

Census Outputs Geography Working Group

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It has been six months since the last meeting of the working group and as there are no plans to hold any further meetings in the immediate future, we thought it would be useful to provide a brief update on where we are with the census plans and geography issues.

Action points from 13 May meeting

- **ACTION 1:** Ann-Marie to circulate to the group an updated summary of responses to the geography-related consultation points following closure of the consultation.
 - The consultation paper can be found via the link below
- **ACTION 2:** Alan Sloan to clarify the latest boundary information currently available on settlements/ localities and report back to the group.
 - Mid-2008 Population estimates for Settlements and Localities were published by GROS in March 2010. The shape files for this geography are available on request from the Geography Customer Services mailbox.
- **ACTION 3:** Sandy to circulate the findings of the ONS consultation on census geography to the group once these became available.
 - note below.

User consultation work

- Census Outputs Consultation - our consultation closed at the end of May and we had 43 responses in total. An evaluation paper has now been published and users are invited to provide us with any additional feedback they may have on the points raised through the consultation. The paper can be found on the [NRS website](#) and we would appreciate any extra comments that you may have, in particular relating to outputs geography (consultation points 5-8). We plan to go back to users again early in the new year with a preliminary set of table outlines and proposals for the geographies for which these will be produced. Revisions will then be made following any user feedback and the full outputs prospectus will then be published later in the year (provisionally May).
- The Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics (SNS) datazone consultation launched by The Scottish Government in August is due to close on the **18 November**. The consultation documentation can be found [here](#) and also includes a separate consultation point on problematic census output areas. If you have not done so already, you may wish to take the opportunity to submit a response to the consultation.

- The Office for National Statistics (ONS) held a census output geography consultation earlier on this year. We will be meeting with ONS colleagues later this month when we will receive an update on their plans to publish the findings.

Next steps

- As noted above, there are no plans to hold another meeting of the working group in the immediate future. However, we are keen to maintain it as a source of expertise on census geography related issues and, pending another meeting, plan to issue quarterly email updates to keep members informed of developments. We would also welcome any specific comments or points you would like to raise on geography matters - you can do this at any time by contacting me directly or via the consultation mailbox census.consultation@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Kind regards

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