

# The ONS Geographical Referencing Strategy

- Data Grid referenced by address or postcode centroid
  - handled and analysed through GISs
  - aggregated to new, old or ad hoc areas for release
- subject to disclosure control  
(risks of overlapping areas)

GRS Implemented in 2001  
Census/NeSS

# Geographical Flexibility

- User requirement for standard output for overlapping areas
  - at census day e.g. National Parks/Postcode Sectors
  - after change e.g. Wards/Health Areas
- will be met, using grid referenced db, included in Census Access service
- further requirements for flexible areas - e.g. neighbourhoods?

# Disclosure Control

(measures announced 12.11.01)

- all counts in Census tables rounded (to zero or numbers divisible by three)
  - + record swapping on output db
  - + minimum thresholds for release of output (for CAS raised to 100 residents and 40 h/hlds)
  - + broad restriction of details in tables
  - + confidentiality clauses in end-user licences
- more details on implementation to follow

# Implementation of GRS in Census

- optimising quality of grid references
- 'regularising' the geography of postcodes
- obtaining digital versions of new boundaries

Meeting users concerns on quality