



ENGLISH HERITAGE

Local Authority SMR-HER Development Case Studies

An Invitation to Submit Case Study Proposals

Dear colleague

Despite the Heritage Protection Bill not coming before parliament in this session, English Heritage is committed to moving forward with as much as possible of the content of the Bill that doesn't require primary legislation. We continue to support Local Authorities and the local delivery of historic environment services. We recognise the importance of the availability of historic environment information to all those involved in the sustainable management of this finite resource. We support the presence, maintenance and development of SMRs to HER status and recognise their key role in the delivery of HE services and the associated benefits to the wider community.

We are looking to you for examples of unique or particularly successful areas of historic environment based development that you have achieved. By this we do not mean a fully functioning, 100% compliant HER, but a specific area of improvement you have been involved in. Our aim is to enable Local Authorities to showcase areas of historic environment information development and function which could be used as exemplars to others across the sector.

We would like you to submit a proposal using the attached form and, based on this preliminary information, we will commission a sample of exemplars as full case studies and publish them. The publication, which will be in hard copy and available electronically, will be aimed at audiences such as elected members, Heritage Champions and planners, the general public, and of course historic environment specialists.

The themes we would like you to work within are listed below, along with some prompts as to the sorts of areas you might like to think about. Please note that these are not exhaustive lists and we encourage you to broaden each theme with your own ideas.

ACCESS AND OUTREACH

We anticipate that this may cover areas such as reaching new audiences, public outreach, educational outreach, public access, web presence and volunteer involvement.

INTEROPERABILITY

This may include compliance with national data standards, exchange of historic environment data between information systems, links between 'back office' systems, for example planning systems and corporate GIS, or links with the Heritage Gateway.

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

Examples may be internal to your LA, such as working with other LA departments or inter - authority agreements such as service level agreements. External partnerships, for example between other LAs, heritage bodies, EH, local societies, amenity societies, HLF and utilities. Any other collaborative projects. Successful relationships with Heritage Champions or elected members.

CONTENT AND COVERAGE

For example, this could include information content - breadth and quality, temporal and geographic limits in coverage or specific data sets like historic mapping, contemporary or historic photographs, buildings, characterisation, UAD, conservation areas and maritime (where applicable). In this category we would like you to also consider examples of data sets which have been fully integrated into the HER.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

This could include technical innovation, maintaining currency of policy and documentation, or keeping systems and system documentation up to date. You could consider the management of information or grey literature resulting from research through initiatives such as OASIS.

What to do now

- Choose your preferred theme. Should you want to submit case studies for more than one theme, please use a separate form for each. Then, in no more than 200 words, write an outline of your particular area of development and explain why you would like to expand this to a full case study. You might also like to think how your experience and methodology might assist others in developing the same area.
- Please return your proposal to English Heritage by **Friday February 13th**.
- We may contact you after this date if we are unclear on anything and require further information from you.
- Proposals will be sifted by English Heritage and the successful applicants will be informed by **Friday February 20th**.

- Full commissioned case studies will be in the region of 800 words plus one or two images, for which you may claim a sum of c£500 provided the work is submitted to schedule and to an agreed format.
- Commissioned case studies must be returned to English Heritage by **Friday March 13th**.
- We encourage you to fill in the form electronically but if you prefer to use hard copy, please ensure it reaches us by the closing date.

EH contact details:

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This project is supported by the Institute of Historic Buildings Conservation and the Association of Local Government Archaeologists



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