



Summary of Changes to Statistical Neighbours Caused by Local Government Reorganisation April 2009

In April 2009 local government reorganisation will result in the LA of Cheshire being replaced by two new LAs of **Cheshire East** and **Cheshire West and Chester** and the LA of Bedfordshire being replaced by two new LAs of **Bedford Borough** and **Central Bedfordshire**.

The creation of these new LAs will have a knock on effect on the Children's Services Statistical Neighbours model.

Changes will come about as some LAs will lose Cheshire and Bedfordshire as their neighbours and other LAs will see their neighbours changed by one or more of the new LAs being closer than their current neighbours and so will have the new LAs as neighbours. A small number of changes will also occur as a result of subtle changes in distance scores arising because the standard deviation calculations used in the distance measure will be slightly affected by the inclusion of the new LAs.

The nineteen LAs that have one new neighbour are: **York, Windsor and Maidenhead, Sutton, Surrey, Stockport, Staffordshire, South Gloucestershire, Reading, Oxfordshire, Leeds, Kent, Hillingdon, Essex, Cambridgeshire, Bury, Buckinghamshire, Bromley, Bexley** and **Barnet**. Of these nineteen, five LAs (Oxfordshire, Leeds, Kent, Cambridgeshire and Bexley) have a new neighbour that is not one of the newly formed LAs.

The eleven LAs that have two new neighbours are: **Wokingham, West Berkshire, Warwickshire, Trafford, Rutland, Milton Keynes,**

Table 1 below summarises the number of LAs that have new neighbours (the four LAs with ten new neighbours are the newly created local authorities themselves.)

Table 1: Number of Local Authorities by number of new statistical neighbours as a result of local government reorganisation April 2009	
Number of new statistical neighbours that each individual has	Number of local authorities having new statistical neighbours
0	115
1	19
2	11
3	3
10	4
Total number of local authorities after the local government reorganisation	
152	

Leicestershire, Hertfordshire, Hampshire, East Riding of Yorkshire and **Bracknell Forest**. Of these eleven, two (Milton Keynes and Leicestershire) have a new neighbour that is not one of the newly formed LAs (none have two).

The three LAs that have three new neighbours are: **Warrington, Solihull** and **North Yorkshire**. For these three LAs all three of their new neighbours are from the group of newly formed LAs.

In addition to these changes some LAs neighbour lists are affected more subtly by changes in position of some of their neighbours. This will have been caused by the

changes in standard deviation affecting standardized scores for each background variable and the very slight change in score which will have resulted.

The seventeen LAs with some position switching within their neighbour lists are (not caused by a new LA entering their list): **Brighton and Hove, Bury, Harrow, Hertfordshire, Kirklees, Leeds, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, Northumberland, Peterborough, Sandwell, Sheffield, Shropshire, St Helens, Stockport, Thurrock, Tower Hamlets** and **Wolverhampton**.

Thanks to Nigel Nicholds, Norfolk CC for sending this information - Ed

