

Technical note

Project	ESPACE	Date	7 October 2004
Note	Requesting datasets	Ref	WHMDSF/11/069
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1 Estimation of population flooded

When requesting datasets to be used in the MDSF (see procedures version 3, pg. 9), care should be taken when obtaining enumeration district polygons (and enumeration district population point datasets) and the property dataset. These three datasets are used in the social impact component of the MDSF to estimate the number of people flooded (see procedures version 3, section 6).

- Enumeration district polygons must be provided as whole polygons where any part of that polygon intersects with the catchment boundary. They must not be clipped to the catchment boundary.
- Enumeration district population points must be provided to within a buffer of 500m / 1km of the selected enumeration district polygons - these points that correspond to the enumeration district polygons may lie 'outside' the polygon.
- The property dataset must be clipped to the enumeration district polygons, not to the catchment boundary (or other polygon).

If the above method of defining datasets is not followed, estimates of populations flooded will be based on incomplete datasets and as such produce misleading results:

- Enumeration districts may not be assigned a population estimate and therefore be omitted from any analysis.
- Population estimates may be assigned to a sub-area of an enumeration district – this may lead to an overestimate of population per residential property.
- Enumeration districts may be clipped into two (or more) polygons with the same enumeration district reference. The problems above will be multiplied.
- Not all residential properties within an enumeration district will be represented – this may lead to an overestimate of population per residential property.