

Briefing paper for councillors: Location matters for you and your local electorate



A council like Brighton and Hove has a £750 million budget, 9,000 staff, 273,400 residents and a big remit to make an impact on people's lives through managing a huge range of activities. These include providing services to vulnerable people; managing school admissions; planning street works; improving community safety, facilitating pothole repairs or providing the environment for local businesses to thrive.

Just about all of these activities happen at, or are delivered to a person at a 'place'. So where are all of these places? How do councils deliver services to them and how are they linked together?

Following an initiative led by the LGA, over the past 14 years, councils have worked collaboratively to develop single address and street data sources demonstrating one of the most successful shared services across England and Wales.

Within each authority, the address data source is called the Local Land and Property Gazetteer. It is a complete listing of land and properties across the authority. Each record is classified as to what type of land/property it is, where it is in the property lifecycle, such as planning, development, in use or demolition.

Importantly, each record has a Unique Property Reference Number which can be used to link different departments together to provide a 'property level' of which council services are being delivered to a particular place.

How is the data being used?

Barnsley are using the LLPG within its Troubled Families initiative. Previously at Barnsley, data sources used to identify families were not easy to compare. However using the LLPG the council has been able to link eight disparate datasets, including those from Education, Benefits and Youth Offending Team systems together to identify a more holistic view of families in need of support.

Other examples include:

- Leeds has used its LLPG to link between and council tax and business rates record to discover an additional £92,826 annual revenue
- By linking its council tax database with its LLPG outstanding queries by residents in Salford were reduced by 43% over a 5 month period
- Huntingdonshire's LLPG was used as the basis of a Business Improvement District which saw almost £1m of investment



Wider use of the data

Under the Public Sector Mapping Agreement, the entire public sector has access to the address information created and maintained by local authorities through the AddressBase® range of products and made available by Ordnance Survey.

For example, the data is being used for emergency response by the Blue Light Services; by HM Revenue and Customs to collect taxes; by Department of Work and Pensions to pay benefits; and by the Environment Agency to produce detailed flood plans.

How do I know if my council is using the data effectively?

Contact GeoPlace and we can put you in touch with your Local Land and Property Custodian.

Who is GeoPlace?

GeoPlace is a public sector limited liability partnership between the Local Government Association (LGA) and Ordnance Survey. GeoPlace's role is to work with local authorities to create and maintain the National Address Gazetteer infrastructure and the National Street Gazetteer for England and Wales, providing definitive sources of publicly-owned spatial address and street data.

- Northumberland integrated the data from its LLPG to provide greater property intelligence into the Digital Britain project
- Kent reduced the occurrence of potholes and footway defects, and used the data to find and swiftly fix those which do occur, all with fewer Highway Inspectors and lower compensation claims saving an estimated £5 million
- Gedling used its LLPG to give a cross-party working group clearly defined maps showing existing and proposed ward boundaries along with the number of electors for each proposed new ward
- Newham integrated its LLPG with its property systems to identify instances of sub-letting within council properties and unlicensed privately rented properties
- waste collection routes at the individual property level in North Somerset have been improved using the intelligence within the LLPG
- using the LLPG to undertake property analysis, Tower Hamlets has mitigated the impact of traffic and highways impacts on new developments
- Reigate and Banstead has facilitated the introduction of a new recycling, food waste and refuse service by using the LLPG to understand property distribution.

Further information

Contact GeoPlace, 157-197 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SP
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For more information on AddressBase, please visit the Ordnance Survey website:

<http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/business-and-government/products/addressbase-products.html>