# GeoPlace announces 2020 Exemplar Award winners

GeoPlace has announced its 2020 Exemplar Award winners in a well-attended webinar with over 400 registrations, taking the place of the organisation’s annual conference on 29th April 2020.

Bury Metropolitan Borough Council and Durham County Council were announced as winners of the **Data Quality and Improvement Award for Addresses 2020** and the **Data Quality and Improvement Award for Streets 2020** respectively. Both awards are given in recognition of an exemplary approach to managing databases.

Awards were also presented for **Best Address Data in Region** and **Best Street Data in Region** together with Awards for those at ‘**Gold'** Standard.

Nick Chapallaz, Managing Director of GeoPlace said: "Every year, it gives us immense pleasure to highlight the outstanding work being done by Street and Address Custodians. This year, our Exemplar Awards reflect not only the effort going into delivering great service, but also the huge personal commitments being made to improving data-accuracy and quality. We are incredibly fortunate to be working with people who care deeply about the benefits we can deliver as a team. Everyone can benefit from the power of location data. This year’s Exemplar Awards show how our authorities are using spatial data to really bring location to life."

Good quality address and street data underpin many aspects of local government business. From large transformation projects with the local address and street gazetteers at the heart, saving the authorities millions of pounds, to smaller initiatives that find clever ways to conjoin other information, or use the gazetteers in unusual ways.

In particular, accurate address and street data from local authorities is being used in response to COVID-19. This data is being used:

* To help authorities quickly and easily link different data sources, so they can see who is vulnerable and already receiving aid
* manage the flow of traffic and use of the street and road network – keeping the emergency services’ needs as a priority
* see who is in areas of high deprivation and who has poor access to much-needed health and care services

GeoPlace’s awards highlight the Street and Addressing Custodians' work helping to curate and maintain the data needed to deliver every essential service in the UK. The Exemplar Awards highlight Custodians' roles, promoting them to all parts of the authority – and showing that the high standard of the data created by their work is recognised externally.

The full list of Award winners can be seen [**here**](https://www.geoplace.co.uk/exemplar/award-winners)**.**

For more information, Contact gayle.gander@geoplace.co.uk.

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**Notes**

**About GeoPlace**

GeoPlace LLP is a public sector limited liability partnership between the Local Government Association (LGA) and Ordnance Survey.

GeoPlace is a world class expert in address and street information management, working internationally as well as in the UK to help our partners and customers maximise the value of their spatial information for better decision making.

GeoPlace maintains a national infrastructure that supports the address and street information needs of the public and private sectors. Its work relies heavily on close working relationships with every local authority in England and Wales. This relationship has been developed over 15 years, to build the National Address Gazetteer infrastructure and National Street Gazetteer. Ordnance Survey develops the range of AddressBase products from the National Address Gazetteer and OS MasterMap Highways Network from the NSG. Both datasets underpin efficient and effective services, bringing direct service delivery benefits to users.

The Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN) and the Unique Street Reference Number (USRN) are the unique identifiers for every addressable location and street in Great Britain. They are created by local authorities who have the statutory authority to name and number every street and property and Ordnance Survey who identify objects on the landscape which may otherwise not attract an address.

These unique reference numbers link datasets together and share information with other organisations who also use them. They provide a comprehensive, complete and consistent identifier throughout a property's life cycle – from planning permission or street naming through to demolition.

See https://www.geoplace.co.uk.

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