for the 2011 Census came into effect on 1st October 2011. The dual intention of this arrangement is to deliver the highest quality, specialised census output for the capital at the same time as ensuring optimum efficiencies and value for money for participating organisations. Beyond this the Census Information Scheme is an opportunity for London boroughs, the Greater London Authority, and its functional bodies to work together to share ideas, information and best practice to the benefit of all consortium members.

The second year of the CIS has seen the release of a significant proportion of the expected output from the 2011 Census. The resulting CIS reports, snapshots, analytical tools and data visualisations are the first products in a what will become a wide-ranging and ambitious resource for London's policy makers and service providers alike. With still more releases ahead we can look forward to more detailed, interesting and informative datasets that will help us to better understand and provide for the population of London.

This last year also saw progress in the Office for National Statistics' Beyond 2011 programme – the project to determine how best to collect population data in the future. The CIS has been working closely with ONS, and with local authority partners, to ensure that London's unique data needs are catered for in 2021 and beyond. I've no doubt that this debate will form a large part of the census agenda over the coming year and I would encourage member organisations to ensure their voice is part of the discussion by getting in touch with the CIS team.

We are looking forward to continuing this successful collaboration with all members as we collectively make the most of the rich and detailed information about London's population available from the census.

Andrew Collinge

Assistant Director of Intelligence & Analysis
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Introduction

The Census Information Scheme (CIS) is a consortium of 33 London local authorities, the GLA and its functional bodies. It provides London-specific expert analysis of census data and represents the interests of members in discussions with the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The CIS also acts as a forum where members can discuss census issues and share best practice.

All boroughs were invited to sign up to the Census Information Scheme in January 2011. The GLA Act 1999, section 397, states that once a two-thirds majority of local authorities sign up for the CIS, it becomes mandatory for the remaining ones to join the Scheme. The Authority received 22 signed contracts from local authorities and the Scheme commenced on 1 October 2011. It will run until 2021, at a total cost of £20,000 to each local authority.

The CIS Team

The CIS is managed by a dedicated team within the GLA's Intelligence Unit comprising:

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Membership

The aim of the Census Information Scheme is to provide expert analysis, share resources, create efficiencies and work towards a common vision that policy and decision making in the region is based on sound evidence. The members of the CIS consortium are:

London local authorities:

City of London
 London Borough of Barking & Dagenham
 London Borough of Barnet
 London Borough of Bexley
 London Borough of Brent
 London Borough of Bromley
 London Borough of Camden
 London Borough of Croydon
 London Borough of Ealing
 London Borough of Enfield
 Royal Borough of Greenwich
 London Borough of Hackney
 London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
 London Borough of Haringey
 London Borough of Harrow
 London Borough of Havering
 London Borough of Hillingdon
 London Borough of Hounslow
 London Borough of Islington
 Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea
 Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames
 London Borough of Lambeth
 London Borough of Lewisham
 London Borough of Merton
 London Borough of Newham
 London Borough of Redbridge
 London Borough of Richmond upon Thames

London Borough of Southwark
 London Borough of Sutton
 London Borough of Tower Hamlets
 London Borough of Waltham Forest
 London Borough of Wandsworth
 City of Westminster

GLA Family:

Greater London Authority
 Transport for London
 Metropolitan Police Authority
 London Fire & Emergency Planning Authority (LFEPA)

Greater London Authority Act (1999)

Section 397: Information schemes

(1) The Mayor may make schemes for the collection of information relating to any matters concerning Greater London or any part of it.

(2) The schemes that may be made under this section include schemes under which each London local authority must provide to the Mayor, in accordance with the scheme, information—

(a) required by the Mayor to be provided; and

(b) falling within such description of information as is specified in the scheme.

(3) A scheme under this section may be made only after consultation with each London local authority.

(4) A scheme under this section shall have effect so as to be binding on all the London local authorities only if at least two-thirds of those authorities give their agreement to the scheme.

(5) A scheme under this section shall state whether or not it is to remain in effect indefinitely and, if it is not to remain in effect indefinitely, shall state the period for which it is to remain in effect.

(6) A scheme under this section may include provision relating to—

(a) the method by which information to be collected or provided under the scheme is to be analysed;

(b) the form in which such information is to be collected or provided;

(c) the ownership of information collected or provided under the scheme;

(d) the method by which information is to be transferred or stored under the scheme;

(e) the persons to whom information collected or provided under the scheme may, or must not, be disclosed;

(f) bearing the costs of the scheme.

(7) The provision which may be made by virtue of subsection (6)(f) above includes in particular provision—

(a) for the costs of collecting or providing information of a description specified in the scheme to be borne by the Mayor or a London local authority or by both the Mayor and a London local authority in such proportions as may be specified by or under the scheme;

(b) for the recovery of costs related to the scheme by the Mayor from a London local authority, by a London local authority from the Mayor or by a London local authority from another such authority.

(8) A scheme under this section may contain such supplementary provision as the Mayor considers necessary or expedient.

(9) The powers of the Mayor under this section are without prejudice to any other power of the Mayor under or by virtue of this Act to require any London local authority to provide information.

(10) For the purposes of this section “London local authority” means a London borough council or the Common Council.

CIS Schedule

The CIS schedule, which accompanies the signed contract, lays out what member organisations can expect from the CIS.

The Services to be provided by the CIS are:

- Support and advice – telephone support provided as well as by other means
- Training in software and other census issues – initially three person days training per borough per year
- Representation in negotiations and discussions with ONS on London's data needs
- Census Users Group meetings - quarterly
- Census Information Notes - quarterly
- GLA Census Website/Knowledge Hub forum or equivalent. Website to contain a wide range of content and functionality including census FAQs; latest news; forum; analysis; CINs; presentations/slides; contacts; data; publications etc.
- Seminars on specific topics – two a year
- Analysis – analytical reports similar to those produced from the 2001 Census. The content or topics to be discussed with boroughs and agreed at Census Users' Group meetings. A list of 2011 Census reports published to date is attached.

Within this framework of broad objectives the CIS endeavours to provide a responsive and tailored service based on the rapidly changing needs amongst member organisations. The Scheme will therefore comprise:

Analysis

- Prioritise those areas of analysis that members have previously identified as being of greatest interest: ethnicity, religion, housing, disability, population, commuting, languages spoken and profiles of new migrants
- Continue to provide a specially commissioned tables service and consult boroughs on requirements
- Develop data dashboards and data visualisations tools
- Provide information on the comparability of 2011 to 2001 census outputs
- Produce analytical publications to incorporate impacts of policy changes where possible

Training

- Future training should look at alternative delivery mechanisms such as online video training sessions, webinars
- Training that included a focus on analytical skills as well as making best possible and creative use of data
- Introductory, technical and definitional training would assist many who are new to the area of Census

Communications

- Improve communication channels to ensure boroughs are kept informed of Census developments
- Provide discussion groups on specific topics
- Produce a CIS annual report
- Develop further networking opportunities for members
- Encourage members presentations at CUG meetings highlighting local issues or analysis
- Submit responses to ONS consultations where appropriate
- Work with ONS on the Beyond 2011 project to ensure that London's unique data needs inform the future for population statistics

Events

Census User Group (CUG)

The Census User Group meets up to four times a year. These meetings are an opportunity for the CIS to present their recent work to members and to update members on news and issues relating to the Census. The meetings are also an opportunity for members to raise any queries or concerns they have and to take part in discussions with colleagues in other authorities on Census issues. The CIS held four Census User Group meetings in its second year:

- 4 October 2012
- 20 February 2013
- 6 June 2013
- 3 September 2013

Meetings are well attended and all members are encouraged to send a representative. The papers, presentations and reports from the CUG meetings are all available on the Knowledge Hub for users to access. The community is private but open to any officers employed by member organisations. The website is <https://knowledgehub.local.gov.uk>.

ONS Events at City Hall

Census quality assurance in London: 19 November 2012

The CIS arranged for the ONS census team to present their methodology for producing census estimates to members. The event was well attended and ONS provided London-specific examples of the estimation and quality assurance process.

Beyond 2011 consultation event: 15 January 2013

The CIS provided ONS with an opportunity to present the initial findings of their Beyond 2011 programme and to engage with local authorities in London. The presentation outlined five potential options for population data collection in 2021 and beyond and CIS members were able to put their comments and questions to the ONS team.

Beyond 2011 workshop: 17 April 2013

This workshop was designed to help ONS develop their business case for small area population data. In conjunction with GLA Economics and the ONS local authority liaison the CIS hosted an event in London's Living Room in City Hall. The result was a series of quantified case study examples that ONS will include in their business case for future data collection and publication.

CIS work within the GLA

As well as working closely with London boroughs the CIS team also work with policy teams inside the GLA providing census data and support services. The following three case studies, all from the last year, indicate the role the CIS plays internally within the GLA.

The Mayor and the London Assembly

The CIS often provides data to Members of the London Assembly and assists in answering questions raised at Mayor's Question Time.

In July members of the team produced a briefing paper for Assembly Member Murad Qureshi outlining the characteristics of various religious, ethnic and migrant groups. While earlier in the year Deputy Mayor Victoria Borwick was briefed on the changes in London's population outlined by the census.

European Integration Fund bid

The CIS has been supporting the GLA's Diversity & Social Policy team in their efforts to secure funding for a project to assist primary school pupils in London from third-country national households (non-UK and non-EU households). Initially this involved advising project leads on the availability and scope of census data as well as suggesting and validating other sources of information on migrant families.

As the project progressed it became clear that the required data was not available from any standard source. However the CIS commissioned a bespoke 2011 Census table intended to identify children in households where both parents are third country nationals. The table is currently being prepared by ONS and delivery is expected in late 2013. The data will be used to target initiatives in those areas with the highest concentrations of third-country national households.

London Local Enterprise Partnership

The CIS assisted GLA Economics in developing a submission to the Local Enterprise Partnership Assisted Areas Consultation. The consultation, on criteria for EU regional funding, invited LEPs to comment on the proposed criteria for awarding Assisted Area status and then to submit areas which were considered suitable AA candidates.

Six criteria were used to judge the eligibility of an area: employment level; skills level of population; population growth; size of manufacturing sector; unemployment level; claimant count. The CIS used 2011 Census data in conjunction with DWP data to identify London wards where the national average was exceeded by 15 per cent or more for each of the criteria.

Based on this intelligence the LEP was able to identify a group of wards suitable for Assisted Area status and so made an application to the European Commission for regional funding for 2014-20.

Training & Education

The CIS also provides members with training opportunities to enable them to make the best use of census data. In the past year training days and census presentations have been given in a number of London boroughs as well as to policy teams and networks within the Greater London Authority. Among the events in over the past year were:

- Intro to Census for School Rolls service users – October & November 2012
- London's demography for London Councils – November 2012
- Intro to Census for Royal Borough of Greenwich – December 2012
- Intro to Census for London Borough of Barking & Dagenham – December 2012
- Migration & English language learning for the London Funders network – March 2013
- Migration data for the Local Strategic Migration Partnership (GLA) – March 2013
- Internal GLA presentation: Understanding Society & 2011 Census findings – May 2013
- Census findings for Harrow & Barnet PCT – July 2013
- Population & meeting future challenges presentation for London Borough of Bexley – September 2013

Beyond 2011

Things have really geared up in respect of the Beyond 2011 programme this year. ONS have been working hard on developing and testing alternatives to a census to deliver what users need in future, and have been engaging with stakeholders as part of that work. GLA officers attended a seminar held at the RSS in November 2012 and were part of the panel of discussants at that event. We organised two London specific workshops aimed at identifying the uses and needs for census data across London. The first was in January and a follow-up was held in April. These two events, along with further work carried out by GLA officers and other CIS members have contributed to putting together an evidence base of how Census data have been used. This in turn will be used by ONS in making the case to the Treasury for future funding of census type information. GLA officers have also been engaging with census users outside London as part of this work. A statement of London data needs (above and beyond the data required generally by LAs to carry out their normal activities, such as planning, children's services, etc.) has also been prepared and made available through the ONS website for comment.

GLA officers have also been engaging with ONS behind the scenes on methodological issues to develop viable alternatives, providing support, advice and suggestions on their proposals at various meetings and events, including a research conference held in April. A consultation on ONS' proposals is taking place between September and December 2013, with consultation events taking place, attended by GLA officers as appropriate. GLA will be submitting a formal response to the consultation, and encourages all CIS members to respond also.

Data Releases

The second year of the London Census Information Scheme saw the release of a significant proportion of the ONS 2011 Census standard outputs. This included all of the univariate outputs (Key Statistics and Quick Statistics tables) as well as releases of multivariate tables (Detailed Characteristics and Local Characteristics). This year also saw the production of the first specially commissioned tables by the ONS and the CIS has been making good use of the service commissioning outputs based on member requests as well as internal GLA need. The releases of 2011 Census to-date are as follows:

Date	Release Number	Tables	Geography
16 July 2012	1.1	Population estimates (5-year age bands, sex, rounded) Household estimates Short-term migrant estimates	Local Authority
24 September	1.2	Population estimates (single year, sex, unrounded)	Local Authority
23 October	1.3	Second address information	Local Authority
30 October	-	Statistical geography boundaries and lookups	Output Area, LSOA, MSOA
23 November	-	Population estimates (5-year age bands, sex, unrounded)	Output Area, LSOA, MSOA, Ward
11 December	2.1	36 Key Stats 7 Quick Stats	Local Authority
30 January 2013	2.2	36 Key Stats 69 Quick Stats	Output Area, LSOA, MSOA, Ward
19 February	2.3	36 Key Stats 69 Quick Stats	All other geographies
26 March	2.4	4 'AP' tables 3 Quick Stats	Local Authority
16 May	3.1	42 Detailed Characteristics tables	Local Authority
28 June	3.2a	Detailed Characteristics on housing	Local Authority

12 July	3.2b	Detailed Characteristics from releases 3.1 and 3.2a	MSOA, Ward
30 August	3.3	Detailed Characteristics on demography & families and 3.2a	MSOA, Ward
30 August	4.2	Local Characteristics on health & unpaid care	Output Area, LSOA, MSOA, Wards
26 September	3.4	Detailed Characteristics communal establishments	MSOA, Ward
26 September	4.3	Local Characteristics on migration	Output Area, LSOA, MSOA, Wards

Commissioned tables

The CIS has been proactive in commissioning non-standard output from the 2011 Census. Requests for bespoke tables can result from a number of sources:

GLA demography team – GLA population projections require a number of non-standard census outputs and these were among the first tables commissioned

Providing greater detail for London – Some detailed tables which are deemed disclosive at small geographies can be produced for areas in London because of the greater size of diverse community groups.

Member requests – These can take the form of request from local authority members as well as internal GLA departments and often result from data requirements for specific projects.

To date the GLA has commissioned 15 tables of which eight have been delivered at a total cost of £1,400. A full list of tables commissioned by the CIS in 2012-13 is as follows:

Number	Description	Geography	Cost	Date Requested	Date Delivered
CT0045	Method of Travel to Work (alternative)	Wards in England and Wales	£100	13-Mar-13	14-Apr-13
CT0048	Country of Birth (most detailed)	London Boroughs	£100	02-Apr-13	20-May-13
CT0060	Passports held (detailed)	London LSOAs	£100	14-Jun-13	27-Jun-13
CT0061	National Identity	London LSOAs	£100	14-Jun-13	27-Jun-13
CT0088	Religion (190 split)	London LSOAs	£100	27-Aug-13	03-Sep-13
CT0045	Method of Travel to Work (alternative)	Wards in England and Wales	£100	13-Mar-13	14-Apr-13
CT0082	Household type by number of dependent children	London Boroughs	£500	02-Jul-13	09-Aug-13
CT0089	One person households - employed full-time / part-time	London Boroughs	£300	02-Jul-13	20-Aug-13

Tables requested by the GLA but not yet received

Table content	Geography	Date requested
Infants ethnicity by ethnicity of mother and father	Greater London	February 2013
Single years of age by sex by marital status by household/Communal establishment	London Boroughs	February 2013
Single years of age by sex by ethnic group	London Boroughs	February 2013
Economically active residents by age by sex by ethnic group	London Boroughs	February 2013
Residents in households aged 15 and over: age by sex by reduced marital status by ethnic group	London Boroughs	February 2013
Single years of age (18-34) students resident at term time address by sex by household/Communal establishment	London wards	February 2013
Single years of age (18-29) Full-time students by sex by household/Communal establishment	London wards	February 2013
Dependent children with both parents non-EU nationals	London Boroughs	June 2013

Work plan

The priorities of the Census Information Scheme team at the GLA is reviewed on an on-going basis to allow for changes to ONS release schedules and shifting member priorities. The broad analytical objectives, the framework within which work planning decisions are taken, are outlined in the CIS Schedule section of this report. Short and medium-term analytical priorities are subject to change, but as of September 2013 the following projects have been identified:

- Development of an Output Area Classification for London
- CIS briefings and updates:
 - Dependent children & families
 - Main language & English proficiency
 - Overcrowding
 - Household composition
 - Housing & the labour market
 - Housing characteristics
 - School children & students
 - Concealed families
 - Car & van availability
 - Tools and data visualisations to support and enhance the analytical priorities listed above

Datastore

The London Datastore is the primary means by which the CIS disseminates the reports, data and tools it produces. During 2013 the CIS pages on the Datastore were reviewed and redeveloped to provide a more user friendly interface.

Web Analytics for the Census Information Scheme

As part of a wider Intelligence Unit project, the CIS conducted an analysis of user activity on the Datastore using Google Analytics. The Analytics product allows users to see which pages are viewed most frequently and whether views are by new or returning visitors, it also provides information on downloaded data and time spent on the site, among other metrics.

Over the period May to July 2013, the most viewed page on the CIS website was the 'Themes' page, which had a total of 3,735 views, 2,006 of which were unique. Following this, the 'Data' (989 views, 792 unique) and 'Summary' (619 views, 385 unique) pages were the next most viewed parts of the website. In conjunction with other data such as average time spent on a page, bounce rates and exit rates, the CIS were able use this intelligence to evaluate which parts of the website were working well, and which parts could be restructured to better accommodate user needs.

As well as web page analytics, the CIS are able to understand which files (PDF, XLS and ZIP) are most downloaded by users. This allows for a more tailored service with the CIS concentrating on those products which are most popular and most useful for users. For the period May to July 2013, the most downloaded products were the Census dashboard, the visualisation data files and a mixture of the snapshot reports.

SASPAC

SASPAC is a software tool for storing, extracting and manipulating complex datasets. It is owned by the Local Government Association and managed by the Greater London Authority. Members of the Census Information Scheme consortium are provided with the software, an organisational licence, census datasets, helpdesk support and training (at City Hall or on location), as part of the consortium agreement.

In the past year 97 individuals from 29 London boroughs have taken a SASPAC training course. This includes two 'on location' training days in Wandsworth and Hillingdon and an advanced course held at City Hall in May. The training programme continues to be developed and the release of more complex datasets affords the opportunity for more advanced courses. Users with specific training needs are encouraged to contact the SASPAC Helpdesk to discuss bespoke courses.

For more information contact info@saspac.org or visit <http://www.saspac.org>.

Financials

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	Total	2013-14 (to Oct 13)
	£	£	£	£	£
Income	0.00	527,054.92	155,000.00	682,054.92	0.00
Expenditure	0.00	-2,487.87	-30,642.41	-40,185.20	-24,499.71
Transfer to Reserve	0.00	524,567.05	124,357.59	648,924.64	
CENSUS RESERVE				648,924.64	

If you require further details of the Census Information Scheme budget please contact the CIS at census@london.gov.uk.

List of 2011 Census CIS Reports

Briefings

- CIS2012-01 2011 Census first results: London boroughs' populations by age and sex
- CIS2012-02 2011 Census quality assurance: London boroughs' response rates
- CIS2012-03 2011 Census quality assurance: The estimation process
- CIS2013-04 Diversity in London
- CIS2013-05 NS-SEC in London
- CIS2013-06 Trends in Housing Tenure

Snapshots

- CIS2012-04 Ethnic Diversity Indices
- CIS2012-05 Country of birth
- CIS2012-06 Housing
- CIS2012-07 Labour Market
- CIS2012-08 Religion
- CIS2012-09 Health and unpaid care in London boroughs
- CIS2012-10 Household Language
- CIS2012-11 Passports held
- CIS2012-12 Households and Families
- CIS2012-13 Detailed Country of birth, Passports held and National Identity
- CIS2013-01 Main Language
- CIS2013-02 Ethnic Diversity Indices for wards
- CIS2013-03 Short-term residents

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