**Recommendations of Address Datasets.**

4 address datasets were considered.

Notes on Ordnance Survey AddressBase.

1. Coverage - 28 million Royal Mail postal address records.

2. Contains the UPRN - the main source of this nationally.

3. No abbreviations found in the sample data for Exeter provided.

4. See https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/business-and-government/help-and-support/public-sector/guidance/ - this is a bit beyond me, will need someone with more experience of that sort thing.

5. Updated every six weeks - should be enough.

Contains OS Coordinates and Latitude / Longitude pairs for each address; this would allow for mapping/visualisation in the future.

AddressBase Plus and Premium have additional fields; I have signed up for a (free) Exploration Licence to determine whether this additional data would be of use.

Though I have yet to explore other datasets (PAF, Experian, Loqate, and NLPG), this appears to be the best option, as it contains the UPRN and is regularly updated. Inclusion of address location information (both OS National Grid and Lat/Long) add extra value.

Notes on Experian Data Quality - Address Validation

This is the new name for Experian QAS, which was used for address verification in the Landmark EPC system.

Address Validation appears to be online tool;

1. Coverage not stated in data sheet.

2. Contains UPRN - assume these are the 'correct' ones.

3. Unable to see whether addresses are normalised.

4,

5. Update frequency - not sure.

This tool contains a wealth of other data whch is not relevant to this project - project will in effect be paying for Mosaic, company registration numbers, etc.

I'm not convinced that relying on an external tool and externally managed database is a good idea in terms of security and stability of service.

Notes on ONS Address Products.

The various ONS address products are based on the Ordnance Survey AddressBase (see other note), and contain the UPRN as a common point of reference. The prime motivation for the construction of these datasets appears to be the allocation of a postal address to a statistical output area, contituency, ward, or local authority area.

While this data could be of interest for reporting purposes, I do not believe it will be updated quickly enough for the allocation of correct UPRNs to the EPC register.

Having downloaded the ONS UPRN directory, this does not contain the t3ext of the address but contains multiple codes for different geographic areas, and a lot of research and GIS knowledge would be required in order to make this useful.

Notes on Loqate AddressBase.

Loqate are a reseller of the Ordnance Survey AddresBase product. There is little point in using this service when the project can probably get the same data cheaper directly from the OS.

This is the basis of the Loqate address verification tool.

Conclusion: The OS AddressBase product appears to be the most suitable for the requirements of this project. If, however, the Loquate version of it is cheaper and available as a downlabdable uploadable file, then that would be better value for money.