21.11.17 Database meeting

**Tidying up search and browse:**

Action: JL to remove ‘county’ from spreadsheet.

Interface is looking much tidier but some further tweaks could be made e.g. Terms such as filter set up

ACTION FC to consider

Action: NL to use ‘before / after terms not less or more than.

At the moment, in search, London boroughs are showing up alongside counties etc. These need to be lodged at the level below London.

Also, Scotland, wales and NI are searchable by other terms eg Administrative districts. In fact, Scottish districts are more or less comparable to English unitary authorities so need to occupy the same level. The search function should pick up all Local authority units of a comparable size across the four countries.

NI still isn’t showing up, and Crown dependencies also need to be factored in. (Isle of Man, Guernsey, jersey)

ACTIONs:

FC to clarify which Local authority areas should be gathered together

FC: to rethink the terminology being used for Large Local authority clusters eg. That collect counties, UAs, CAs etc,

NL to lodge London districts at proper level, and to gather large local authority units together.

NL to patch in NI and other missing territories.

**[NB FC has now circulated alternative solution to grouping administrative districts together}**

**MAP with slider.**

At the moment the menu for this map is different to that in Browse. Question of whether we want it to be the same, or to cover the whole of the UK, in which case search terms should follow those being used in search.

FC to look at map and consider how it should be organised for research purposes.

**DATES and ranges**

Many of the opening and closing dates are patchy. While all attempts will be made to complete this data we may end up with missing data or ranges. We agreed

That in relation to the date functions, that we would have the option of searching for definite and possible results. In this way, dates that fall within a range can be factored in.

To assist this process, missing dates will be given long ranges. E.g. If we know a museum was open before 1975 and it wasn’t in the 1963 survey we will put in 1963-1975.

Some types of date data have been represented numerically. E.g. 9999 for open, 1111 for closed but date of closure is unknown. These need to be translated into words for the user.

ACTION: FC and JL to consider terms to replace 9999

ACTION JL to replace 1111 by best-effort date ranges even if very wide (eg. Year of opening until now)

ACTION JL to update all Date values in all the spreadsheets so that the only allowable formats that can appear in these columns are:

\* XXXX known year

\* XXXX-YYYY range of years

\* 9999: this can appear only in the Year Closed column, and its interpretation is "still open".

ACTION NL and AP to consider how to extend the database and data model to record date ranges in the most streamlined/efficient way

ACTION AP to consider extended Search semantics to factor in both fuzzy and incomplete Date data (including the "Definitely" and "Possibly" semantics)

**Temporal data**

At present, visitor data is in two separate sheets. There was some confusion as to whether this had been matched up.

As yet we are unclear as to which visitor numbers should be represented where. EG If it the most recent number then data from the 1990s will be matched against data from the 2010s.

ACTION: NL and JL to add domus visitor numbers into larger spreadsheet and pass over to FC

FC to consider which visitor numbers should be represented where.

Individual pages

ACTION: NL to replace dash between subject matter terms with a colon. EG Buildings: Civic