

# **SCOTTISH NEIGHBOURHOOD STATISTICS - INTERNET SITE UPDATE**

## **STATISTICAL PUBLICATION NOTICE**

### **Highlights of the February 2008 Update**

The latest quarterly update of the Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics (SNS) internet site and database was carried out today.

The main highlights of this update include Childhood Obesity data at Community Health Partnership level from 2000/01 to 2006/07 with Maternity and Hospital Admissions data at data zone level for 2003-2005 and 2006 respectively. Benefits data is added for 2007 Q2 at data zone level with Criminal Justice Social Work data for 2006-07 added at local authority level. Business data for 2007 for All Vat/PAYE registered enterprises has also been included at local authority level with new data for 2006 on dwellings in flood risk areas added to the site for the first time at data zone level.

The indicators and further information on the update is available at [www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk).

The first SNS publication of the year would normally include an update of the Post Code look-up table (an extract of the GRO(S) Post Code Index file – the second version from the previous year). However, GRO(S) will be publishing the 2008 version 1 later this month and to ensure that the latest version is available on SNS, it has been decided not to update for this publication but to add the 2008 version 1 SNS extract when it becomes available. It is hoped that this will be before the end of February. Notification of the availability of the 2008 file will be made on the new SNS Users Forum (see details below) and on the new Home Page 'Latest News' section of the SNS website.

### **Background about Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics**

Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics is the Scottish Government's on-going programme to improve the availability, consistency and accessibility of small area statistics in Scotland. The SNS internet site provides statistics about local communities and makes use of the data zone small area geography which contains on average 750 residents.

Local communities can be expressed in terms of groups of these data zones, and the internet site contains a wide range of socio-economic statistics describing the characteristics of these communities. New socio-economic data is added on a quarterly basis and this will allow change in the circumstances of local communities to be better understood.

This information is being used to inform the Scottish Government's approach to improving the quality of life for people living in Scotland and especially in the most disadvantaged areas. The information is also invaluable to Community Planning Partnerships and public sector agencies where the availability of up-to-date high quality information is crucial to the way in which services are developed and delivered and issues of local concern are addressed. It will also help community groups bring together information to support grant applications.

### **Contact us to improve Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics**

We would welcome any comments or suggestions that would help us to improve Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics. Matt Perkins or John Fraser at the Scottish Government can be contacted on 0131 244 0442 or [neighbourhood.statistics@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhood.statistics@scotland.gsi.gov.uk).

A new Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics User Forum has been launched. Users of Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics can view examples of best practice, reference material and respond to the SNS Blog. An events calendar and FAQs sections are also available. The Forum can be viewed at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/sns>.

If you would like to be consulted about new or existing statistical collections or to receive notification of forthcoming statistical publications, please register your statistical interest on the Scottish Government ScotStat internet site at [www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/scotstat/home](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/scotstat/home).