GeoDirectory records 40% drop in new buildings in Cork City and County in 2011

18 January, 2012

1,543 new residential and commercial buildings were identified in Cork City and County in 2011, according to figures released today by GeoDirectory. While this figure was the largest number of new buildings identified across the county, it represents a year-on-year decrease of 40% compared to 2010 when 814 new buildings were recorded in the county.

GeoDirectory was jointly established by An Post and Ordnance Survey Ireland (OS*i*) to create and manage Ireland's only complete database of commercial and residential buildings. The figures were recorded by 5,600 An Post delivery staff working with experts from OS*i*.

Across the country, GeoDirectory recorded 12,237 new buildings, composed of 10,284 residential buildings, 1,661 commercial buildings, and 292 dual-purpose buildings with both residential and commercial components. The new additions in 2011 bring the total number of buildings in the Republic of Ireland to 1,885,785.

Of the 1,543 new buildings recorded by GeoDirectory in Cork City and County, 1,373 were residential buildings, 130 were commercial buildings, and 40 were dual-purpose buildings with both residential and commercial space. These new additions bring the total number of buildings in Cork City and County to 221,981.

The decrease in new building additions in Cork City and County of 40% compared to 2010 is a larger decrease than the 30% drop recorded nationally.

Sligo, where 217 new buildings were identified, showed the largest decrease in new building additions with a 63% drop compared to 2010. Several counties (Cavan, Dublin, Kildare, Limerick and Waterford) bucked the national trend showing small increases in new building additions compared to 2010. The average increase recorded across these counties was 12%, with the largest increase of 34% being recorded in Kildare, where 483 new buildings were identified.

In contrast to Cork's recording of the largest number of new building additions in 2011, Leitrim, showing a year-on-year decrease of 53% in new additions, recorded the smallest increase with 154 new buildings identified.

Commenting on the new figures, GeoDirectory General Manager, Dara Keogh said:

"While figures for the first six months of 2011 showed a return to growth in eleven counties, only five of these sustained this growth through to the end of the year. The overall national picture continues to show a year-on-year decline in building additions.

This downward trend follows a peak in 2007 when 96,000 buildings were added to the GeoDirectory database. Since then, the number of additions to the database has continued to fall resulting in a drop of 87% in new building additions over the last five years."

GeoDirectory will release figures for the first six months of 2012 in early July.

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITOR:

GeoDirectory General Manager, Dara Keogh is available for interview/comment on the latest figures released.

For further information including a data sheet and graphical maps, please contact Caitriona Crowe, Wilson Hartnell Public Relation
caitriona.crowe@ogilvy.com
01 669 0030 / 087 214 3895

Each of the 1.8 million building records contained in GeoDirectory includes an accurate standardised postal address; usage details for each building (commercial or residential); a unique 8-digit identity number or fingerprint; and x, y coordinates which accurately locate the centre point of each building to within one metre on the National Grid.

The GeoDirectory database is used by many different companies and organisations across a diverse range of applications. The Emergency Services use GeoDirectory for route optimisation when responding to 999 calls, saving valuable minutes and lives in time-critical situations. Similarly companies like Dominos Pizza use GeoDirectory for address location to ensure that delivery times are met. In the property sector, GeoDirectory is used by Daft.ie and the Property Registration Authority. In addition, utility companies, banking and insurance providers, and all local authorities use the database.