

THE CENSUS ACCESS PROJECT

THE CENSUS ACCESS PROJECT

Origins (May - October 1999)

- Strong messages from 1999 consultation:
 - modernised, user friendly dissemination
 - unrestricted access for ‘joined-up’ use
- Wider government initiatives
- Opportunities for technical innovation
- Invest to Save (ISB) funding available (through competitive bids)

THE CENSUS ACCESS PROJECT

The bigger policy picture (2000 to date)

- National Statistics dissemination policy (June 2000): ‘free on the internet’
- Social exclusion (PAT18) ‘Better information’ (mid 2000): ‘information freely available’
- Treasury/DTI/HMSO ‘Click-use-pay’ for publication/re-use of Government information (September 2000): ‘growing e-commerce’

**strong shift of emphasis from charging to:
access, web, usefulness**

The Census Access project

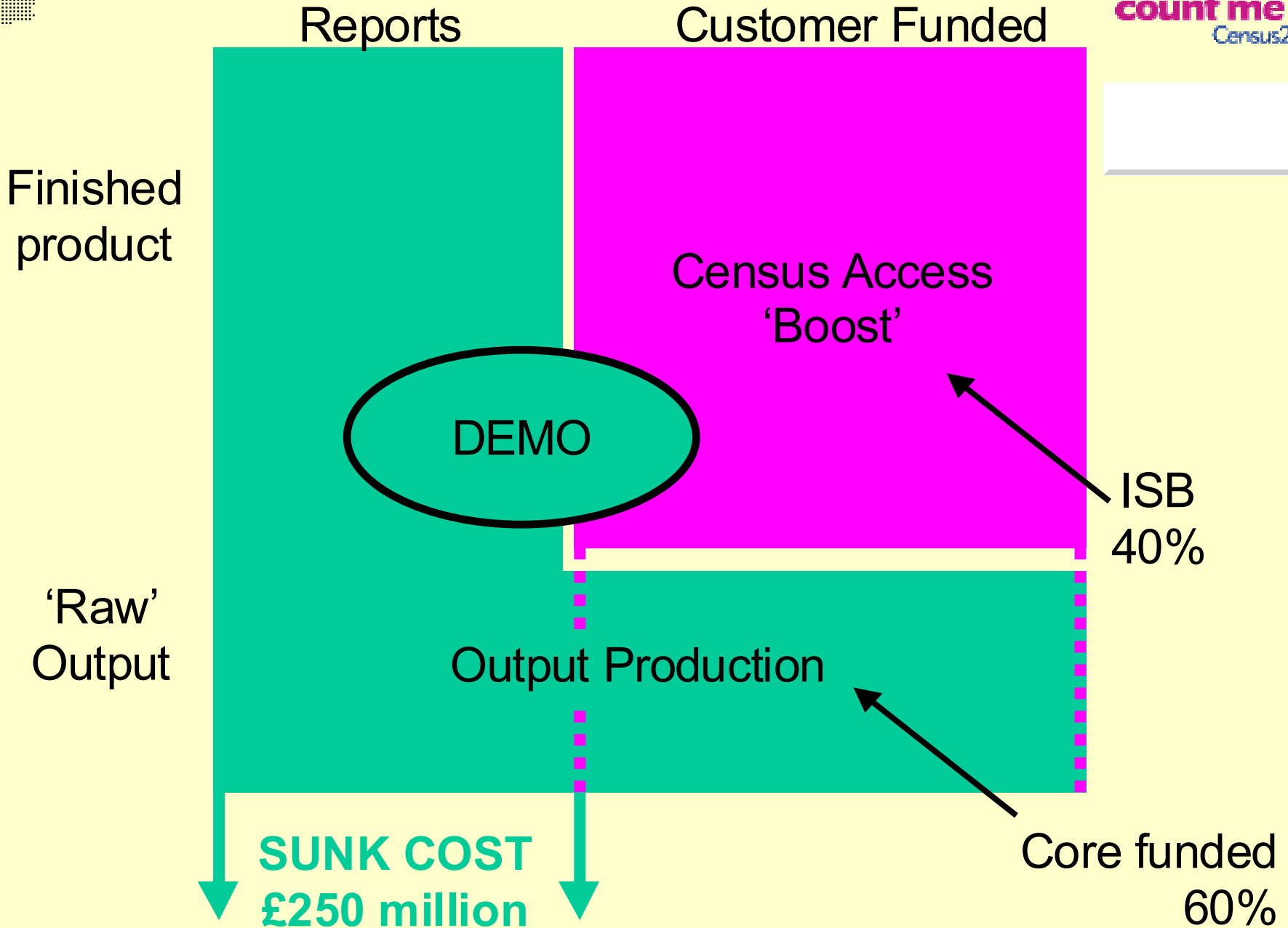
Key objectives

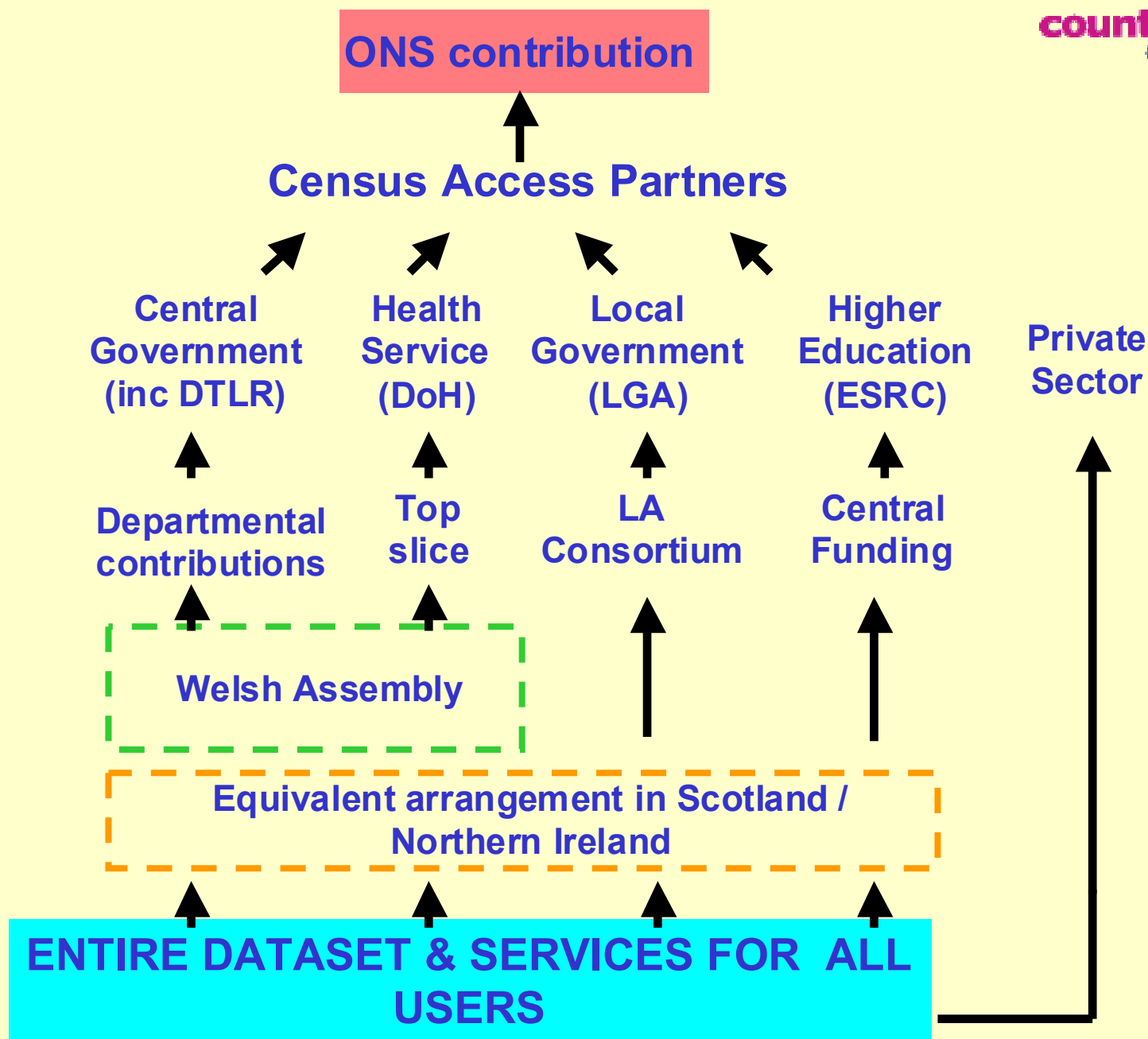
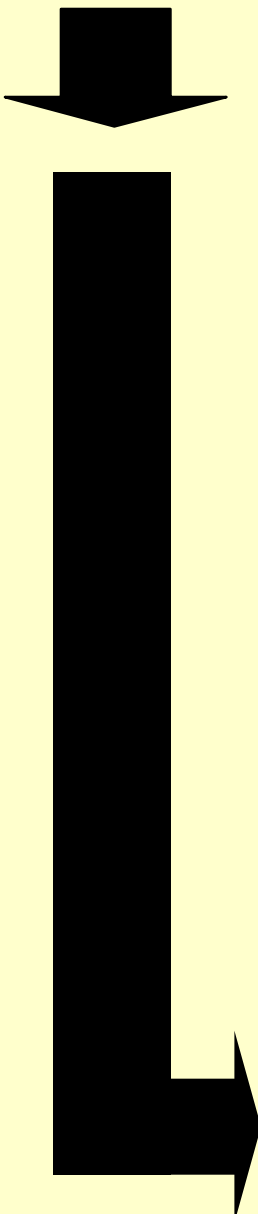
- providing a boost to customer funded output
 - working with public sector partners
 - breaking down barriers to joint working with Census information
 - meeting needs of joined-up government
- **ISB funding awarded (2000-03)**
- **new policy approach in place**

The Census Access project

Delivering the results in unrestricted and user friendly ways

- simplifying purchase/cost recovery
 - supplying needs from an integrated dataset (statistics & geography & metadata)
 - choice of delivery methods, facilities to suit all levels of expertise, serving the less pro-active user.
 - sharing best practice approaches
 - providing a platform of better output and services for all
- limited time to develop the service**





Census Access for the user (1)

.....possibly.....

- Call up to desk top (click on licence)
 - from local store
 - from intermediate service
 - from the National Statistics Website
- Opt for guidance or training
- Choose level of expertise/'fastrack' enquiring
- Choose entry route
 - subject/theme - use index or search
 - location - use index or map

.....continues.....

Census Access for the user (2)

.....possibly.....

- Choose coverage (local to national)
- View and explore the data
 - tables and indicators
 - maps and look up files
 - graphics and text
 - refer to metadata (at any point)
- Navigate with freedom

....continues.....

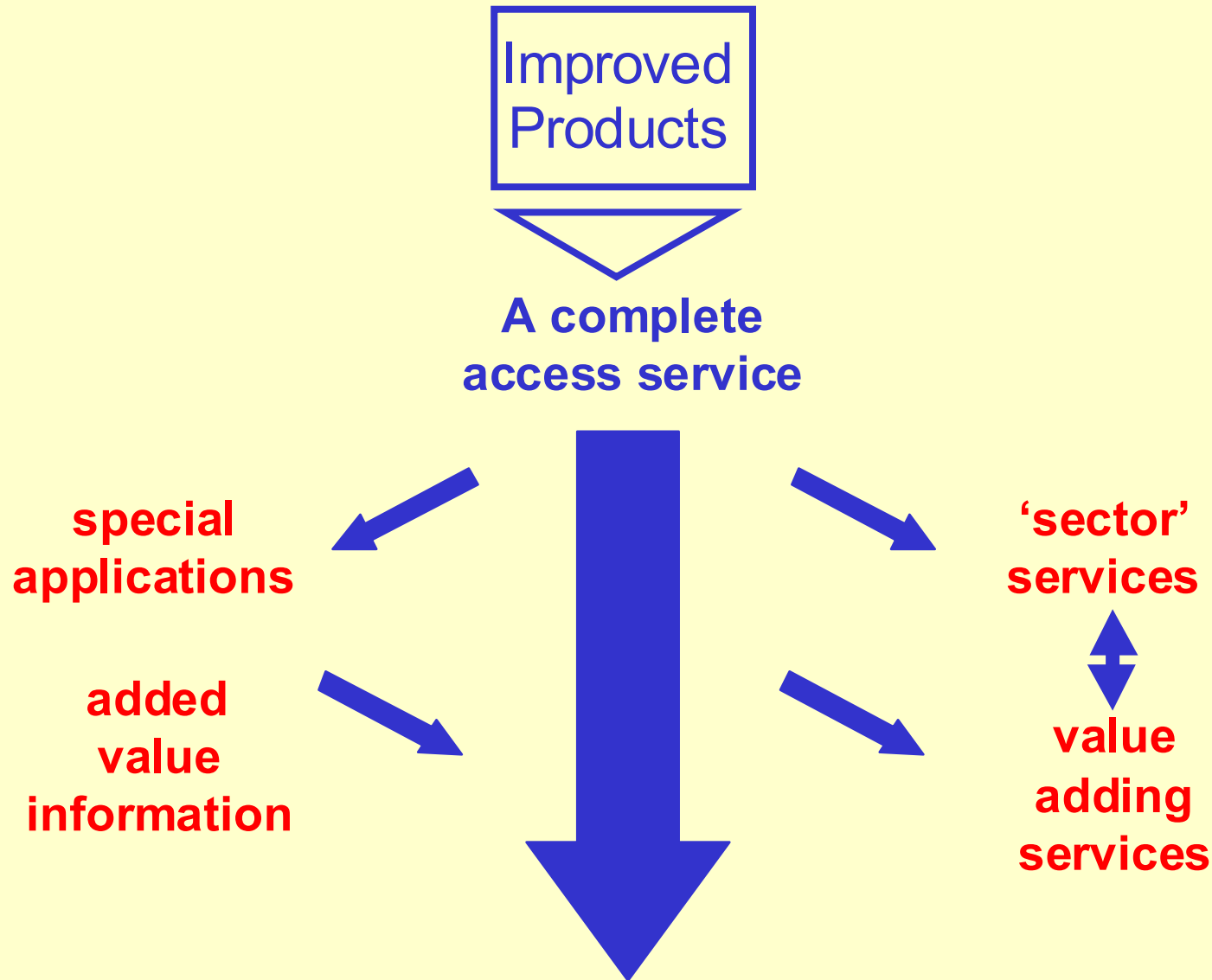
Census Access for the user (3)

.....possibly.....

- Manipulate and create
 - derived measures, ad hoc areas/tables
 - maps and graphics, extract text
- Export to add value, or share output
 - GIS & statistical analysis packages
 - link with user's (non Census) data
 - 'publish' (subject to click on licence)
- Find out more: other Census & NS products, special services and how to access

.....your views are needed

Census Access for the user (4)



Phasing of delivery

- Supply Options
 - ONS Bulk
 - Intermediaries
 - Direct
 - ONS Website
- Tranches (in time)
- Coverage Options
 - Content + Geography
- Functionality



**9 MONTHS PROGRESSIVE AVAILABILITY
TO FULL RANGE OF OPTIONS**

Funding, charges, conditions of use

- Census Access covers costs, no charge for access via the NS Website
- Same package in free-standing form, material costs recovered through charges
- On acceptance of conditions (copyright, acknowledgement, confidentiality) unrestricted use granted by ONS
- Re-use and publication requires one free (routine?) click-use/distribution licence per organisation

The Census Access Package in summary

- Access to all CAS and Standard Tables
- Access to complete geographical framework
- Access to extension tables and updated output
- Supporting metadata and functionality
- Services for ad hoc output (but not cost of production)
- Additional standard output?
- Extension of service to Neighbourhood Statistics ✓
- 'Free' click on licences for publication and re-use ✓
- Continued development in response to user feedback/
requirements

Neighbourhood Statistics

- Launched February 2001, as joint initiative led by ONS, following PAT18 (social exclusion) report
- to meet needs of the National Strategy for Neighbourhood renewal
- regular provision of comprehensive information for small areas to understand problems and target solutions
- see
www.statistics.gov.uk/neighbourhood/home.asp
including first 'proof of concept' set at ward level

A single gateway to local statistics

- Synergy between Census and Neighbourhood Statistics
 - use of Census Output Areas ‘building bricks’
 - Census output will form substantial part of Neighbourhood Statistics in 2003
- new IS project to develop Web based service for Census Access & Neighbourhood Statistics
- meets all objectives of Census Access, adding benefits of common access to much more than Census alone