Outputs from the 2011 Census are based primarily on the boundaries of current local government structures, that is 26 Local Government Districts (LGDs) composed in turn of 582 electoral wards, which were determined in a 1992 local government boundary review. These boundaries were also the basis for outputs from the 2001 Census. The use of these boundaries is discussed in a paper on the NISRA website – ‘Policy for main geographic outputs from the 2011 Census’¹, and has been implicit in the Census 2011 Output Prospectus².

New local government structures, based on 11 Districts composed of 462 wards, were approved by the Assembly and came into force in November 2012. These will be the basis of new council administrations from 2015 onwards.

Census Office plans to publish 2011 Census Key Statistics for the new 11 Districts (LGD2014) and disseminate the results through the NINIS website. However, the production of exact Census counts on two separate geographic bases (for example, the current and new local government boundaries) would introduce the risk of the disclosure of personal information through the differencing of statistical aggregates. Accordingly, 2011 Census statistics for the new 11 Districts will not be exact counts from the Census database but will be determined through estimation processes, in order to ensure that the confidentiality of individual Census returns is respected. It is stressed that any such published information will provide robust, fit-for-purpose statistics for the new geographic units.

The process by which Census statistics for the new 11 Districts will be estimated will be through the aggregation of already-published statistics for Small Areas. A look-up

table that allocates each Small Area to one of the new 11 Districts\(^3\) is available on the NISRA website, and Census statistics for a given District can be determined through aggregation of the relevant Small Areas. Census Office will publish and disseminate Key Statistics from the 2011 Census for the new 11 Districts in 2014, but priority will be given to the publication of the four pre-planned releases for the current local government units, as detailed in the Census 2011 Output Prospectus. In the interim, users with a pressing demand for Key Statistics for the new 11 Districts can determine the relevant statistics through use of the Small Area to new-District look-up table on the NISRA website.

**UPDATE**

Key Statistics for New 11 Districts in Northern Ireland were published on 30 January 2014; tables are available to download from the NINIS website\(^4\).

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\(^3\) Small Area to new 11 Districts look-up table is available from: [http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/population/midyear/11districts/11DC_Lookup.xls](http://www.nisra.gov.uk/archive/demography/population/midyear/11districts/11DC_Lookup.xls)