

CENSUS UPDATES

1 Introduction

1.1 This paper is for information. It introduces Census Updates – a web based newsletter which will replace Census News.

2 Census Updates

2.1 We intend to replace Census News with Census Updates, which will focus on Census events in Scotland. Similar approaches are being taken in the other UK Census Offices who have retained the name of Census News.

2.2 Census Updates will be primarily web based and will be used to inform users of Scottish Census developments. The Update itself will consist of an email with a short paragraph summarising the content of the Update with a link to the text of the Update on our site. From August 2002 onwards, the Updates will be used to inform users of the release of the Scottish Census results. Where possible, links to standard or comparable content in the other UK Census Offices will be provided to serve those with UK wide interests.

2.3 Paper copies will be available for those users who do not have access to the internet or prefer to receive paper based information.

2.4 There are three reasons for moving to Web based publication. First, a large proportion of readers already receive e-mails with links to the Web version. Second, GROS will be issuing a Web based guide to 2001 Scottish Census Output later this month; this will be frequently up-dated as products are finalised and the results become available, and the newsletter would be closely tied to it as well as to other information on our Website. Third is the reduced delay in informing readers of news. Census Updates will be issued as and when new developments occur rather than the Census News approach which required input from the Census Offices and different areas within the Census – reducing the timeliness of the information.

2.5 The first Census Update will be issued later this month and will announce the availability of the guide to Scottish Census Results (PAMS (02) 14).

3 Distribution

3.1 A distribution list has been compiled which consists of all persons on the Census News distribution list, members of PAMS, anyone who registered an interest in Demography and Neighbourhood Statistics on SCOTSTAT and anyone who registered an interest in SCROL. Anyone who wants to register or confirm that they are already should contact GROS customer Services by email on customer@gro-scotland.gov.uk or by telephone on 0131 314 4254

Garnett Compton
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