

Scotland's People in Time and Space

Geography and the work of the General Register Office for Scotland

Duncan Macniven

Registrar General for Scotland



General Register Office
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SCOTLAND
information about Scotland's people

The work of GROs

- Registering births, deaths, marriages etc
- Taking the decennial census
- Using these and other sources to publish demographic statistics
- Using these and other sources for family history



An Act to provide for the better Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages in Scotland, 1854



ANNO DECIMO SEPTIMO & DECIMO OCTAVO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

C A P. LXXX.

An Act to provide for the better Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in *Scotland*.

[7th *August* 1854.]

WHEREAS it is expedient that a complete and uniform System of Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages should be established and maintained in *Scotland*: Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, as follows :

First Annual Report

SIR,

IN conformity with your Instructions, I beg to submit the following Report:—

Scotland is of an extremely irregular figure, and its Mainland is so broken up by promontories, and indented by bays or friths, that, even at its most solid part, there are very few points which are above 40 miles distant from some part of the sea, and a much greater portion of the solid land lies within 30 miles of salt water. The surface also of Scotland, unlike that of England, is, generally speaking, rugged and mountainous, and most of it so unfitted for the purposes of agriculture, that it may be questioned whether more than a third of its surface could be rendered arable. Scotland, however, is surrounded by Islands on its northern and western sides, a considerable number of which are inhabited; while the remainder are so precipitous and inhospitable, that they only afford pasture to a few sheep during summer, or are altogether abandoned to the wild sea-fowl, which build their nests in great numbers among the inaccessible cliffs.



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First Annual Report

Report.

xi

For the purposes of Registration, Scotland was, in 1855, divided into 1027 Districts; and all the subjoined Tables are prepared from the facts entered in the Register Books of these Districts. No old records exist sufficiently perfect to afford any means of comparing the varying proportion of Births, Deaths, or Marriages in Scotland for previous years; but, as the peculiar manner in which Scotland is broken up into insular and mainland portions seemed to afford peculiar facilities for studying the influence of soil, climate, season, etc., on the forms and proportions of the fatal diseases which prevail among the inhabitants of each of these localities, after considering Scotland as a whole, the various influence which an *Insular*, a *Mainland*, and, as contrasted with both, a strictly *Town* situation, bears on the proportion of Births, of Deaths, and Marriages, will be pointed out, but more especially the influence of these three localities on the prevalence and fatality of different diseases.

In 1855, the population of Scotland, estimated to the middle of the year, amounted to 3,005,958 persons, of whom 1,433,863 were males, and 1,572,095 females. For convenience of comparison, this population is divided into three great Divisions—*Insular*, *Mainland*, and *Town* popula-



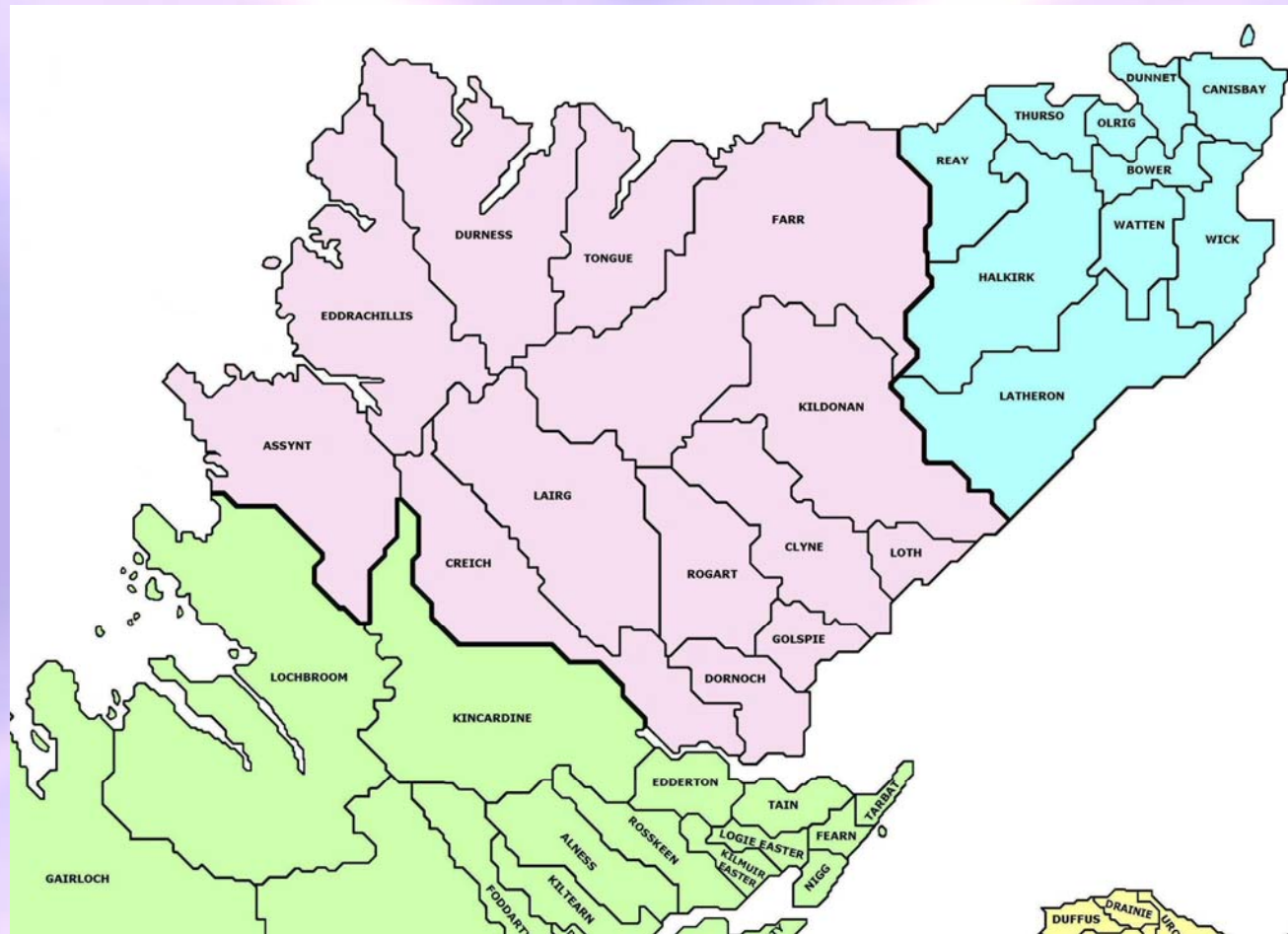
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First Annual Report

	POPULATION.		BIRTHS.		Illegitimate Births.		DEATHS.		MARRIAGES.	
	Census 1851.	Estimated 1856.	No.	Per cent. to Pop.	No.	Per cent. to Births.	No.	Per cent. to Pop.	No.	Per cent. to Pop.
Insular . .	166,487	166,487	8,788	2-24	162	4-8	2,698	1-617	724	0-434
Mainland . .	1,714,522	1,764,878	58,847	3-02	4,589	8-6	30,893	1-750	10,040	0-572
Towns . .	1,007,783	1,075,098	80,269	8-87	2,608	7-1	28,481	2-644	8,896	0-827
SCOTLAND	2,888,742	3,005,958	98,849	3-10	7,367	7-8	62,004	2-062	19,680	0-654



Registration Districts in 1855



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1861 Census

SINCE the Census of 1851 was taken, an Act has been in operation for a period of about $6\frac{1}{2}$ years whereby all the Births, Deaths, and Marriages in Scotland are entered on Public Registers. To the Registrar-General under that Act the whole arrangements for taking the Census of Scotland in 1861 were entrusted, and the machinery employed for this purpose was of course mainly that employed in the Registration of the Births, Deaths, and Marriages, assisted by Enumerators appointed under them, and superintended by the Sheriffs in Counties and by the Chief Magistrates in Burghs.



1861 Census

Greater delay has occurred in bringing out these preliminary Tables than was contemplated; *first*, from causes not foreseen in time relative to a sufficient staff of clerks at the Head Office; and *secondly*, from the returns having been taken up for the Registration Counties, which differ somewhat from the Civil Counties, and required the necessary corrections to be made in order that the Tables might give a distinct idea of the progress of the population in each County from the year 1801, when the first Census of Scotland was taken.



Geography's role today

- Family history
- Demography



ScotlandsPeople

The screenshot shows the ScotlandsPeople website in a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The browser title is "Genealogy Scottish family birth records census ancestry Scotland uk - ScotlandsPeople - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by". The address bar shows "http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/". The website header features the ScotlandsPeople logo with the tagline "Connecting Generations" and the text "The official government source of genealogical data for Scotland". A navigation menu includes "Home", "Search the Records", "What's In The Database", "Help & Other Resources", "FAQs", and "Features".

Welcome to ScotlandsPeople, one of the largest online sources of original genealogical information.

With almost 50 million records to access, we hope your visit will be enjoyable and that you are successful in connecting generations.

Free Surname Search

Surname:

Year Range: to

REGISTERED USER LOGIN

Username: Password:

[Forgotten Password?](#)

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[Access Charges](#)

LATEST UPDATE & NEWS

- [Scottish Heraldry now available on ScotlandsPeople](#)

AVAILABLE RECORDS ON THIS SITE

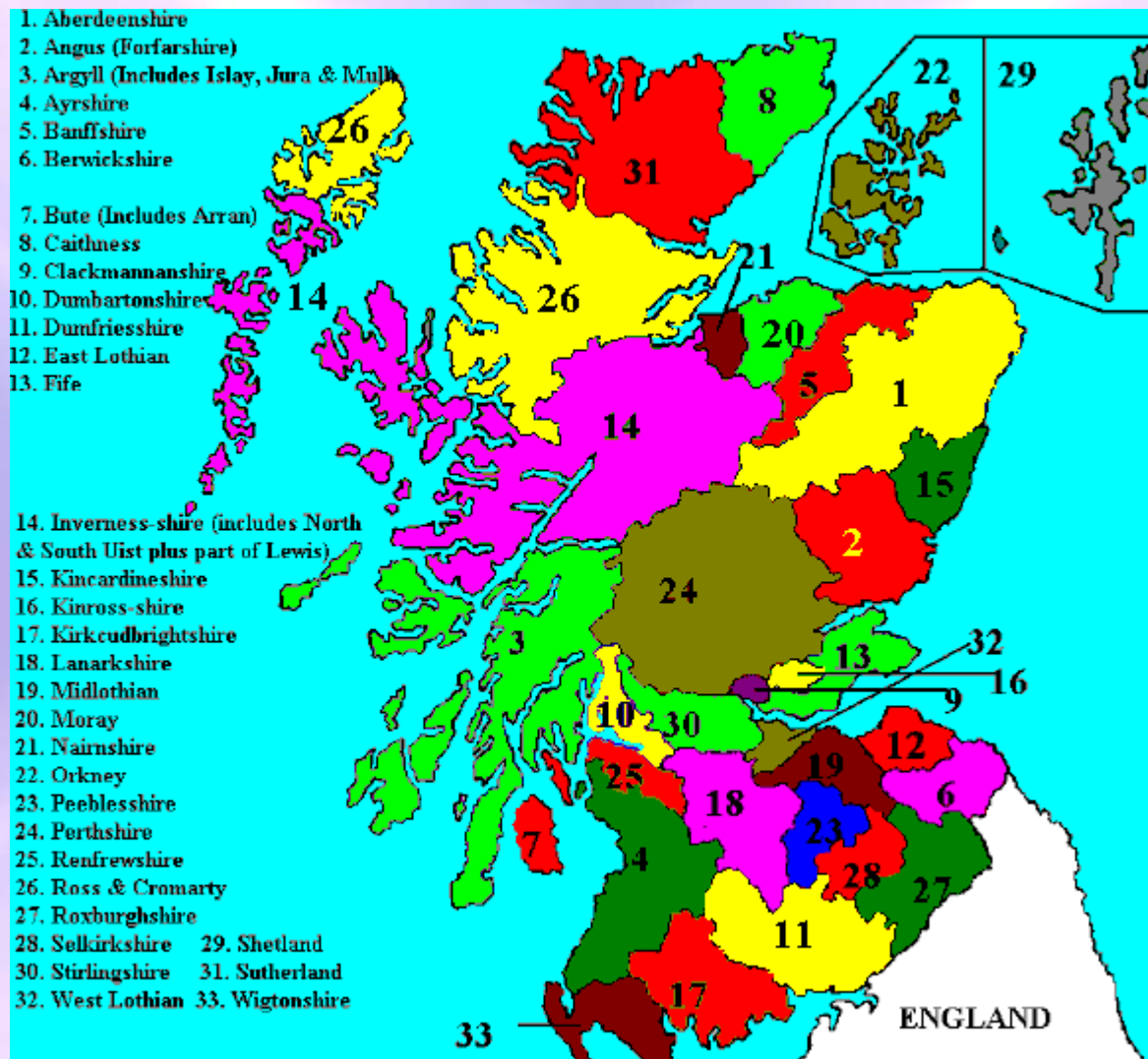
Statutory Registers	Old Parish Registers	Census Records	Other Records
» Births 1855-2006 » Marriages 1855-1932 » Deaths 1855-2006	» Births & Baptisms 1553-1854 » Banns & Marriages 1553-1854	» 1841 » 1881 » 1851 » 1891 » 1861 » 1901 » 1871	» Wills & Testaments Search 1513-1901 (Free) » Coats of Arms Search 1672-1907 (Free)

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button and several open applications: "Inbox - Microsoft...", "Microsoft Word", "Microsoft PowerPo...", "Genealogy Scottis...", and "GENUKI: County M...". The system tray shows the time as 11:22.



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To genealogists, place is important



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To genealogists, place is important



Historic view of Dundee High Street, 1878 - [RCAHMS](#)

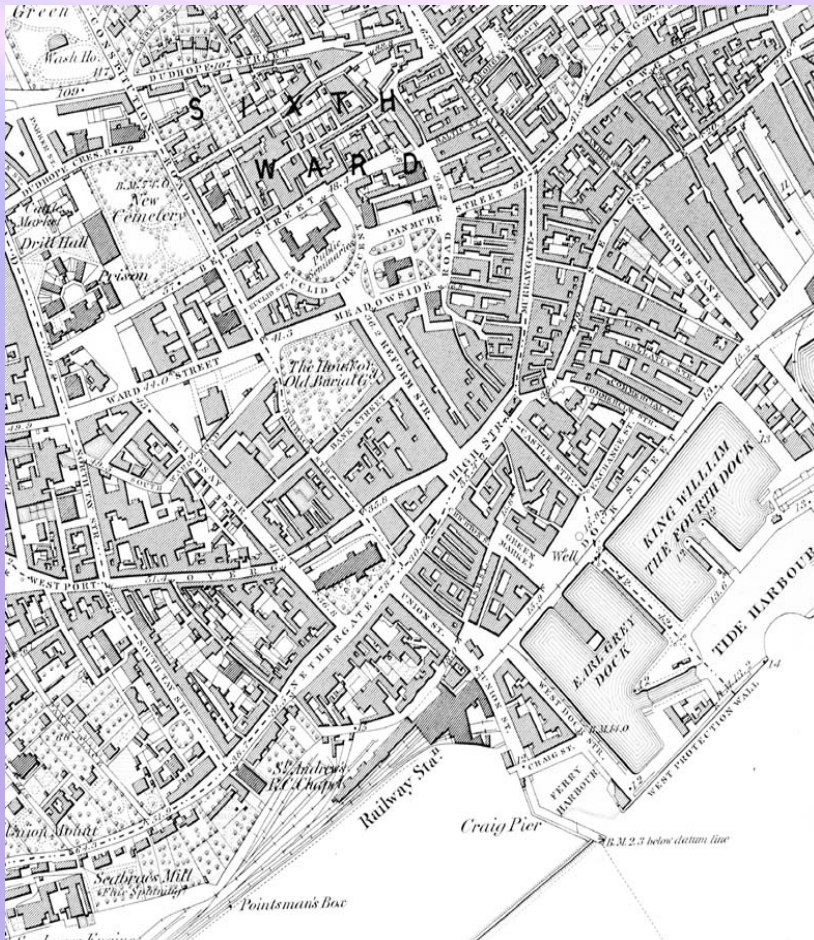
Water Wynd and Meadow Place, from Meadowside, 1873, from 'Dundee Old and New,' The Dundee Improvement Committee Album - Scottish National Photography Collection - [SNPG](#)



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To genealogists, place is important

Aerial view of
Dundee, 2005 -
RCAHMS



Detail of Forfarshire
1st edition Ordnance
Survey map of
Dundee - **RCAHMS**



Melville Terrace,
1890 - **ROS**



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To genealogists, place is important

(7179) Sept. 2. 1890.
Disch. by Trustees of the deceased ROBERT HENRY WYBRANTS, Mill Spinner and Merchant, Dundee,—*disburdening* of Bond (dated 31st Aug., and recorded in this Register 2nd Sept. 1881) for £500, by Alexander Henderson, Silk Mercer, Dundee,—16 Poles 23 yards of ground on the north side of the Turnpike Road from Dundee to Perth and bounded on the north by a Road or Street 20 Feet wide formed or to be formed, with Dwelling House, &c. thereon now forming No. 2 CLARENDON TERRACE, DUNDEE, said ground being the Stance next the westmost of the Stances into which the ground after mentioned was divided, being part of 202 Poles of ground part of the lands and Estate of BLACKNESS. Dated Aug. 27 and 28, 1890; with Warrant of Registration thereon, on behalf of said Alexander Henderson.

649. 21.

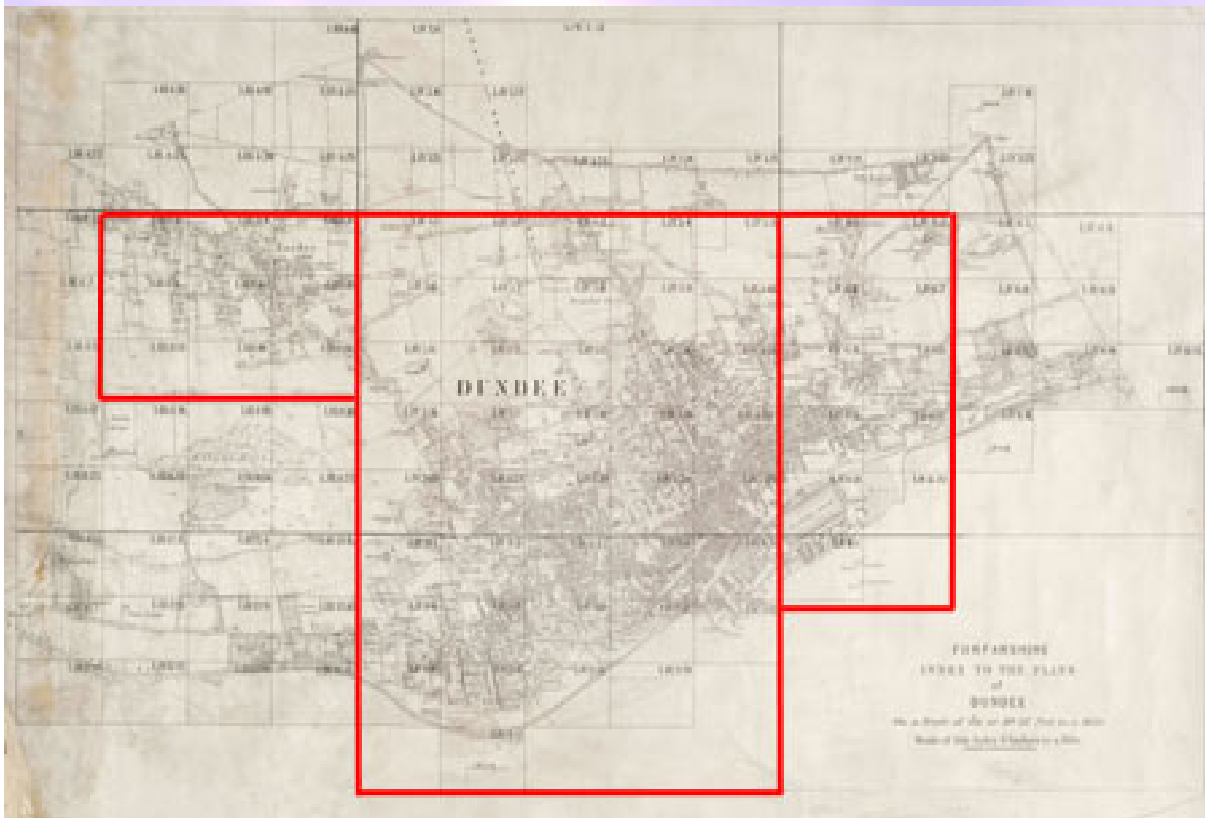
(7180) Sept. 2. 1890.
Disp. by ALEXANDER HENDERSON, Silk Mercer, Dundee, to David Scott, Spinner and Manufacturer, Dundee,—of the subjects in the immediately preceding Minute. Dated Aug. 28, 1890; with Warrant of Registration thereon, on behalf of said Grantee.

649. 24.



To genealogists, place is important

Map extremities for Dundee
1857-58 - NLS



Map
reference
zoomed in

Scotland offers a world-leading service to family historians



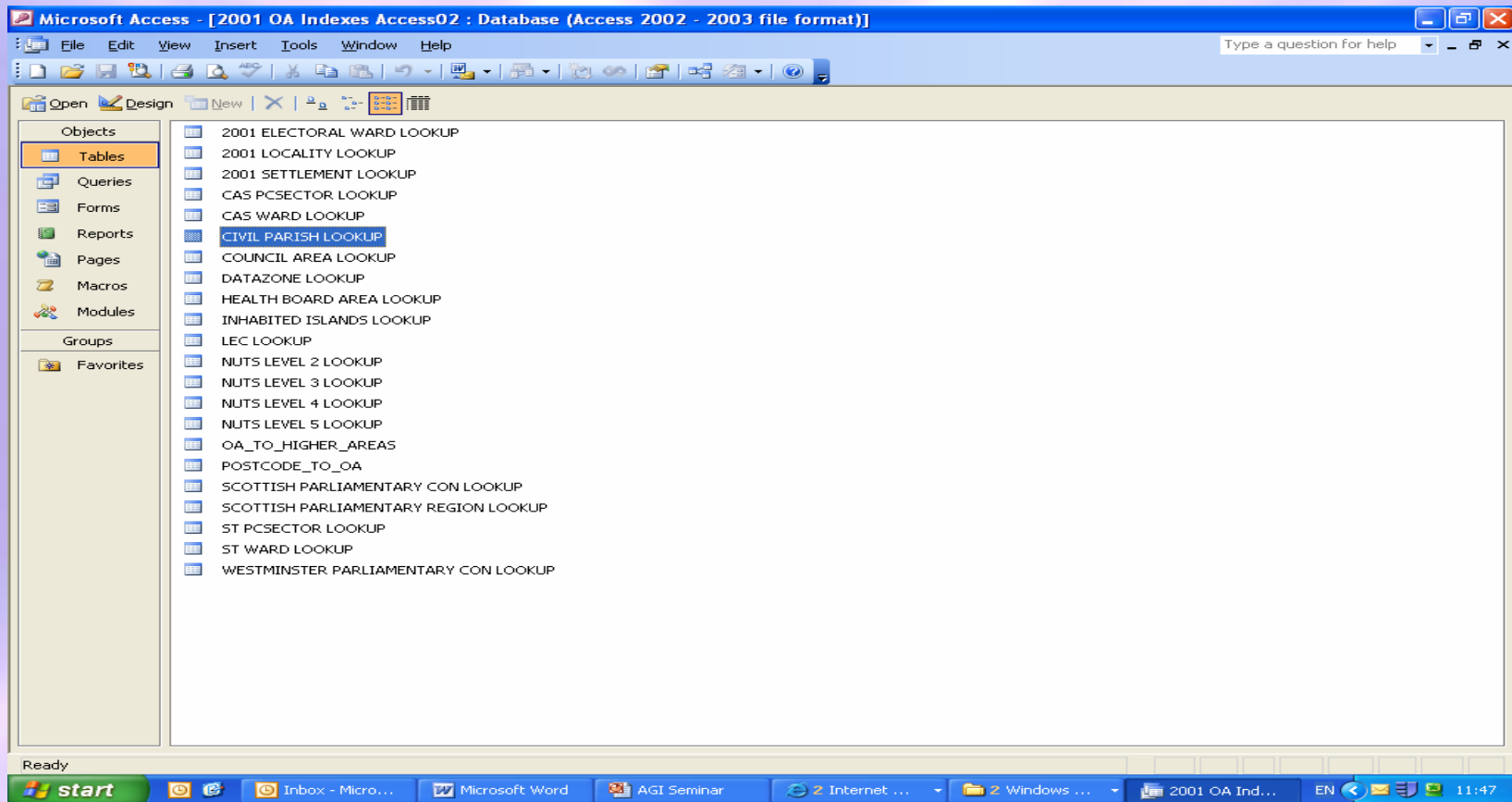
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Statistical geography

- GROS holds much geographically – referenced information about Scotland's population
- GROS pioneered use of postcode mapping for statistical purposes
- GROS maintains maps and indexes relating postcodes to higher geographies



Statistical geography index



Statistical geography - settlements



Statistical geography - settlements

Settlement	Council area	Estimated population
Aberchirder	Aberdeenshire	1,200
Aberdeen	Aberdeen City	199,790
Aberdour	Fife	1,750
Aberfeldy	Perth & Kinross	1,900
Aberfoyle	Stirling	660
Aberlady	East Lothian	900
Aberlour	Moray	790
Abernethy	Perth & Kinross	920
Aboyne	Aberdeenshire	2,270
Airth	Falkirk	1,210
Alford	Aberdeenshire	2,120



Census Outputs

- Output Area the building brick
- Group of neighbouring postcodes nesting in higher geographies (especially council areas)
- Average 20 households/50 people
- 42,604 output areas in 2001



2011 Enumeration District planning

- Key to collection of data
- Groups of contiguous whole postcodes taking into account natural and man made boundaries
- 6,500 in Scotland, responsibility of enumerator
- New EDP system in ARC GIS
- Enumerator provided with map and address list



Plans for 2011 Census outputs

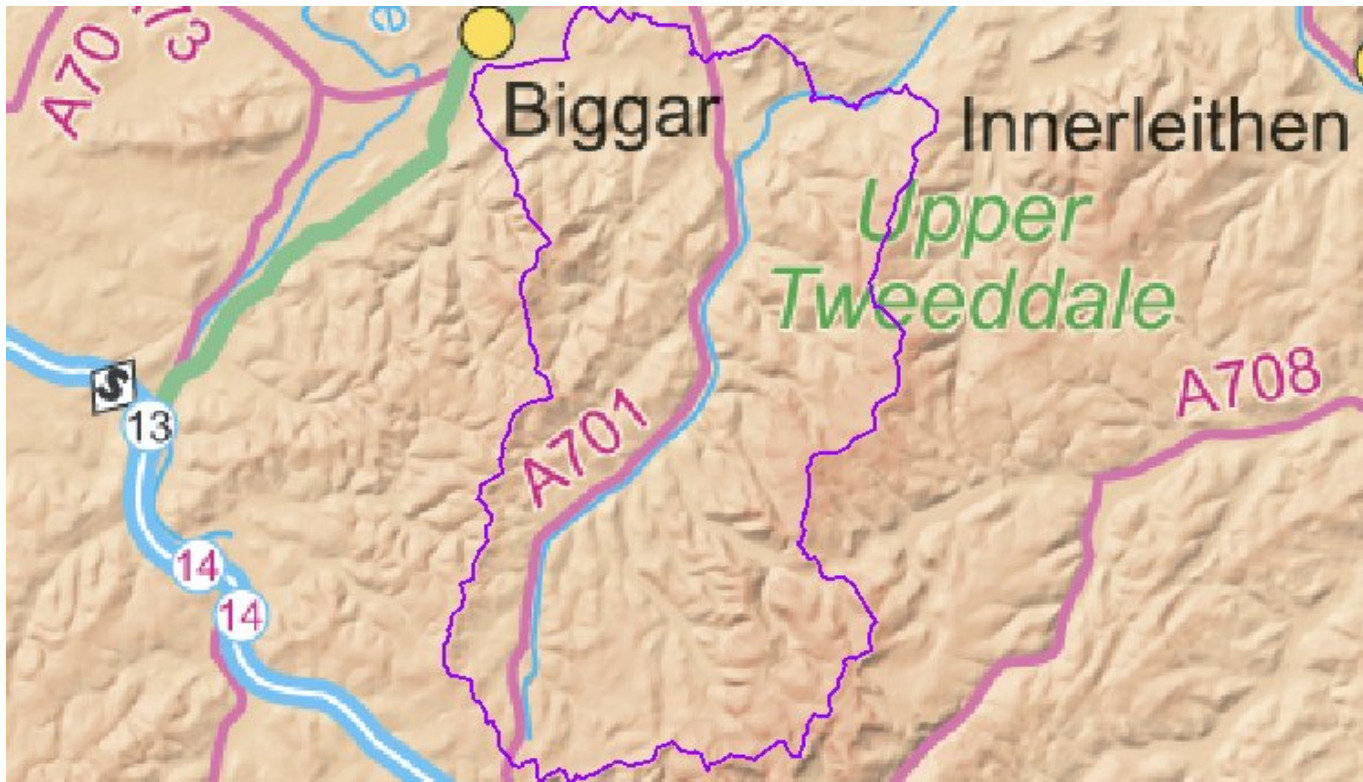
- Output Areas with minimum change from 2001
- Revisions normally splitting or merging existing output areas
- Will include Data Zones



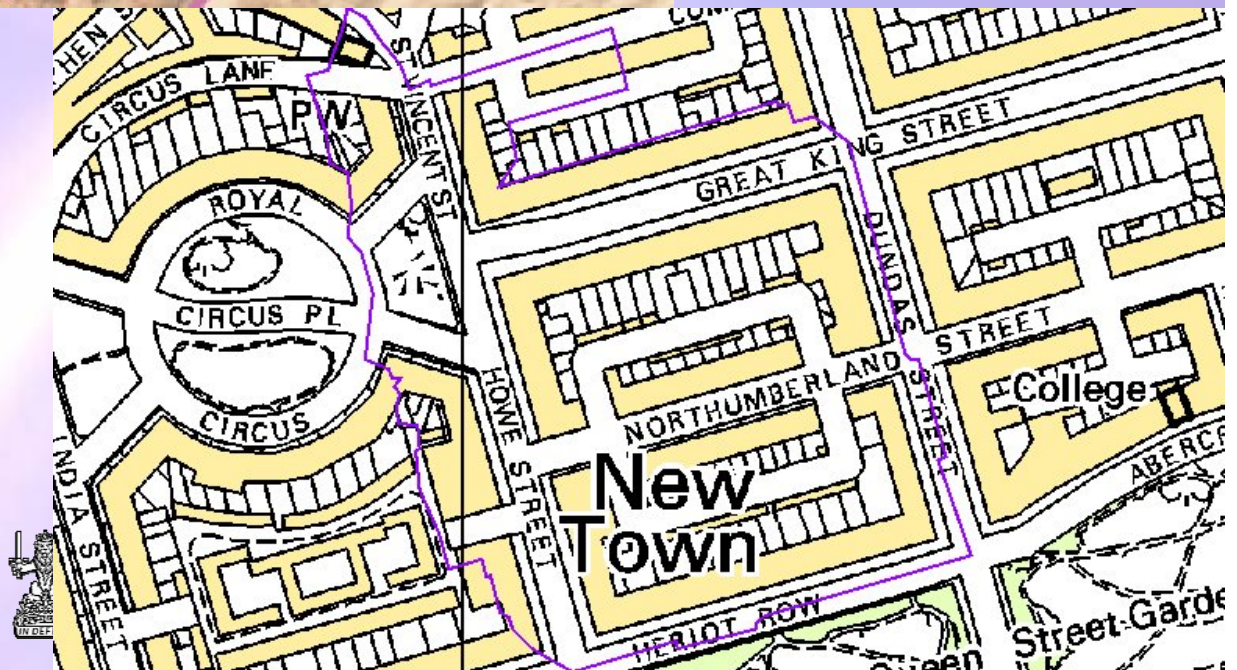
Data Zones

- Output Areas too small for many uses
- Data Zones: stable aggregations of OAs
- Compact, homogenous
- Median population 760
- 6505 in Scotland
- Aggregated to ‘Intermediate Geographies’ with mean population 4000 (1235 in Scotland)





**Data zones:
rural and
urban**



Uses of Data Zones

- Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics
- Index of deprivation
- Council and NHS board
 - service provision
 - target setting
 - performance monitoring
- Police beats
- Community Planning Partnerships
- Charities bidding for funding
- etc



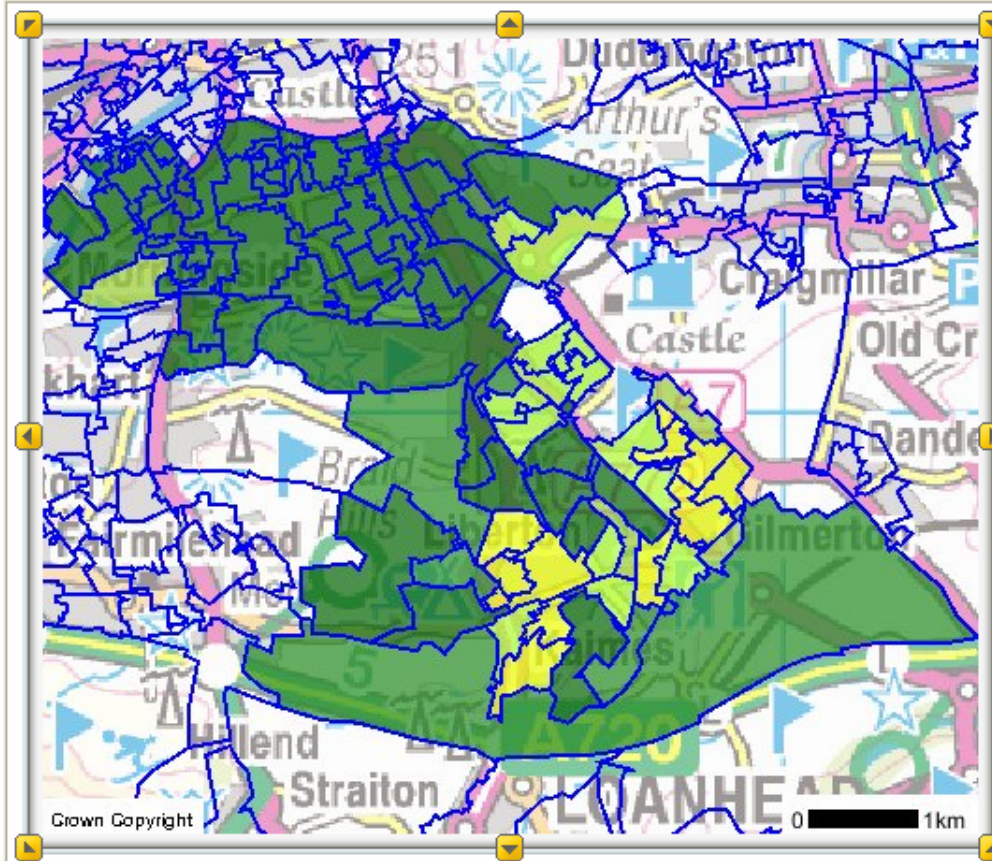


Variation report for Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Edinburgh South by Data Zone for the Topic Index of Deprivation

Variation Across an Area



Table **Maps**



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Choose Indicator

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Rank:2006

Map navigation controls including a zoom slider (1-9), a zoom in (+) button, a zoom out (-) button, and icons for search, information, print, and save.

Show/Hide Background

Select Quintile Range

National Selected Areas

- Legend Range**
- 1 to 1301
 - 1302 to 2602
 - 2603 to 3903
 - 3904 to 5204
 - 5205 to 6505

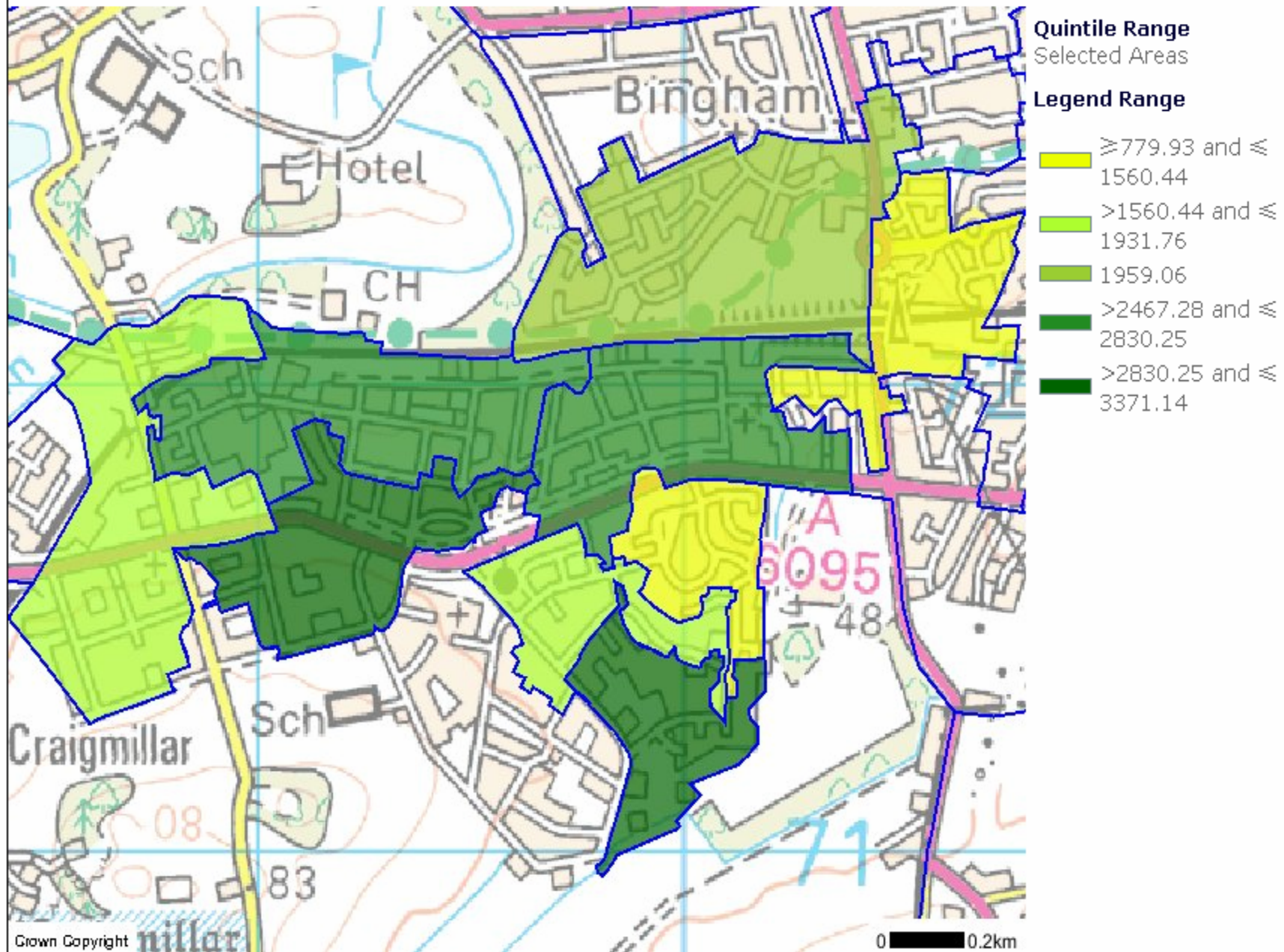
Map Help

The purpose of this screen is to let you see the area that you have included in your report and to see a visual representation of the values of the indicators. The screen provides some basic functionality to enable you to view the indicators and to navigate round the map.

If you wish to go to the Results table.

Selected Indicator

Hospital admissions for alcohol misuse - rate per 100000 population:2001-2004





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Registrar General for
Scotland

Chairman
Scottish Government's
Geography Steering Group



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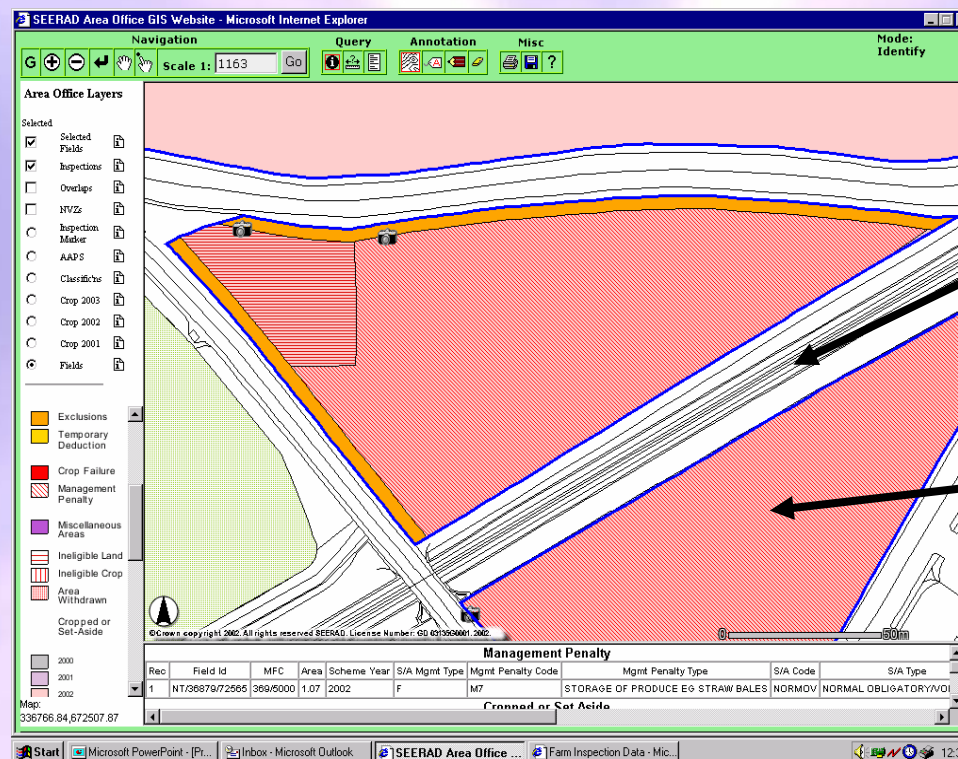
Geographic information used widely

- *Scottish Government* Agriculture support
Drinking Water Quality Regulation
- *Registers of Scotland* Land and Property Registration
- *SEPA* Flood warning system
- *SNH* Site Designation and Management
Species Protection
- *Transport Scotland* Trunk Road network Management
- *RCAHMS* CanMore/CanMap public information
- *Historic Scotland* Ancient Monument Scheduling/Protection
- *Emergency Services* Command and Control Systems
- *Local Authorities* Planning, Education, Social Work,
Environmental Health systems
- *NHS* Statistics and demographic analysis;
Property Management
- etc



Geographic information used widely

The Government's map base



Ordnance Survey data is usually the basic layer.

Other layers are added "on top".



Geographic information used widely

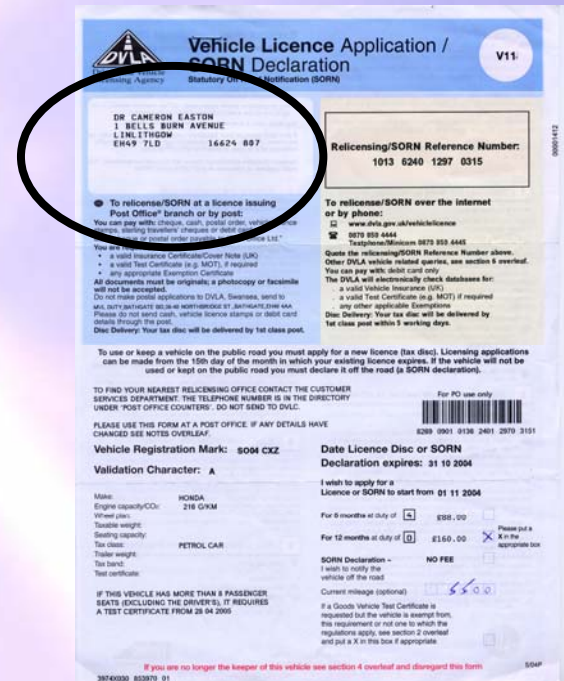
Your spatial reference is a key part of your identity



*Place of birth =
Nationality*



*Address contributes to
establishment of identity*



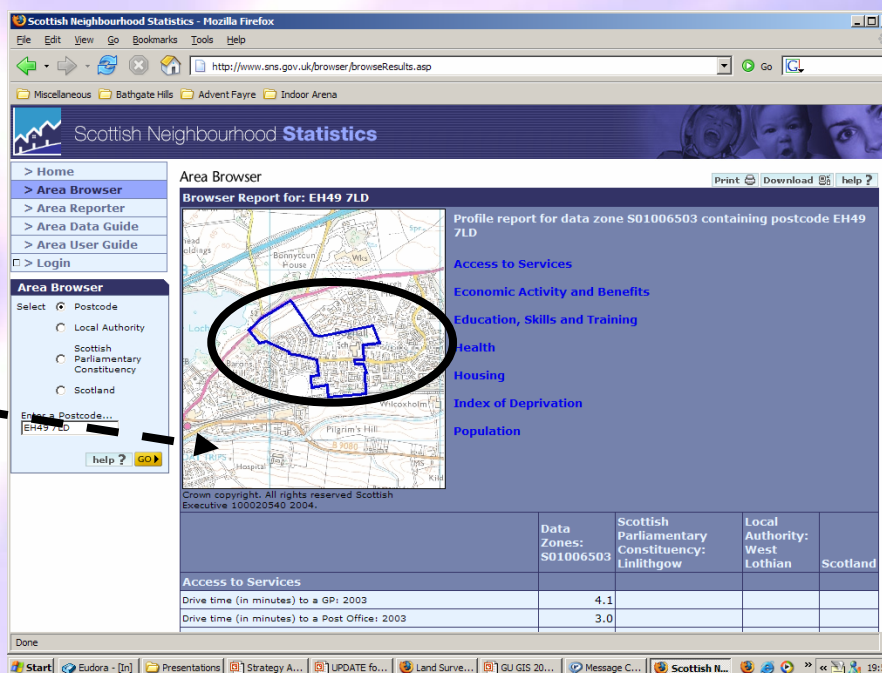
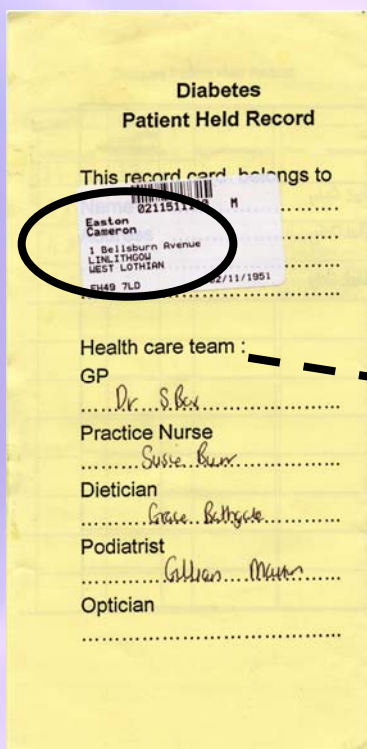
Address allows access to services



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Geographic information used widely

Address is the key to information - about you and about Scotland



Your address is key part of the information held about you

Address is key to aggregating information to provide Scotland's Spatial Statistics



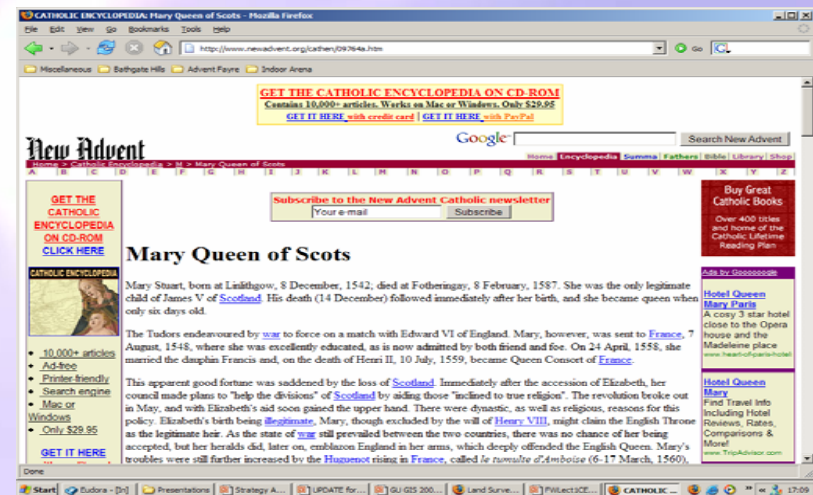
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Geographic information used widely

Place names unlock the Archives and Libraries



Place names are not usually considered part of a GIS



But they open up different types of spatial information



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..... and a lot of money spent on it

- Rural GIS infrastructure project - £1 million
- Other public sector infrastructure costs - £?
- Ordnance Survey data - £5 million annually
- Height data for flood warning - £1.5 million
- Other public sector data costs - £?
- National Address Gazetteer - £9 million
- e-Planning - £10 million
- etc

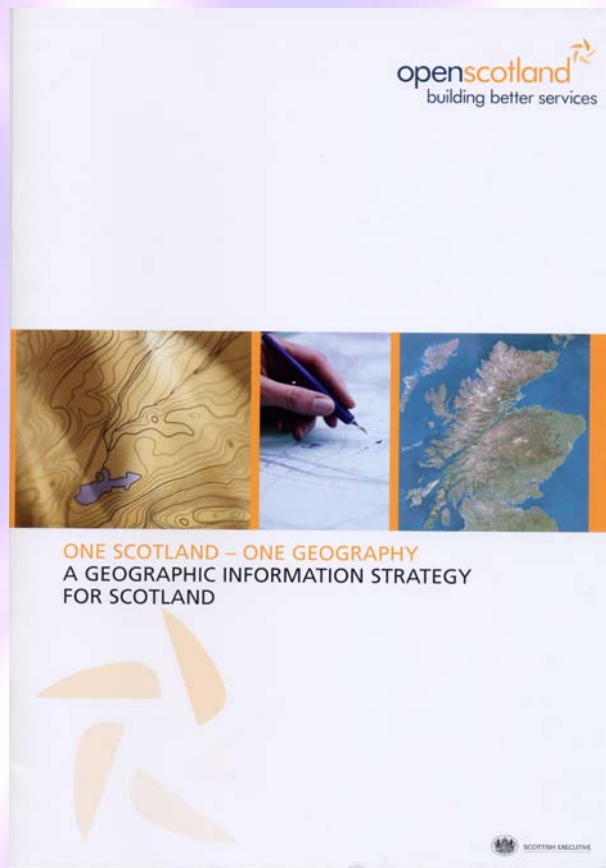


So



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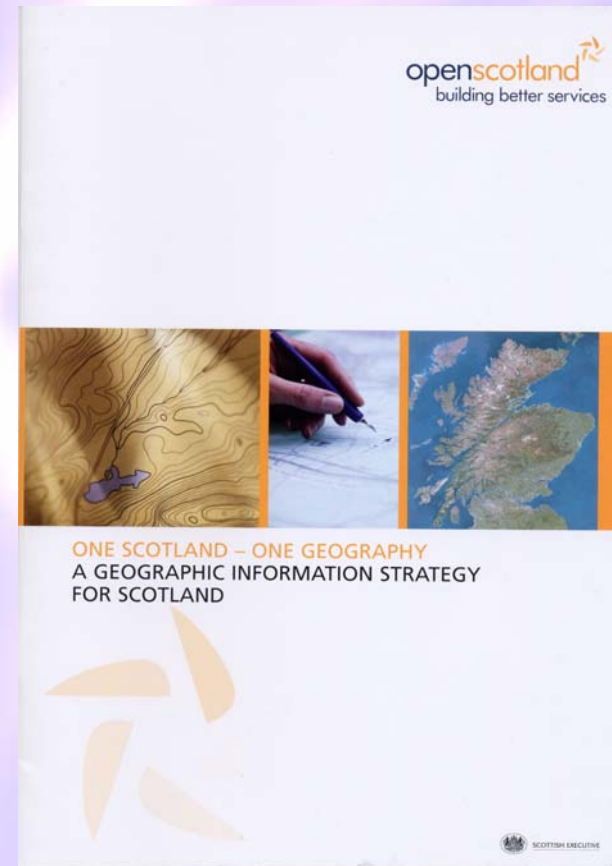
‘One Scotland – One Geography’



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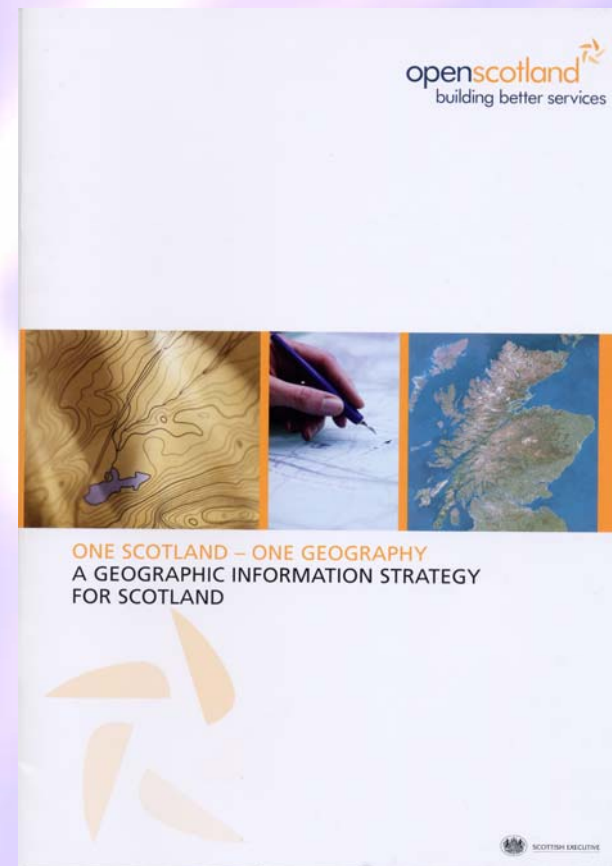
‘One Scotland – One Geography’

- First GI strategy for Scotland
- Consultation
- Published November 2005
- Ministerial backing
- Aims to overcome the barriers to maximising the use and value of geographic information, for the benefit of Scotland



‘One Scotland – One Geography’

- Vision and leadership
- Availability of information
- Sharing of information
- Promotion of use of information
- Technical standards



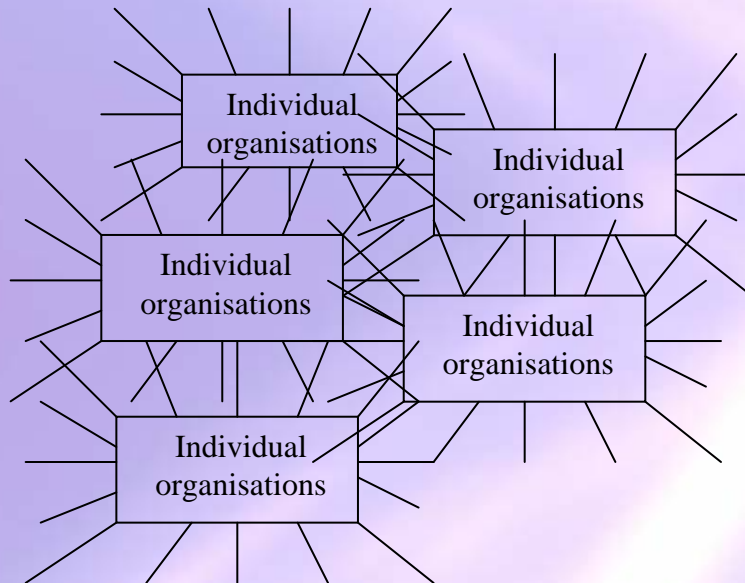
‘One Scotland – One Geography’

- Not a giant IT project with data warehouse at its core
- Sharing of up to date geographic information
- Agreement to share key geographies
- Infrastructure which allows sharing



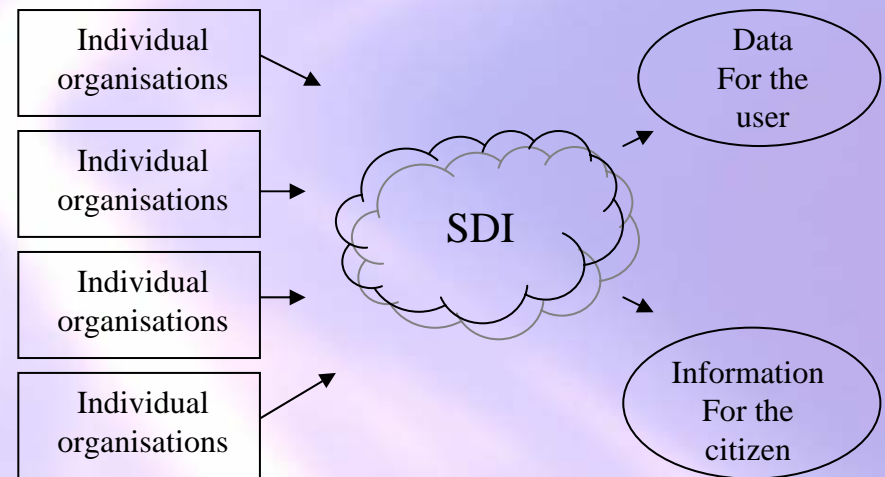
‘One Scotland – One Geography’

2006



- Individual organisations
- Individual development
- Individual priorities
- Duplication of effort
- Gaps in data/information
- Inefficient service provision

2011



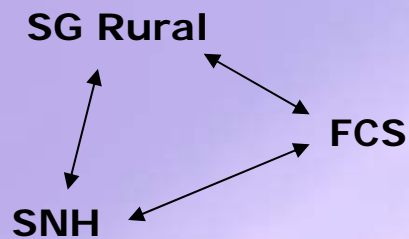
- Co-ordinated organisations
- Co-ordinated development
- Scottish priorities
- Integrated approach
- Shared infrastructure
- Cost/efficiency savings



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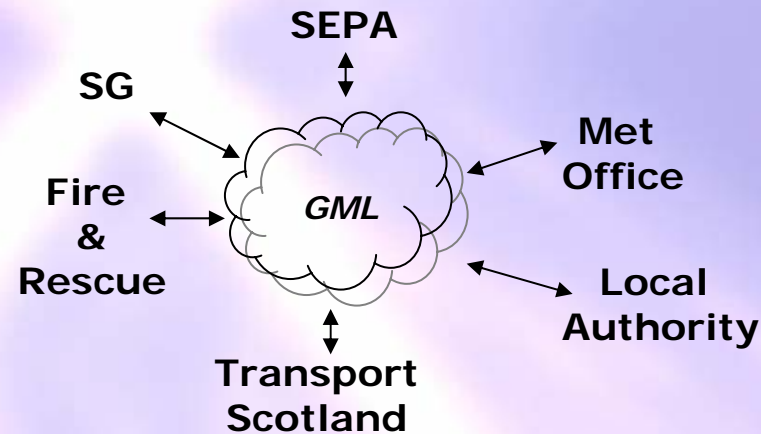
Good work is being done

Proof of Concept – 1 Single Rural Development Payment



- *Develop mechanism to share boundary data*

Proof of Concept – 2 Emergency Response System



- *Define key datasets for emergency response*
- *Develop mechanism to share key data*
- *Link emergency response system to police Alert system*



Good work is being done

Data held by 32 local authorities



Data served to Scottish public sector bodies

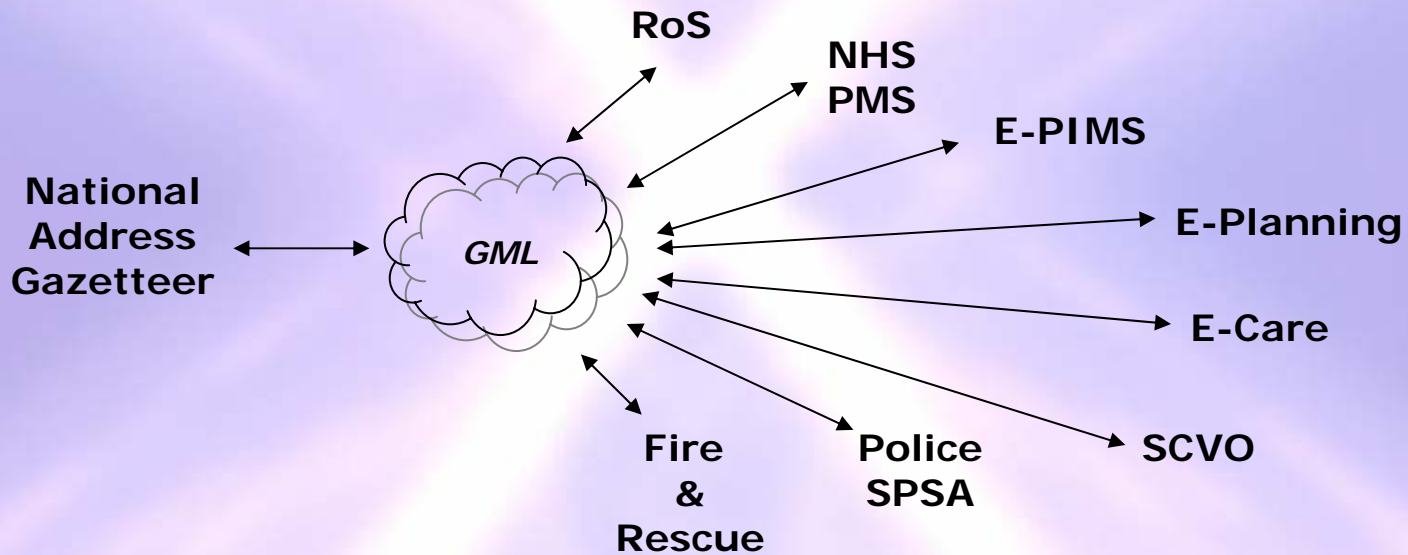
Data collated by National Address Gazetteer

- *Development cost = £10 million*
- *Sustainable data creation and management*
- *Policy that public sector will use the National Gazetteer*
- *Phased adoption 2008 - 2011*



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Good work is being done

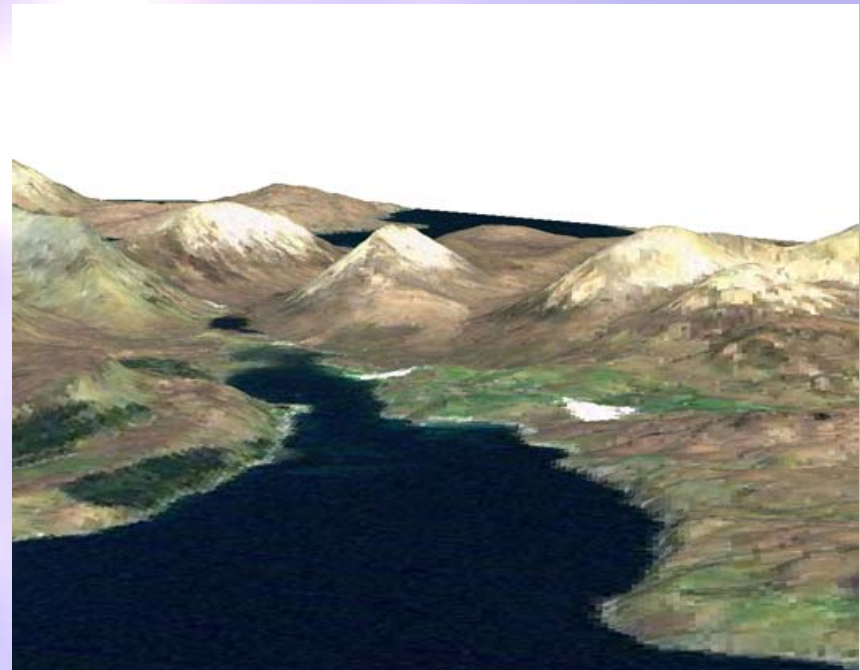
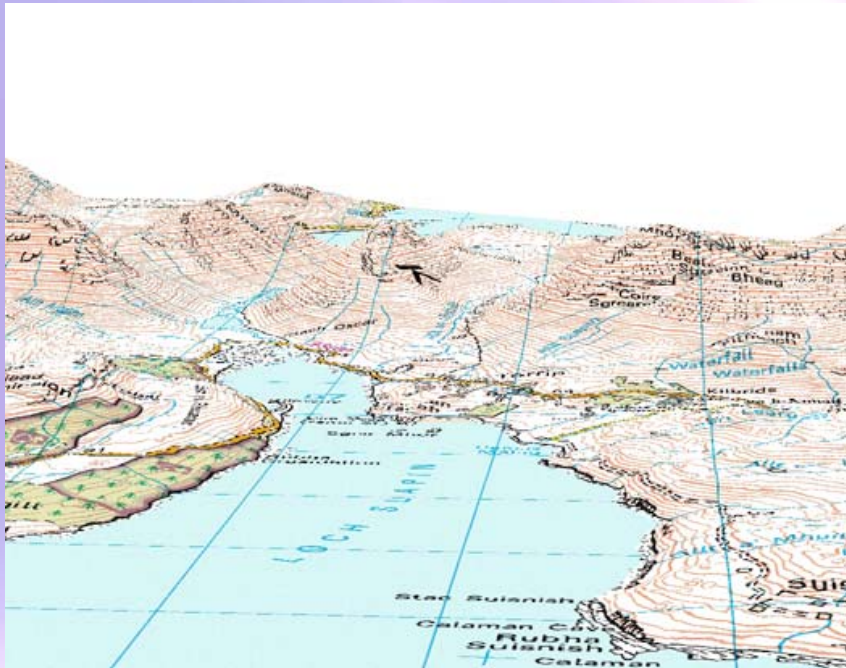


- *NAG data as core address in other national address datasets*



Good work is being done

- *Procurement of key spatial data*



Good work is being done

Site Last Updated: 18-Sep-2008 16-Oct-2008

Scottish Executive Policy Restriction - Active. removed. This page may not display properly.

Site Search Powered By Google

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- Homepage
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- Services**
 - Strategy Development
 - Project Management
 - Consultancy
 - Bureau Services
 - Training
 - Development
 - Data Management
 - Technologies
- Case Studies
- Customers
- Contact Info
- Vacancies
- Links
- Site map

Homepage » Services

forthvalleygis provide a one stop shop for all your gis needs

strategy development

technologies

project management

consultancy

bureau services

training

development

data management

ICS Institute of Customer Service



Good work is being done

- Forth Valley GIS
- Building on established shared service
- Professional and imaginative
- Good customer links: councils and public
- Scope for wider access
- Not only transforming Forth Valley's geography
- But also Scotland's



Good work is being done

South Ayrshire Council South West Scotland - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Scottish Government

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Council Newsletters

Community Planning Partnership

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Tel: 0845 601 2020

Switchboard

Iceland Bank Situation and its Impact on South Ayrshire Council

Latest Council News

23 October 2008

[Date For Your Diary - Christmas Light Ceremony](#)

South Ayrshire Council Provost Winifred Sloan will switch on the Christmas lights at a star studded event in Wellington Square in Ayr that starts at 3 pm on Sunday 23 November 2008.

21 October 2008

[Park Smart And Keep Children Safe At Belmont Academy](#)

South Ayrshire Council and Strathclyde Police are working together to encourage people taking Belmont Academy pupils to and from school by car not to park irresponsibly when dropping off or collecting their children from school.

21 October 2008

[Trading Standards Announce The Result of Fair Measure Fortnight](#)

46% of measures tested contain less than stated amount.

A to Z of Council Services

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

More: [Planning](#) [Licensing](#) [Schools](#) [Housing](#) [Building Standards](#)

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[Homecoming Scotland 2009](#)

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Online Services

- Apply For It
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About My Property

Information about where you live and services nearby.

Postcode

Recycling and Refuse

Your bin collection day.

Postcode

Your Council

- Committee Services
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- Consultations
- Councillors
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start

3 Microsoft Office O... 0809objves ps - Micr... South Ayrshire Council...

EN 13:04

Good work is being done

Maps and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Scottish Government

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Contact

Customer Services
Tel: 0845 601 2020

South Ayrshire Council
County Buildings,
Wellington Square,
Ayr KA7 1DR

Home \ GIS and Maps

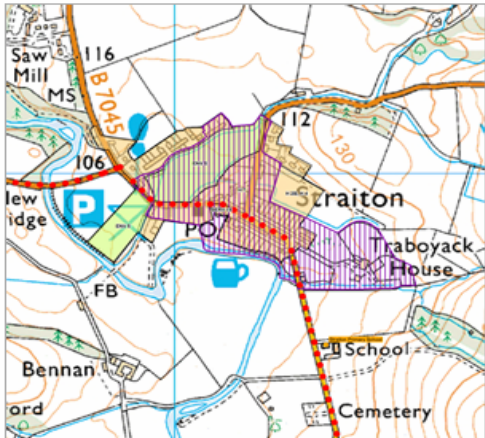
South Ayrshire Council Maps and Geographical Information Systems (GIS)

South Ayrshire Council offers a number of online GIS facilities which are integrated throughout this web site. A GIS creates maps from data pulled from databases and both static maps and interactive maps are provided for a variety of applications. You can find out more about GIS and geographic information from the [Ordnance Survey](#) website.

Please note that while South Ayrshire Council has designed these applications for users on a standard internet connection, the maps are generated as images using the Council's interactive mapping system and it may still take several seconds to download each map image.

General Interactive Maps

- [About My Property](#)
Access key Council related information about where you live



About My Property
Information about where you live and services nearby.
Postcode

Recycling and Refuse
Your bin collection day.
Postcode

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Done Internet

start 3 Microsoft Office O... 0809objves ps - Micr... Maps and Geographi... Microsoft PowerPoint ... EN 13:06

Good work is being done

South Ayrshire Council - About my property - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Scottish Government

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- Business
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About My Property

Your search returned the following property:

Address: 0 Doonholm Park Ayr South Ayrshire
Identifier: 000141059640
Location: 234020mE, 617976mN

>> [Show location on interactive map](#)
>> Wrong information? [Report this here](#).
>> [Change location](#)



Click on one of the tabs below to find out information about this property. Find my Nearest will display Council and other services near to this property.

Council & Democracy	Council Tax	Accessing Services	Schools & Learning	Planning & Building Standards	Waste Collection Information	Find my Nearest
--------------------------------	--------------------	---------------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	------------------------

South Ayrshire Council elections

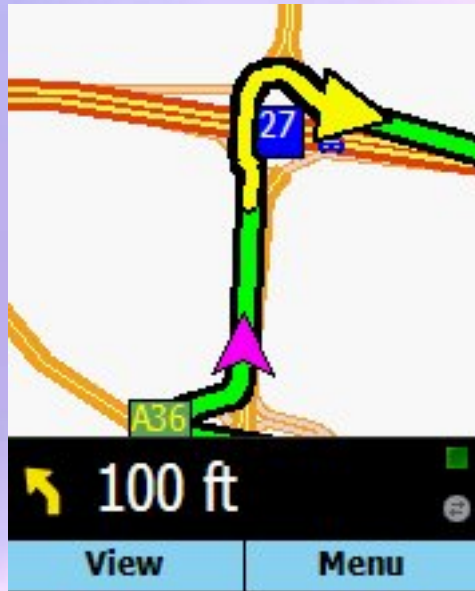
Ward	Polling District	Polling Place
5 :: Ayr West	S505	ALLOWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

			
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

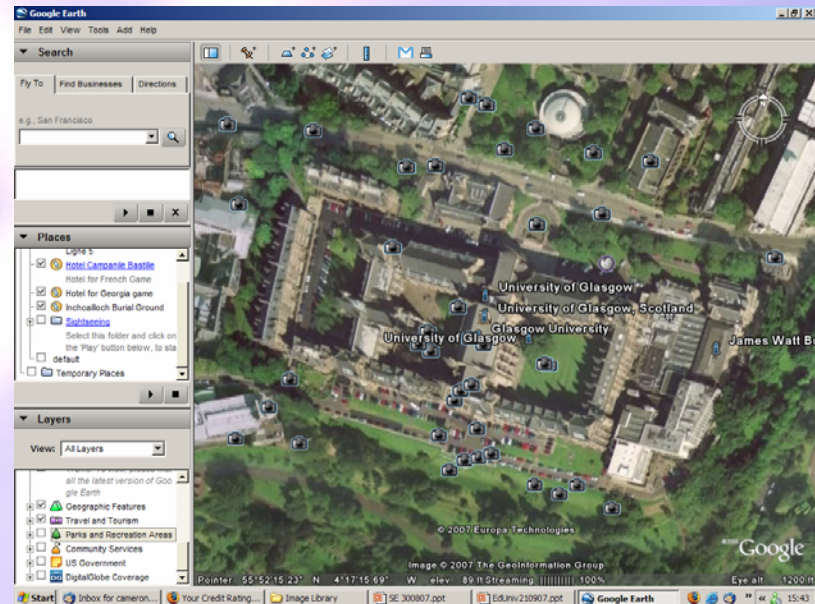
start | Inboxes - Microsoft Out... | South Ayrshire Council... | Microsoft PowerPoint ... | EN | 14:11

Scope to do a lot more

Technology will continue to improve



People will use spatial information without thinking about it



People will expect the public sector to provide information in the way they can get it at home



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Scope to do a lot more

Expectations will continue to increase



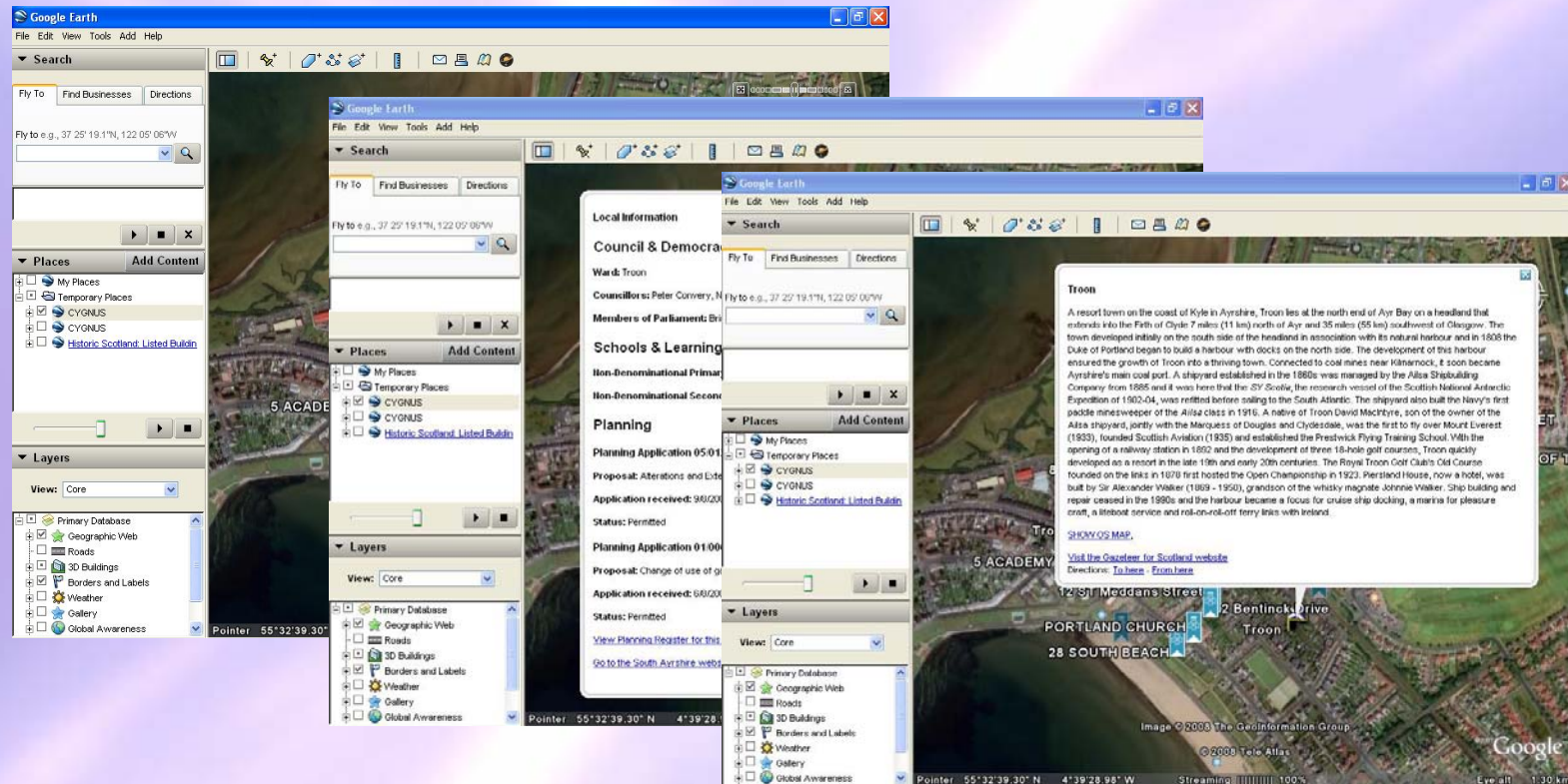
*High quality spatial information
is increasingly available in the media*

*People will expect the public sector
to meet the same standards*



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Scope to do a lot more



Scope to do a lot more

LOOK AT INFORMATION ABOUT SCOTLAND

DOWNLOAD DATA ABOUT SCOTLAND

USE A SCOTTISH PUBLIC SERVICE

ADDRESS

1 Bellsburn Ave

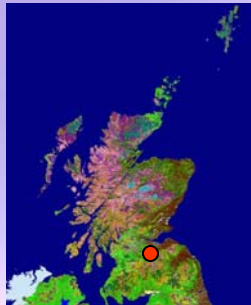
POST CODE

EH49 7LD

LOCATION

GRANGEMOUTH

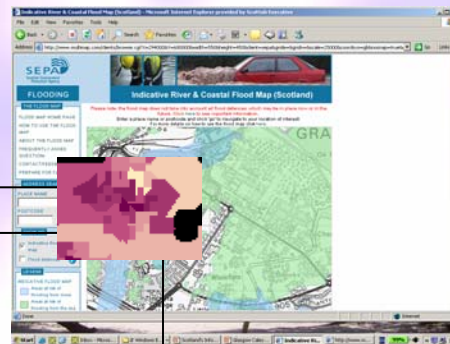
MAP



Local Primary School

Rec	NAME	ADDRESS1	ADDRESS2	ADDRESS3	POSTCODE
1	Grangemouth Day Nursery	Abbots Road	Grangemouth		FK3 8JB

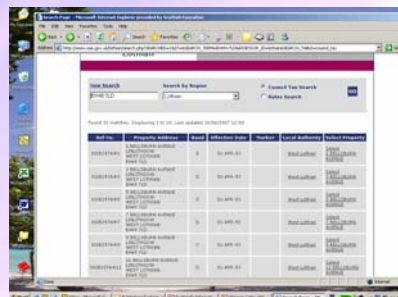
Risk of Flooding



School Performance

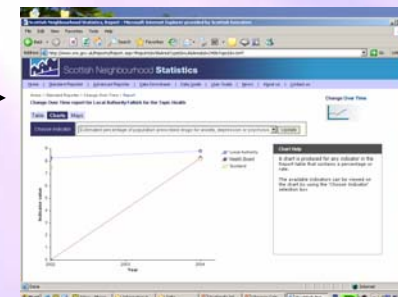


Council Tax Details



Quality of Life Deprivation Index

Trends – Alcohol/Drugs



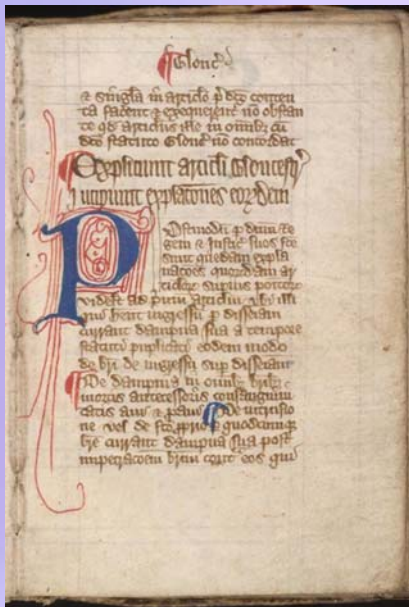
- Culture
- Education
- Environment
- Rural Scotland
- Health
- Leisure
- Public Safety
- Emergencies
- Business
- Transport
- Land & Property
- Utilities



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Scope to do a lot more

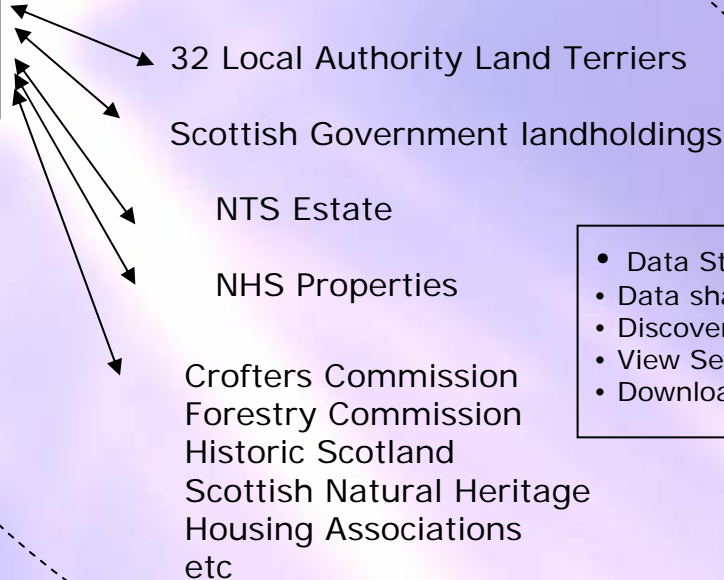
National Land & Property Register



Benefits:

- **Advances RoS Registration**
- **Avoids duplication of Land & property data**
- **Creates opportunity for shared service**

Registers of Scotland
Property Registration



A Shared Service?

- Data Standards
- Data sharing
- Discovery service
- View Services
- Download Services

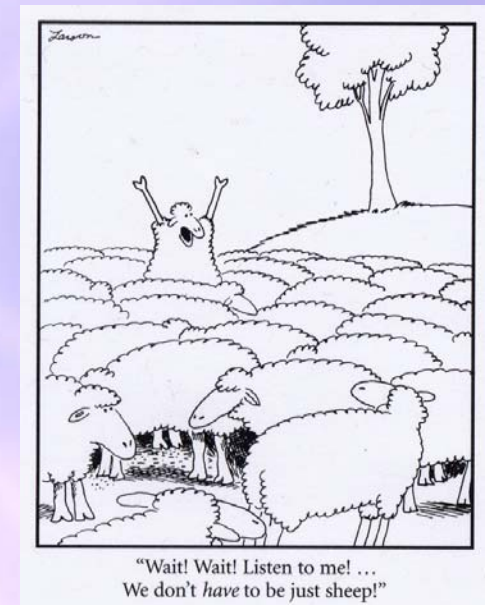
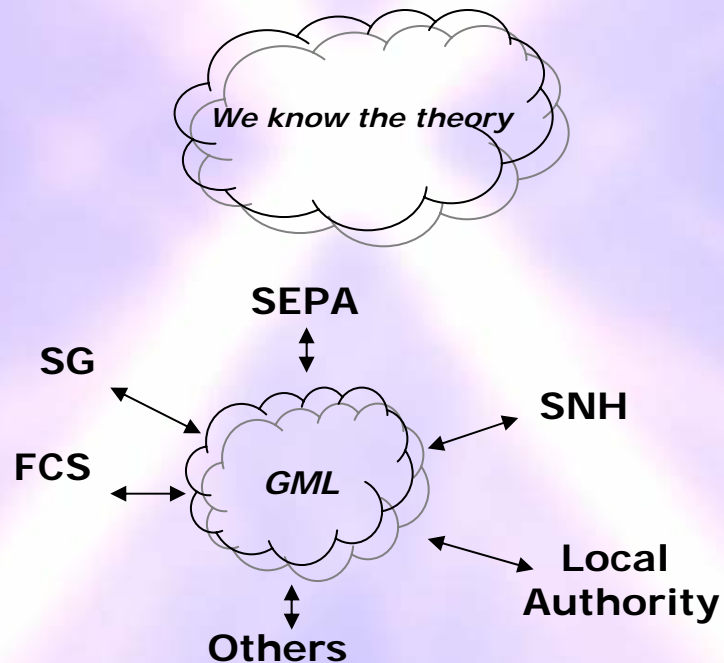


Scope to do a lot more

This means data sharing/standards/web services



Data sharing between Rural Agencies/NDPBs



But do our people know how to do it?



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And still significant challenges

- Organisations act independently
- Duplication of effort
 - Multiple acquisition of data/software
 - Replicated storage of the same data.
- Gaps in data coverage
- Ineffective use of resources
 - Multiple “data warehouses” to manage same datasets
 - Replicated system development and management costs
- Barriers to data sharing
- Gaps in information delivery
- Inefficient service provision



The European dimension



- INSPIRE
- European Framework Directive
- General rules to establish *Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe*



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INSPIRE components

- Metadata
- Interoperability of spatial datasets and services
- Network services – Discovery, View, Download, Invoke
- Data and service sharing
- Co-ordination, monitoring & reporting



INSPIRE priority data sets

ANNEX I

- **Co-ordinate Reference Systems**
- **Geographical Grid Systems**
- **Geographical names**
- **Administrative Units**
- **Addresses**
- **Cadastral Parcels**
- **Transport Networks**
- **Hydrography**
- **Protected Sites**

ANNEX II

- **Elevation**
- **Land Cover**
- **Ortho-Imagery**
- **Geology**



INSPIRE other key data sets

ANNEX III

- **Statistical Units**
- **Buildings**
- **Soil**
- **Land Use**
- **Human Health & Safety**
- **Utility & Government Services**
- **Environmental Monitoring Facilities**
- **Production & Industrial Facilities**
- **Agriculture & Industrial Facilities**
- **Population Distribution - Demography**
- **Area Management, Restriction, Regulation Zones & Reporting Units**
- **Natural Risk Zones**
- **Atmospheric Conditions**
- **Meteorological Geographical Units**
- **Oceanographic Geographical Features**
- **Sea Regions**
- **Bio-Geographical Units**
- **Habitats & Biotopes**
- **Species Distribution**
- **Energy Resources**
- **Mineral Resources**

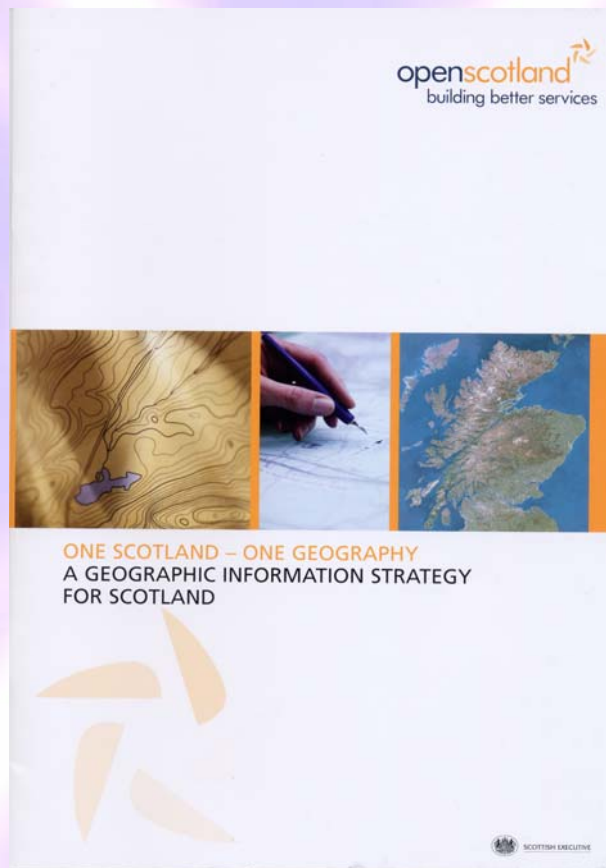


INSPIRE next steps

- Transpose Directive into UK legislation
 - next Spring
- Fulfil INSPIRE dataset requirements
 - 2009-2013
 - We don't yet know what this will actually mean
 - But it will include
 - *Defining metadata*
 - *Ensuring interoperability of spatial datasets and services*
 - *Developing network services – Discovery, View, Download, Invoke*
 - *Ensuring data and service sharing*



‘One Scotland – One Geography’



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Scotland's People in Time and Space

Geography and the work of the General Register Office for Scotland

Duncan Macniven

Registrar General for Scotland



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