Small Landholdings in Scotland: piloting a new land register

Project Team:

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Aims of the Project

Following the first phase of the ‘Small Landholdings: Ownership and Registration’ project in 2018, it was concluded that establishing a land register for existing small landholdings was feasible (see <https://www2.gov.scot/Publications/2018/11/9663>). The project has moved into its second stage, under which a pilot land register will be trialled for the small landholding scheme established at Grassmillees in 1922.

Outcomes

The main outcome will be in testing the practicality and feasibility of rolling out a small landholding register for the remainder of Scotland. The register will take a form similar to the Crofting Register (<http://www.crofts.ros.gov.uk/register/home>) and include a the history of ownership and tenants, a series of maps, history, and other observations. In doing so, the project hopes to more fully assess the viability, opportunities and restrictions of establishing a land register for this type of tenure. The pilot scheme will assess various factors, including workload and access to information in the course of establishing a register for small landholdings. The project will also contribute to further policy research as part of the Directorate for Agriculture and Rural Economy and present the findings to inform future opportunities in research and policy engagement related to small landholdings.

What we are looking for

* Documents related to the foundation and management of the Grassmillees land holding scheme, particularly of the period 1930-1980.
* Photographs.
* Maps and plans outlining the extent of the scheme or any boundary changes, extensions or consolidations.
* Any memories of scheme foundation or changes, and experiences of managing a small landholding by tenants, factors or landowners.

Data usage

The data we collect will consist of personal information relating to historic and contemporary smallholdings, farms and their occupants. This might include historical correspondence, leases, maps, and orally communicated information, for example.

In cases where it is not clear whether or not data is personal data (for example, where the data may relate either to a natural person or to a business) all data will be treated as personal data under the GDPR data protection legislation.

No financial data relating to the payment of grants and subsidies under the CAP or other agricultural or rural support schemes is required. Because such payments data may sometimes be calculable or be able to be inferred from other data, both parties undertake that their processing of data provided to them as part of this project will not involve making or enabling others to make such calculations.

Where anonymised data is shared, the recipient will not seek to re-identify, nor allow or facilitate the re-identification of, data subjects (individuals or small holdings) from the data.

Signatures