The 2021 Census, the Revenue Support Grant, and UPRNs

The **Revenue Support Grant** (RSG) is a sum of money provided by central government for local authorities to resource their citizens' needs in the most appropriate way. To calculate the RSG fairly, government uses elements of the core data collected in each decennial Census.

It's a complex formula. The sparsity or density of a population may change significantly over time to affect the financial outcome. However, as every person does live, or is staying, in a unique location on the day of the Census, the Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN) will play a pivotal, reliable role in determining those funds for local authorities in the future.

The UPRN provides comprehensive, consistent referencing

The UPRN is the unique identifier for every spatial address in Great Britain. It's found in Ordnance Survey's address products.

It provides a comprehensive, consistent identifier for buildings (and assets) throughout their lifecycle – from planning permission right through to demolition. Address Custodians have the responsibility to ensure UPRNs are issued and kept up to date, by feeding the data in to the National Address Gazetteer.

THE INFORMATION REPORTED IN EACH DECENNIAL CENSUS IS ESSENTIAL FOR ACCURATE ECONOMIC FORECASTING. THE VALUE AND THE POTENTIAL FOR THAT DATA IS INCREASING EXPONENTIALLY

The Office of National Statistics (ONS) will be using the National Address Gazetteer and OS AddressBase as its address register – the framework for the next Census, in 2021.

The 2021 Census will use the UPRN to ensure maximum interoperability

Our next Census in 2021 will take place against a backdrop of social, political, and economic evolution.

Over 40,000 government and government-related bodies will use refined data from the Census at all levels in key areas such as housing, transport, education and health.

And, thanks to the UPRNs interoperability, parts of the Census will also be used for a huge amount of social research, charity campaigning, corporate strategy, and other purposes.

- Credit reference agencies, for example, will create highly sophisticated credit modelling tables by appending their own information to Census data – using the UPRN to verify things like details from historic credit checks and income information. Social services will use data about individuals' ages, marital status, long term health conditions and the size of a household to perhaps identify areas where large numbers of older people are living on their own with special care needs – again, using the UPRN for verification and planning. This could lead, for example, to better deployment of care resources and improvements

in rural transport plans. Local authorities will also extract data from the Census to leverage additional funding – using the index of multiple deprivation, for example, and confident assertion about the precise location and extent of that deprivation – the UPRNs – to apply for monies from Big Lottery funds or the EU.

As a consistent point of reference over time, the UPRN will provide even more certainty for the calculations used to quantify Revenue Support Grants. People may move but properties do not.

> **GEOSPATIAL DATA – AND THE UPRN IN PARTICULAR – CAN EMPOWER ORGANISATIONS TO CREATE TRUSTWORTHY FRAMEWORKS** AGAINST WHICH MYRIAD DATASETS CAN BE ANALYSED AND EXCHANGED OR INTEGRATED WITH CONFIDENCE

Address Custodians have an important part to play

The UPRN will provide robust interoperability – enabling organisations and government departments at all levels to make decisions with confidence for many years to come. In the next Census, the use of the UPRN will put the spotlight firmly on the good work of local government Address Custodians. The UPRN will help to resolve location-specific challenges.

In addition to 'standard' homes, enumerators (individuals charged with taking the Census), must accurately gather responses from complex properties where many residents share one address.

Care homes, for example. Halls of residence, faith homes, and houses of multiple occupation.

Address Custodians' work will help the enumerators to collect data accurately from that type of property by identifying and ensuring that these properties are included in the address list being used by ONS. In turn, that data will feed into the formula used to calculate the Revenue Support Grant – which will provide the funds that are necessary to support the individuals living in those locations.

- GeoPlace is helping Address Custodians prepare for the Census by working with other data suppliers such as the Care Quality Commission, Ordnance Survey and HM Land Registry to classify properties at a granular level. It is supplying Custodians with files that they can import to update Residential Classifications to ensure that communal establishments are identified. This has been hugely popular and has led to millions of records getting updated.

- GeoPlace is continuing to work with ONS on agreeing the full list of communal establishments to be classified and will support Custodians in reflecting this in their gazetteers.

ADDRESS CUSTODIANS ARE A NATIONWIDE FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH. AS EXPERTS IN ADDRESSING, THEY'RE ALREADY THE UNSUNG HEROES OF THE 2021 CENSUS.