

Data Management and Analysis Group

Census Information Note CIN 2009-3



DMAG Briefing 2009-13

December 2009

Census Information Note 2009-3

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(Greater London Authority) (LA100032379) (2009)

ISSN 1479-7879

GLA News

The new Assistant Director of Intelligence, Andrew Collinge, starts on 11th January 2010. He will be leading the work of the Intelligence Unit. The Intelligence Unit comprises DMAG, Information Services, GLA Economics and Public Opinion and Consultation. There are likely to be many accommodation moves in the next few months but we hope to accomplish these with as little disruption as possible. DMAG will still be on 2nd floor in City Hall and will be moving along a bit to utilise the empty desks that we currently have. Since the last Census Information Note was written, and as many of you will already know, both Rob Lewis and Bill Armstrong have left the GLA. The other vacant post in the Census Team, vacant since Giorgio Finella left, has been deleted. The Census Team will remain at two people alongside Alan Lewis until we get closer to the 2011 Census results.

2011 Census Order published

The Census Order 2009 was laid before Parliament on 21st October 2009 and has now been approved. This is a draft Statutory Instrument which was debated in both Houses of Parliament before being approved by the Commons on 30th November and the Lords on 2nd December. The next step is for it to go to Privy Council for approval (likely 10th February). The Order specifies the date of the Census, who should be included in it and the questions to be asked. When it is approved the Census Regulations are published (expected date March 2010) with the final wording of every question and the final layout of the Census form. The Census Order can be found at:

http://www.england-legislation.hms.o.gov.uk/si/si2009/draft/pdf/ukdsi_9780111486535_en.pdf

A range of supporting papers were published along with the Census Order. These include:

- Census Rehearsal questionnaire
- 2007 Census Test: Evaluation of the Census Test questionnaire in England and Wales
- The 2011 Census: Final questionnaire content for England and Wales
- Measuring Short-term Migration in the 2011 Census for England and Wales
- Final recommended questions for the 2011 Census in England and Wales, Migration
- Kashmiri Research Project
- Final recommended questions for the 2011 Census in England and Wales, Ethnic Group
- Final recommended questions for the 2011 Census in England and Wales, Language
- Final recommended questions for the 2011 Census in England and Wales, Religion
- Final recommended questions for the 2011 Census in England and Wales, National identity
- Information paper - Deciding which tick-boxes to add to the ethnic group question in the 2011 England and Wales Census

Copies of these papers are available from the Census Team or from the ONS website if you are brave enough to try to find them. Census Information Note 2009-4 (to be published before Christmas) will have a summary of the main points from each of these papers and the final recommended questions.

2011 Census Output Consultation

A consultation on output from the 2011 Census is to be launched on 14th December and will continue until the end of March (approximately 15 weeks). This is being run by Joe Traynor from ONS. The starting point for this consultation is the 2001 Census standard tables and census area statistics. The Census Team at the GLA will be looking in detail at the proposed table layouts and will liaise with other GLA colleagues, boroughs and others before submitting comments. Another part of the exercise will be to propose tables based on variables produced from the new questions on language, national identity, passports held. The consultation will be the subject of a presentation at the Census Users' Group meeting on 9th December at City Hall and will be published formally on Monday 14th December.

2011 Census Geography Consultation

A final consultation on 2011 Census Geography starts 14th December 2009. We are not sure yet of the closing date for this but it is important that we say what geography we want. It currently looks as if we may have won the battle for two exact fit geographies, the statistical geography (OAs and LSOAs) as well as administrative geography (for London this is wards). The consultation will include both workplace zones and higher level SOAs.

The previous ONS geography consultation in 2007 did not ask users what their preferred geography for the census output was. It asked a range of questions like 'if we produced x would you use it?' to which we would normally answer yes because we try to make the most of all available data. It did not ask what our preferred geography was or what we actually wanted or needed. We feel, and have already told ONS this, that the questionnaire was designed to produce the answers that ONS wanted and not to actually ask us directly what geography we wanted. We feel that the consultation was flawed as a result of this so are pleased to see another consultation is about to go ahead. We have been assured that it will ask us directly what we want.

Address list checking and the burden on the boroughs

Boroughs should by now have received their lists of addresses for checking. The numbers will vary considerably between boroughs. For example Camden are checking around 4000 addresses, 4 per cent of their LLPG, while Newham checked between 700 and 800 for the Rehearsal. It is not yet clear whether these are going to be easy or difficult to resolve.

2001 Census data

Commissioned tables

A large number of commissioned tables have been produced and are all freely available on request from ONS. The GLA holds copies of all these tables. Any that contain ward or district level information for London or England and Wales are still being converted into SASPAC system files and made available to all SASPAC users on the website SASPAC.org.uk.

Alternatively they are available from any member of the Census Team. More tables will be converted into SASPAC system files as and when we have the time to process them. Progress might be slower than previously with the Census Team reduced by one person but we will continue to process them and make them available.

The results from the SASPAC User survey have now been analysed and a report is available at:

Some headline results from this report were:

- 104 users responded to the survey
- 88 per cent of responses were from local government organisations
- 54 organisations had more than one SASPAC user - the most users at one organisation was 20
- 70 per cent of respondents used SASPAC on a daily or weekly basis during their peak 2001 analysis
- As represented by the word cloud below, a wide range of datasets/sources in addition to the Census are currently being accessed by users:



(This graphic gives greater prominence to the datasets that were mentioned more frequently by respondents: the larger the text the more frequently it was mentioned. The datasets are also sorted alphabetically from left to right.)

- the most popular SASPAC task was exporting CSV, WKS or XLS files
- respondents liked: data searching/selection; the range of data; export tools; access to command line syntax

- respondents disliked: lack of metadata in export; user interface; error messaging; complicated nature of data files (.SYS)
- 23 per cent of respondents were concerned if SASPAC was 'web-only' in 2011

Thank you to all those who completed the survey and we will be taking all your useful feedback forward as we develop the 2011 service.

The SASPAC Advisory Panel has been reconvened and met on the 28 October 2009. The Panel is chaired by the IDeA and consists of a group of experienced Census/SASPAC users who help steer and oversee the software's development. The minutes of the first meeting can be found here:

<http://www.saspac.org/SAP.html>

Future meetings are expected to be held on a six-monthly basis with the next one planned for late April/early May 2010. If you are interested in becoming part of the Panel, please contact the helpdesk.

1971 Census data is now available through SASPAC. The 1971 Small Area Statistics (SAS) datasets contain 28 tables split over three sheets representing population, 100 per cent households and 10 per cent households basis. Data for geographical wards, districts, counties and countries in Great Britain is available. To add this dataset to the latest version of SASPAC (v9.0) you will need to download the update files (v9.07) and follow the guidance available from here:

<http://www.saspac.org/1971.html>

The SASPAC team have built a 'proof of concept' tool that interrogates the datasets provided through ONS' Neighbourhood Statistics website (NeSS) via their Data Exchange service (<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/Info.do?page=nde.htm>). This new application is launched from within SASPAC and allows the user to search and select NeSS data via a simple wizard interface. Following these selections, the user can choose to download the data in a CSV and XML format, or create a new SASPAC System file for use within the existing application. A video demonstrating this development was shown recently at ONS' Output Consultation events and can be viewed on their website at:

<http://cswwg.wikidot.com/wiki:video-demonstrations>

The Census Offices are currently investigating similar technologies as a method for delivering the 2011 Census results.

As always, please feel free to contact the SASPAC helpdesk (info@saspac.org / 020 7983 4348) for more details relating to any of the above.

Briefings and analysis

A draft of the DMAG Briefing on *The 2001 Census Consortium and Information Scheme* by Eileen Howes, was circulated at the Census Users' Group meeting of 9th June 2009 and gives details of the history of the Census Consortium, how it was set up and why we think it was value for money. It also introduces details of our plans for a 2011 Census Consortium. These will take shape over the next few months and a series of papers will be put before a series of meetings. More detail of this will follow.

The following Briefings are in production:

Census Information Note 2009-4 - this will give details of the Census Order and the range of reports published at the same time as the Census Order. It will indicate the final wording of the questions as they currently stand.

Housing tenure change 1961 to 2001 by Eileen Howes - this Briefing will provide data on housing tenure from five Censuses and a series of maps showing how each tenure has changed over the last 40 years. The 1961 Census data is based on the London boroughs as they were created in 1964 and not on those current at the time of the 1961 Census.

Future planned Briefings:

Industry in London by Richard Cameron will analyse previously unavailable data from the 2001 Census on industry.

Historical Census Data for London by Eileen Howes and Richard Cameron, makes use of Census data going back to 1911 for London and has population totals going back to the first Census in 1801. The project is making use of a number of websites which have been set up through academic projects and which have provided much easier access to the early Census statistics than has been the case until recently.

Training

Provision of training is currently under review because of Bill Armstrong's retirement. Training in SASPAC and the Census will continue but may be reduced in frequency until we get a bit nearer to the peak of activity at the time of the 2011 Census. If anyone has staff turnover and needs someone trained in the interim please contact any member of the Census or SASPAC Teams.

London Census Forum and the Census extranet

The future of the Census extranet uncertain at the moment. The GLA website is about to undergo some changes and we hope to review and update the content of the Census extranet soon. Meanwhile we have set up the London Census Forum on the Communities of Practice website. We have had some requests to set this up over recent months and it is now in existence and ready for people to join. As it is early days there is not a lot of content yet but we will be adding information to it from now on and hope to get lots of members very soon. We encourage all our Census Contacts to sign up for it.

You need a User ID and password to access the GLA Extranet. These can be obtained by going to the site at:

<https://extranet.london.gov.uk/>

Some information and data is also available from the SASPAC website at:

<http://www.saspac.org>

Minutes of the Census Users' Group meetings will appear on the Extranet and on the London Census Forum, as will these Census Information Notes and other relevant papers and publications.

Paycheck data

Paycheck data for 2009 is still available from DMAG for £500 plus VAT per borough per year for which each borough gets both the standard and equivalised datasets for their own borough. The GLA is still paying a large part of the cost and we think that this is good value for money for the boroughs. This arrangement will be in place until December 2010. The conditions of use of this data are important - the data is for internal use only and can only be published with prior consent. Please check with either the GLA or with CACI before publishing any data. If any borough does not have a license to use the 2009 data they must delete all earlier copies of the data (if they had earlier versions). These are conditions imposed by CACI.

Census Users' Group Meetings

Meetings are held quarterly. The minutes of the meeting held on 15th September 2009 are in Appendix 1. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 9th December 2009 at 2pm in Committee Room 3 at City Hall.

Dates have also been arranged for three subsequent meetings. They are on:

Tuesday 16th March 2010 at 2pm in Committee Room 3 at City Hall

Wednesday 9th June 2010 at 2pm in Committee Room 2 at City Hall

Wednesday 8th September 2010 at 2pm in Committee Room 4 at City Hall

Census contacts

Appendix 2 gives the name and e-mail address of the main Census Contact in each borough and other relevant organisation. Please check that we have the right person listed and that the e-mail address is correct. If you know of anyone else in your organisation who would like to receive Census Information Notes please let us have their e-mail address.

Minutes of Census Users' Group Meeting, 15th September 2009

1. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2009 had been circulated previously by email and no comments had been received. There were no matters arising.

2. GLA News

Rob Lewis had taken voluntary redundancy and already left the GLA. Bill Armstrong would be leaving at the end of September, after nearly 38 years working on the Census. The Census Users Group thanked Bill for his all his contributions to Census statistics and wished him a happy retirement.

3. SASPAC update

AL presented some results from the SASPAC user survey: 104 people had responded out of around 240 current users. Local Authorities in England made up the majority of users although central government and academia were also represented. Users liked the range of census data available, the search facilities and the ability to create new zones. Users wanted to see improvements to export, a more user-friendly interface, and more non-census data. Although it was unclear how Census data would be delivered by the census offices in 2011, over two-thirds of users expected to use SASPAC in 2011.

AL also previewed SASPAC's NeSS Data Exchange (NDE) application. This was a demonstration of technology that accessed data direct from ONS's Neighbourhood Statistics (NeSS) website. The intention was that eventually SASPAC would access data from a range of sources such as NOMIS, CLG, Eurostat, as well as the Census offices. A beta version of NDE would soon be available and AL invited users to test it. He would send a copy to any borough that wanted it.

[Update since meeting: a video demonstrating this application can be viewed via ONS' video vault at: <http://tinyurl.com/yh2anmn>]

The SASPAC advisory panel had been reconvened to help steer the development of SASPAC for 2011. It was expected that services like the NDE would be part of SASPAC in the future; however some boroughs were cautious that restrictions on internet access might limit this. EH pointed out that however 2011 data were delivered, SASPAC would likely remain the only tool that would give access to historical and double geography datasets.

4. 2011 Census Issues and Meetings

Workplace Zone Advisory and User Groups ONS had established a Workplace Zones advisory group that had met the day before CUG. EH said that the terms of reference for the group did not seem very clear. ONS had also set up a Workplace Zones user group which had met with an ONS chair: EH said that in future it was hoped that the user group would be more

independent. Since there was considerable interest on workplace zones in London it might be appropriate to hold a London user group or possibly a special meeting of CUG.

Stuart O'Callaghan questioned if the zones would sufficiently detailed to map travel to work flows. EH said that ONS had asked for candidate areas for piloting the workplace zones methodology. City of London, Bromley and Tower Hamlets would be suggested for pilot areas in London.

Census Regional Event for London Barry Quirk had hosted the London Census event at the Science Museum stressing the address register and effective communication as the priorities for the 2011 Census in London.

Nicola Weaver suggested that a pan-London communication plan might be useful. EH agreed but wondered if this might replicate work done elsewhere. In particular ONS would shortly be producing publicity material. It was difficult to keep up with the activities of the various groups at present although much of the groups' work was coordinated on the Communities of Practise website.

Administrative Geography ONS had announced a series of output consultation roadshows in October, with two events in London. There would also be a second consultation on geography in November. These events would be the last opportunity to make the case for a standard administrative geography to ONS. Barry Quirk had already said that ward-level data would be needed for planning services at a local level. This would be true for all local service providers not just local authorities. At the BSPS conference earlier in September, Peter Elias of the Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit had forcefully put the case for administrative geography to ONS.

Output Working Group AL presented a paper on lessons learned from 2001 to the first meeting of this group. GLA had already commented on the detailed output strategies produced by ONS. These papers were all available from GLA.

Outputs for 2011 would not necessarily be produced in static tabular form with ONS referring to 'hypercubes' throughout. The actual mechanism for consultation on outputs would hence not be dummy table layouts, but instead very comprehensive spreadsheets setting out the dimensions to be cross analysed. However the starting point for these spreadsheets was the 2001 tables (!).

Update from BSPS Conference RC summarised the Census presentations that ONS had made at the BSPS conference the previous week. There was more detail on how ONS would deploy the Census field force both for address checking before Census day and for non-response follow up after Census day. In England and Wales, the total follow up effort was planned to be around three times as great as in 2001. Modelling expected (low) response rates based on factors such

as tenure, ethnicity, age and unemployment suggested nearly a quarter of the follow up effort would be in London in 2011. The rehearsal would be used to test these assumptions. There was still no information on how areas would be chosen for hand delivery of forms.

On Quality Assurance, ONS had already set out in June the sort of analyses that they would undertake to validate the Census estimates for local authorities in 2011. The BSPS presentation gave more details of the process: each local authority estimate would be reviewed by a QA panel which could request further analysis of an area. In principle, the panel could reject the Census estimate entirely and use only information from other sources. For the rehearsal, there would be basic demographic analyses, checks on migrants and more detailed analysis of communal establishments and other hard to count groups.

The discussion of the Census highlighted a potential issue with large households: since all the forms will be posted out, there would not be contact on the doorstep in many cases for a continuation form to be supplied; large households will have to request forms themselves. Households completing the form online would mitigate this problem. It was hoped that the issue of large households would be investigated in the October Census Rehearsal.

5. 2011 Census Consortium and Information Scheme

EH said that there had been no comments on her paper '2001 Census Consortium and Information Scheme' and so it could be finalised shortly. The next stages would be a letter to the Mayor setting out the reasons for proposing an information scheme for 2011; and a paper to borough chief executives giving a proposed timetable for the scheme.

Christine Cook asked about the timing of borough payments for the scheme. EH replied that the estimated cost of the scheme, £20,000, could be paid in one instalment or staged over two or three years. On the issue of getting agreement from the boroughs, the 2001 pattern was that 12 boroughs had signed up very quickly, though it had taken some time to get 22 boroughs so that membership of the consortium became mandatory. It was suggested that improvements in technology might obviate issuing laptop computers to the consortium. EH said that a business case for laptops in 2011 would have to be made, but the standard hardware and software issued to all members in 2001 had facilitated supply of census data.

6. DMAG Briefings and Analysis

Census Information Note CIN 2009-3 including the minutes of the meeting would be distributed in October. The Census Consortium and Information Scheme Briefing would follow. RC would present the work on the Industry in London briefing at the December User Group meeting. The briefing would follow in the new year.

7. Training news

The final sessions held by BA were just about to commence. Following this there was a possibility of contracting out training as AL already did for SASPAC users outside London, although it might be necessary to charge users for this. At the current stage in the census cycle it was anticipated that demand for training would be low. BA suggested that online tutorials could provide a means of updating users with changes to the software.

8. Any other Business

There was none.

9. Dates of future meetings

The next meeting will be 9th December 2009 then 16th March 2010. Both will be held in CR3 from 2pm.

Attendance at the Census Users' Group Meeting, 15 September 2009

Corporation of London	Stuart O'Callaghan
Barking and Dagenham	Chris Sale
Barnet	Sam Markey
Bexley	
Brent	John Birkett
Bromley	Doug Ogilvie
Camden	R Aiesha
Croydon	
Ealing	
Enfield	
Greenwich	
Hackney	Nina Emamy
Hammersmith and Fulham	
Haringey	
Harrow	Sue Kaminska
Havering	Paul Ekers
Hillingdon	
Hounslow	
Islington	Dan Gargiulo
Kensington and Chelsea	Nicola Weaver
Kingston upon Thames	
Lambeth	
Lewisham	Alec MacDonald
Merton	
Newham	
Redbridge	
Richmond upon Thames	
Southwark	
Sutton	
Tower Hamlets	Gameli Hoedoafia
Waltham Forest	
Wandsworth	Christine Cook
Westminster	
LHO	
TFL	Mike Collop
Metropolitan Police	
LDA	
London Councils	
LFEPa	
GLA	Eileen Howes
	Bill Armstrong
	Alan Lewis
	Richard Cameron
Apologies received	Michelle von Ahn
	Martin Robson

Appendix 2

E-mail addresses of main Census Contacts

Metropolitan Police Service	Yu Cheng Chong	yucheng.chong@met.police.uk
Transport for London	Mike Collop	mikecollop@tfl.gov.uk
London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority	-	
London Development Agency	Matthew Waite	MatthewWaite@lda.gov.uk
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Lambeth	Georges Sen-Gupta	GSenGupta@lambeth.gov.uk
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Newham	Michelle von Ahn	michelle.von.ahn@newham.gov.uk
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Richmond upon Thames	Fiona O'Toole	F.O'Toole@richmond.gov.uk
Southwark	Martin Cook	martin.cook@southwark.gov.uk
Sutton	Patrick Whitter	patrick.whitter@sutton.gov.uk
Tower Hamlets	Juanita Haynes	juanita.haynes@towerhamlets.gov.uk
Waltham Forest	Stephanie McEvaddy	stephanie.mcevaddy@walthamforest.gov.uk
Wandsworth	Christine Cook	ccook@wandsworth.gov.uk
Westminster	Damian Highwood	dhighwood@westminster.gov.uk

Regular Briefings from the GLA Data Management and Analysis Group (DMAG)

Recent DMAG Briefings 2009:

2009-01	Claimant count model 2009: Technical Note	Social Exclusion Data Team
2009-02	GLA 2008 Round Projections	John Hollis and Jessica Chamberlain
2009-03	Greater London Demographic Review 2007	John Hollis
2009-04	Census Information Note 2009-1	Eileen Howes
2009-05	Census Information Note 2009-2	Eileen Howes
2009-06	2001 Census Consortium and Information Scheme	Eileen Howes
2009-07	2009 European election results for London	Gareth Piggott
2009-08	GLA 2008 Round Ethnic Group Population Projections	Ed Klodawski
2009-09	Demography Team Workplan 2009/10	Demography Team
2009-10	Education Team Workplan 2009/10	Education Team
2009-11	Social Exclusion Team Workplan 2009/10	Social Exclusion Team
2009-12	Urban Audit III: London and Other Large European Cities	Richard Walker
2009-13	Census Information Note CIN 2009-3	Eileen Howes

Recent DMAG Briefings 2008:

2008-11	Social Exclusion Data Team Workplan 2008/09	Social Exclusion Data Team
2008-12	Demography Team Workplan 2008/09	John Hollis
2008-13	Education Team Workplan 2008/09	David Ewens
2008-14	Census Team Workplan 2008-9	Eileen Howes
2008-15	2001 Census Profiles: Black Caribbeans in London	Richard Cameron
2008-16	GIS Team Workplan 2008/09	Gareth Baker
2008-17	Lone Parents on Income Support by Ethnic Group	Lovedeep Vaid
2008-20	SASPAC Workplan 2008-9	Alan Lewis
2008-21	Indices of Deprivation 2007: A London perspective	Rachel Leeser
2008-22	London Ward Level Summary Measures for the Indices of Deprivation 2007	Rachel Leeser
2008-23	General Statistics Team Workplan 2008-9	Gareth Piggott
2008-24	2001 Census: Ethnic Group Migration Structures (as used in Model)	Baljit Bains/Ed Klodawski
2008-25	Census Information Note 2008-2	Eileen Howes
2008-26	London council by-election results	Gareth Piggott
2008-27	Social Selection Sorting 2	David Ewens
2008-28	Summary of Social Trends 2008	Elizabeth Williams
2008-29	Children in Benefit Families 2007	Lovedeep Vaid
2008-30	Londoners and labour market	Lorna Spence
2008-31	Child Poverty in London	Social Exclusion Data Team
2008-32	Census Information Note 2008-3	Eileen Howes
2008-33	PayCheck 2008	Lovedeep Vaid
2008-34	Background to the DMAG Poverty Profiles	Lovedeep Vaid

A full list of DMAG Briefings is available to internal customers through the GLA Intranet; otherwise please contact dmag.info@london.gov.uk A CD containing PDF versions of the Briefings, or hard copies, can be provided.

Contact details for the Data Management and Analysis Group are as follows:

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Please use the above descriptions in deciding whom to contact to assist you with your information needs. For further details of DMAG staff please contact Kelly Rump at *kelly.rump@london.gov*