

# ALERC Conference

## 2019

October 16th

BVSC, 138 Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DR

## Are You Being Served?

This year's conference will look at LERC services and consider how a new five year strategy for ALERC can enable it to help LERCs continue to meet their partner's needs.

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### Working with the National Trust

Dan Carpenter (TVERC) alongside his National Trust colleague describes how LERC services, including site reports and GIS data provision, are a powerful way to assist one of the country's biggest land owners in making better decisions for the environment.

### Making Biodiversity Net Gains

Biodiversity Net Gain is a new system to take account of nature. It will become mandatory for many local planning decisions in England and is likely to change the way companies across the UK view their environmental responsibilities. Suzie Jackman of Transport for London, and GiGL's Chloë Smith, talk through how the capital's LERC provides services to support TfL's efforts towards biodiversity net gain.

### Afternoon Breakout Sessions

These sessions provide opportunities for LERC staff to learn more about specific topics and tackle specific problems.

#### Session A - Environment Agency

*Marina Flamank will work with representatives from English LERCs on how to make sure the services they offer are best for both EA and for LERCs.*

#### Session B - Open All Ours

*Martin Horlock looks at how we can make open data work for LERCs and their stakeholders and introduces NBIS's approach, a new way of providing biodiversity information to stakeholders in Norfolk.*

#### Session C - Maps

*Alex Waechter will help you make your maps work for you: Cartography design principles, examples and Q&A plus demonstration of some techniques in QGIS. Bring your questions and problem maps for suggestions and advice or come for inspiration and new ideas to try out in your own work. Intended for those with some experience in GIS mapping (not necessarily in QGIS), who are looking to improve the look and readability of their maps. The session will also look at the issues surrounding OS map licensing.*

### Afternoon Discussion - The Good Life

The ALERC strategic plan 2015-20 set out the steps needed for ALERC to become a self-sustaining organisation with a member of staff. Now is the time to assess progress against the targets in the plan, and start the process of creating a new plan for 2020-2015. As technology and policies change, we need to make sure that ALERC is able to continually support LERCs to meet the needs of current and new partners. This session is a chance for ALERC members to discuss how we do this, and what shape a new ALERC strategy should take.

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### Detailed Programme

1030 - 1035 Welcome

1035 - 1115 Dan Carpenter and the National Trust: Working with the National Trust

1115 - 1150 Chloë Smith and Suzie Jackman: Biodiversity Net Gains

1150 - 1200 Comfort Break

1200 - 1230 Soapboxes

1230 - 1345 Lunch

1345 - 1430 ALERC AGM

1 Apologies, 2 Chair's report, 3 Treasurer's report, 4 Appointments, 5 National Coordinator report, 6 Any other business.

1430 - 1615 Workshops and Discussion (Tea Break 1515 - 1530)

Please follow the workshop leader to find the room for your workshop, or if you are joining in the discussion, please remain in the main room.

**Breakout Session A**

Marina Flamank - Ensuring the best possible services for the Environment Agency.

**Breakout Session B**

Martin Horlock - Open All Ours: getting open data to work for LERCs.

**Breakout Session C**

Alex Waechter - Making digital maps work for you.

**Main Room Discussion**

The Good Life - Has the current strategy helped ALERC achieve self-sustainability? If so, how can this be continued? What else should a new strategy contain?

1615 - Summing Up and Farewell

**#ALERC19**