



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Welsh Government

Consultation on a proposal for regulations required by the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and four guidance documents

Annex 1

Draft

Historic Environment Records in Wales: Compilation and Use (Statutory Guidance)

The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 was enacted to make important improvements to the existing systems for the protection and management of the Welsh historic environment. It also stands at the centre of an integrated package of secondary legislation, new and updated planning policy and advice, and best-practice guidance on a wide range of topics. Taken together, these will support and promote the careful management of change in the historic environment in accordance with current conservation philosophy and practice.

This draft document has been published as part of a twelve-week consultation on a proposal for regulations and various guidance documents linked to the implementation of the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016. It will close on 13 January 2017. The consultation document, the response form and all of the associated draft guidance documents are available from the Welsh Government's consultation web pages (<https://consultations.gov.wales/>).

This document has been prepared alongside a revised chapter 6, 'The Historic Environment', of *Planning Policy Wales* and the new *Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment*. It can profitably be read in conjunction with them.

A public consultation on chapter 6 of *Planning Policy Wales* closed on 13 June 2016. The chapter is still available on the consultation web page (<https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/proposed-changes-planning-policy-wales-chapter-6-historic-environment>) and any citations of *Planning Policy Wales* in the current document refer to this version.

A final version of chapter 6, incorporating any changes arising from the consultation, will be published later this year.

A public consultation on *Technical Advice Note 24* closed on 3 October 2016 and the analysis of the responses has begun. *Technical Advice Note 24* is still available on the consultation web page (<https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/proposed-technical-advice-note-tan-24-historic-environment>) and any citations of *Technical Advice Note 24* in the current document refer to this version. A final version of the technical advice note, incorporating any changes arising from the consultation, is expected in spring 2017.

19 October 2016

Mae'r ddogfen yma hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg.
This document is also available in Welsh.

19 October 2016

DRAFT

Historic Environment Records in Wales: Compilation and Use

STATUTORY GUIDANCE

Statement of Purpose

A historic environment record provides detailed information about the historic environment of a given area. The historic environment records in Wales have been created as a result of decades of research and investigation. They are maintained and updated for public benefit and use in accordance with national and international standards.

Historic Environment Records in Wales: Compilation and Use is statutory guidance which explains how certain public bodies in Wales:

- may contribute to the compilation of historic environment records and assist in keeping them up-to-date
- should make use of historic environment records in the exercise of their functions.

The public bodies are:

- local authorities in Wales
- National Park authorities in Wales
- Natural Resources Wales.

These bodies must have regard to this statutory guidance, which is issued by the Welsh Ministers under the powers in section 37 of the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016.¹

Sections 35 and 36 of the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 require the Welsh Ministers to compile and keep up to date a publicly accessible historic environment record for each local authority area in Wales.²

While this guidance has been prepared specifically for the bodies named in section 37 of the Act, it will be of relevance to a range of other public, voluntary and private sector bodies, and individuals with an interest in the historic environment of Wales.

¹ [Historic Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016, sections 37](#)

² [Historic Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016, sections 35–36](#)

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Introduction

The historic environment of Wales has been shaped by past generations. It highlights where we have come from and enhances our quality of life. The history that surrounds us gives us a sense of place and helps to define us as a nation. The historic environment is also a fragile, vulnerable, non-renewable and finite resource. Our ambition to provide effective protection and management of the historic environment relies on access to good quality, authoritative information.

Under the provisions of the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (the Act),³ the Welsh Ministers must compile and keep up to date a historic environment record for each local authority area in Wales. They must also make the historic environment records publicly accessible, and provide advice and assistance to those wishing to retrieve and understand the information that they contain.

This guidance explains the role and responsibilities of the Welsh Government, the Welsh archaeological trusts, the public bodies named in the Act and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (the Royal Commission) with respect to historic environment records in Wales. It also explains how local and National Park authorities in Wales, and Natural Resources Wales may contribute to historic environment records and how they should use these records in the exercise of their functions.

Although this guidance is aimed at the public bodies named in the Act, it has relevance to a wide range of other public sector bodies, and private and third sector organisations. It may also be of use to individuals and groups who use the historic environment records regularly for researching the heritage of their community, or as part of personal research or exploration.

1. Historic Environment Records

1.1 What is a Historic Environment Record?

The historic environment includes all aspects of our surroundings that have been built, formed or influenced by human activities from the earliest to most recent times. A historic environment record is the store for systematically organised information about the historic environment in a given area and can be accessed by anyone. It is maintained and updated for public benefit.

The historic environment records in Wales contain and signpost information about historic landscapes, buildings, archaeological sites and finds. They also contain records of the investigation and management of the historic environment, such as archaeological excavations, historical studies and programmes of conservation. The content of the Welsh historic environment records represents decades of collection and collation of information drawing from a wide range of sources, including information from the general public and the results of archaeological fieldwork.

³ [Historic Environment \(Wales\) Act, sections 35–37](#)

Key information contained within the Welsh historic environment records has been brought together into a digital database linked to a geographic information system (GIS) which allows users to see the textual information alongside mapping. The database is supported by associated reference material which may be digital or paper. The material can include aerial photographs, copies of early maps and antiquarian reports, characterisation studies, unpublished reports ('grey literature'), and other published and documentary sources.

A historic environment record is a dynamic and constantly evolving resource which requires continuous maintenance and enhancement as new information about the historic environment comes to light. As such, a historic environment record can never be a definitive record. A historic environment record should be managed by appropriately qualified and dedicated staff that can help the public bodies named in the Act and the wider public in its use.

The baseline content required of historic environment records in Wales, as outlined in the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016,⁴ is described in section 3.2.

1.2 What is a Historic Environment Record Used For?

Historic environment records provide access to information about the historic environment of Wales for public benefit and fulfil a wide variety of functions which include:

- advancing knowledge and understanding of the historic environment
- supporting the conservation, management and protection of the historic environment
- informing strategic policies and development plans
- informing development management decisions
- supporting heritage-led regeneration, environmental improvement and cultural tourism initiatives
- contributing to education and social inclusion
- promoting public participation in the exploration, appreciation and enjoyment of local heritage.

They are used regularly by a wide variety of stakeholders, including the public bodies named in the Act, as well as owners, developers, planners, researchers and the general public.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

2.1 The Welsh Ministers

Under sections 35 and 36 of the Act, the Welsh Ministers have a duty to create and keep up to date a publicly accessible historic environment record for each local authority area in Wales.⁵ Advice and assistance must be made available to those

⁴ [Historic Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016, section 35](#)

⁵ [Historic Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016, sections 35–36](#)

wishing to retrieve and understand the information that historic environment records contain.

It is for the Welsh Ministers to decide what information is contained in the historic environment records in accordance with the details of the content set out in section 35(2) of the Act. In practice, using formal agreements, the Welsh Ministers have delegated this responsibility to the four Welsh archaeological trusts. The agreements set out the standards and benchmarks that each of the historic environment records is expected to demonstrate.⁶

Under section 37 of the Act,⁷ the Welsh Ministers must issue this guidance on the compilation and use of historic environment records to local and National Park authorities in Wales, and Natural Resources Wales.

2.2 The Welsh Archaeological Trusts

The Welsh Ministers have chosen to discharge their duties under sections 35 and 36 of the Act through formal agreements with the four Welsh archaeological trusts (Clwyd-Powys, Dyfed, Glamorgan-Gwent and Gwynedd).

Each Welsh archaeological trust manages a regional historic environment record. Together, these historic environment records provide a comprehensive index comprising approximately 200,000 individual records of archaeological investigations and historic sites and finds of all periods throughout Wales.

The four historic environment records in Wales are the direct descendants of the sites and monuments records established in the 1970s. They were compiled to assist the trusts' work programmes and in response to the lack of archaeological information available to owners, developers and planners, and the consequent loss of archaeological remains through urban and rural development. The present system has been developed through a partnership of the four trusts to provide improved and wider public access.

Online public access to the core information contained in the historic environment records is available through Archwilio.⁸

The four regional historic environment records cover the following local authority areas:

- Clywd-Powys historic environment record covers Denbighshire, Flintshire, Wrexham, Powys and part of Conwy
- Dyfed historic environment record covers Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion

⁶ The standards will be reviewed and made available on Cadw's website

⁷ [Historic Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016, section 37](#)

⁸ Archwilio www.archwilio.org.uk

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- Glamorgan-Gwent historic environment record covers Swansea, Neath Port Talbot, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Bridgend, Vale of Glamorgan, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Monmouthshire, Torfaen and Newport
- Gwynedd historic environment record covers Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and part of Conwy.

2.3 Local and National Park Authorities in Wales, and Natural Resources Wales

Under section 37 of the Act, local and National Park authorities in Wales, and Natural Resources Wales must all pay regard to this guidance on the compilation and use of historic environment records in Wales. These public bodies have an important role in the management and conservation of the historic environment and the way in which it is promoted, and accessed and appreciated by the public. These functions depend on access to good quality, authoritative information about the historic environment, such as that provided by the historic environment records.

It is critical that these bodies make an effective contribution to the content of the historic environment records (see sections 3.1 and 3.2). Consequently, these public bodies have a key role in the compilation of the historic environment records. They also have responsibility for their use in the exercise of their functions, which is described in section 4.

2.4 The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales

The Royal Commission⁹ was established in 1908 and currently derives its role and responsibilities from its Royal Warrant of 2000. It works as a Welsh Government Sponsored Body (WGSB) and receives its core funding from the Welsh Government.

Since 1964, the Royal Commission has been responsible for the curation of the National Monuments Record of Wales. This is the national public archive and inventory for the historic environment of Wales, which is comparable to similar archives in England and Scotland. It holds records generated by the Royal Commission's investigative activities as well as records contributed by a wide range of other organisations and private individuals. Unlike the historic environment records, the National Monuments Record of Wales is officially recognised as a place of deposit for public records under the Public Records Act 1958.¹⁰ It contains original photographs, drawings and documents relating to the historic environment of Wales.

The Royal Commission also curates the record of historic maritime sites for the territorial waters of Wales, which includes offshore shipping and aviation casualties, and areas of high marine archaeological potential. It also provides advice on listed building consents and marine licensing.

On behalf of the Welsh Ministers, the Royal Commission has a specific responsibility for maintaining the list of historic place names in Wales and the inventory of historic

⁹ The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales www.rcahmw.gov.uk

¹⁰ [Public Records Act 1958](#)

battlefields, and for making this information available through the historic environment records.

Under its operational arrangements with the Welsh Government, the Royal Commission also has responsibility for the oversight of records about the historic environment. It monitors the standards and service levels of the historic environment records managed by the Welsh archaeological trusts. This includes coordinating and validating audits on a five-year cycle which review data quality, evidence performance against specified indicators and identify needs for enhancement. A summary of the audit findings is published on the website of the Welsh Government's Historic Environment Service (Cadw).¹¹

2.5 How Does a Historic Environment Record Relate to Other Records?

In addition to historic environment records, there are other sources of information about the historic environment. The Welsh Government is the primary source for records relating to monuments and buildings in State care and designated historic assets of national importance or special interest, including listed buildings, scheduled monuments, designated wrecks and registered historic parks, gardens and landscapes. Cof Cymru — National Historic Assets of Wales, which is maintained by Cadw, gives online public access to mapping and descriptive information for these historic assets.¹²

The Royal Commission maintains the National Monuments Record of Wales, which is the national archive for the historic environment of Wales. Online public access to the National Monuments Record of Wales is provided through Coflein.¹³

Amgueddfa Cymru — National Museum Wales and regional and local museums hold records relating to the archaeological artefacts and historic collections in their care.

A Strategic Framework for Records Relating to the Historic Environment of Wales has been established between the principal record holders (listed above) and the historic environment records to ensure data sharing and collaboration.¹⁴

On behalf of the framework partners, the Royal Commission maintains and develops the Historic Wales portal¹⁵ as an online gateway to national and regional records. This includes an integrated map showing all the historic sites represented by the records maintained by Cadw, the trusts, Amgueddfa Cymru — National Museum Wales and the Royal Commission. The Historic Wales portal acts as a one stop shop with links to the source information contained in Cof Cymru, Archwilio, Coflein and Amgueddfa Cymru — National Museum Wales's online database.

¹¹ Cadw is the Welsh Government's historic environment service working for an accessible and well-protected historic environment for Wales www.cadw.wales.gov.uk

¹² Cof Cymru – National Historic Assets of Wales
<http://cadw.gov.wales/historicenvironment/recordsv1/cof-cymru/?lang=en>

¹³ Coflein www.coflein.gov.uk

¹⁴ A Strategic Framework for Records Relating to the Historic Environment of Wales
<http://rcahmw.gov.uk/discover/strategic-framework/>

¹⁵ Historic Wales www.historicwales.gov.uk

3. The Content and Compilation of Historic Environment Records in Wales

3.1 Keeping Historic Environment Records in Wales Up to Date

Historic environment records require active management if they are to reflect the changing nature of the historic environment and our understanding of its significance.¹⁶ Historic environment records must be kept up to date with accurate information, including:

- new discoveries and interpretations
- new and amended statutory designations
- latest research and publications
- records and outcomes of new investigations
- changes to the historic assets already recorded.

Such information will come from a variety of sources, ranging from chance finds by members of the public and unexpected discoveries by property owners, developers and land managers to systematic investigations undertaken as part of national surveys, university-led research, developer-funded fieldwork and recording, community projects or private research.

There should be no temporal limits on the information recorded in a historic environment record: it should include data relating to all periods, from the earliest human activity to the present day. The geographical limit of the historic environment record for each local authority area will be defined by the administrative boundary of the local authority. In the case of local authority areas that include coastline, the seaward extension of a historic environment record's geographic coverage beyond the administrative boundary will allow more effective management of the marine and coastal historic environment.

The public bodies named in the Act have a role in making sure that the historic environment records are as up to date as they can be. In some cases, they have a responsibility for ensuring that the historic environment records include new and updated information for which they are directly responsible, such as information relating to conservation areas and local lists where they exist.

3.2 The Content of Historic Environment Records in Wales and the Role of Public Bodies in their Compilation

This section provides a list of what historic environment records are expected to contain under section 35(2) of the Act.¹⁷ The different elements are grouped here to reflect how local and National Park authorities, and Natural Resources Wales must or should contribute to the compilation of historic environment records and assist in keeping them up to date.

¹⁶ For significance, refer to [Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales](#), Cadw, Welsh Assembly Government 2011

¹⁷ Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016, section 35(2). The letters in the boxed sections refer to asset types as listed in section 35(2) of the Act.

3.2.1 Historic Assets that have Statutory Protection or are Registered under the 1979 or 1990 Acts¹⁸

(a) Details of every building in the authority's area which is included in a list compiled or approved by the Welsh Ministers under section 1 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (c. 9).¹⁹

(b) Details of every conservation area in the authority's area which is designated under section 69 of that Act.²⁰

(c) Details of every monument in the authority's area which is included in the Schedule compiled and maintained under section 1 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (c. 46).²¹

(d) Details of each of the grounds in the authority's area which are included in the register of historic parks and gardens compiled and maintained by the Welsh Ministers under section 41A of that Act.

Cadw, on behalf of the Welsh Ministers, is responsible for identifying and designating listed buildings (a), scheduled monuments (c) and registered historic parks and gardens (d). The definitive and up-to-date lists of each of these categories of historic asset are managed by Cadw. The historic environment records must contain details of all of the assets in these groups that are relevant to the local authority's area, as and when they are provided by Cadw. They must also include links to Cof Cymru — the online database of national historic assets in Wales maintained by Cadw.

Local planning authorities are responsible for defining and designating conservation areas (b). These authorities, whether they are part of a National Park authority or a local authority in Wales, must provide details of all conservation areas for inclusion in the relevant historic environment records.

Local planning authorities must provide details of all conservation areas for inclusion in the relevant historic environment record.

3.2.2 Conflict Sites

(e) Details of every conflict site in the authority's area which the Welsh Ministers consider to be of historic interest.

Section 35 (3) of the Act defines a 'conflict site' as a battlefield or a site on which some other conflict involving military forces took place, or a site on which significant activities relating to a battle or other such conflict occurred.²²

¹⁸ [Planning \(Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas\) Act 1990](#), [Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979](#)

¹⁹ [Planning \(Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas\) Act 1990, section 1](#)

²⁰ [Planning \(Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas\) Act 1990, section 69](#)

²¹ [Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, section 1](#)

²² [Historic Environment \(Wales\) Act, section 35 \(3\)](#)

On behalf of the Welsh Ministers, the Royal Commission has compiled an inventory of historic battlefields in Wales. Each historic environment record will contain the latest information from this inventory that is relevant to the local authority area, as and when it is supplied by the Royal Commission. The historic environment records should also include links to the online database that is maintained by the Royal Commission.

The public bodies named in the Act may have additional information about conflict sites. This information should be provided to the Royal Commission for possible inclusion in the inventory.

The public bodies named in the Act should provide the Royal Commission with details of any conflict site that might be considered for inclusion in the relevant historic environment record.

3.2.3 Historic Landscapes

(f) Where a public authority (whether by itself or jointly with other persons) maintains a list of historic landscapes in Wales, details of every historic landscape in the local authority's area which is included in the list.

A register of historic landscapes has been compiled jointly by Cadw, ICOMOS (UK) and the Countryside Council for Wales (now part of Natural Resources Wales).²³

On behalf of the Welsh Ministers, the Welsh archaeological trusts have carried out detailed historic landscape characterisation studies of each of these registered historic landscapes. The historic environment records must contain details of each registered historic landscape that is relevant to the local authority area, along with details of the associated characterisation work and links to the online datasets that are hosted by the Welsh archaeological trusts.

Where a public body named in the Act maintains its own list of historic landscapes, details should be included in the relevant historic environment records.

3.2.4 World Heritage Sites

(g) Details of every World Heritage Site in the authority's area

The historic environment records must contain details of every part of a World Heritage Site that is relevant to the local authority's area. The historic environment records should provide links to the most up-to-date management plans for World Heritage Sites and any associated supplementary planning guidance.

²³ ICOMOS UK www.icomos-uk.org; Natural Resources Wales www.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Where a local or National Park authority is responsible for a World Heritage Site management plan or for any supplementary planning guidance, then it should provide the relevant historic environment record with appropriate links to that plan or guidance.

3.2.5 Other Sites of Historic, Archaeological or Architectural Interest

(h) Details of every other area or site or other place in the authority's area which the authority or the Welsh Ministers consider to be of local historic, archaeological or architectural interest.

The majority of historic assets within a local authority's area do not have statutory protection. However, they all contribute to its historic, archaeological or architectural interest.

Records might include unscheduled archaeological sites, unlisted historic buildings or structures, historic parks and gardens, battlefields and landscapes that do not appear on the relevant registers or inventories, or locations with important palaeo-environmental evidence. Records might also include locations that do not have any visible physical evidence, but might be associated with a historical, cartographic or documentary reference, or the find of an archaeological artefact.

In the case of a coastal local authority, the historic environment record should contain maritime heritage of historic, archaeological or architectural interest. The historic environment record should link to the Welsh maritime record, maintained by the Royal Commission, which includes wreck sites and offshore areas of high archaeological potential.

Alongside the Welsh Ministers, local authorities have a key role in contributing information about undesignated assets to the historic environment records. If the historic environment records are to be comprehensive sources of information about the historic environment, it is critical that they are provided with new information about all historic assets, including those that are of local historic, archaeological and architectural interest. This should include information relating to historic assets created during the course of the planning process.

The National Park authorities and Natural Resources Wales should provide information about undesignated historic assets to make sure that the historic environment records continue to be relevant to their work. For example, this might include details of historic assets discovered or investigated as a result of management or public access programmes.

The public bodies named in the Act should provide the historic environment record for each local authority area with details of any other area or site, or other place that they consider to be of local historic, archaeological or architectural interest.

Where a local or National Park authority maintains a list of historic assets of special local interest, they must provide the relevant historic environment record with the latest details of all entries on the list.

3.2.6 Historic Character

(i) Information about the way in which the historic, archaeological or architectural development of the authority's area, or any part of it, has contributed to the present character of the area or part and about how that character may be preserved.

The historic environment records must include any historic landscape characterisation (see also (f) above) that has been undertaken, but also any characterisation that has been carried out in townscapes or seascapes.

Cadw has undertaken a programme of historic characterisation of a number of historic towns across Wales. Each historic environment record should contain links to any characterisation studies relevant to its area.

Where a public body named in the Act has collected information about the historic, archaeological or architectural development of an authority area, or part of an authority area (such as characterisation studies), then they should provide details for inclusion within the relevant historic environment record, including links to further details and published information, including the LANDMAP historic and cultural landscape layers.

3.2.7 Relevant Investigations

(j) Details of relevant investigations carried out in the authority's area and of the findings of those investigations.

The historic environment records provide details of relevant historical or archaeological investigation that has been undertaken in each local authority area, including the findings of those investigations. Examples might include desk-based assessments, historic analysis, archaeological, topographic or geophysical surveys and archaeological interventions (including surface artefact collections, test pitting, trial trenching, archaeological excavation and palaeo-environmental sampling).

All of the public bodies named in the Act have a role in providing each historic environment record with details of such investigations either undertaken directly by the public authority itself or carried out on its behalf. This might include work undertaken by or on behalf of Natural Resources Wales to manage forestry or woodlands, or environmental management schemes. It might also include work undertaken by local authorities or National Park authorities as part of the planning process.

The public bodies named in the Act should provide the historic environment record for each local authority area with details of investigations of the historic environment either undertaken directly by the public body itself or carried out on its behalf. This

might include investigations to support environmental management schemes or to support the planning process.

3.2.8 Historic Place Names

(k) A means of accessing details of every historic place name in the authority's area which is included in the list compiled and maintained under section 34 of the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016.²⁴

The Royal Commission has compiled a list of historic place names on behalf of the Welsh Ministers. Details of every place name on the list have been made available through the historic environment record for each local authority area.

4. Making Use of Historic Environment Records in Wales

This section considers how the public bodies named in the Act should use the historic environment records in the exercise of their functions. However, it should be recognised that the historic environment records are not simply passive sources of information for use by the public bodies: they all employ personnel experienced in the management and interpretation of the records. For example, these staff can help discuss the requirements for data deposition, exchange and collation, and the use of terminology.

The processing and use of information is also a two-way process. The information held in the historic environment records can benefit individual projects, with the support and advice of the record staff. But these projects will also generate new or enhanced information that needs to be fed back into the records. This 'virtuous circle' of drawing on information from the historic environment records and then enhancing those records with new information generated, creates dynamic and ever improving historic environment records which benefit from the positive partnership established with stakeholders.

4.1 Informing Strategic Policies and Plans

The historic environment records should be used as a key evidence base to inform a wide variety of national, regional and area strategic policies and plans; for example, local well-being plans that are required by the Public Service Boards under the provisions of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, Area Statements under the provisions of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016,²⁵ or National Park management plans.

The public bodies named in the Act should use the historic environment records as key sources of evidence in the formulation of strategic policies and plans that have an impact on the historic environment.

²⁴ [Historic Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016, section 34](#)

²⁵ [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015, section 39, Environment Act Wales\) Act 2016, section 11](#)

4.2 Informing Development Plans

Planning Policy Wales identifies the historic environment records as key sources of information that must be used during the formulation of development plans by local planning authorities. When preparing a local development plan, local planning authorities are required to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment and a Sustainability Appraisal. An assessment of the cultural heritage is one of the baseline studies in this process and this can be supported by the historic environment records, which provide a key up-to-date evidence base.

Local planning authorities must use the historic environment record for the local authority area as a key source of evidence in the formulation of development plans.

4.3 Informing Development Management Decisions

The historic environment records are key sources of information that should be used to support the planning process, including the determination of planning applications. The information held in the historic environment records supports a proper consideration of the impact of a proposal on the historic environment, including advice on schemes to avoid or mitigate any adverse impacts.

Local planning authorities should take account of the information held in the historic environment record for the local authority area in the determination of planning applications.

4.4 Informing Conservation and Management Projects

The public bodies named in the Act have responsibilities for the management and conservation of the historic environment. This can be the conservation of historic assets for which they are responsible, such as historic buildings, or parks and gardens. The management of the historic environment might also form part of a wider conservation programme focused on aspects of the natural environment.

The public bodies named in the Act should use the information held in the historic environment records as a key source of evidence when considering conservation and management projects that have an impact on the historic environment.

4.5 Informing Adaptive Responses to the Impact of Climate Change

The public bodies named in the Act have a responsibility to respond to the impact of climate change, for example, through flood alleviation schemes or adapting historic assets to become more resilient.

The public bodies named in the Act should use the information held in the historic environment records as a key source of evidence when considering adaptive responses to the impact of climate change.

4.6 Informing the Naming and Renaming of Places

The public bodies named in the Act have a responsibility for naming and renaming places for which they are responsible. In addition, local authorities have a statutory role in considering proposals to name new places or streets, and applications to change the names of streets and properties.

All of the public bodies named in the Act should take account of the list of historic places names, which can be accessed through the historic environment records, when considering the naming and renaming of streets, properties and other places, either directly or by another party.

4.7 Informing Heritage-led Regeneration

The historic environment can be an important driver for economic regeneration within both our towns and countryside. The success of such projects needs to be founded on good quality, authoritative information.

The public bodies named in the Act should use the information held in the historic environment records as a key source of evidence to support and inform heritage-led regeneration projects and programmes. Identifying what is distinctive about a locality through the use of characterisation studies can be an important first step in such an initiative.

4.8 Supporting Cultural Tourism and Economic Development

The role of the historic environment in supporting the tourism industry is well documented.²⁶ It is an important driver for economic development with the potential for significant job creation. The public bodies named in the Act play an important role in promoting tourism, either directly or indirectly. The historic environment records provide a key evidence base to support these functions.

The public bodies named in the Act should use the information held in the historic environment records as a key source of evidence to support and inform cultural tourism initiatives. For example, the historic environment records can help inform local authority tourism initiatives that promote visits to historic town centres or countryside. Natural Resources Wales can use the historic environment records to inform the promotion and enjoyment of Wales's woodlands and forestry.

4.9 Supporting Education and Social Inclusion

The historic environment is increasingly being used as a tool to support community cohesion and lifelong learning. The past provides a sense and pride of place, and offers opportunities for formal and informal learning.

The public bodies named in the Act should use the information held in the historic environment records as a key source of evidence to support and inform lifelong learning and community cohesion projects. For example, local education authorities

²⁶ [Valuing the Historic Environment in Wales](#), 2010

can use the historic environment records to inform curriculum activities that focus on local communities and a local sense of place.

4.10 Supporting Public Participation in the Exploration, Appreciation and Enjoyment of Local Heritage

The historic environment records can provide an important tool to support active participation in the historic environment, informing heritage trails, local conservation projects, and the work of heritage and civic societies.

All of the public bodies named in the Act should use the information held in the historic environment records as a key source of evidence to encourage active public participation and engagement with the historic environment.

4.11 Advancing Knowledge and Understanding

The historic environment records provide a key source of information for a wide range of research projects — from family history studies to major university-based research projects.

The public bodies named in the Act should use the information held in the historic environment records as a key source of evidence to support and inform programmes of research and understanding — both those relating directly and indirectly to the historic environment.

Further Information

Legislation and Planning

[Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016](#)

[Historic Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016](#)

[Well-being of Future Generations Act \(Wales\) 2015](#)

Planning Policy Wales — Chapter 6: The Historic Environment
Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment

Records

[Archwilio](#) — The core historic environment records of the Welsh archaeological trusts.

[Cof Cymru](#) — Cadw's online record of the national historic assets of Wales, which includes listed buildings, scheduled monuments, protected wrecks, World Heritage Sites and registered historic landscapes.²⁷

[Coflein](#) — The online database for the National Monuments Record of Wales, the national collection of information about the historic environment of Wales.

[Historic Wales](#) portal — an online gateway to national and regional historic environment records

LANDMAP Methodology Historic Landscapes & Cultural Landscapes (2016)

<https://naturalresources.wales/planning-and-development/landmap/?lang=en>

<http://landmap-maps.naturalresources.wales/> online resource to access maps and surveys

LANDMAP datasets are also published for download for use in a geographic information system (GIS) on

<http://lle.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue?lang=en&text=landmap>

²⁷ Registered historic parks and gardens will be added to Cof Cymru during 2017

Contacts

Welsh Government

Cadw, Welsh Government
Plas Carew, Unit 5/7 Cefn Coed, Parc Nantgarw, Cardiff CF15 7QQ

Tel. 01443 336000

cadw@wales.gsi.gov.uk

www.cadw.wales.gov.uk

Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales

Ffordd Penglais, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3BU

Tel. 01970 621200

nmr.wales@rcahmw.gov.uk

www.rcahmw.gov.uk

National Monuments Record of Wales

nmr.wales@rcahmw.gov.uk

www.coflein.gov.uk

You can arrange to visit the public search room in Aberystwyth where staff will explain the resources available in the National Monuments Record of Wales.

Local Planning Authorities

Local planning authorities' conservation officers can be contacted via the relevant local authority website.

National Park Authorities

National Park authorities' conservation officers can be contacted via the relevant website.

Brecon Beacons National Park Authority <http://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/>

Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

<http://www.pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk/default.asp?PID=4>

Snowdonia National Park Authority <http://www.eryri-npa.gov.uk/>

Natural Resources Wales

c/o Customer Care Centre, Ty Cambria, 29 Newport Road, Cardiff CF24 0TP

Tel: 0300 065 3000

enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

<http://naturalresources.wales/>

Natural Resources Wales can provide information and advice on using LANDMAP historic and cultural landscape information and seascapes.

Welsh Archaeological Trusts

Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust
41 Broad Street, Welshpool SY21 7RR
Tel. 01938 553670
trust@cpat.org.uk
www.cpat.org.uk

Dyfed Archaeological Trust
Corner House, 6 Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo SA19 6AE
Tel. 01558 823121
info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk
www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk

Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust
Heathfield House, Heathfield, Swansea SA1 6EL
Tel. 01792 655208
enquiries@ggat.org.uk
www.ggat.org.uk

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust
Craig Beuno, Garth Road, Bangor LL57 2RT
Tel. 01248 352535
gat@heneb.co.uk
www.heneb.co.uk