

The Borough of Poole Reduce Staff Costs



As the majority of Local Authorities across England and Wales need to make significant savings over the next three years, they are looking at innovative ways to reduce costs. Although funding is restricted, many authorities have access to 'Invest to Save' budgets.

Across the GIS, planning and land charges departments, a large amount of staff time is spent on data capture. The Borough of Poole highlighted this as an area where they felt they could make substantial savings.

They created a definitive polygon extent for each Basic Land & Property Unit (BLPUs) point record that the Council holds. This property dataset was generated using the automated software solution, Envitia's MapRite Capture Tool. After an initial evaluation of the various options, MapRite Capture Tool was shown to provide a robust, scalable solution with the lowest cost of ownership for the capture and maintenance of BLPU polygon extents.



Benefits to Capturing BLPU Polygon Dataset

Steve Campbell – GIS Manager at The Borough of Poole outlined his rationale on this subject:

Why did you capture the BLPU polygon dataset?

- To improve efficiencies in data capture and quality within our planning and land charges departments.
- To provide a greater accuracy for our LLPG, providing more accurate dimensions for our addresses.
- To easily identify development sites, by generating accurate sq metre information of open spaces and industrial sites

What benefits have you highlighted within your organisation on completion of this project?

- Improved accuracy in land charges responses, resulting in reduction of staff time resolving outstanding issues – money and resources saved.

- Performance has increased on land charges searches due to cleaner data - Land Charges team is more productive.
- Updates to the LLPG hub require less resource, due to increased accuracy of the data – we can confidently share our data.

Maintaining the BLPU Polygon Dataset

Having generated the polygon dataset The Borough of Poole realised that it is essential to maintain the dataset as the Ordnance Survey update the mapping, otherwise the value to the organisation would be lost.

Again Steve Campbell reports:

Why are you interested in maintaining the dataset?

- To identify demolitions and completions of new builds automatically, without being required to constantly search the map base for changes – saving money.
- The ability to clearly monitor change in buildings and developments across the authority – improving our service to the community.
- To confirm changes made by Ordnance Survey from authority requests.

Overall what value has this project added to your organisation?

The biggest impact that this has had on the authority is in regards to a reduction in data capture resource. We have identified in a number of departments, a considerable increase in productivity due to the availability of the BLPU polygon dataset. At present this has not been calculated into monetary savings, but it is our intention in the future.

Further details regarding [MapRite Capture Tool](#) can be found on are website.

Or available on request, please contact:

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