

**Data Management and Analysis Group**

# **Census Information Note CIN 2002-1**

**DMAG Briefing 2002/9**

**October 2002**

**Eileen Howes**

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## **Census statistics are here**

The first statistics from the 2001 Census were published on 30 September 2002 and the 2001 Census based mid-year estimates were published on 10 October 2002. The statistics published so far are simply population by sex and 5 year age bands for local authority districts.

The first population statistics have caused much discussion and some consternation. The publication of response rates as low as 64 per cent in Kensington and Chelsea was also a cause for concern, although it resulted in much more debate about imputation and the One Number Census than there would otherwise have been. Some boroughs are happy with their population figures, particularly those in the east of London. The most concern has been expressed in boroughs with large differences between the latest mid-year estimates (for mid 2000) and the 2001 Census figures. These are Westminster (-63,318), Kensington and Chelsea (-31,411), Barnet (-30,931) and Richmond (-22,799). At the other end of the scale the differences were positive in Tower Hamlets (+9,386), Brent (+8,522), Barking and Dagenham (+7,982), Southwark (+6,152) and Enfield (+4,075). Population growth between the 1991 and 2001 Censuses has been largest in the boroughs of Tower Hamlets, Newham, Camden, Brent, Southwark and Lambeth. Further details of the statistics are given in the DMAG Briefings listed below.

As a result of the 2001 Census figures ONS announced that they were reviewing all the mid-year estimates back to 1981. The main concern was that the adjustments made for undercounting in 1991 had been too high and that this had affected the estimates throughout the decade, hence the large differences between the latest estimates and the 2001 Census in some London boroughs.

The boroughs concerned have been discussing the figures with ONS and some are putting together any local evidence they can find to challenge the ONS figures. The ALG are co-ordinating the representations from boroughs. The GLA is not actively challenging the Census figures, as the GLA's own population estimates for the areas most affected were lower than the ONS mid-year estimates and were not inconsistent with the 2001 Census statistics. GLA staff are though, concerned that the figures are right and are looking at response rates, confidence intervals and anything else we can find that might be relevant and might help the deliberations. We are trying to get ONS to publish the QA information that they used in their checking, as they checked the Census figures before publication against all available sources of comparable statistics. This might reassure some boroughs and for others would at least give us a lead on what local sources might not have been looked at.

One view might be that ONS knew that the 2001 Census would be more difficult to take than any other and the new developments such as the One Number Census have made it a resounding success. On the other hand the very low response rates in Inner London could be regarded as a failure. The jury is still out on this.

To further this debate we have invited Professor Ian Diamond, who led the One Number Census project, to come to the next Census Users' Group Meeting on 5 December to talk about the One Number Census and how it worked in areas with such low response rates. We are hoping that he will be able to come but have not yet had confirmation of this.

### **The next statistics**

No further statistics will be published until 13 February, when the GLA will start receiving more detailed Census data (or the avalanche of data will start to arrive). This will be the first new data on a wide range of topics for small areas in London, and the whole country, for a decade. There are new topics – such as religion and general health – alongside topics that have been included since the first Census in 1801. We are eagerly awaiting the new population and workforce details. There is a range of subjects on which it is difficult, if not impossible, to get reliable and up-to-date statistics for small areas between Censuses. These include housing tenure, economic activity, employment, ethnicity among other things. There will be a vast amount of data that is produced in the same form for the whole country (the standard tables) and another vast amount of data that is unique to London (the commissioned tables). The Census Team in the GLA is working with the Functional Bodies and the London Boroughs to organise a consortium purchase of all the data we will need and to ensure that we are all in a position to access and analyse the data in the most efficient way.

### **DMAG Briefings**

The following briefings have been published recently:

DMAG 2002-5 2001 Census: First results and implications for the London Plan

DMAG 2002-6 2001 Census: First population statistics

DMAG 2002-7 2001 Mid Year Estimates

DMAG 2002-8 2001 Census: First population statistics – *London Plan Sub Regions*

DMAG 2002-9 Census Information Note 2002-1 (this CIN)

#### *Forthcoming*

A DMAG Briefing on 2001 Census response rates

### **Information Scheme**

The consortium purchase of 2001 Census data and the share of the costs to be paid by each member of the consortium have now been agreed by all parties. The agreement with the Boroughs is through an Information Scheme and with the Functional Bodies by exchange of letters with their Chief Executives.

The Information Scheme setting up the consortium purchase arrangement with the boroughs has now been signed by more than the two-thirds majority of boroughs required to make it binding on all boroughs and on the GLA. We are grateful for all the effort involved in getting the arrangement in place and hope that we will continue to work together to our mutual benefit. This means that the consortium purchase arrangement will go ahead and all boroughs will be invoiced for the first part of the payment shortly, if they have not already been invoiced.

We are now planning in great detail for all the data that we are going to receive, how to process it quickly and get it out to members of the consortium in the right format, what tables to commission and when, the plans for London-wide analysis of the data, plans for training in

the use of SASPAC and the Census, etc. We will be developing proposals on all these issues over the next few weeks and months and welcome any input from members of the consortium. All these issues will be discussed at the Census Users' Group meetings. There are also a number of issues that need to be discussed within the GLA, such as storage of the data, how it will be made available to all those who need access, and so on.

A number of developments are already in place, such as the first version of the GLA Census website. This is available on <http://extranet.london.gov.uk/census2001/>. It is accessible to all at the moment but will eventually be password protected. The site will be developed over the next few weeks and more data and information will be added. All are advised to check the website occasionally, if not regularly, as we hope to make a range of information available by this means. In particular the series of DMAG Briefings can be downloaded in pdf format from the Census website. We can also send a paper copy on request. It is also worth keeping a check on the the ONS Census website (<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/>) as there is much more information available on this site than there has been in the past.

We are looking at the latest version of SASPAC that handles the origin-destination datasets with some 1991 Census Special Workplace Statistics. It makes accessing this data relatively simple and is a great improvement on the previous software (which did not work for London data and shall remain nameless). SASPAC 6, the version that has the origin-destination facility, has now been released and is available to all members of the consortium. A three-year subscription to SASPAC has been included in the consortium purchase for all boroughs and Functional Bodies.

### **Standard tables - final table layouts**

The latest 'final' layouts for the standard tables are now available from the ONS Census website <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/>. These are the table layouts that we have been waiting for (for a long time) so that we can make some progress on the framework files that will be distributed with the SASPAC system files of 2001 Census data and so that we can give further consideration to commissioned tables.

### **SASPAC**

SASPAC version 6 was distributed in August and all members of the consortium purchase should now have their copies. If not please contact Hywel Davies. The CD that was sent out also contained files of the 1991 Special Workplace Statistics so that people could familiarise themselves with this dataset and be ready for the 2001 data when it is eventually issued.

The GLA is preparing to release the 2001 Census data-compatible version of SASPAC before the data is available so that users will be able to make use of the data as soon as it arrives. The exact timing is, at the moment uncertain, as we have only recently received from ONS confirmation of the exact content of the datasets. In addition the dates of delivery of the data are unclear, although ONS have now announced that the first detailed data at local authority level, previously scheduled for release in December, will now be released on 13 February 2003. Presumably, this means that the data previously scheduled for release from March through

June will be correspondingly delayed. We are currently estimating that the next release of SASPAC will be available in January 2003.

In order to ensure that the next release of SASPAC is fully 2001 data-compatible, the appropriate framework and search files have to be constructed. This work is now in hand. In addition, we are in continuing discussions with the Census Offices to ensure that the datasets which they release will be in a form that we (and other users of SASPAC) can convert into SASPAC System Files in as short a time as possible.

The intention is that the GLA will receive the CSV files from the Census Offices in a one table per file format, and these will be translated into multi table SASPAC System Files before being supplied to SASPAC users. As the data will be supplied in tranches by the Census Offices, the System Files will also be supplied to users in tranches. As more tranches are supplied, the System Files will be incrementally extended, so that at the end of the process the System Files will contain all the data for a particular dataset.

The Census Offices will also supply the boundaries of Output Areas in digital form compatible with both ESRI (ArcView/ArcInfo) and MapInfo. On behalf of SASPAC users who may wish to use these boundaries within Mapshore we will be converting these to Mapshore's proprietary format (BDY) and will supply these with the data.

### **Training**

The GLA now has its own dedicated training room which will be used for SASPAC and Census training. This will be run at least every three months. A series of training sessions has been organised for the three-week period of the 11th to the 29th November 2002 and there are still some places left. It is hoped to have the next series of training from the 20th January to the 7th February 2003 and the GLA will shortly be sending an e-mail to Census contacts. This is in preparation for the release of the 2001 Census Key Statistics at local authority level on the 13th February. It is expected that all London boroughs will want to send someone to be trained and for this reason the number of people from each authority will have to be limited to two and they will probably have to share a PC. However, if there are still places free on the 13th January they will be offered to boroughs wishing to have more than two people trained.

### **Laptops**

We have been getting quotes for laptops to be purchased under the Information Scheme agreement. This involves the GLA providing a PC, now a laptop as agreed at an earlier meeting of the Census Users' Group as the most appropriate thing to provide, for each member of the consortium purchase. That is, one for each borough and each functional body. The specification we are working with is - Pentium 4, 256mb of RAM, 40gb hard disk, CD/DVD drives, PS2 external mouse, 15 inch monitor capable of 1024x768 resolution, carry case for laptop and cables, 2 USB ports, 8mb graphics memory, Xp pro operating system, MS Office Standard (Word, Excel and PowerPoint), 3 year on-site warranty.

They will not include network software but will all have SASPAC installed plus whatever Census data is available at the time we distribute them, plus the items listed in the previous paragraph.

We take no responsibility for anything else that might be installed on them locally and we may not be able to replicate any problems you may have if other software is installed on them.

These were requested by the boroughs at an early stage of the discussions about the Information Scheme so that we could be confident that all boroughs would have a machine capable of running SASPAC and holding the large volume of Census data that we will be distributing. Each borough and functional body will have to decide for itself who should take custody of the machine and provide us with the name and address of the relevant person.

If anyone wants to discuss the details of these please contact Eileen Howes.

### **Rounding**

ONS have announced their decision to round small numbers. This will produce many headaches. Output areas will not add up to wards and values for the same characteristic may be different in different tables because they will be rounded differently. We will produce further guidance and advice on how to deal with this problem nearer the time when small area data will be published.

### **Census Analysis**

We have been thinking for some time now about Census analysis and the form and content of reports to be produced for the consortium. There will be a series of briefings on a range of topics - to meet the immediate demand for Census data and analysis that we expect to materialise as soon as we get the data. So we hope to plan a number of quick briefings in advance so that they can be made available quickly and complement these with a series of longer reports, which will take longer to produce. These will be produced alongside various analyses that the GLA may produce for its own purposes. We hope that the demands of the GLA and the consortium will be covered, in part, by the series we are planning. We also aim to provide relevant data to anyone else who wishes to do their own analysis.

Initial discussions have been held but any suggestions are very welcome. Please tell us what topics you are interested in. Favourite topics so far:

#### *Briefings*

Households

Children and young people

Older people in London

Migration (John Hollis)

Profiles of ethnic and religious groups in London - for example Muslims in London

Housing in London

Economic activity and unemployment

Employment in London

#### *Longer reports*

A Ward Atlas of London - similar to the one published by the London Research Centre based on the 1991 Census. (Bill Armstrong)

Ethnic minorities in London – following on from London’s ethnic minorities: one city, many communities and Without Prejudice?

London’s Workers – update of the report with the same title published by the LRC

These are just a few initial suggestions. If anyone has views on what we should produce please let us know. More detail will be included in the next Census Information Note along with initial thoughts on commissioned tables.

### **Paycheck data from CACI**

The GLA has set up a consortium purchase of 2002 Paycheck data on behalf of the GLA and London boroughs. This data provides estimates of households by gross income in 20 income bands for small areas – enumeration districts or postcodes. At the time of writing 18 boroughs have come in on the purchase at a cost of £600 each, a considerable saving on what boroughs would pay if they bought it individually. This could get still cheaper if more boroughs decide to participate. The data we have negotiated from CACI is income bands for households for enumerations districts and postcodes, plus the same distribution for Greater, Inner and Outer London and Great Britain for comparison. In addition, CACI have provided us with income bands for 100 or so enumeration districts which were outside London in 1991 but are now inside London, so that we can combine areas to get estimates for 2002 wards.

The data can also be used to look at change since 1999 if used alongside the 1999 Paycheck data which was bought for the boroughs by the LRC and distributed to each borough.

The data is a more detailed version of that published in the 2002 Wealth of the Nation Report from CACI. They have also provided details of other datasets they sell and which might be of interest – StreetValue and Retail Footprint were the ones that the boroughs appeared to be most interested in. The following are extracts from a CACI report outlining some of their datasets.

### ***StreetValue***

For the last 10 years CACI has managed the Mortgage Market Database on behalf of the majority of UK mortgage lenders. The quality and quantity of this data in partnership with CACI's Lifestyle datasets, has led to the creation of the UK's first postcode level house price analysis tool, StreetValue.

A StreetValue directory will contain the following information for each postcode:

- \* Average House price
- \* Tenure
- \* Predominant property type
- \* Number of properties within postcode
- \* % change in price in last year
- \* Comparison to postcode area index
- \* Comparison to GB index



Uniquely the Mortgage market database provides CACI with access to 97% of the mortgage transactions that take place in the UK. Other sources of data on the housing market lack sufficient data to build a robust model at such a detailed geographical level.

### ***Retail Footprint***

CACI have worked for many years with the major retailers, financial services companies and property developers in the development of comprehensive retail catchment definitions and impact analysis techniques. Recent discussions have highlighted that many of these datasets and tools can have real value for Local Authorities in replacing costly and inflexible shopper surveys and supporting Retail planning.

Each retail centre has a unique catchment defined by its retail mix, demographic make-up and supporting infrastructure. The inter relationship of these complex variables makes defining the retail catchment, measuring the performance and determining a development strategy of any retail centre difficult to achieve. In addition to this, each centres performance is closely linked to the potential competition offered by its neighbouring centres, who are also seeking to attract a greater share of the available shopper population.

Retail Footprint, CACI's comparison goods gravity model quantifies these complex relationships. It defines overlapping catchments for over 2600 retail centres across Great Britain. This model was first developed in 1995 and has been enhanced annually with up to date transaction and consumer behaviour data. CACI has recently redeveloped the model to include out of town retail centres and factory outlet centres.

The model reflects real shopper behaviour, where customers are drawn to one centre above another based upon the centres accessibility and attractiveness. A centre's attractiveness is defined by the size and quality of its retail mix (e.g. number of multiple retailers), accessibility by drive times obtained from the AA's link and node matrix. The model also reflects the fact that shoppers rarely shop in one location exclusively. A share of shopper flow from every postcode sector is allocated to competing centres.

For further details please contact Eileen Howes.

### **Census Users' Group**

The minutes of the last three meetings of the Census Users' Group are in Appendix 1.

The next meeting is being held at 2pm on Thursday 5 December in Committee Room 3 at City Hall. We have invited Professor Ian Diamond, currently of Southampton University, to attend this meeting and talk to us and answer questions about the One Number Census process and how it worked with response rates as low as they were in some parts of London.

### **E-mail addresses of main Census Contacts**

Appendix 2 gives the name and e-mail address of the main Census Contact in each borough

and Functional Body. Please check that we have the right person listed and that the e-mail address is correct. We also have a wider circulation list in addition to the main contacts so if anyone else would like to be added to that then please let us know. This will ensure that you know about important meetings and events that we might announce via e-mail.

## Minutes of the Census Users' Group meeting held on 4 October 2002

### Item 1 Presentation from CACI on Paycheck and other data

Paul Turner from the company CACI gave a presentation on the datasets they produce which are most relevant to local authority work, in particular Paycheck data, which provides income distribution estimates for small areas. The GLA is purchasing the London data for 2002 and is co-ordinating a consortium purchase for those boroughs who are interested. Eileen Howes is contacting borough Census contacts directly about this.

### Item 2 Minutes of the meeting held on 28th June 2002

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th June 2002 were distributed and attendees were invited to submit any comments by e-mail to Eileen Howes.

#### *Matters Arising*

There were no matters arising not already on the agenda.

### Item 3 2001 Census Population Statistics

The Census population estimates giving population for each local authority by age and sex were released on 30 September. These will be subject to very minor amendments when the Key Statistics are released on February 13th. Two briefing notes on these were circulated, one giving the overall figures and implications for the London Plan, the second giving more detail of the Census, along with some analysis of the age and sex figures and comparisons with the 1991 Census, 1991 Mid Year Estimate and 2000 Mid Year Estimate.

Most boroughs had confidence in the Census figures and thought they were consistent with other information they had. A few boroughs were strongly concerned about their figures. Kensington and Chelsea were "officially in dispute with ONS" about their estimates and Westminster were also particularly concerned about their population figures. The ALG offered to co-ordinate any action from boroughs to make representations to ONS where there was doubt about the accuracy of the estimates and where there is evidence to support this.

There was much discussion and lively debate on the levels of imputation, the One Number Census methods and on the methods used to construct the Mid Year Estimates, particularly regarding international migration and how these could lead to potential errors building up over time. Issues were raised also about second homes and about health authority numbers, although the latter were used in the quality assurance process. A query was raised about evidence of any change in average household size and whether this could be used in conjunction with council tax lists to produce a population estimate. There was also some concern about the quality of the data derived from other questions in the Census given the high levels of non-response in some places.

It was agreed that consideration should be given to encouraging ONS to undertake a mid-term Census in London.

### Item 4 Information Scheme and consortium purchase of 2001 Census data

Eileen Howes will be sending out the remaining invoices shortly. Invoices will be addressed to the Census contact in each organisation unless Eileen is given an alternative name.

**Item 5 2001 Census standard output**

The latest 'final' versions of the tables are now on the ONS website. The only alterations to these will be minor wording changes to improve consistency between tables, such as 'in work' or 'in employment'. Anyone with problems downloading them should contact Eileen Howes. There are no dates yet for the release data beyond the Key Statistics at local authority level, which are due to be published on 13th February.

**Item 6 Commissioned Tables**

No further work on the list of tables has been done, as the final versions of the standard tables were only released this week.

**Item 7 SASPAC developments**

Version 6 was sent out in August. Sutton had not received their copy and HD agreed to follow this up. Work has already started towards the new release which will mainly be the framework files and associated search facilities. This will be sent out in January 2003 in time for the arrival of the Key Statistics for Local Authorities in February.

Hywel Davies has been negotiating with ONS about formats for the release of the data. The current plan is for the GLA to do the conversion of the data released by ONS to SASPAC system files and then distribute these files to SASPAC users.

Output Area boundaries will be made available electronically with the data, not in advance. The final ward codes to be used for Census data released on 2002 ward boundaries are not yet known, but London boroughs will have "00" as the county code, as will all unitary authorities in England.

There has been no action as yet on workplace zones. A meeting with ONS is still expected at some point; Eileen Howes will check progress on this issue.

**Item 8 Training**

A series of training sessions is being held in November. More are planned for January/early February, hopefully with some 2001 test data, and places on these will be restricted to two people per organisation because of space considerations.

**Item 9 Any Other Business**

There was none

**Item 10 Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 5th December 2pm, Committee Room 3, City Hall.

## Attendance at the Census Users Group 4th October 2002

Greater London Authority	Eileen Howes Bill Armstrong Hywel Davies Rachel Leeser Lorna Spence
London Fire and Emergency Planing Authority Metropolitan Police Service London Development Agency Transport for London	Phil Jeffries Joanna Anstey Nilesh Mistry -
Association of London Government	Caroline Welch Antony Brown
Corporation of London Barking and Dagenham Barnet Bexley Brent Bromley Camden Croydon Ealing	Christine Pollard Chris Sale Peter Cridland Taryn Eves John McCrae Doug Ogilvie Neil Storer Peter Gunn-Wilkinson Michael Weaver Patrick Kenny Colin Rumsey Ranj Chandrasena
Enfield	-
Greenwich Hackney Hammersmith and Fulham Haringey Harrow Havering Hillingdon Hounslow Islington	Ewa Plachta Alan Brooks Bob Dawes Sue Kaminska Paul Ekers Ron Dane Mark Griffin Jean-Marc Porigneaux Robin Hall
Kensington and Chelsea	Roger Morgan Colleen Devereux
Kingston upon Thames Lambeth Lewisham	Peter Brunton Giorgio Finella Chris Jennings Alec MacDonald
Merton	-

Newham

Redbridge

Richmond upon Thames

Southwark

Sutton

Tower Hamlets

Waltham Forest

Wandsworth

Westminster

*Apologies*

Merton

Redbridge

Richmond

Southwark

Westminster

Michelle von Ahn

Jonathan Taylor

-

-

-

Peter Sale

Juanita Haynes

Brenda de Mendonca

Mark Jones

Martin Howell

-

Steve Cardis

Ernest Obumselu

Matthew Wallbridge

Fiona O'Toole

Martin Cook

Nick McManus

## **Minutes of the Census Users Group meeting held on 28 June 2002**

### **Item 1 Minutes of the meeting held on 20th March 2002**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th March 2002 were accepted.

#### *Matters Arising*

There were no matters arising not already on the agenda.

(Peter Gunn-Wilkinson asked for Eileen Howes to send him a copy of the e-mail including the minutes.)

### **Item 2 Information Scheme and consortium purchase of 2001 Census data**

The last loose ends of the Information Scheme and consortium purchase are being sorted out. All but one of the boroughs (Bexley) is now a member of the SASPAC Support Scheme. They are hoping to join soon. Boroughs wanting to pay from last year's budget have already been invoiced. The remaining invoices will be sent out soon. Invoices will be addressed to the Census contact unless Eileen Howes is given an alternative name for each organisation.

The question of the provision of laptops for all organisations in the consortium was raised. Eileen Howes has spoken to the GLA ICT department and plans to construct a questionnaire about the requirements and issues regarding acceptable specifications for other organisations' IT facilities.

### **Items 3 and 4 Report back from CLIP meeting and 2001 Census standard output**

Graham Jones, director of Census division has left ONS and has been replaced by Joy Dobbs.

Processing is running about 5 weeks behind schedule from Lockheed Martin. The quality is good, but this leaves no slack in the timetable, so there is a possibility that the release of Mid Year Estimates and Census counts will be delayed into September. There will be a single publication to include both Census and Mid Year Estimates, giving 5 year age by gender figures for all local authorities. Eileen Howes agreed to pass on a request that age groups needed for SSAs would also be published. [ONS subsequently announced that the Census estimates would be released on 30 September and the Mid Year Estimates would be published on 10 October.]

Nearly all respondents to the consultation on disclosure control said they wanted no adjustment to Census figures but that if rounding was necessary, then option 2 (small cell adjustment only, which would mean that tables were internally consistent) was preferable to option 1 (all cells independently adjusted to a multiple of 3). While plans are that this applies to all data, including the origin-destination data, ONS have said that when tables are aggregated across areas, these adjustments should cancel out. [ONS subsequently announced that option 2 would be adopted across all Census output in England and Wales.]

About 300 changes are being made to the standard table layouts as a result of the last round of consultation, including new tables on workplace, SSA requirements, Welsh language and a theme table on ethnicity. These final layouts are due to be made available shortly in electronic version only. GLA needs these to prepare SASPAC framework files. GLA will look at these and send out copies of the new version, either on CD or paper, or just tables to which there have been changes.

The timetable for the release of standard tables is on the ONS website and will be updated regularly. Currently, it is planned for tranche 1 (demographic and cultural tables) to be issued first (not before April 2003) followed by tranche 2 (labour market data) and then tranche 3 (migration, tenure and dwellings data) during May/June. The first set of Key Statistics (not necessarily all of them) down to LA level is due to be published in December. Output Area boundaries are now expected in February 2003, with no opportunity to comment on them. Current plans are for these to be issued in ESRI and MapInfo formats. Others may be available on negotiation. The final codes for wards have not been released, and it is still unclear whether 01 or 00 will be used for London. Unitary Authorities outside London will have a 00 code.

Another round of Census Roadshows, in association with Neighbourhood Statistics is being planned for the autumn.

A meeting is to be arranged by ONS in the next few months to discuss the issue of sub-dividing OAs for workplace data.

ONS will produce additional products, such as area profiles and area classifications, a series of multi-source topic reports, incorporating data from a range of sources such as LFS, GHS, SHE and Census, with commentary and analysis as well as data.

ONS are also planning a service to produce data for aggregates of OAs (adjustment to be applied after aggregation, where necessary).

### **Item 5 Commissioned Tables**

Until we have the final versions of the standard tables, it is difficult to get far with producing a list of extra tables we will need in earnest. Some tables we do know already, such as those we will need to commission for projections work. Other issues are arising such as a number of requests recently for figures relating to child yield, so we would expect to commission a table giving number of children by number of rooms, but we would need to know what age breakdowns would be needed. Issues and a list of tables to be commissioned are to be posted on the GLA Census web-site. Suggestions for this should be e-mailed to Eileen Howes.

### **Item 6 SASPAC developments**

Version 6 has not yet been released because of bugs in the software. However, these have now been overcome and they are being bulk produced and are expected to be sent out very soon with guidance notes on how to use the new features. A full manual will be prepared for distribution with the next release, with full details of all standard 2001 table layouts. 1991 SWS and SMS are being sent out as GB files with notes on how to 'cut them up' to the organisation's requirements. The data and a set of framework files for the current Neighbourhood Statistics are also being circulated with the new release of SASPAC.

Key Statistics are expected to be the first 2001 data really to be used in SASPAC format. 2001 tables have a much more complicated structure than 91 tables, with univariates, theme tables, Census Area Statistics, theme and other Standard Tables, as well as the Key Statistics tables. SASPAC needs to be able to handle them all and identify them correctly.



It also looks as if a lot of pre-processing will need to be done to convert the data to appropriate formats, putting several tables together for one geographic area (eg OAs in a borough) to make it usable. If this is done centrally it will save a lot of duplication of effort.

A browser style interface is still being investigated for future releases of SASPAC.

### **Item 7 Training**

Bill Armstrong has just finished a series of training sessions. The next sessions are booked for November, but the facilities available at City Hall are unclear - there may be a need to find facilities elsewhere. Discussions on the possibility of a training video are ongoing.

### **Item 8 Any Other Business**

#### *Categories for ethnic groups*

Camden are looking at monitoring the ethnic group categories being used in the borough and are interested to hear from other boroughs who have undertaken a similar scheme.

#### *SARs*

It still seems likely that there will be at least two 2001 SARs, comparable to those available from the 1991 Census, one giving an individual level sample down to local authority level (sample size not yet finalised) and one giving a household sample at regional level (not clear whether Inner and Outer London will be separately identified). No decisions on what will be available have been taken by ONS, and the third SAR, giving less detailed categories, but a lower geographical level is still being considered. Because of the licensing arrangements, the London consortium needs to consider whether each organisation would like access to the SARs or whether access would be better via a GLA intermediary.

#### *Licensing arrangements for Census data*

There are likely to be different types of licenses available for Census data, one will give more authorisation for passing on Census data. Details are not yet available, but organisations will need to be clear which license they require and what powers they have under each type.

#### *Old data*

Microfilm of various Census tables back to 1961 is available for people to access if required. The GLA has a new electronic reader, which can take an image from the microfilm. Anyone wishing to use the data should contact Eileen Howes.

### **Item 9 Date of Next Meeting**

Joy Dobbs is keen to come to talk to the London boroughs, particularly about coverage in the Census and the One Number Census process, following correspondence with some London boroughs. This Extraordinary meeting of CUG will take place on 29 July at 2pm in Committee Room 4 at City Hall.

The following meetings are scheduled for 19th September and then 5th December.

## Attendance at the Census Users Group 28th June 2002

Greater London Authority	Eileen Howes Rob Lewis Rachel Leaser Hywel Davies Baljit Bains
Association of London Government	Caroline Welch Alice Ellison
London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority	-
Metropolitan Police Service/Authority	Sophie Conell
London Development Agency	Marc Stephens
Transport for London	-
Corporation of London	Christine Pollard
Barking and Dagenham	Chris Sale
Barnet	Peter Cridland Peter Keeble
Bexley	Taryn Eves
Brent	John McCrae
Bromley	Doug Ogilvie
Camden	Neil Storer
Croydon	Peter Gunn-Wilkinson
Ealing	Michael Weaver
Enfield	Colin Rumsey
Greenwich	-
Hackney	Ewa Plachta
Hammersmith and Fulham	Alan Brooks
Haringey	Tim Lyne
Harrow	Marc Mason
Havering	Paul Ekers
Hillingdon	-
Hounslow	-
Islington	Jean-Marc Porigneaux
Kensington and Chelsea	Roger Morgan Colleen Devereux
Kingston upon Thames	Peter Brunton
Lambeth	-
Lewisham	-
Merton	-
Newham	Michelle von Ahn
Redbridge	Mary-Ann Hester
Richmond upon Thames	Caroline Steenberg

Southwark  
Sutton  
Tower Hamlets  
Waltham Forest  
Wandsworth  
Westminster

*Apologies*  
GLA  
Westminster

Martin Cook  
Peter Sale  
-  
Brenda de Mendonca  
Adam Dodgshon  
-

Bill Armstrong  
Nick McManus

## **Note of Extraordinary Census Users Group held on 29th July 2002**

Representatives from Census Division at ONS (Joy Dobbs, Andy Teague and Owen Abbott) spoke about the whole Census process through the Census Coverage Survey (CCS) to the One Number Census (ONC). In particular, they gave some estimates of response rates to the Census and to the CCS and discussed how the One Number Census process was going.

### **Brief summary of some key points from the presentation**

For the Census itself, they reported that 88 per cent of forms nationally were posted back. The response rate, including forms collected/completed at follow-up and allowing for vacant dwellings is close to 98 per cent nationally.

The scanning and coding of the forms is complete and the processing, including the One Number Census adjustments, is almost complete. The quality of the data, in terms of the level of missing items that needed to be imputed, is good. Indications are that answers have been picked up correctly during scanning and coding has been done correctly.

The response rate on the Census Coverage Survey was over 90 per cent nationally, and 84 per cent for London and the South East as a region, which is considered good. The matching of Census to CCS responses has also gone well, with a better than expected level of accuracy.

The One Number Census process is working well and ONS consider that it will be a success and that users can have confidence in the results.

### **Notes of discussion**

The One Number Census should provide a better national population estimate than rolling forward the Mid Year Estimate, which has not been calibrated since 1981. In 1991, the rolled forward estimate was used rather than the Census at a national level, but at local authority level this estimate was re-apportioned based on Census data.

The CCS is much bigger than the 1991 Census Validation Survey (CVS) and this is the key to improved quality. Additionally, the only purpose of the CCS is to check coverage, whereas the 1991 CVS was used to check the quality of responses as well as coverage. One other significant change to the process is that in 1991 dummy forms were used directly to impute missing households, whereas in 2001 dummy forms will be used with other information as an indicator of where missing households are likely to be.

The CCS did not use a list of addresses, so the independence of the CCS and the Census itself was increased. There was still concern, however, over areas where whole streets or whole postcodes were reported to have been missed in the Census and how these would be 'recovered'.

It was known in advance that some areas were likely to be more difficult to enumerate than others. The CCS was therefore designed to take this into account. Difficult to enumerate areas had a larger sampling fraction for the CCS. In addition, professional interviewers were used to give advice on getting the best response and to help out, mainly in London. The CCS fieldwork

was extended in London to improve the response rates. About nine out of more than 100 areas had response rates to the CCS below 80 per cent.

The postback rate for London was around 80 per cent, with further responses being obtained on the follow-up. The ONC works even in areas of poor response. Final response figures are not available until the ONC is completed. ONS are expecting to release age/gender response rates at LA level. Beyond this, there will be a lot of information in the system, but it is not clear what information on response rates users want or would find useful.

In 1991, enumerators helped to fill in forms where households had difficulty, but because of postback this was not possible in 2001. ONS believe that this has not lead to a significant difference in terms of response to individual questions. Information on response rates for each question is on the ONS website.

There was some concern expressed about the quality of responses other than age, gender and marital status, which were the only ones required for a form to be accepted during the fieldwork. ONS are imputing responses to all missing items and are carrying out checks that these are not biased.

There was also some concern that the most vulnerable groups in society are likely to have been those that were missed in the Census and that the imputation needs to take this into account. ONS are confident that the ONC is done rigorously and with great care and that these issues will be picked up in the process.

To get from the local authority level ONC estimates to ward/OA figures, individuals are added to the database consistent with the LA estimates and using the dummy forms as an indicator of where the missing households should be. Individuals 'missing' from households are added to the database based on characteristics of households.

Extensive quality assurance checks are being carried out on the estimates. In particular, comparisons with information from other datasets at local authority level or higher are being done. Those who had seen the process in action were confident of its rigour.

Before and during the Census fieldwork, some Census Area Managers had seemed uninterested in information supplied by local authorities about new build and conversions in their areas. This was because this information may have been seen as a constraint, whereas the point of the Census was to go out and find households, not just go through the list of 'known' addresses.

The Treasury Committee report has raised consciousness of Census quality among politicians and some are particularly concerned because of the low response rates published in this. It is imperative that the ONC positive message that the estimates are the best they can be is given a high profile.

Work is going on with the National Land and Planning Gazetteer and other administrative records to build up address lists that will be used in future Censuses.

## Attendance at Extraordinary Census Users Group held on 29th July 2002

Office for National Statistics	Joy Dobbs Andy Teague Owen Abbot
Greater London Authority	Eileen Howes Rachel Leeser Bill Armstrong John Hollis Baljit Bains Lewis Chingwaru Rob Lewis
Metropolitan Police Service	Joanna Anstey Sophie Cowell
London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority	Phil Jeffries William Smith
London Development Agency	Nilesh Mistry
Transport for London	-
Association of London Government	Caroline Welch
Corporation of London	Christine Pollard
Barking and Dagenham	Chris Sale
Barnet	Peter Keeble
Bexley	Taryn Eves
Brent	John McCrae
Bromley	Doug Ogilvie
Camden	Neil Storer
Croydon	-
Ealing	Michael Weaver
Enfield	-
Greenwich	-
Hackney	Ewa Plachta
Hammersmith and Fulham	-
Haringey	Tim Lyne
Harrow	Marc Mason
Havering	Paul Ekers
Hillingdon	D. Jones
Hounslow	Bill Martin
	Mark Griffin
Islington	Robin Hall
Kensington and Chelsea	Roger Morgan
	Graham Foster
Kingston upon Thames	-

Lambeth  
Lewisham  
Merton  
Newham  
Redbridge  
Richmond upon Thames  
Southwark  
Sutton  
Tower Hamlets  
Waltham Forest  
Wandsworth  
Westminster

*Apologies*

Greater London Authority  
Croydon  
Enfield  
Hammersmith and Fulham

Georges Sen-Gupta  
-  
-  
Michelle von Ahn  
-  
Fiona O'Toole  
Martin Cook  
Peter Sale  
Juanita Haynes  
Brenda de Mendonca  
Adam Dodgshon  
Nick McManus

Hywel Davies  
Peter Gunn-Wilkinson  
Colin Rumsey  
Alan Brooks

## Appendix 2

### E-mail addresses of main Census Contacts

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Westminster	Nick McManus	nmcman@westminster.gov.uk



## Regular briefings and data from GLA Data Management and Analysis Group

The regular bulletins produced by DMAG have been incorporated into a series of DMAG Briefings. These now include the Census Information Notes (CIN) and Population Advice Notes (PAN) both of which will still appear regularly.

Recent subjects of briefings include:

- Working Families Tax Credit
- ILO Unemployment
- 2001 Census: First Results and Implications for London Plan
- 2001 Census: First Population Statistics

The full list of DMAG Briefings is:

DMAG 2002-1	ILO Unemployment	Lorna Spence	February 2002
DMAG 2002-2	Education in London - Key Facts 1997-2001	Karen Osborne/ Iryna Pylypchuk	May 2002
DMAG 2002-3	Greater London Demographic Review: 2000	John Hollis/Baljit Bains	July 2002
DMAG 2002-4	GLA 2001 Round Ethnic Group Population Projections	John Hollis/Baljit Bains	August 2002
DMAG 2002-5	2001 Census: First Results and Implications for the draft London Plan	John Hollis	September 2002
DMAG 2002-6	2001 Census: First population statistics	Eileen Howes	October 2002
DMAG 2002-7	Mid-year Estimates	John Hollis/Baljit Bains	October 2002
DMAG 2002-8	2001 Census: First population statistics - London Plan Sub Regions	Eileen Howes	October 2002
DMAG 2002-9	Census Information Note 2002-1	Eileen Howes	October 2002

If you would like copies of previous briefings, please contact Jackie Maguire at the GLA, [jackie.maguire@london.gov.uk](mailto:jackie.maguire@london.gov.uk).

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