

The charging policy is based on Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations (2005), providing HER data for re-use under license by contractors (not by members of public or researchers). This policy is beneficial for several reasons:

- It is consistent with nearby local authorities (Buckinghamshire and Greater London) and is in line with ALGAO guidance on charging (Advice note, 2012).
- It complies with the Re-Use of Public Sector Information guidelines and any cost is based on a license for the reuse of data rather than on time taken to process/compile datasets.
- The licence defines conditions regarding reuse, including the time period of cover, needed mainly for commercial users and large or complex research projects and provides information on liability, copyright, termination and payment schedule.
- Members of public and individual researches/academics are bound by a simpler signed User form.
- The commercial costing is fairer because the fees are proportional to the amount of records that result from a search.

The original pricing has been increased, in line with a recent review of charges across the county, to recover some of the office costs as well as the number of records within the consultation.

Current prices are now:

- £100/hr up to 100 monuments (standard HER commercial search)
- £200/hr for 101-200 monuments, generally for large infrastructure projects – roads, reservoirs, electricity lines (extended search)
- For 201+ or large or complex searches, the cost will be discussed.
- No VAT is charged
- Consultations will be based on separate areas, so that multiple areas within a request -- even those within a single parish -- will be handled as separate chargeable consultations.

Other Considerations:

- Shapefiles sent to the HER should include any buffer area, and if multiple areas are involved, all areas need to be linked so that a single shapefile is produced.
- Delivery of HER consultation data is within **20** working days, the same window used for planning responses. There is **no** priority service for HER consultations.
- HLC data can be included if requested in HER consultations; there is no extra charge.

Planned cost increase:

- There will be a 4% increase in costs as of 1 April 2018.