

New National Street Gazetteer Published



*Underpinning the national
street infrastructure*

Press release

London, 28 April 2009 – The NSG (National Street Gazetteer) the primary database for the co-ordination of work taking place on streets within England and Wales has been updated and is available in the new DTF 7.1 format in compliance with BS7666:2006. As well as enabling closer alignment with the National Land and Property Gazetteer, the country's definitive list of property addresses, the new format enables Highways Authorities to record heights, weights and width restrictions, and directions (one way or two way) against individual roads and streets. Improving both the richness of the data held in the NSG and the data checking routines will enable those licensed to carry out work on the highways to consult and co-ordinate more effectively, reducing inconvenience and congestion.

Significantly the ability to record heights, weights and width restrictions, which could include weak bridges, low bridges, or simply streets not wide enough for HGVs, makes the NSG more attractive to, amongst others, the emergency services and satellite navigation companies. Uses include command and control, routing, incident handling and risk assessment. In the absence of a suitable alternative the NSG could easily become the preferred source of definitive road information, providing recommended freight routes, motorway incident diversion routes and much more. The additional street data file (ASD) provides essential information, such as traffic sensitivity, bridges and structures, whilst closer alignment with the National Land and Property Gazetteer, already chosen for future fire incident mobilisation, makes its wider adoption more likely still.

Roads and streets are part of the country's infrastructure and as of 28 April there are 1,127,730 of them. Issues such as congestion, capacity planning, street works, accidents, incidents and maintenance can affect them all. The NSG is a gazetteer of all streets and designations in England and Wales collected at a local level in Local Street Gazetteers (LSGs) by 174 Highways Authorities. The NSG hub, where all the 174 LSGs are compiled, is run on behalf of local government by the Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA) with Intelligent Addressing (IA) as the national custodian. The NSG is available to all of local government under the MSA.

This essential dataset is evolving to provide the richest source of road and street data currently available. On a daily basis, it is available to over 300 'Statutory Undertakers', including utilities such as gas, water and electricity, BT, plus cable and communications companies licensed to carry out work on the roads.

The new data format, DTF 7.1, provides the framework for ensuring data conformity between Local Street Gazetteers and the NSG hub and takes into account the recent formation of nine new unitary authorities.

Notes to Editors:

The NLPG was initiated in 1999 to become the master address dataset for England and Wales and the central hub for the 376 address creating Local Authorities and their Local Land and Property Gazetteers (LLPGs). Based on twelve digit unique property reference numbers (UPRNs) the underlying principle of these gazetteers is to provide a single definitive address database for all departments and systems across a local authority in order to cut costs, improve efficiency and service delivery. www.nlpg.org.uk

The NLPG is a joint venture between the Local Government Information House part of IDeA and Intelligent Addressing Limited.

Intelligent Addressing is a specialist private sector consultancy (an SME) employing recognised experts in addressing. It was originally set up to help develop the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) on behalf of local government and now manages the NLPG and NSG (National Street Gazetteer) central data hubs under the terms of the Mapping Services Agreement (MSA) with local government.

NSG

Required under the New Roads and Street Works Act, the National Street Gazetteer (NSG) is a comprehensive list of over 1 million named and un-named streets, footpaths and thoroughfares, the definitive source for anyone with an interest in streets and their usage. There are over 300 organisations, utilities such as gas, water and electricity, BT, plus cable and communications companies, named as 'Statutory Undertakers' approved by the Department of Transport to download this data, which conforms to the BS7666 Standard. The NSG is a government initiative to create an unambiguous referencing system, using Unique Street Reference Numbers (USRNs) with which to identify any length of highway or road in England and Wales. Set up initially to improve highway maintenance, by the New Roads and Street Works Act, the NSG enables Utility companies and local councils to coordinate and know where and when to dig their holes. Under legislation each highway authority is required to create and maintain its own local street gazetteer (LSG) and additional street data (ASD), which is then compiled into one master index, the NSG, for access by others via the NSG online hub, managed by Intelligent Addressing.

Intelligent Addressing contacts:

Gayle Gander, Head of Marketing | 0207 747 3500 |

E-mail: ggander@intelligent-addressing.co.uk | www.intelligent-addressing.co.uk

The Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA) works in partnership with all councils, to enhance the performance of the best, accelerate the speed of improvement of the rest, and develop the sector as a whole.

Working in partnership with the local government community developing national infrastructure projects that enable councils to deliver local services more effectively, LGIH acts as an intermediary between the public and the private sector enabling it to negotiate with private companies on behalf of local authorities in order to provide key parts of a technical infrastructure for improved service delivery.

IDeA contact:

Paul Bailey | Tel: 020 7296 6600 | Email: paul.bailey@idea.gov.uk | www.idea.gov.uk