



## Scotland's Historic Environment Data

### Summary of activity in 2015-16

The SHED Strategy continues to be developed by an active Programme Board, with progress being made on several fronts during 2015-16.

#### Project Meetings and Documentation

- **Programme Board:** The Programme Board held [meetings in May and November 2015](#).<sup>i</sup> Following their significant contributions to the SHED process, Bruce Mann and Matt Ritchie stood down from the Programme Board. The Board were however delighted that Katinka Dalglish of Glasgow Life and Irene O'Brien of the Scottish Council on Archives have accepted invitations to join the Board.
- **Management Group:** The Group [met in September 2015 and March 2016](#),<sup>ii</sup> taking forward the organisation of the Stakeholder Workshop and progressing the Implementation Plan.
- **Stakeholder Workshop:** A [Stakeholder Workshop](#),<sup>iii</sup> hosted by Built Environment Forum Scotland (BEFS) was held in Edinburgh on 26<sup>th</sup> November, when 30 participants heard about SHED-related activity and helped scrutinise the draft Implementation Plan
- **Programme Implementation Plan:** The plan was further developed, including the addition of some suggested success measures. Following feedback from the Stakeholder Workshop (see above), the Plan has been reviewed and will be finalised following the April 2016 Programme Board.
- **Sharing experiences:** Presentations on the Strategy were given at [ClfA Conference](#)<sup>iv</sup> in Cardiff and to the [One Scotland Mapping Agreement \(OSMA\) Management Group](#)<sup>v</sup> in August. Board members have also had discussions with colleagues from south of the border who are developing the [Historic Information Access \(HIAS\) Strategy](#),<sup>vi</sup> and we continue to share ideas and experiences.

#### Project Workstream Activities

In our second year we continued the work of our three key workstreams and made headway with our aspiration on polygonisation.

- **Workstream 1 – Portal:** Various improvements have been made to [PastMap](#),<sup>vii</sup> including removing user registration requirements and better updating of datasets, and further advances are in the pipeline regarding providing underlying historic maps and polygon layers. A discussion document, 'Mapping the future of PastMap', was discussed and is being finalised.; the document is closely aligned to the SHED Strategy. There were almost 30,000 PastMap users this year.
- **Workstream 2 – Standards:** The SMR Forum [Technical Working Group](#)<sup>viii</sup> continued to undertake the tasks of SHED Workstream 2, including work on the technical specifications for polygonisation and providing [lists of data standards](#)<sup>ix</sup> used for historic environment data in Scotland.
- **Workstream 3 – Comms:** The [website](#)<sup>x</sup> continues to be maintained through the SMR Forum.
- **Polygonisation:** Following the aspiration for online polygonised information to be available for the whole of Scotland, partnerships have been formed between three local HERs<sup>xi</sup> and Historic Environment Scotland, and work on polygonisation will begin in 2016-17.
- **Other activities:** The SHED Strategy is referred to in [Scotland's Archaeology Strategy](#),<sup>xii</sup> formally launched in September 2016, and discussions continue to ensure that the two strategies mesh.

*SHED Management Group, May 2016*

<http://smrforum-scotland.org.uk/shed/>

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- <sup>i</sup> <http://smrforum-scotland.org.uk/shed/shed-documents/>
- <sup>ii</sup> <http://smrforum-scotland.org.uk/shed/shed-documents/>
- <sup>iii</sup> [http://www.befs.org.uk/uploads/resources/reports/16\\_01\\_20\\_HES\\_CorporatePlan\\_WorkshopReport.pdf](http://www.befs.org.uk/uploads/resources/reports/16_01_20_HES_CorporatePlan_WorkshopReport.pdf)
- <sup>iv</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=asc8wMLZBBE>
- <sup>v</sup> <https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/business-and-government/public-sector/mapping-agreements/soslo.html>
- <sup>vi</sup> <https://historicengland.org.uk/research/support-and-collaboration/heritage-information-access-strategy/>
- <sup>vii</sup> <http://pastmap.org.uk/>
- <sup>viii</sup> <http://smrforum-scotland.org.uk/smr-twg/>
- <sup>ix</sup> <http://smrforum-scotland.org.uk/shed/data-standards/>
- <sup>x</sup> <http://smrforum-scotland.org.uk/shed/>
- <sup>xi</sup> Shetland Amenity Trust, and a partnership between Scottish Borders, Stirling and Clackmannanshire Councils and Forestry Commission Scotland.
- <sup>xii</sup> <http://archaeologystrategy.scot/files/2015/08/ScotlandsArchaeologyStrategy.pdf>