Demographics
U S E R   G R O U P
Improving the data market

Demographics User Group Conference
2 October 2008
Panel Session

Creating current information and insight
from customer and government
databases: priorities for 2009 & beyond

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Climate change….

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……………… for public information

- Opening up Public Sector Information:
  - Office of Fair Trading ("The Commercial Use of Public Information")
  - Cabinet Office ("The Power of Information")
  - Treasury ("Review of Trading Funds")
- Using the new Statistics Act:
  - Statistics for the public good
  - Meeting users' needs
  - Scope for sharing administrative data for statistical purposes
- Implementing the Treasury Committee Report recommendations:
  - Update estimates, inc. short-term migrants, and daytime populations
  - More use of government administrative files for statistical purposes
  - Create a definitive national address file for the 2011 Census
  - Progress towards a population register for statistical purposes

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Giles Pavey's…….
Two Speeds to insight led success

- Express
  - Set the corporate value
  - Hire the people
  - Build the system
  - Set the process

- 1-2 years

- Stopping train
  - Run a pilot
  - Measure the benefit
  - Try to spread it
  - Scale over time

- 3 years to never

Opportunities, …but Urgency?

- Government databases
  - The sheer range of sources & topics
  - Universal coverage (c.f. even Tesco)
  - Postcoded – for area statistics, & matching
  - Now (c.f. back to 2001, or awaiting 2011)
- How can more be made available more quickly?
- Cultural change
  - All sources: "Good" now (& then "Best" later)
  - Think of the value for decision makers
  - Experimental – & encourage users' comments – giving metadata
  - Partial pointers to recent trends can be so valuable
  - ……..& what does this mean for perfect "National Statistics"?

Can we make (even) more progress in the next 5 years than the last 10?

(This is DUG's 10th birthday)