

Presentation of the GeoPlace Exemplar Awards 2012

Friends House, London
25th October 2012



Luke Studden, LLPG Custodian, London Borough of Harrow and David Miller, Web & GIS Team Leader, London Borough of Harrow receiving the '2012 Exemplar' Award from Richard Mason, Managing Director of GeoPlace

Background

This year's GeoPlace Exemplar Awards were presented at the 'Everything Happens Somewhere – using local knowledge for national benefit' conference and exhibition at Friends House, London on 25th October 2012.

The GeoPlace Exemplar Awards celebrate excellence in address and street information enabled service delivery across local government.

The Exemplar Awards recognise the vital role address and street information professionals play in local service delivery. They celebrate their achievements, providing external acknowledgement of innovation, creativity, best practice, hard work and achievement.

Following the inclusion of data from Scottish local authorities into AddressBase, in conjunction with the Improvement Service, the Awards have been extended to include Scottish authorities.

The Awards aim to:

- showcase best practice
- foster innovation
- recognise and reward hard work in the local government community
- provide a benchmark for quality and improvement.

All of the winning entries will be written up and published early in the New Year in a booklet which will be distributed within the local government community, including to chief executives, and more widely within the public sector.

Booklets from previous year's Awards can be accessed from here:

- 2006 Exemplar Awards - <http://www.iahub.net/docs/1183389671910.pdf>
- 2007 Exemplar Awards - <http://www.iahub.net/docs/1202827550480.pdf>
- 2008 Exemplar Awards - <http://www.iahub.net/docs/1232541532195.pdf>
- 2009 Exemplar Awards - <http://www.iahub.net/docs/1270828962203.pdf>
- 2010 Exemplar Awards - <http://www.iahub.net/docs/1305105838586.pdf>
- 2011 Exemplar Awards - <http://www.iahub.net/docs/1331895527898.pdf>

Categories

Awards were presented in the following categories:

- Street Naming and Numbering Award – sponsored by the LGA
- Citizen Award, sponsored by UK Location
- Improvement and Efficiency Award, sponsored by the LGA
- Integration Award, sponsored by Ordnance Survey
- Services Award, sponsored by SOCITM
- Peer Award for English and Welsh Authorities



- Scottish Address Gazetteer Custodian of the Year
- Best Contribution from a Scottish Authority in Preparation for AddressBase
- Best Anecdote for Widespread use of a UPRN or USRN
- Most Improved Authority Address Updates
- Most Improved Authority Streets Updates
- Best in region Authority Address Updates
- Best in region Authority Address Updates
- Authority Address Updates Gold Award
- Authority Street Updates Gold Award

Delegates at the conference also voted for their 'Overall 2012 Exemplar' Award winner.

Judges

The judges for the Awards this year were:

- Simon Bailey – NSG Custodian
- Steve Brandwood – GeoPlace
- David Buck - UK Location
- Martin Ferguson – SOCITM
- John Kimmance – Ordnance Survey
- Gesche Schmid – LGA
- Neil Silley – NLPG Custodian
- Robin Waters – GIS Professional and media partner

Award to 2012 Exemplar

This is based on audience votes from presentations from the winners of the following categories:

- Street Naming and Numbering Award
- Citizen Award
- Improvement and Efficiency Award
- Integration Award
- Services Award

When voting, the audience was asked to consider:

- outcome of the work
- use of gazetteers
- relevance to improving public service
- overall 'wow' factor

Winner

London Borough of Harrow for their 'Harrow Address Look-up' facility.



Luke Studden, LLPG Custodian, London Borough of Harrow and David Miller, Web & GIS Team Leader, London Borough of Harrow receiving the '2012 Exemplar' Award from Richard Mason, Managing Director GeoPlace

Street naming and Numbering Award

Supported by



Best demonstration of policy and processes that have been implemented to facilitate and integrate the flow of information from address change intelligence to street naming and numbering into the local address and/or street datasets, including consultation with partner organisations.

Winner

Adur and Worthing Councils

This successful project that saw the amalgamation of the Street Naming and Numbering Services employed across the two councils via a shared service.

The judges recognised the project as having streamlined services through both councils adopting one set of procedures, reduced lengthy paperwork that freed up staff resources and also their innovation in working more closely with other council departments such as planning and building control.

It was widely acknowledged that the project was implemented without disruption to day-to-day operations, and resulted in a much better service to the tax payer and costs savings of £28,000.



Una Green, and James Humphrey from Adur and Worthing Councils receive their Award from Cllr Ruth Cadbury, Deputy Chair, LGA Improvement and Innovation Board and Carolyn Downs, Chief Executive, Local Government Association.

Runner-up

Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council

With major expansion planned in and around Cambridge over the next few years, it is likely that 18000 new addresses will be required and with some development sites crossing the border with our neighbouring authority, South Cambridgeshire District Council, it was clear that a formal process of joint working needed to be put into place.

Cambridge City Council until recently did not have a Street Naming and Numbering Policy, we have therefore not only taken the opportunity to correct this, but have, at the same time, like many other local authorities instigated charges for the service,

and also as part of our new policy introduced a section relating to joint working with neighbouring authorities.

In June 2011 a consultation was carried out and a report was subsequently submitted to the Environment Scrutiny Committee with the new policy being adopted in August. The creation of the policy has enabled a closer working relationship with South Cambridgeshire District Council and to an improved work flow, and procedures relating to SNN and the LLPG.

By introducing the SNN policy, council members' although no doubt aware of the need for Street Naming and Numbering now have a greater awareness of the whole function.



Nick Milne, Construction Monitoring Officer, Cambridge City Council receives the Award from Richard Mason, Managing Director, GeoPlace

Highly commended Enfield Council

Enfield recently revised the council's Street Naming and Numbering Policy to ensure that the Policy gave clear and concise information to customers. It wanted to provide a Policy that avoided ambiguity and gave detailed guidelines and restrictions for street and property naming and numbering. The intention of this was to avoid problems and time-consuming challenges from the outset. The council expanded the "Purpose" of the Policy to include information on Enfield Council's Property Gazetteer the "LLPG" and how the Street Naming and Numbering process works.



The policy needed to be more user friendly and be in an easy to understand language whereby customers would be able to locate information they required by looking at the index/contents. Each function is now listed under each sub-heading e.g. "Naming of Streets", "Naming of Properties etc" to give more clarification on how each procedure works.

Enfield also included a specific clause for schools/parks/open spaces due to a rise in academies and free schools and new parks opening in the borough.

The Policy has been made available on the internet and intranet making it available to both internal staff and members of the public.

Nilly Mehmet, SNN Officer and Lee Merrison, GIS Team Leader, London Borough of Enfield receive the Award from Richard Mason, Managing Director of GeoPlace

Citizen Award

Supported by



Best example of a project underpinned by the local address and/or street dataset which delivers services to citizens

Winner

Caerphilly County Borough Council



John Dixon from Location UK and sponsor of the Citizen Award; Phil Mountain, GIS Project Manager, Caerphilly County Borough Council and Carolyn Downs, Chief Executive Officer, LGA

2012 is the hundredth anniversary of Wales' and Britain's worst mining disaster at the Universal Colliery, Senghenydd, Glamorgan.

Four hundred and thirty nine miners and one rescuer died in an explosion and subsequent underground fire. Thirty of the colliers were below the age of eighteen, the youngest only fourteen. Two hundred and five women were widowed, five hundred and forty-two children left fatherless. Following an official inquiry, the mine owners were fined £24: five-pence-ha'penny for each life lost. The whole workforce was made redundant with one day's notice when the company closed the mine on Friday 30th March 1928. The pit winding gear continued to loom over the village until 1963 when they were finally demolished; the shafts weren't filled and capped until 1979.

These memories have resonance and the local communities wanted to tell the story of their valley. In Spring 2012, the communities in the Aber Valley asked the local authority to create a website with a section devoted to the 1913 disaster to help them commemorate the centenary and support their efforts for a new memorial on the site of the mine. The community hoped that, with the support of the National Assembly, this campaign would also provide the impetus for the establishment of a Welsh National Mining Memorial to honour the many, many thousands of individuals who perished keeping our industries running, our homes warm and our ships afloat.

Working on behalf of Aber Valley Heritage Group and the wider community, Caerphilly used its LLPG to map the homes of the victims. This has provided a focal point and drawn attention to the scale of the disaster. The striking impression is the density of distress, house after house, street after street. Perhaps unexpected was the distance some men travelled to work - some from as far as Cardiff docklands

The judges recognised the human interest aspects of the project in using historical data. LLPGs are commonly matched to contemporary address databases but there may also be scope for doing the same to any historic property data, which may be available in archives.

Earlier this year, BBC4 broadcast a series on Charles Booth's late nineteenth century poverty maps of London which had been geo-referenced and proved what could be done with old spatial data. This type of social history is very popular but, in certain circumstances, could also have value and intelligence. This is certainly true from an environmental point of view, eg, contaminated land and flood records, and could also be applied to demographic or sociological studies.

Runner-up Huntingdonshire District Council

Introduced from Canada and America in 2004-5, there are now more than 140 Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) in England, Scotland and Wales.

A BID is a partnership between a local authority and the local business community to develop projects and services that will benefit the trading environment within the boundary of a clearly defined commercial area. For Huntingdon, one of four



market towns in Huntingdonshire, it is an opportunity for businesses to agree to an investment of over £1 million over five years; a chance to see footfall increase, business performance improve and to make Huntingdon a more attractive, safer, cleaner, busier town, creating a 'Town Team' with a dedicated BID Manager looking after their interests. The businesses will be responsible for ensuring chosen projects are delivered.

In July 2012 an independent, third party ballot of businesses revealed an overwhelming 'YES' vote for a BID in Huntingdon.

The LLPG, through its maintained synchronisation of National Non Domestic Rating properties, was instrumental in providing the information to ensure 'the boundary of a clearly defined commercial area' was mapped and accurate, as well as a list of the eligible businesses in the BID area was established.

David Lloyd, LLPG Manager and Late Adams, LLPG Assistant from Huntingdonshire District Council receive their award from Richard Mason, Managing Director, GeoPlace

Highly Commended Northumberland County Council

The Government plans for broadband will see a 'digital hub' in every community in the country, as part of an £830 million strategy to make sure the UK has the best broadband network in Europe by 2015. Jeremy Hunt said that the superfast network would be the foundation for a new economic dynamism, creating hundreds of thousands of jobs and adding billions to the UK's GDP.

<http://www.number10.gov.uk>

The LLPG Team were tasked with analysing the data provided by Broadband Development (BDUK) and disseminating this information as supporting evidence to form part of Northumberland's funding bid. The team quickly realised that the data supplied had many inaccuracies such as telephone exchanges more than 3km from their actual position.

Following this – they advised the BDUK action team iNorthumberland, that they could match the exchanges to the LLPG and provide much more accurate data for the submission. The LLPG team felt that this was vital as the locations of these exchanges were being used to calculate distances to postcodes and this would form basis of cost analysis. The LLPG was also used for identifying all postally addressable properties for Residential (separately identifying properties under construction), Commercial and other relevant BLPUs classifications held.

Using the BLPUs was vital as it provided real world measurements to the exchange, rather than an average to the postcode. It was done by:

- identifying all Residential properties
- identifying all Commercial premises
- identifying all derelict properties.
- identifying all Telephone Exchange that service premises within Northumberland
- using all Telecommunication cabinets (Not from LLPG)
- using census data

Using this data, the team built up intelligence such as Areas of Deprivation maps, Transport Infrastructure maps, Telecommunications Masts Map, Population Density maps, Urban/Rural centres Map, Business Locations Map, Distance to Education Centres Map, line analysis Map, residential not-spots and slow-spots Maps and a public sector NorthNet fibre network Map,

With the analysis carried out, it is possible to look at any geographic area within the authority and see how that is represented by real world data such as businesses or residential property. It is also possible to automatically generate lines between BLPUs, cabinets and exchanges and their distances. With these custom cross-references, it is possible to look at sites where we have existing technology that would lend themselves to being locations for the rollout.

Improvement and Efficiency Award

Supported by



This Award seeks to capture projects which demonstrate how local address and/or street datasets underpin projects which have led to efficiency savings or innovation or improvement for the organisation or partnership

Winner Kent County Council

Kent has developed a system to reduce the occurrence of potholes and footway defects, and to find and fix swiftly those which do occur, with fewer Road Safety Inspectors and lower compensation claims.

Surveys consistently show that prevention and quick repair of potholes and trip hazards is a top priority (further confirmed by views of elected representatives, media reports and call centre records).



Andy Thompson, LSG Custodian and Jonathan Williams, Roadworks Data Officer, working on behalf of Kent County Council receive their Award from Cllr Ruth Cadbury, Deputy Chair, LGA Improvement and Innovation Board and Carolyn Downs, Chief Executive, Local Government Association.

Kent inspects and maintains over 8500 km of highway and 6000 km of footway. Efficiencies of route optimisation, speedy communication using mobile technology,



and integrated data pay big dividends. With the added benefit to the safety, wellbeing and satisfaction of citizens.

Kent's winning project was aimed at not only reducing the occurrence of potholes and footway defects, but finding and swiftly fixing those that do occur.

Their project was so successful that Kent saw repair orders down by 36%, safety increased (as shown by a reduction in compensation claims of 35%) and all this was achieved with efficiency savings that saw the number of required Road Safety Inspectors reduced from 44 down to 12.

In financial terms, Kent County Council's project is estimated to achieved cost savings in excess of £5 million by the end of next financial year.

The judges recognised the demonstrable benefits to the safety, well-being and satisfaction of citizens coupled with savings to the public purse. They also noted that the authority is moving forward and developing further improvements to service delivery, ensuring that the highway network is safer to use and roads and pavements are better maintained.

Runner-Up Nottingham City Council

A review of the operations within Nottingham City Council's Address Management Team (AMT) highlighted that a considerable amount of staff time was being absorbed in maintaining address and cross reference data held in Business Rates, VOA (Valuation Office Agency) systems and the LLPG.

Subsequently, a project was established to analyse the relevant processes, identify waste and how it could be removed and ensure consistency in addressing across agencies.

The project confirmed four major areas of waste, all as a result of the introduction of incorrect/inconsistent addressing at the start of the process. Additionally, consultation suggested the legality of Rates collection enforcement was being undermined by the same issue.



Gareth Osbourne, LSG/LLPG Data Officer receives the Award from Richard Mason, Managing Director, GeoPlace

Consequently, a web-based tool was developed which enables frontline staff to interrogate the LLPG to find approved addresses and, if necessary, the reporting of properties for consideration by the AMT.

The freedom offered as a result of the PMSA was fundamental to this process.

The project achieved:

- £20K worth of direct savings;
- £20K of indirect savings;
- an improvement in, and extension of, service support to frontline staff.

The project succeeded by harnessing the skills and commitment of all those involved in Business Rates, both the Council and the VOA.



Best Practice

Northumberland County Council

Northumberland have planned and implemented a number of data improvement projects to transform and vastly improve the quality of the LLPG using a range of scripts, GIS and open source software to automatically bulk update the majority of BLPU's.

Integration Award

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Best example of where the local address and/or street datasets are linked to council services or to local partnerships.

Winner

London Borough of Harrow

In these times of austerity local authorities are driven to make savings whilst maintaining service delivery. An upshot of this is that it has stimulated a wave innovation with the aim of delivering “more for less”. This has led to the creation of the “Harrow Address Lookup” (HAL); a web based system enabling staff to access and query its LLPG, view search results on a map and break down barriers by facilitating its own cross reference candidate process which we have developed in its entirety.



Neil Ackroyd, Director Data Collection and Management, Ordnance Survey, sponsor of the Integration Award; David Miller, Web & GIS Team Leader, London Borough of Harrow; Luke Studden, LLPG Custodian, London Borough of Harrow and Carolyn Downs, Chief Executive, Local Government Association.

Launched in 2011, the HAL's sole aim is to improve LLPG integration with council systems, as well as provide a platform for all staff to access this corporate resource.



Functionality includes a cross reference candidate process whereby teams across the council can assign their systems' cross references against LLPG properties.

The software was designed to enable departments to seamlessly access and use the council's central address database, rather than see each department maintain their own address data. In addition to the efficiencies gained, the process was made two-way, so that all council officers could feedback on address accuracy to improve the data for everyone.

Harrow's successful project saw them create real cashable savings by developing software at a fraction of the cost they had previously paid to a private company.

The judges were impressed by the initial outlay of only £2,100 in staff costs to create the new software, which compared very favourably to the £3,500 per year that was previously being paid, providing cashable savings year-on-year. They also noted that the new system provides savings in staff time by removing the need for data to be input manually and that the project is an excellent example of the savings that could be made by departments sharing data rather than replicating it.

Runner-Up Northumberland County Council

Northumberland has developed a database that connects the LLPG to a range of other data such as Council Tax, Business Rates, Electoral Registration, Payroll, BDUK Broadband Data, etc.

Where the database is the brains, the LLPG Connect web interface is the face. The interface is a user-friendly way of viewing the reports and it uses the data to provide charts using live LLPG data for management overview. It also provides access to other things the LLPG team needs such as the IT Scheduler which automates sending Change Only Updates to GeoPlace and all other systems.



It also encompasses an LLPG intranet search, which sends error reports directly to the LLPG team, together with BLPU class update scripts which automatically implement their updates. The database also provides data for a range of GIS projects and allows display of the CT band a property is in and how much it is charges, who lives there, etc. This process has also encompassed ND and ER records as well.

Carl Dent, LSG Custodian and Ryan Gilchrist, LLPG Custodian receive their Award from Richard Mason, managing Director, GeoPlace

Best Practice Northumberland County Council

Northumberland has uplifted its PROW network and attributes as a whole and has incorporated it into both its LSG and LLPG to maintain synchronicity without manually digitising the network. This maintained the geometry from the PROW network, as the PROW team are very protective about the data, so it was agreed to load the data as is, rather than offset the data.

The generation of the data from the PROW network took about an hour, the subsequent loading into LSG 2 hours, and the loading into LLPG took place over a week or so (due to the GMS DTF loader). Northumberland ended up with LSG through compliance with the full PROW network, and the LLPG updated on the hub, and a clean healthcheck afterwards. The automated system populates LSG and LLPG in full synchronicity, creating one of the larger PROW datasets, all completed within a week.

- automation means huge cashable savings in man hours spent on creation and errors fixing. This is estimated conservatively at 2880 man hours - £17510.40 at the minimum wage of £6.08 per hour or £28800 at £10.00 per hour
- could bring PROW in line with BS7666 and be done for any PROW database in the country provided it is held spatially.



David Basnett, LLPG Support and Development Officer; Tanya Naylor, LLPG Support Officer; Carl Dent, LSG Custodian and Ryan Gilchrist, LLPG Custodian receive their Award from Richard Mason, managing Director, GeoPlace

Services Award

Sponsored by



Best example of a project where the local address and/or street database enable local government services.

Winner

Bath and North East Somerset

Bath and North East Somerset's project that saw 360-degree street level photography commissioned and linked to the authority's corporate addressing datasets to provide locational context. Made easily accessible to council staff, the project has helped to reduce some of the £1 million the council spent on travelling costs in 2011.



Martin Ferguson, Director of Policy and Research at SOCITM and sponsor of the Award, together with Martin Laker, GIS Team Leader and Carolyn Downs, Chief Executive of the LGA

The service drivers for this project were

1. to reduce the amount of staff car travel, including cost and CO₂ reductions
2. to improve customer interaction, especially over the phone
3. to provide a photographic record of roads and buildings within the authority.

The system, which went live in June, is already proving its benefits in many council departments, including Planning, Highways, Property and Schools Admissions. There



are now many examples whereby council workers no longer have to make site visits, which is generating significant savings and freeing up staff resources.

Users are “wowed” by the result and are finding their own applications of the system beyond the scope of the original project.

The judges recognised the project as having reduced the amount of staff car travel, which has saved money and reduced CO₂ emissions. They also noted the improvement in customer interaction as customer contact staff can now get a direct view of a customer's property within seconds, allowing for speedier resolution of citizen queries.

Runner-Up London Borough of Newham

Newham Council's Borough Wide Private Rented Property Licensing scheme was initiated to tackle negative issues that occur due to poorly managed privately rented accommodation, and also to streamline the licence application process using automated systems and LLPG and NLPG address data, leading to improved service levels and efficiency savings.

The LLPG is at the core of this project and is the key component to the successful delivery of the scheme. The project also incorporates the NLPG to process

applications from landlords who operate in Newham but live outside of the borough.

Newham Council are the first local authority in England to exercise legislative powers available under the Housing Act 2004 to introduce compulsory licensing of all private rented accommodation across the borough.

Not only does this project showcase a real world benefit of an accurate LLPG/NLPG it also shows how a streamlined process delivers real efficiency savings as well as joining up services across the council. This scheme also aims to make a real difference to residents of the borough in terms of improved living standards for private tenants but also community based improvements to peoples living environments and local area.



Stephen Croney, Corporate GIS and Information Manager and Karina Bradley, Information Officer LLPG/LSG from the London Borough of Newham receive their Award from Richard Mason, Managing Director, GeoPlace

Best Practice

Gedling Borough Council

Gedling undertook an electoral review to consider the number of councillors representing the authority.

The aim of the review is also to recommend ward boundaries that mean each councillor represents approximately the same number of electors. Furthermore, as it draws up new electoral arrangements for us, it is also important to have regard to the interests and identities of local communities.

Gedling did this by utilising the power of the UPRN which had been added to the electoral register during the CORE (Co-ordinated On-line Register of Electors) project which was sponsored by the Ministry of Justice. The team took the number of electors at each address, added the X,Y co-ordinates from the BLPU, then plotted these in GIS onto base mapping, and drew polygons representing new wards so we could give quick & accurate elector numbers from each drawing of potential new wards.

In the authority's submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) it gave current & projected electorate figures for Gedling, the projected figures included all housing that is due to be completed before 2018.

Gedling was able to give the cross-party working group clearly defined maps showing existing and proposed ward boundaries along with the number of electors for each proposed new ward.

Peer Award

This is an Award for an Authority Address Custodian or an Authority Streets Custodian in England and Wales. The recipient of this Award has been jointly nominated by the NLPG and NSG Custodians. It aims to reward continuous commitment to the LLPG and the LSG communities.

Winner

Cathy Coelho from Oxford City Council.



Cathy is Senior Systems Officer at Oxford City Council. She is also Regional Address Chair for the South East; joint Chair of the DEC-NLPG Working Group and Deputy Principal Address Chair for ACE.

Cathy has been nominated by the National Custodians for her dedication and the tireless work she does to further the gazetteers and work with colleagues. Cathy has been involved with address and street data for many years and brings this expertise and insight into all her roles.

Cathy Coelho, Senior Systems Officer at Oxford City Council receives her Award from Carolyn Downs, Chief Executive, Local Government Association.

Scottish Gazetteer Custodian of the Year

Supported by



Presented to the council/Custodian who has achieved the highest rating in the One Scotland Gazetteer Accreditation Scheme by October 2012.

Winner

Dundee City Council

This year saw the inclusion of Scottish gazetteer information in AddressBase to create a complete GB address dataset. This is the first year that the Improvement Service



has sponsored awards for Scottish custodians and these take the form of Scottish Gazetteer Custodian of the Year and a special award for the custodian who would make the best contribution to getting their data to a level which would allow it to be loaded into AddressBase.

This year also marks the introduction of Gold, Silver and Bronze grading scheme for Scottish custodians and we have used this to shortlist the four councils who retained "gold" status for the first three months. The KPIs involved were used to separate the four councils.

Joanna Wilkie, Corporate Address Gazetteer Project Officer from Dundee City Council receiving her Award from Carolyn Downs, Chief Executive, LGA and Iain McKay, Gazetteer Business Manager, Improvement Service

Runner-Up Angus Council



Paul Weedon, LLPG & LSG Custodian from Angus Council receiving his Award from Richard Mason, Managing Director, GeoPlace and Iain McKay, Gazetteer Business Manager, Improvement Service

Highly Commended Inverclyde Council and West Dunbartonshire Council



Keith McBean, GIS Co-ordinator/CAG Custodian, Inverclyde Council receiving his Award from Richard Mason, Managing Director, GeoPlace and Iain McKay, Gazetteer Business Manager, Improvement Service



Irene McKechnie, Technical Support Co-ordinator/CAG Custodian, West Dunbartonshire Council receiving her Award from Richard Mason, Managing Director, GeoPlace and Iain McKay, Gazetteer Business Manager, Improvement Service

Best Contribution from a Scottish Authority in Preparation for AddressBase™

Supported by



Presented to the council/Custodian who made the greatest effort to prepare their local Corporate Address Gazetteer data to meet the requirement of AddressBase.

Winner

North Ayrshire Council

Over the years the One Scotland Gazetteer developed almost in parallel with NLPG but with a number of subtle differences to reflect different conventions and



interpretations. These needed to be ironed out to enable Scottish gazetteer data to be included in AddressBase and all Scottish council custodians put in a superb effort to get their data prepared. The IS and Forth Valley GIS as Scottish Custodians spent some considerable deliberations to identify the council which made the greatest effort to resolve the differences. North Ayrshire council had additional work to complete including system changes and additional working with the Assessors. They are a small council with limited resources but they managed to complete everything that they were asked to do in good time.

Craig Wallace, System Administrator, from North Ayrshire Council receiving his Award from Carolyn Downs, Chief Executive, LGA and Iain McKay, Gazetteer Business Manager, Improvement Service

Best Anecdote for widespread use of UPRN or USRN

This award is for the most unusual and interesting use of UPRN or USRN. This could be the mention of a UPRN/USRN in parliamentary speech, to a comment in the media, to a speech by a council leader. The aim of this award is to demonstrate how widely the UPRN/USRN is used across society.

UPRNs are mentioned in the kindle novel *Island of the Dead* by Northumberland County Council's David Basnett. It is a Young Adult horror novel in which the protagonist, Eve Evans, needs a place to hide that does not appear on any maps. Eve's teacher, Professor Brown knows of a place that is kept magically hidden.

Excerpt:

'I know most places in Northumberland,' said Eve through a mouthful of steak pie. 'Where's this Tilwick? Are you sure you don't mean Alnwick?'

Professor Brown tutted irritably at Eve's rapidly expanding carpet of pastry on the car seat. 'Be careful will you,' he said. 'That grease will stain the leather.'

'Oh it's just a bit of pastry,' said Eve. 'Loosen up a bit.'

'I'll loosen your head in a minute if you're not careful,' he muttered under his breath.

'So,' said Eve. 'Where is it? I can't find it on this road atlas either.'

'Of course it's not on any maps you stupid girl,' he snapped. 'It's hidden from Ordnance Survey and it's the one place in the country that the government UPRNs don't reach. Now no more questions.'



David Basnett, LLPG Support and Development Officer; Ryan Gilchrist, LLPG Custodian and Tanya Naylor, LLPG Support Officer from Northumberland County Council receive their Award from Richard Mason, Managing Director, GeoPlace

Most Improved Authority Address Updates

Winner

Cannock Chase District Council

This year Cannock Chase District Council topped the list of 348 local authorities for maintaining their address gazetteer and constantly improving its data quality. Over the last year they have made great strides in resolving their health check anomalies, BLPU positional accuracy and street comparisons; reached gold status for both council tax and business rates; and moved up the ranking scale by a staggering 265 places. A very well deserved winner.



Sarah Prichard, LLPG Custodian received her Award from Simon Barlow, Head of Information Services, GeoPlace

Most Improved Authority Street Updates

Winner

Peterborough City Council

There were several authorities that have made a very large improvement this year and choosing a winner was very difficult.

Peterborough City Council had some challenging years, suffering with a number of system and process issues. In the past 12 months they have managed to not only fix those system issues, but have made huge progress in Synchronisation of the LSG and LLPG streets, as well as improving data quality and content throughout their data.

It is recognised that Peterborough has invested significant time and effort in creating and improving their processes and is a very deserving winner.

Best in Region Authority Address Updates

These authorities have all worked hard to maintain their gazetteer and achieve excellent levels of quality across the board. I'm sure those fellow Custodians in their regions will recognise their effort and no doubt be asking for some advice!

Best in East Midlands	Derbyshire Dales District Council
Best in East of England	Broxbourne Borough Council
Best in Greater London	London Borough of Enfield
Best in North East	Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
Best in North West	Salford District Council
Best in South East	Lewes District Council
Best in South West	South Gloucestershire Council
Best in Wales	Bridgend County Borough Council
Best in West Midlands	Wychavon District Council
Best in Yorkshire and Humber	Leeds City Council



Rachel Antcliffe from Leeds City Council receives her Awards



Russell Walkden and Graham Reygate from Lewes District Council receiving their Awards



Suzanne Norton from Derbyshire Dales receives her Awards



Moira Livesey from Bolton Council receives her Awards



Lee Merrison from London Borough of Enfield receives his Awards

Best in Region Authority Street Updates

It is very clear that regions have their own local challenges as well as meeting national demands. Local support and cross border working has helped solve a variety of local area issues and promote best practice and we hope this will continue in the year to come.

This award has been based on overall quality of the LSG, looking at best practices, partnership working, data quality and prompt submission to the NSG. These Authorities have been identified as exceptional amongst their peers and are being recognised for their overall contribution to the NSG.

Best in Yorkshire and Humber	Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council
Best in East Midlands	Rutland County Council and Derby City Council
Best in East of England	Peterborough City Council
Best in Greater London	London Borough of Enfield
Best in North East	Northumberland County Council
Best in North West	Warrington Borough Council
Best in South	West Sussex County Council and The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead
Best in South West	Devon County Council
Best in	Isle of Anglesey County Council
Best in West Midlands	Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council



Keith Curran from Devon County Council receives His Awards



David Kitt from West Sussex County Council receives his Awards



Karina Bradley and Stephen Croney from London Borough of Newham receive their Awards



Ian David from Bridgend County Borough Council receives his Awards

Authority Address Updates Gold Award

These authorities have all achieved the highest standard across all 2012 Gazetteer Improvement Schedule criteria. Achieving this level shows widespread support, commitment and recognition that their gazetteers bring to their authorities. These benefits are also now being reaped across the whole of government.

- Adur District Council
- Allerdale Borough Council
- Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council
- Bournemouth Borough Council
- Bridgend County Borough Council
- Brighton and Hove City Council
- Broxbourne Borough Council
- Cambridge City Council
- Cannock Chase District Council
- Canterbury City Council
- Carlisle City Council
- Ceredigion Council
- Dartford Borough Council
- Derbyshire Dales District Council
- East Northamptonshire Council
- East Riding of Yorkshire Council
- Fenland District Council
- Forest Heath District Council
- Hambleton District Council
- Hartlepool Borough Council
- Huntingdonshire District Council
- Isle of Anglesey County Council
- Leeds City Council
- Lewes District Council
- Lichfield District Council
- London Borough of Enfield
- London Borough of Newham
- London Borough of Southwark
- Maldon District Council
- Mid Devon District Council
- Northumberland Council
- Pembrokeshire County Council
- Poole Borough Council
- Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council
- Rushmoor Borough Council
- Salford District Council
- Sefton Council
- Sheffield City Council
- South Gloucestershire Council
- South Northamptonshire Council
- South Oxfordshire District Council
- South Tyneside District Council



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- Spelthorne Borough Council
 - Stafford Borough Council
 - Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
 - Stratford-upon-Avon District Council
 - Stroud District Council
 - Tamworth Borough Council
 - Thanet District Council
 - The Royal Borough of Kingston-upon-Thames
 - Torfaen County Borough Council
 - Walsall District Council
 - Waverley Borough Council
 - Worthing Borough Council
 - Wychavon District Council

Authority Streets Updates Gold Award

We have been encouraged that so many Authorities have risen to the challenge of achieving a Gold Level Street Gazetteer this year. The improvement has surpassed previous years significantly and we are delighted to say that there are 50 Gold authorities this year.

- Bath and North East Somerset Council
- Birmingham City Council
- Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council
- Bracknell Forest Borough Council
- Bridgend County Borough Council
- Brighton and Hove City Council
- Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council
- City of York Council
- Conwy County Borough Council
- Derby City Council
- Devon County Council
- East Riding of Yorkshire Council
- Halton Borough Council
- Herefordshire Council
- Isle of Anglesey County Council
- Isle of Wight Council
- Kent County Council
- Kingston upon Hill City Council
- Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council
- Leicester City Council
- Liverpool City Council
- London Borough of Barnet
- London Borough of Enfield
- London Borough of Harrow
- London Borough of Hillingdon
- London Borough of Newham
- London Borough of Sutton
- London Borough of Tower Hamlets
- Luton Borough Council
- Manchester City Council
- Medway Council
- North Lincolnshire Council
- Northamptonshire County Council
- Northumberland County Council
- Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Peterborough City Council
- Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council
- Rutland County Council
- South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council
- Staffordshire County Council
- The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead
- Torbay Council



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- City of Wakefield Metropolitan District Council
 - Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
 - Warrington Borough Council
 - West Berkshire Council
 - West Sussex County Council
 - Wiltshire County Council
 - Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council
 - Worcestershire County Council