The National Land and Property Gazetteer

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user information

What is the NLPG?
The NLPG is the definitive, national address list that provides unique identification of land and property and conforms to BS 7666 (2006). The NLPG is updated on a continual basis by the local authorities in England and Wales, with change only updates available every working day.

Cost of developing the NLPG
Local Government has invested over £100 million in creating the NLPG and is committed to using the NLPG for all of its addressing requirements and services.

What is the UPRN?
UPRN stands for Unique Property Reference Number. The NLPG provides connectivity through the use of an unchanging centrally managed UPRN linked to the address.

Each property in the NLPG has a UPRN that identifies a BLPU, a basic land and property unit. In most instances the BLPU refers to the physical extent of a property or building. The centre point of each property or building is given geographical grid coordinates, sometimes referred to as ‘easting’ and ‘norting’ to identify its precise location on a map or an aerial photo. Each property or building also has at least one land and property identifier (LPI), which is basically the address of the BLPU in normal format, name/number, road/street etc. However, there are many instances where BLPUs have more than one LPI, for example if 15 Acacia Avenue is also Dunroamin Acacia Avenue or Flat 1 is the same as Ground Floor Flat. The street will also be described in the National Street Gazetteer, maintained by the local highway authorities.

The UPRN is nationally unique and persistent. Even if a property is demolished, the UPRN can never be reused and retains its historical information.

What is the NLPG’s coverage?
Every local authorities in England and Wales supplies data to the NLPG. The NLPG contains more than 32 million residential, business and non-mailing addresses across England and Wales. Additionally, Intelligent Addressing (IA) has worked extensively to match a number of national address lists such as the Valuation Office Agency’s council tax and non-domestic rates to the NLPG.

What is the update schedule?
Under the Mapping Services Agreement (2005), every local authority in England and Wales is committed to provide at least monthly updates. However, the majority of local authorities are exceeding this objective and sending in weekly or daily update files to the NLPG hub.

What links are there with the rest of the UK?
Scotland
The OneScotland Gazetteer is a core part of ‘Customer First’, a Scottish Government sponsored programme to deliver more convenient and responsive public services. The OneScotland Gazetteer has been developed in partnership with the Scotland’s local authorities and managed under the direction of the Improvement Service, with the support of COSLA (Convention of Scottish Local Authorities) and SOLACE (Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers).

The use of BS7666 enables property based information exchange with organisations across the border in England and Wales and vice versa. Scotland holds a range of UPRNs that are administered via the NLPG concessionaire and will therefore not cause conflict when aggregating a GB dataset based on BS 7666.

For further information on accessing the OneScotland Gazetteer, please contact Iain McKay at the Improvement Service, lain.McKay@improvementservice.org.uk or see www.improvementservice.org.uk.

Northern Ireland
Pointer is the address database for Northern Ireland created and maintained by Land and Property Services (LPSNI), with input from Local Councils, the Valuation & Lands Agency (VLA) and Royal Mail (RM).

Pointer has been allocated a set of UPRNs from the NLPG concessionaire, which are allocated to all addresses within the dataset. This will ensure consistency of UPRNs across Northern Ireland and Great Britain. If you wish to licence Pointer data please contact info@pointer-ni.gov.uk or see http://www.lpsni.gov.uk.

How is the data in the NLPG kept consistent?
Data consistency is vital for running local, regional and national services. The conventions documentation (available on the NLPG website) used by local Authorities outlines a set of rules for the data capture of all locations applicable for inclusion within LLPGs. Conventions are in place for the recording of common building types such as railway stations, schools, shopping centres, industrial estates and sub-divided residential blocks.

To facilitate data sharing there is a consistent data file definition for both creators and users of gazetteer data (DTF). Further checks are carried out at the Hub to ensure that all data conforms to BS7666:2006. Additionally, all LLPG Custodians are sent a health check report on a monthly basis that will identify records held in the NLPG for that authority that contravene any of the health checks defined in the NLPG Health Check document that is current at the time of generation.

What objects are held in the NLPG?
The NLPG is structured as per BS7666:2006 and the Data Entry Conventions (DEC-NLPG) available at www.nlpg.org.uk. The key components of the NLPG are the UPRN, an address(es), a classification, coordinates and metadata on each record. A full list of the present BLPU classifications can be found in the NLPG DTF 7.3 version 2.1 document which is available at www.nlpg.org.uk. The codes comprise of three levels of which the first level...
What level of data does the NLPG hold?

Each LLPG holds local data at the lowest, most detailed level needed for local service delivery. In practice this means that all property subdivisions such as flats, individual rooms in nursing homes or university halls of residence, separate commercial occupations within an office building etc are recorded as individual records within the LLPG and therefore the NLPG.

To comply with BS 7666 (2006) parent records are also held, for example five dwellings in a town house will be recorded in the NLPG as six records, one for each dwelling and one for the building shell.

How are alternative addresses stored within the NLPG?

One of the main advantages of the NLPG and BS 7666 data model is that it supports the inclusion of multiple addresses for a single location. Each BLPU can be referenced to an approved address (LPI) but may also have any number of alternative, provisional or historic addresses which will aid cross-organisation address identification. As all of these alias records are referenced back to the same UPRN, this facilitates the linking of asset and application data to the same identifier regardless of variations in the address.

How are historic data stored within the NLPG?

BLPUs that refer to property that have been demolished are also included in the NLPG data – records are simply marked with a closed date and a historic status. The NLPG also records historic addresses for a current property, e.g. 42 High Street was formerly known as Laurel House.

What is the process for reporting address variations?

For organisations that are using NLPG data and have identified potentially missing addresses, these can be forwarded to the NLPG hub for validation. Subject to these records being supplied in the correct format, IA will validate the data against the current NLPG data and provide a solution back to the users within the agreed timescale under the service level agreement in the end user license.

What types of licenses are available?

Licenses are available for NLPG commercial resellers and NLPG commercial end users. At present there are no licenses available for value added resellers.

Is sample data available?

Sample data is available on the NLPG website as a DTF7.3 data file to illustrate the format of the content but not the quality or currency of the data itself. If you would like the latter, DevDem licenses are available on the NLPG website.

How do I order the NLPG?

Order forms for resellers and end users are available on the NLPG website or from orders@intelligent-addressing.co.uk.

As well as receiving change only updates on the desired update schedule, each reseller or end user will be provided with an annual resupply of the area required to check on synchronicity.

How do I access updates and change only updates?

The NLPG hub receives and processes daily updates from local authority LLPGs which are then integrated and compiled into the national dataset dynamically.

Users are able to access these changes at a frequency dependent on their own operational requirements. Once an initial supply of NLPG data has been requested, received and loaded by the registered user, change only updates are made available on a frequency specified by the user. This can vary from daily, weekly or fortnightly through to monthly. The NLPG itself is updated on a daily basis.

All update files will be composite files representing all changes received during that period across all administrative areas in the NLPG data supply. Each update file is date and time stamped and, where appropriate, provided with a unique volume number to assist the user with processing the update files in the correct chronological order.

What services are available to end users?

A number of services are available to end users:

• Initial data supply
• receive updates from NLPG
• report address variations
• guidance and support documentation
• monthly eNewsletter to enable users to be kept up to date with the NLPG
• access to a help desk
• access to NLPG search site
• access to websites with support material
• access to user group and user meetings

What services are available to resellers?

A number of services are available to resellers:

• access to a dedicated relationship manager
• Initial data supply
• receive updates from NLPG
• report address variations
• guidance and support documentation
• monthly eNewsletter to enable users to be kept up to date with data issues
• access to a help desk
• access to NLPG search site
• access to websites with support material

Resellers will hold a copy of the NLPG to distribute to their clients in accordance with the licensing terms and conditions. The terms and conditions of the license restricts resellers from making any changes to the NLPG, although it will allow them to provide services and subsets to their clients.

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