



# UPRNs and USRNs – linking data, gaining insights

Local authority address and street Custodians and Street Naming and Numbering (SNN) Officers are responsible for creating and maintaining the council's street and address datasets. Each record contains a Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN) and a Unique Street Reference Number (USRN) which can be used to 'link' council datasets together to derive greater insight.

The role of the Custodian becomes ever more important with the decision by the ONS to use the address data created by SNN Officers and maintained at a local level by Custodians for the next Census in 2021.

The address information created and maintained by Custodians is central to the address list that ONS will use for the next Census. This means that every address input by a Custodian has a direct

value to the council. Not just in terms of the amount of Revenue Support Grant awarded to councils, but also because local authorities use the Census data to target resources and plan future demand.

All Custodians and SNN Officers need to be adequately resourced so that the information that they maintain is accurate and every type of residential property is captured for the next Census address list.



This is why Council Leaders and Chief Executives should really love the work that all Custodians and SNN Officers do.

The next Census will be crucial to how all councils are funded and resourced. The work of all Custodians and SNN Officers is crucial to calculation of the amount of money each council will receive from central government following the next Census.

Within the authority area, the SNN Officer, Address Custodian and Street Custodian:

- are responsible for the creation of the new street names and addresses in the authority area
- allocate property numbers or names to all new and converted buildings
- provides the information that is used for streetworks and the coordination of road works
- compile all the new street names into a master street database called the National Street Gazetteer
- compile all the new address names into a master address database called the National Address Gazetteer for onward use by the whole of the public and private sectors as the AddressBase range of services from Ordnance Survey
- bring datasets together to provide a property level view.

## Some of the council systems which are linked to the master databases managed by Custodians include:

- Adult services
- Anti-social behaviour
- Arboricultural
- Asset management
- Building control
- Children services
- Citizen account
- Clean-up team
- Commercial premises
- Community safety
- Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates collections
- Contaminated land management
- Customer centres and CRM
- Development control
- Educational services
- E-forms
- Electoral registration and polling district management
- Electoral boundaries
- Emergency planning
- Environment health and food hygiene ratings
- Environmental protection
- Estates management
- Finance
- Flood control
- Fly-tipping
- Forward planning
- Fraud
- Funding for local broadband improvements
- GIS
- Health and social care
- Highways asset management
- Highways maintenance
- Housing including licensing private housing
- Housing benefit
- Identification of HMOs
- Identification of sub-letting in council properties
- Identification of Troubled Families





## Your council's address and street data are also used by the wider public sector as well as the private sector, including:

- Identification of vulnerable people in an emergency situation
- Improvement of tenants' housing conditions
- Land charges
- Leisure services
- Libraries
- Licensing
- Licences For skips, scaffold, pavement obstructions
- Listed buildings
- Local area planning and profiling
- Management of potholes and footway defects
- Management of street lighting and street furniture
- Off-street parking
- Parking
- Payroll
- Permits for working on the highway
- Pest control
- Planning and planning enforcement
- Property services
- Public health
- Public rights of way
- Residential parking and parking permits
- Retail licenses
- School admissions and school transport
- Social Services
- Street cleaning
- Street lighting
- Street scene
- Street works
- Supporting Business Improvement Districts
- Supporting land charges
- Taxi licensing
- Trading standards
- Traffic management
- Traffic orders
- UKPM
- Waste management and recycling
- Web mapping
- Web services
- drives all the location services on your smart phone
- helps emergency responders share information more effectively and get to call outs
- enables utilities to connect services to a new home
- is used by the Office for National Statistics to collect census data
- helps packages be delivered to your house
- is used by HMRC to detect fraudulent activity across tax systems
- helps identify properties suitable for sustainable energy schemes
- is part of the Individual Electoral Registration programme
- helps ensure the UK has secure, clean, affordable energy supplies
- is used by Tell Us Once to ease the burden of reporting a bereavement
- is used by Ofcom Ofcom's to help service providers deliver improved communications and connectivity
- used for risk assessment and underwriting by insurance companies
- enables the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) staff to rapidly identify and prioritise high-risk businesses for inspection along with their locations



**GAZETTEERS**  
**@GIS DAY**

This Gazetteers@GIS Day, find out how the gazetteers Link People to Places – <http://bit.ly/People2Places> and find out from your Custodian how to use the data in your service area.



GeoPlace is a public sector limited liability partnership between the Local Government Association and Ordnance Survey

