

POPULATION AND MIGRATION STATISTICS COMMITTEE (SCOTLAND)

PROGRESS ON DELIVERING OUPUT

1 Introduction

1.1 This paper outlines progress on delivering the products from the 2001 Census in Scotland. PAMS is asked to note the paper.

2 Printed reports

2.1 The last two of the printed reports were published on 25 March. The two reports, *Scotland's Census 2001 - Reference Volume* and *Key Statistics for Settlements and Localities*, and the earlier three reports, are available to download free on the GROS website or available from Customer Services. The Reference Volume is intended to be used as a desktop guide to the results that are available electronically.

3 SCROL

3.1 A live version of the site was released on 25 March and was limited to scrolbrowser and the Census profiles along with the textual data.

3.2 The scrolanalyser section of the site, where the majority of more detailed results and smaller geographies will be available, is not yet ready for general release. This area of the site has not been as fully tested as scrolbrowser and the application is also much more complex. Further testing and "bug fixing" of scrolanalyser will be undertaken in early April with the aim of achieving an acceptable level of quality so that we can begin to release components of the Area statistics through scrolanalyser as the data becomes available.

3.3 In addition to the further testing that is required, considerable work is still required to load the datasets into the web application. Although all of the Area Statistics has been produced, the data then needs to be loaded into the SCROL Database followed by an extensive period of QA'ing the data load. This process takes a considerable amount of time and has identified errors in the data or errors in the application, all of which need to be resolved before scrolanalyser can go live.

3.4 Given the work still required on the loading of data and application testing, we plan to release components of the Area Statistics progressively through the website in April.

User Acceptance Testing

3.5 The first phase of user acceptance testing (UAT) of the SCROL website began on Wednesday 12 March, nearly a month behind the initial planned launch of UAT on 13 February. The delay was the result of a number of technical issues which needed to be resolved before UAT could begin. These have largely been resolved, though a thorough resilience test is still outstanding. The resilience test will measure the ability of the site and its

operational procedures to deal effectively with a number of key system failure scenarios. This will involve simulating typical system failures, diagnosing the failures, at the operation management and user interfaces and returning the system to pre-failure status before using system management procedures. We will probably defer this test until mid to late April.

3.6 The aim of the first phase of UAT was primarily to give users a chance to familiarise themselves with the site following a test script prepared by GROS, in addition to giving us the chance to do some performance testing. Feedback from the first test has been encouraging, but limited, and the overall view is that the site is working well. Some issues have arisen during this phase of UAT which are being addressed but nothing has been discovered that poses a major risk to a wider release of the site.

3.7 The second phase of UAT is planned to start on 2 April and will provide more information on system performance and functionality. Users will be asked to complete and return a questionnaire so that we can evaluate their views on content presentation and accessibility and content delivery speed. There will also be a further opportunity for users to provide a response on the first set of scripts.

SCROL - Development\Implementation issues

3.8 The on-going testing of the site and gradual release of data and functionality over the next several weeks will cause some disruption to users. We plan to keep this disruption to a minimum but there will be times when the site will need to be brought down for essential maintenance work. On these occasions we will redirect users to a message held on the GROS main website explaining the reasons for the outage and when normal services will be resumed.

4 SCROL – CDs

4.1 The table below details the six CD products, including statistical and geographical detail, cost and a broad indication of when publication is expected.

CD	Dataset	Areas	Expected date	Cost
CD1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key Statistics Univariate Statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scotland Council areas Health board areas Wards Scottish Parliamentary Regions and Constituencies 	Published: 25 March	Free
CD2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key Statistics Univariate Statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scotland Standard and CAS Wards Standard and CAS Postcode Sectors Output Areas 	To be announced	£5
CD3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key Statistics Univariate Statistics Census Area Statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Settlements Localities 	Early April	£5

CD4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Census Statistics 	Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scotland Council areas Health Board areas Scottish Parliamentary Regions and Constituencies Standard and CAS Wards Stand and CAS Postcode Sectors Output Areas 	Late April	£5
CD5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard Tables 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scotland Council areas Health Board areas Scottish Parliamentary Regions and Constituencies Wards Postcode Sectors 	Early April	£5
CD6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key Statistics Univariate Statistics Census Statistics 	Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scotland Civil Parishes Inhabited islands 	To be announced	£5

5 Bulk Delivery

5.1 An outline of our bulk delivery service along with a sample of test data was supplied to users on 13 February. This material is nearly ready and we plan to issue a complete set of output (excluding Extract 3) via this service by 4 April. The data has been processed but we still need to package the orders and compile the additional material that will be supplied with it.

5.2 We have had a number of users who have commented that our service will require a large amount of processing to be done by the user before it can be loaded into local systems and have asked us to reconsider the way we deliver the bulk data. We have spoken to SASPAC who have commissioned some work to undertake the conversion of this data for SASPAC users, but will also make it available to other users for a fee.

6 Geography products

6.1 The Census geography products were officially released to all users on 25 March 2003. This includes the postcode to OA index (including population and household counts for each postcode), the OA to higher area index and the OA boundaries. Apart from the addition of the population and household counts, some additional changes have been made to the Indexes and boundaries. If you received indexes and boundaries in the initial release in November, you should contact GROS customer services for information about the changes and to request a resupply if required.

7 Known errors

7.1 We have discovered a number of errors in the printed reports and CD products which were too late to change. The majority of the errors are not serious and will not have affected your analysis of the results, but one was more serious and we notified users of the error via Census Update no 9. To keep users informed of any errors we have started a known errors page on the GROS website (<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/grosweb/grosweb.nsf/pages/census-known-errors>) which will be updated if any further errors are discovered. If any serious errors

are detected, i.e. the error has an impact on the analysis or interpretation of the results, users will be notified via a Census Update.

8 Extract 3

8.1 You will be aware from the printed reports, that tables containing information on migration and travel to work have been left blank. This information has not yet been made available to us as it required some additional coding of remote postcodes. This information will be available as part of "Extract 3". We are currently undertaking a planning exercise to determine when we will be able to provide the tables affected and we will notify users via a Census Update as soon as the information becomes available.

8.2 Extract 3 tables affect all of the products and as part of the planning process we are considering how best to supply the tables. Our initial thinking is that printed reports will not be updated, but the other products will undergo a complete resupply. For instance, users who purchase a CD or a dataset from the bulk delivery will be resupplied the entire product again, at no charge, with the Extract 3 tables included.

GROS
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