TRANSPORT DIRECT

NEW NAPTAN VIEWER

A new version of the NaPTAN Viewer will be released on Monday 13th September 2004. This version includes all of the functions in the original viewer but also has a number of enhancements that have been developed in response to user comments.

1   ENHANCEMENTS

The enhancements include:-
- The ability to select a specific point/area – the map will immediately "snap" to the specified point/area. Points/areas can be defined as:-
  - Specific NaPTAN (defined by NaPTAN Number)
  - Grid reference (defined by OSGR)
  - Specific authority area (defined by the Authority's 3 digit prefix e.g. 430 for West Midlands)
- The ability to select STOP GROUPS and show all of the stops belonging to that GROUP
- A function to display the stops for a specific authority area
- Functions to CLEAR previous entries and messages from the screen

2   ACCESS TO THE NaPTAN VIEWER

Access to the Viewer is via the same URL as before www.transportdirect.info/naptanviewer. Users have been issued with new user names & passwords and new requests for these can be made via the JourneyWeb Help Desk at journeyweb.help@thales-is.com

3   DATA UPDATES

The data in the Viewer is currently updated at least every two weeks by Transport Direct. This update always takes place on a Wednesday evening. When an Authority submits a NaPTAN load to Thales, this is generally processed to the NaPTAN database within 24 hours of receipt. However, it will not reach the NaPTAN Viewer until Transport Direct carries out the next update.
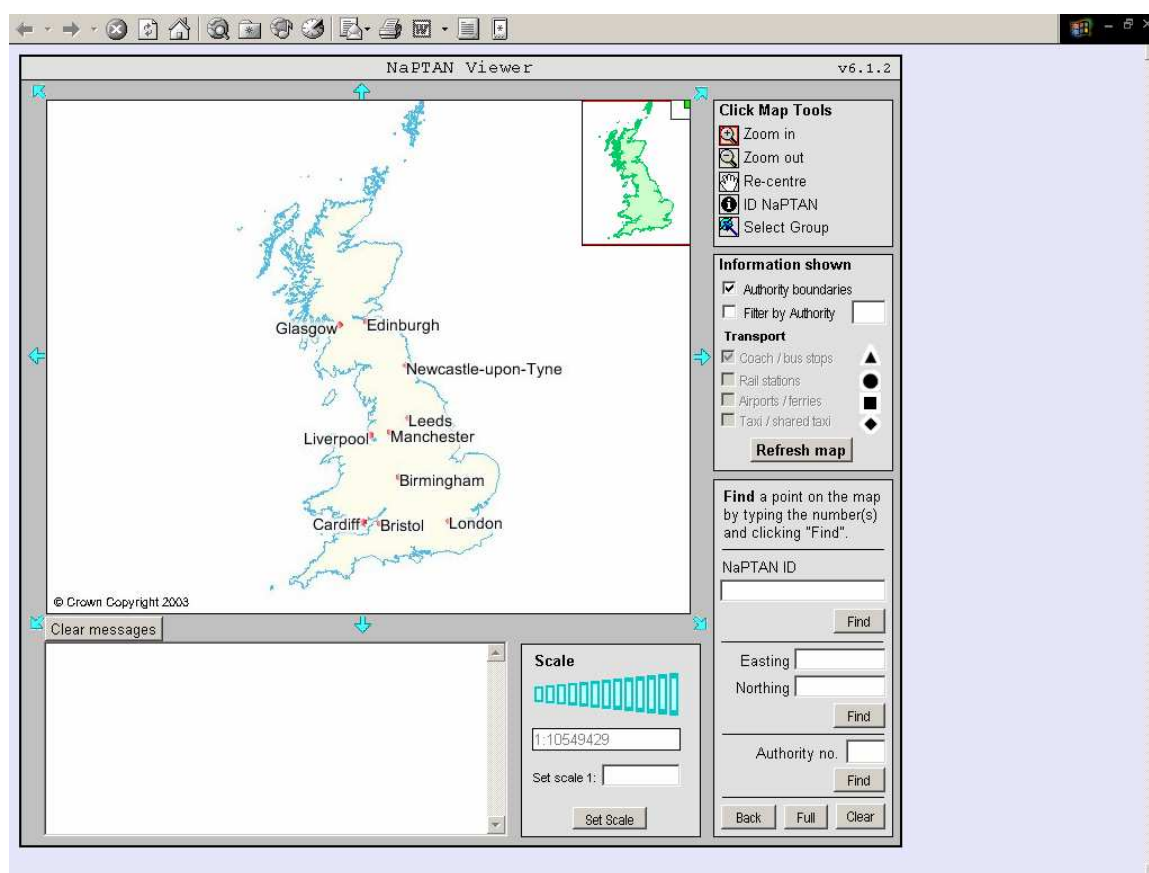
4   COMMENTS & REQUESTS FOR HELP AND INFORMATION

These may be addressed to the JourneyWeb Help Desk at journeyweb.help@thales-is.com and Thales will do their best to help users with queries. However, it should be noted that the NaPTAN Viewer has not been developed by Thales and is not supported by them. It is effectively a "spin-off" from the Transport Direct Portal, which

has been developed to help authorities and others working with NaPTAN records. If Thales cannot deal with a query, they will refer this to the Transport Direct team to deal with.
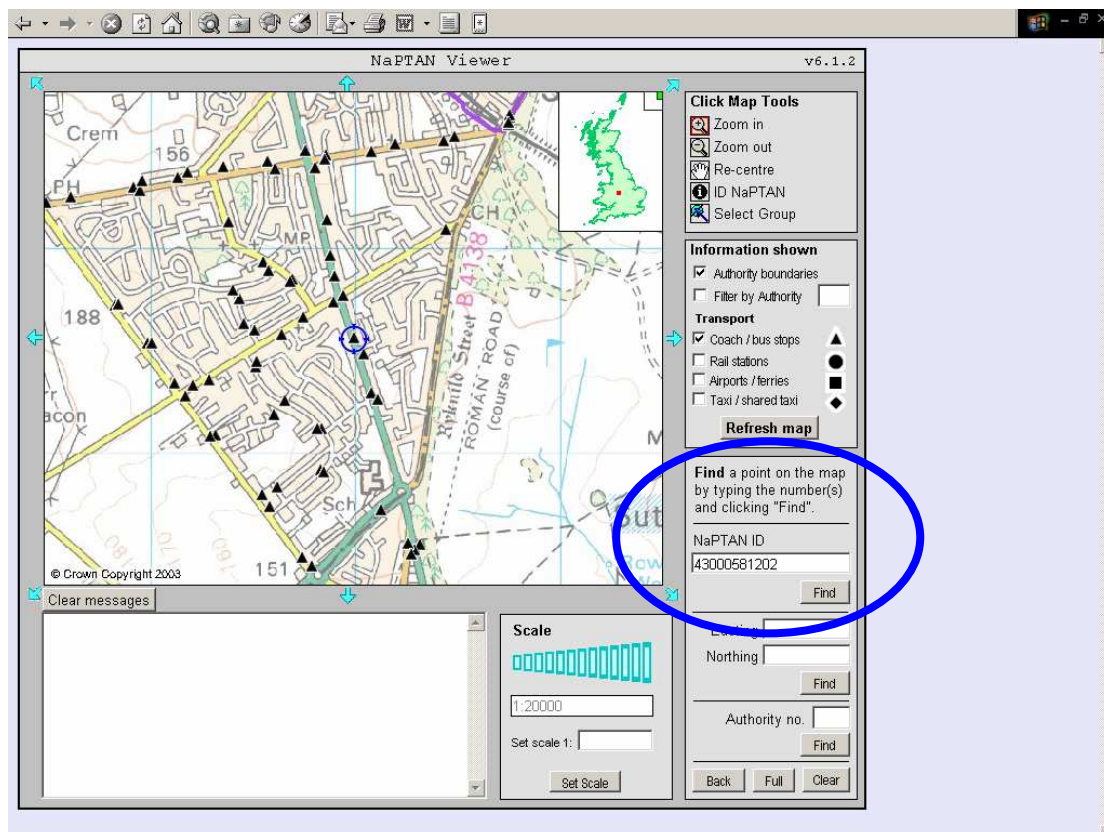
5   HOME PAGE

The home page is slightly different from the existing version as it now has the additional functions described down the right hand side of the screen and a smaller MESSAGE box in the bottom left hand corner.
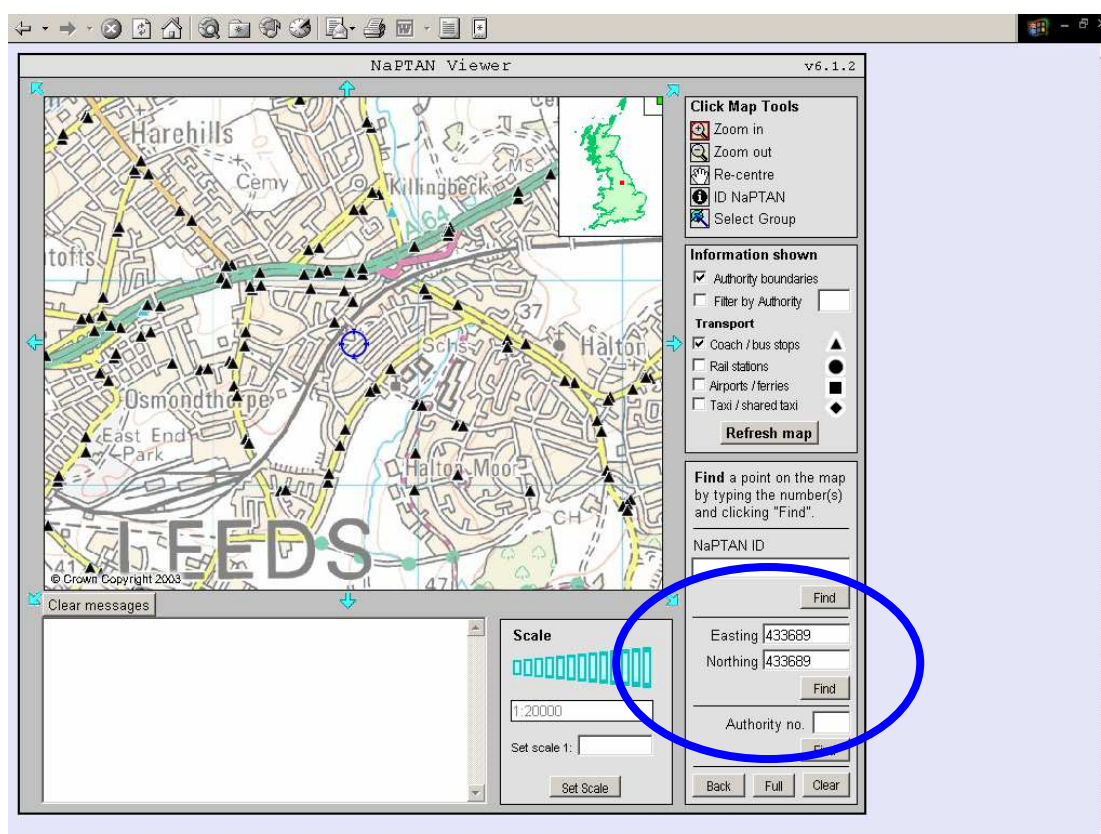
6 FINDING A NaPTAN POINT

Entering an existing NaPTAN number into the FIND – NaPTAN ID box (see below) will go directly to that point. The point requested will be highlighted.
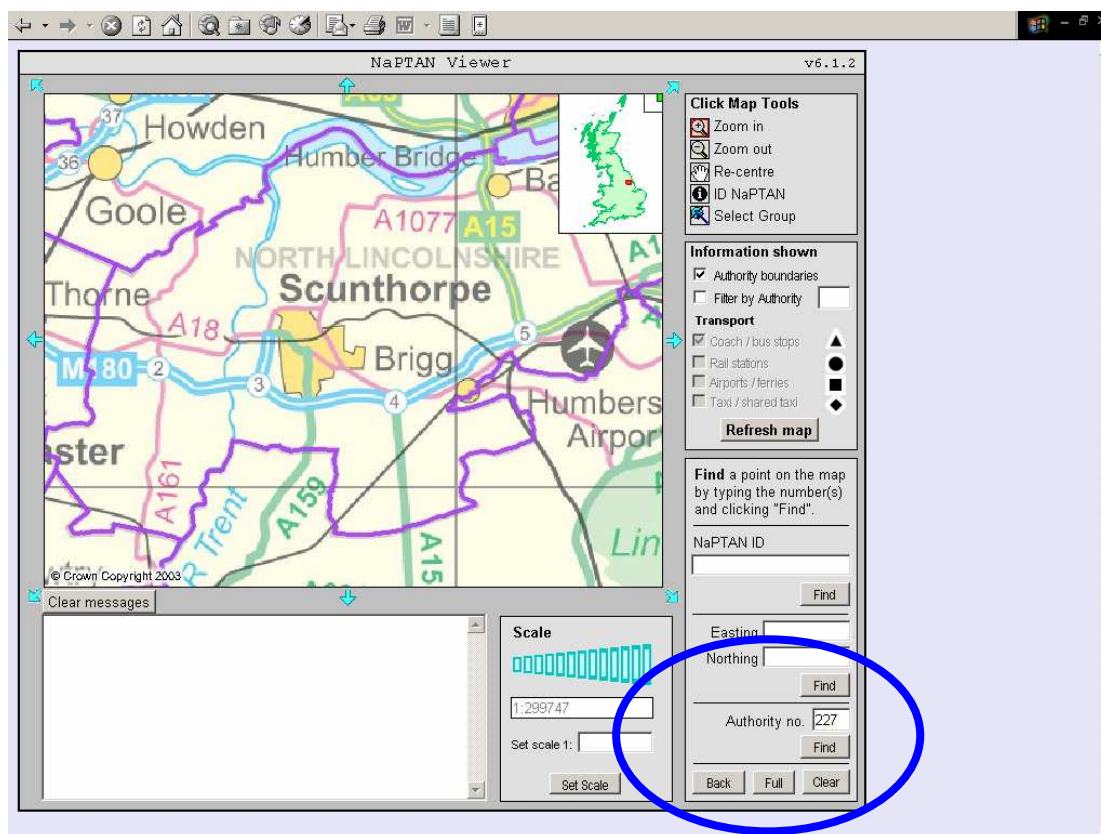
7   FINDING A GRID REFERENCE

The same approach can be used to "snap" the map to a specific Grid Reference (see below). The map will "snap" to the Grid Reference entered in the FIND – EASTING/NORTHING boxes and the point itself will be highlighted.

8   FINDING A SPECIFIC AUTHORITY

Entering an Authority Number in the FIND – AUTHORITY No. box (see below) will show that Authority's area. The example below is for Authority 227 North Lincolnshire and the map will be scaled to show the extent of the Authority's area. The Authority boundary is shown as a purple line on the map.

These areas are calculated from the NaPTANs belonging to that Authority and displayed as the example below. If there is an incorrect or "out-of-area" NaPTAN in the Authority's NaPTAN list, the area shown will be greater than that of the Authority. Seriously incorrect NaPTANs will mean that the map defaults to the whole of the UK.
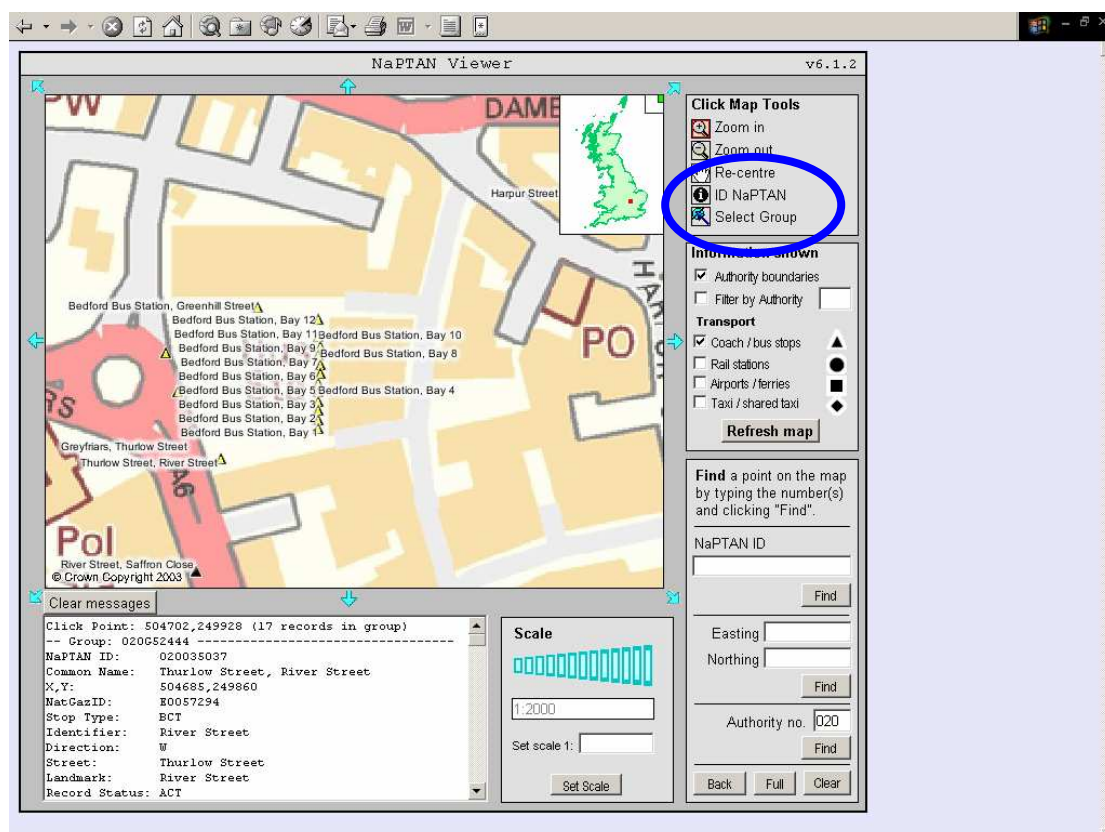
9 STOP GROUPS (AND MESSAGES)

The "Click Map Tools" selection now includes a new function SELECT GROUP. With this tool switched on the Viewer will display all of the stops included in a specific GROUP. To use this tool switch on the SELECT GROUP option, point the cursor arrow (finger) at a specific NaPTAN point and the map will display the selected stop as well as all of the stops belonging to the same group.

The details of ALL of the stops in that group will be displayed in the selection box in the bottom left of the screen. As you will see below, this group for Bedford Bus Station includes 17 records; all of the stands in the bus station as well some stops just outside. Users can scroll though this message box to see the information about each individual stop in the Group.

As you will also see this version also displays the STATUS of the NaPTAN POINT for each record in the message box. Valid STATUS for NaPTANs are ACT (Active) or DEL (Deleted), though a number of PEN (Pending) records will also be displayed, where the precise status of a NaPTAN cannot be determined.

Finally, the facility to determine the OSGR of a point that is NOT a NaPTAN is still available in the Viewer. The Viewer will display the OSGR of a point if a user points and clicks on that point e.g. for creating the OSGR of a new NaPTAN.
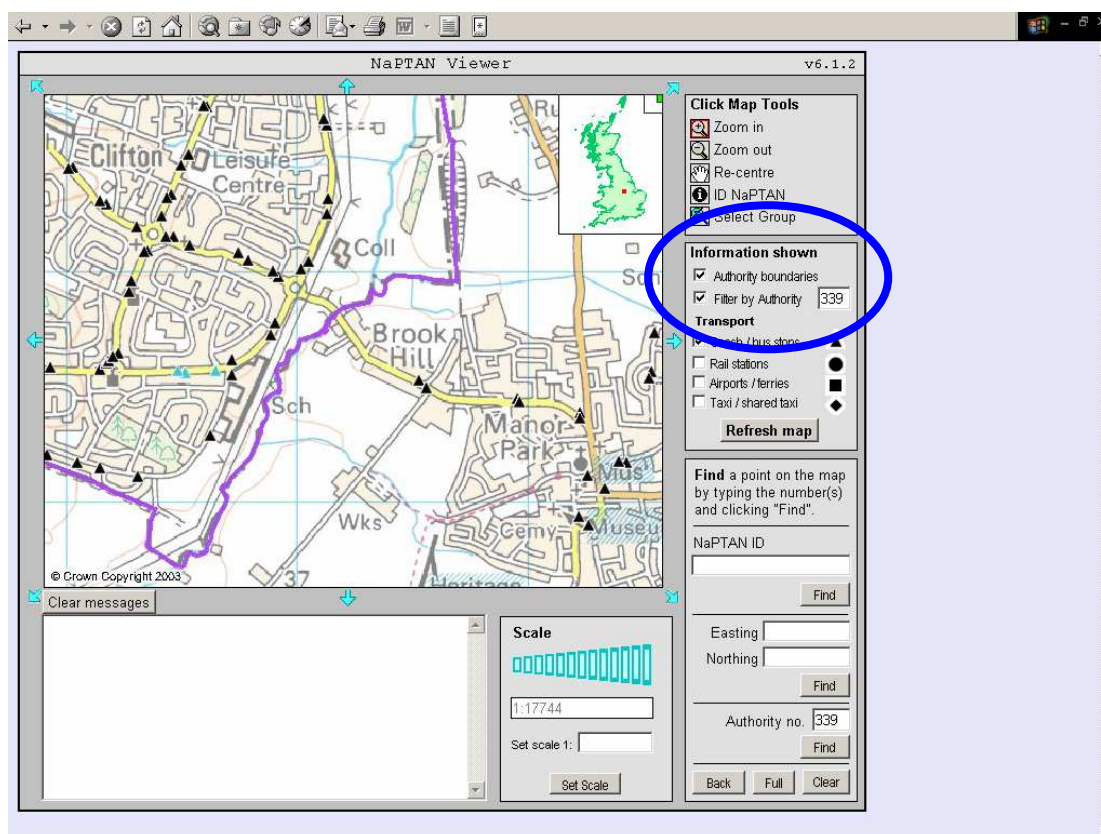
10 FILTER BY AUTHORITY

This facility allows users to display the NaPTANs belonging to a specific Authority. The selection of the Authority is based on the prefix number for the authority. It is particularly helpful at local authority boundaries where it can be used to switch on/off the stops for each authority. It can also be used to identify "out-of-area" stops.

Enter the Authority number in the selection box, tick the FILTER BY AUTHORITY check-box and click on REFRESH MAP to enable this function.

The example below illustrates a known issue with Nottingham City NaPTANs (which is currently being fixed). A number of the City NaPTANs are currently located in the County area. In the example below, the FILTER has been set to show only those NaPTANs belonging to the City. All points shown that are EAST of the boundary line are actually located in the County. This facility will help authorities that may have NaPTANs located outside of their area.

11   OTHER FUNCTIONS

The new Viewer also includes functions that will CLEAR the selection boxes and the Message boxes.

These functions will clear the existing selections and messages allowing users to make new choices.

Users can also determine the scale at which the map will be shown. The Viewer already has a number of pre-defined scales, but users can enter their own preferred scale in the box shown below and click on SET SCALE to display the map at that scale. This is particularly useful in allowing users to zoom in & out without re-setting the CLICK MAP TOOLS e.g. when seeking ID NaPTANs.