



2 May 2008

STATISTICAL PUBLICATION NOTICE

SCOTTISH NEIGHBOURHOOD STATISTICS INTERNET SITE UPDATE

Highlights of the 2 May 2008 Update

The latest quarterly update of the Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics (SNS) internet site and database was carried out today.

The main highlights of this update include Scottish Qualifications Authority data for S4, S5 and S6 at data zone level for 2006, while Pupil Profile data for 2007 is also available at data zone level. Immunisations data has been added at data zone level and Drugs Misuse data added at local authority level, both for 2007. Dwellings data for 2007 at data zone level has also been included. A new indicator topic for Transport statistics has been added offering a variety of data on road accidents, fuel consumption, expenditure on roads, road conditions and traffic on the roads.

A 6th Standard Report entitled the 'Specialist Report' has been added to the site. This report shows a table of key statistics for less commonly used geographical areas relevant to people living or working in these areas or those responsible for related policy or service delivery. The number of new geographies added to this report is expected to increase over time as demand arises and currently includes geographies such as Scottish Parliamentary Regions, Regional Transport Partnerships and Urban Regeneration Companies. The indicators for each report have been pre-determined either to provide a set of interesting statistics for a less common geographical area or to act as a set of performance indicators. It should be noted that these additional geographies do not form part of the SNS family of standard geographies and as such are not available for use elsewhere on the site and indicators included cannot be displayed thematically.

The indicators and further information on the update is available at www.sns.gov.uk.

BACKGROUND NOTES

1. Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics is the Scottish Government's ongoing programme to improve the availability, consistency and accessibility of small area statistics in Scotland. The SNS internet site provides statistics about local communities and makes use of the data zone small area geography which contains on average 750 residents.

2. Local communities can be expressed in terms of groups of these data zones, and the internet site contains a wide range of socio-economic statistics describing the characteristics of these communities. New socio-economic data is added on a quarterly basis and this will allow change in the circumstances of local communities to be better understood.

3. This information is being used to inform the Scottish Government's approach to improving the quality of life for people living in Scotland and especially in the most disadvantaged areas. The information is also invaluable to Community Planning Partnerships and public sector agencies

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where the availability of up-to-date high quality information is crucial to the way in which services are developed and delivered and issues of local concern are addressed. It will also help community groups bring together information to support grant applications.

Contact us to improve Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics

4. We would welcome any comments or suggestions that would help us to improve Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics. Matt Perkins or John Fraser at the Scottish Government can be contacted on 0131 244 0442 or neighbourhood.statistics@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

5. A new Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics User Forum has been launched. Users of Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics can view examples of best practice, reference material and respond to the SNS Blog. An events calendar and FAQs sections are also available. The Forum can be viewed at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/sns>.

6. If you would like to be consulted about new or existing statistical collections or to receive notification of forthcoming statistical publications, please register your statistical interest on the Scottish Government ScotStat internet site at www.scotland.gov.uk/ScotStat.