



Local Authorities' Secure Electoral Register



LASER - Local Authorities' Secure Electoral Register

The LASER project aims to provide electoral registers that are joined up, maintained and managed locally, and can then be accessible on a national level to authorised users. Any profit made from the sale of the register must be passed back to local authorities as recognition of the effort involved in collecting the information.

The LASER project was initiated because of two Acts

- The Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 - which requires an infrastructure allowing the Electoral Commission, political parties, and other key groups access to a seamless 'national register'
- The Representation of the People Act 2000 - which details new regulations for the sale and supply of the register, and the requirement of a 'rolling registration'.

LASER Project - HUGE BENEFITS for local authorities

1. The electoral register will be an accurate data set, with addresses conforming to BS7666 and linked to the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG). This will bring an added benefit of being able to ensure that the addresses in the register are always up to date.
2. It will provide a much better service for the Electoral Commission and political parties, who currently have to get their copies of the register from a third source - instead their information, will come direct from local authorities.
3. It will allow an accurate copy of the register to be sold to those who are entitled to it (dependant on the secondary regulations which may be laid before parliament next year).
4. Currently, there is a limitation on the earnings of a local electoral register, because the market for it is small. By consolidating the local registers, the market will be significantly greater than ever before, generating an exponential increase in revenue which will be fed back in to local authorities. For a more in-depth look at this, please click [here](#)
5. A joined-up register which is matched to a standard gazetteer, will improve the quality of service that local authorities can deliver to their electorates #

This project is being run by:

- Local Government Information House (LGIH) in partnership with the
- Electoral Commission
- DTLR (previously DETR)
- LGA
- Association of Electoral Administrators (AEA)
- Scottish Assessors Association (SAA)
- SOLACE - Society of Local Authority Chief Executives.
- SOCITM - Society of Information Technology Management