

Recorder6



Recorder6 e-Newsletter: Issue 2, June 2021

Dear Recorder6 users

It has been great to see even more users supporting the Recorder6 licencing arrangements during 2020-21. Since 2019, more than 50 organisational users and 20 individual users have purchased a licence, demonstrating that Recorder6 continues to be an essential and valuable tool for biodiversity data management across the UK and in Luxembourg.

The licence is a vital mechanism for pooling funds so that – as a community – we can work towards addressing Recorder6 users’ future needs. Every time someone purchases an annual licence, that’s more money in the ‘R6 pot’ which will enable us to keep moving forward.

If you haven’t yet purchased your licence for 2021-22, you can do so here: <https://nbn.org.uk/tools-and-resources/recorder6/>.

Recorder6 maintenance

First, a reminder that Mike Weideli continues to provide basic maintenance and dictionary updates for Recorder6 *on a voluntary basis* – as an ‘in kind’ contribution to the Recorder6 community – in order to maximise the amount of licence fee funding that is available for progressing development of a successor system.

Recently, with a small contribution from the R6 pot towards the cost of developer time, Mike has also been working on testing Recorder6 with the latest version of SQL Server – so we’ll have an update for users on that in due course.

Recorder6 dictionary updates

Updates 4S, 4T, 4U, 4V & 4W available now to users with a current licence. Visit the NBN Forum for details: <https://forums.nbn.org.uk/viewtopic.php?id=7623>

Progress towards a Recorder6 ‘successor system’

The Recorder6 Steering Group has commissioned a Biodiversity Systems Developer, John van Breda, to undertake a feasibility project, to guide our next steps in developing a Recorder6 ‘successor system’. The goal of this project is to develop a prototype system to prove the feasibility of developing a new user interface system for the existing Recorder6 SQL Server database that will ultimately become a replacement or parallel system to Recorder6.

Recorder6 Steering Group member Andy Foy, of Greenspace Information for Greater London, led on developing the specification for this work in collaboration with the Steering Group. Many thanks to Andy and GiGL for the considerable time and thought that went into that.

You can read the project specification and get involved in discussion about it on the NBN Forum:

<https://forums.nbn.org.uk/viewtopic.php?id=7717>

Renewed agreement with the NBN Trust

The NBN Trust (NBNT) continues to be extremely helpful in supporting us all with arrangements for handling payments and communications. On behalf of the Recorder6 Steering Group, I signed a new ‘Memorandum of Agreement’ (MoA) with NBNT last year which will enable this working relationship to continue on an ongoing basis.

Under this agreement, NBNT is providing administrative and financial support on an ‘in kind’ basis, to assist the Recorder6 user community. The only material change to the MoA since the previous year’s agreement is we have agreed that PayPal and Direct Debit fees relating to Recorder6 licence payments will be paid out of the ‘R6 pot’, so that NBNT will not be left financially out-of-pocket by assisting us with handling Recorder6 licence payments.

How you can help!

- Pay for the annual Recorder6 licence fee ([here](#)) and benefit from access to regular dictionary updates, etc
- Share issues with the Recorder6 user community via the [NBN Forum](#). Hopefully someone will be able to help; and this information helps us prioritise future development
- Support other users if you are able to, whether that’s locally to you or on the [NBN Forum](#) – if you log in you can subscribe to the various forum topics to see what people are saying

Thanks again to all the Recorder6 licence fee payers for your support.

The Recorder6 Steering Group

The Recorder6 Steering Group is made up of representatives from across the user community:

Clare Blencowe (Chair)	Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre
Ian Carle	Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust (formerly of Herts Environmental Records Centre)
Harry Clarke	Volunteer vice-county coordinator for Butterfly Conservation
Damian McFerran	Centre for Environmental Data and Recording
Janet Simkin	British Lichen Society
David Slade	South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre
Philippa Tomlinson	Manx Biological Recording Partnership
Philip Whelpdale	Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
Tania Walisch	Natural History Museum Luxembourg
Mark Pollitt	South West Scotland Environmental Information Centre
Andy Foy	Greenspace Information for Greater London