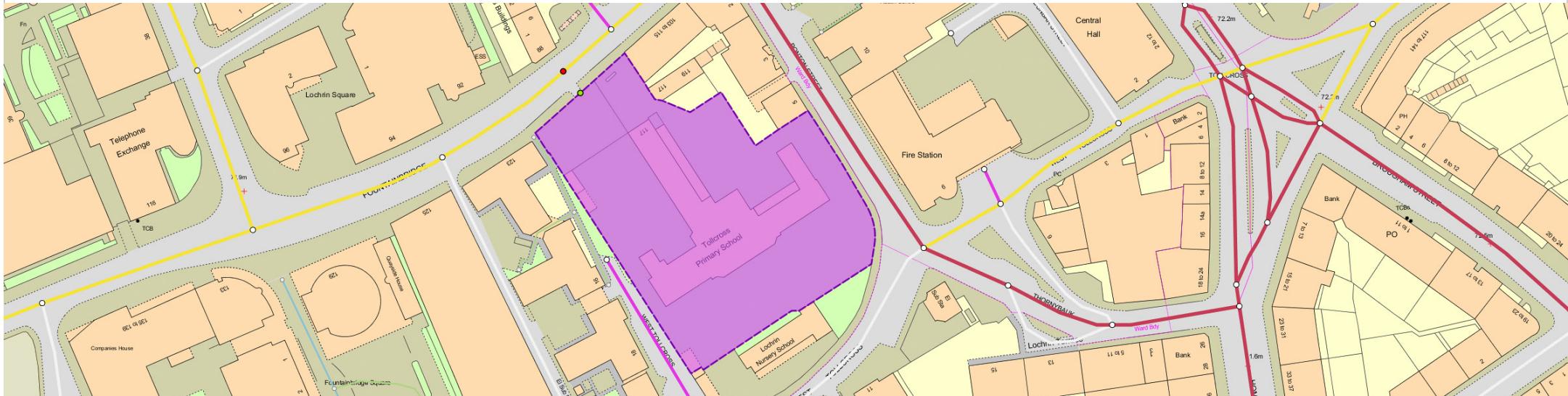


# Sites (part of OS MasterMap Topography Layer)

v1.1



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## 1 Purpose

Sites Layer is additional content that is provided as a free add-on for OS MasterMap® Topography Layer. It contains the detailed extents of over 40,000 important locations in Great Britain, including airports, schools, hospitals, railway stations and industrial sites. It also provides over 90,000 access points to show where pedestrians and vehicles can gain access onto the land of these major public and commercial properties. Each access point has an adjacent OS MasterMap ITN road reference, enabling routing systems to direct responders onto the site without delay.

The features within Sites are a representation of what people see in the real world, where the common view of something (such as a school) is not the address, the main building or the playing fields, but is the site as a whole. However Sites do not contain the legal extent of features.

Each Site contains three spatial object types:

- Functional site extents (FunctionalSite)
- Functional site access points (AccessPoint)
- Functional site routing points (RoutingPoint)

This Getting Started Guide is designed to help you open Sites data in common GIS applications.

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## 2 Applications

Sites data enables you to:

- locate all of the main points of access to key sites quickly and easily in emergency situations;
- understand their proximity and exposure to risk such as crime and floods;
- plan efficient routes for buses, refuse lorries and postal deliveries; and
- understand the potential impact of planned works or events on important locations.

You can find more information about the features and benefits of Sites in the User Guide:

<http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/docs/user-guides/os-mastermap-sites-layer-user-guide.pdf>

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## 3 What do I need to use this data?

### 3.1 System requirements

As Sites is a part of the OS MasterMap Topography Layer, it is designed for use in a digital map within Geographical Information Systems (GIS). For details of Ordnance Survey's Licensed Partners who can assist you with incorporating Sites in their systems, please see the software for mapping page on the Ordnance Survey website:

<http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/business-and-government/public-sector/mapping-agreements/software-for-our-products.html>

Ordnance Survey does not recommend either suppliers or software products, as the most appropriate system will depend on many factors, such as the amount of data being taken, resources available within the organisation, the existing and planned information technology infrastructure and last but by no means least, the applications that the data will be used for.

However as a minimum, the following elements will be required in any system:

- a means of reading the data, either in its native format, or by translating it into a file format or for storage in a database;
- a means of storing and distributing the data, perhaps in a database or through a web-based service; and
- a way of visualising and/or querying the data, typically a GIS.

### 3.2 Backup provision of the product

You are advised to copy the supplied data to a backup medium before following the steps in this Guide

### 3.3 Typical data volumes

For reading purposes it is recommended that users store the data on a single hard disc. This will speed up the ability of your computer to read the data. Uncompressed file sizes for the full supply of England, Scotland and Wales are as follows:

#### 3.3.1 Uncompressed Geography Markup Language (GML)

The uncompressed file size for England, Scotland and Wales is approximately 270Mb.

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## 4 Structure of the supplied data

### 4.1 Data structure

Sites is currently supplied in GML 3.2.1, which is INSPIRE compliant. Please note that this is a different format to Topography Layer, which is supplied as GML 2.1.2.

### 4.2 Data ordering

As Sites is part of Topography Layer, customers are entitled to download and use Sites data for the same area as they hold a valid Topography Layer licence. Therefore, you can download the data from our data ordering system for the same area as your OS MasterMap Topography Layer product holding.

For PSMA customers, your Public Sector licence agreement entitles you to download and use data for anywhere in Great Britain.

For OSMA customers, your Public Sector licence agreement entitles you to download and use data for anywhere in Scotland.

### 4.3 File naming convention

The file naming convention of Sites will be:

- National Sets  
The national datasets will be grouped into the 7 themes currently within Sites Layer: air transport, education, medical care, rail transport, road transport, water transport, utility and industrial.

The file naming convention will be as follows: product\_theme\_area.gz, for example osmmsites\_ait\_england.gz.

- Tiled Data  
Tiled dataset will be provided in 5x5 km square tiles and will contain all themes present in the tile(s) ordered.

The file naming convention will be as follows: 5k tile ID. gz, for example HP5000.gz.

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## 5 How do I load the Sites GML product into a GIS?

GML is an XML dialect which can be used to model geographic features. It was designed by the OGC as a means for people to share information regardless of the particular applications or technology that they use. In the first instance, GML was used to overcome the differences between different GIS applications by providing a neutral file format as an alternative to proprietary formats.

The Sites data can be loaded into several Geographic Information Systems (GIS). This chapter describes how to translate the GML and load it into some commonly used GIS. For more information about other GIS that Sites is compatible with, please speak to your Relationship Manager.

The common software covered in this chapter are:

- QGIS
- Cadcorp Map Modeller
- FME
- ESRI
- MapInfo Professional

### 5.1 QGIS®:

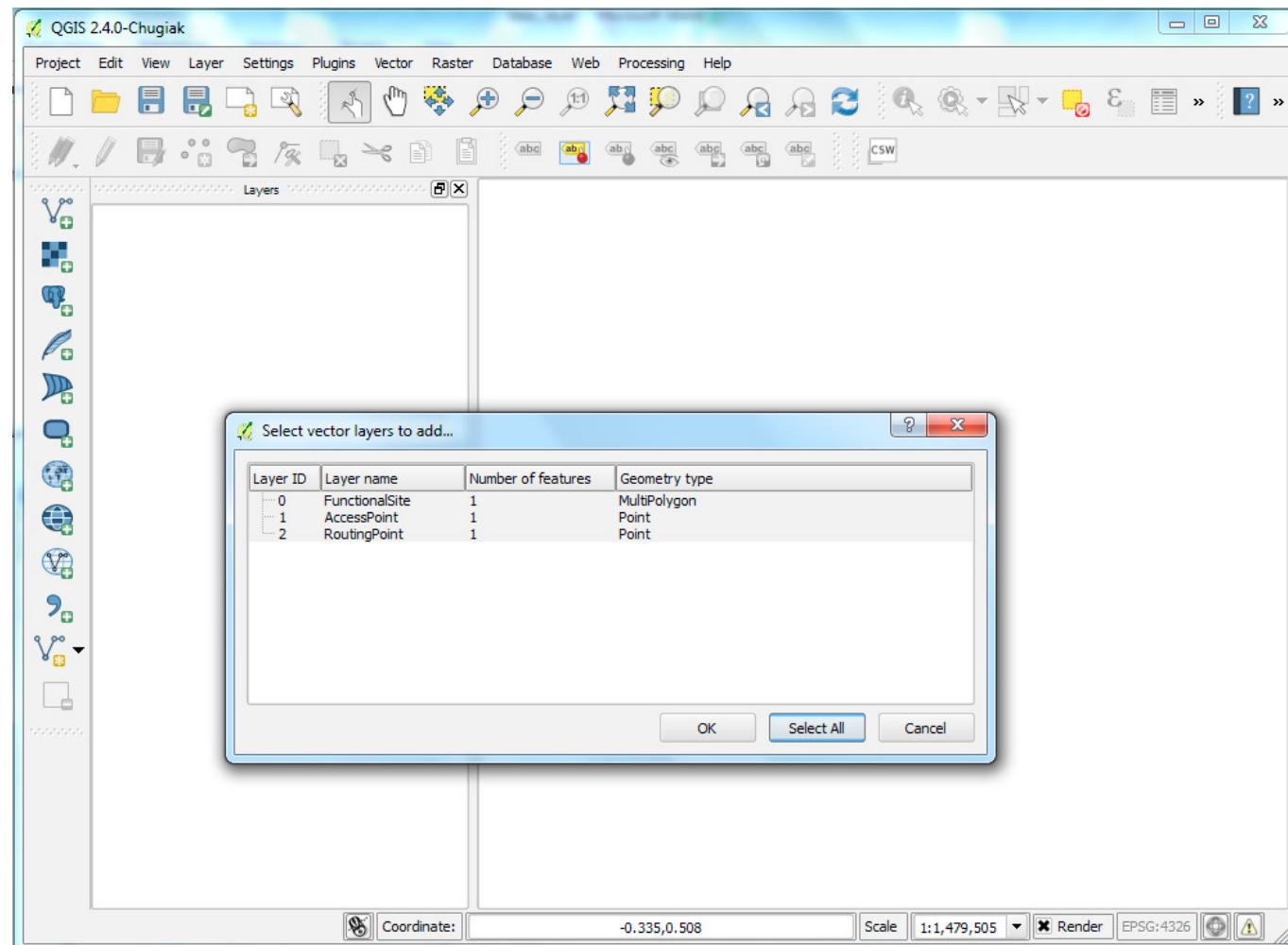
These notes outline how to load Sites into QGIS using the GML file you have received. They have been prepared using version 2.4.0 of QGIS Desktop – an open source GIS in which you can create, edit and visualise and publish geographic information. You can download it from the link below:

<http://www.qgis.org/en/site/forusers/download.html>

- Open QGIS.
- The Sites data can be loaded into QGIS either zipped or unzipped. To load the data, drag and drop the zipped or unzipped file into a blank canvas.
- This will open a dialogue box which allows you to select the objects you wish to add to the GIS. If you wish to add all three Sites objects click ‘Select All’ in ‘Select vector layers to add’ window. Then confirm by clicking ‘OK’:

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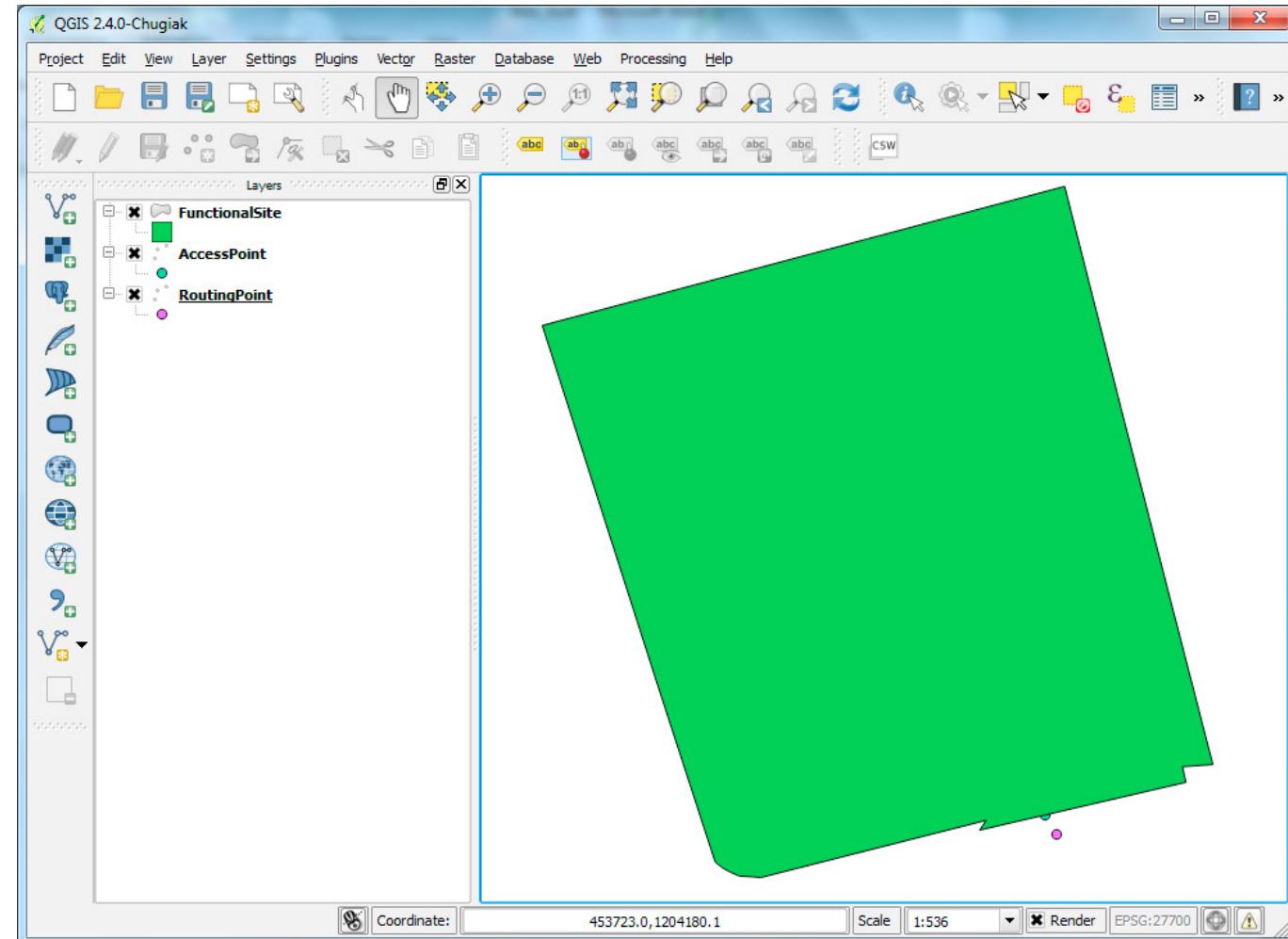
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- This adds the three layers to the canvas: Functional Site, Access Point and Routing Point.

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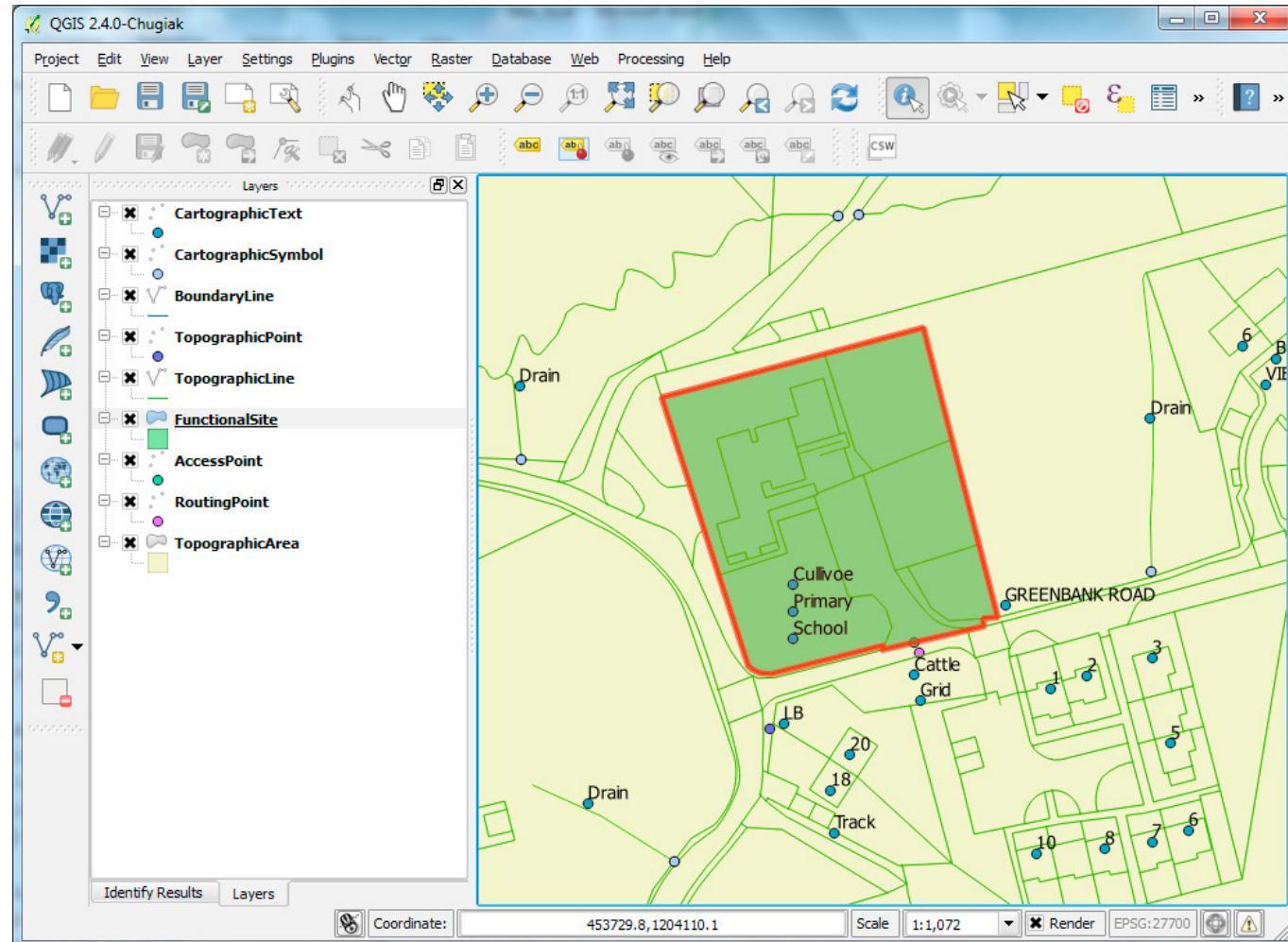
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You can add additional layers of OS MasterMap, for example Topography Layer, to give context to the Sites data.

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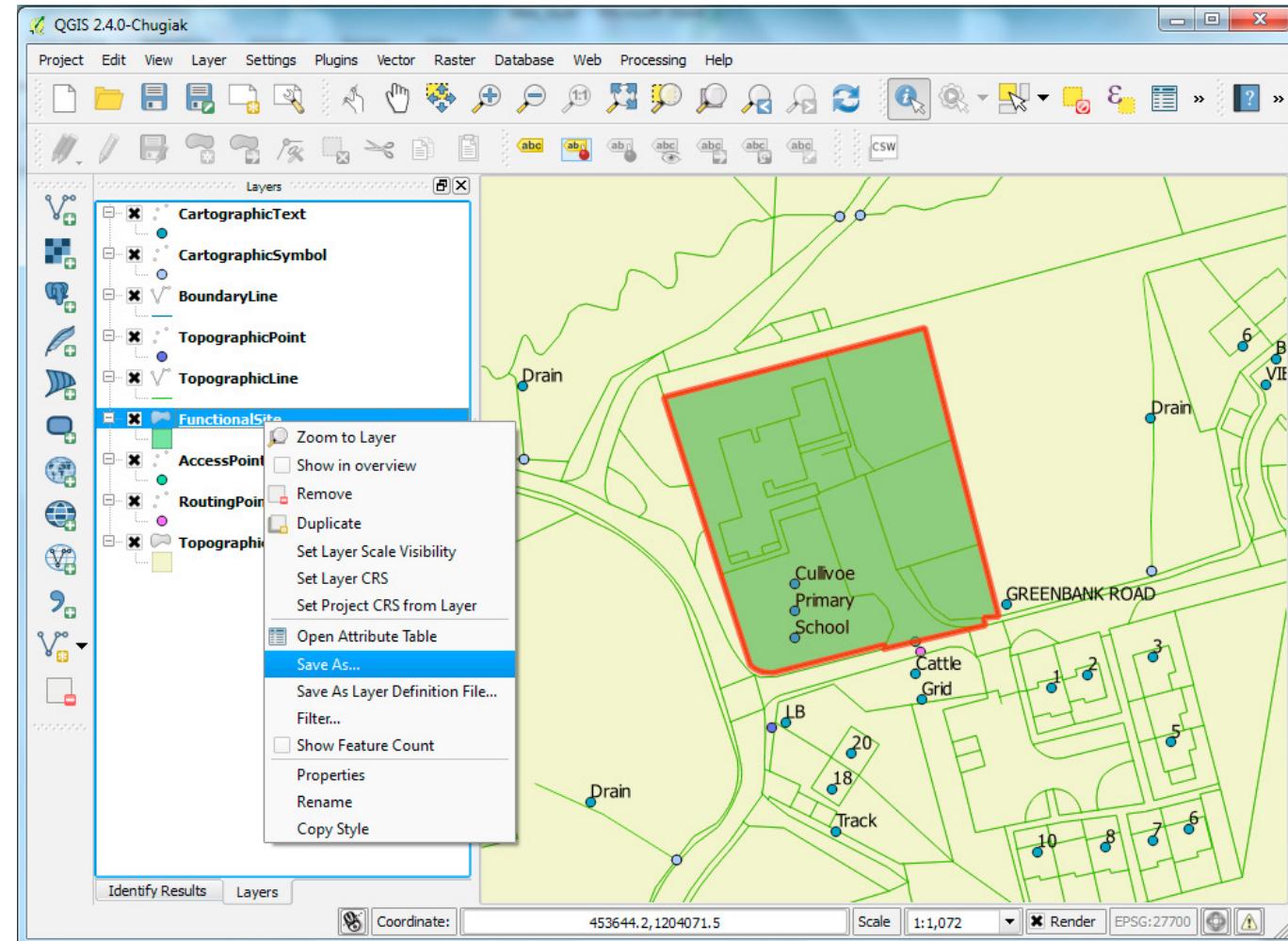
### 5.1.1 Translating Sites data in QGIS:

You can also use QGIS to export the Sites data in many different formats. This will allow you to open the files in many other GIS applications.

- Right click on the layer you want to translate and select 'Save as'.

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- The 'Save vector layer as' window opens.

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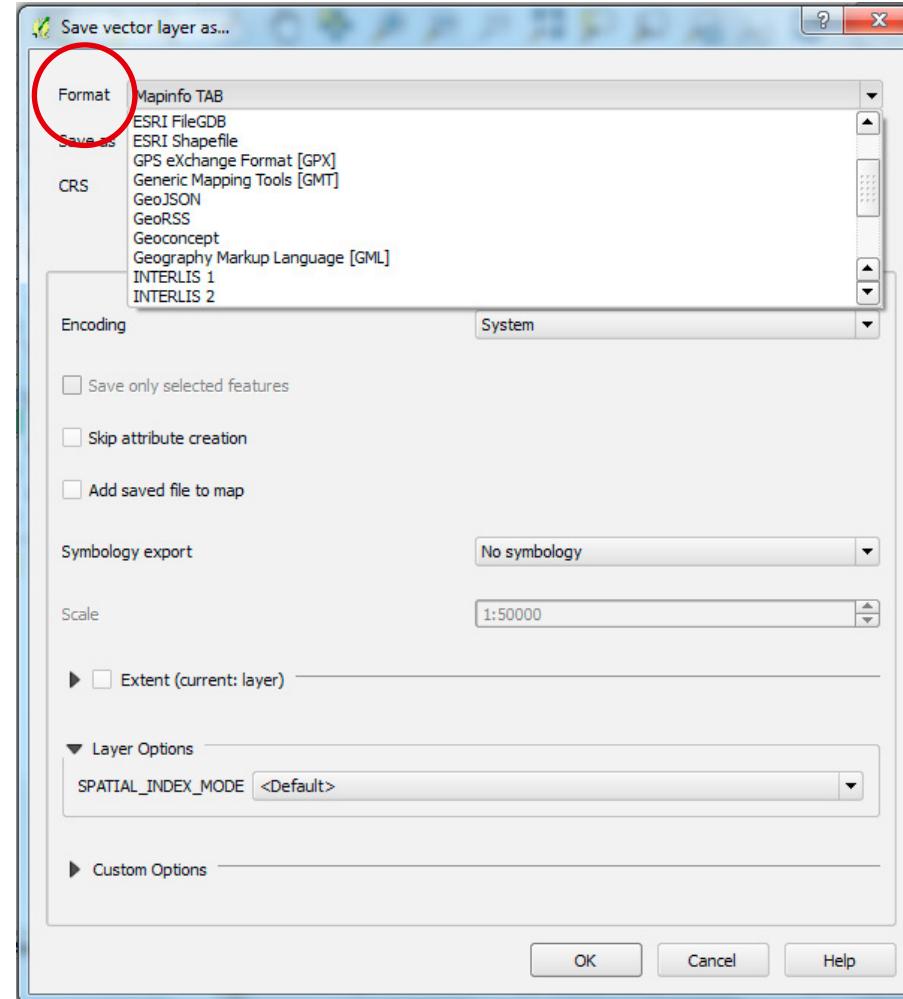
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- In 'Format' using the drop-down select your chosen format for further analysis, for example Mapinfo TAB or ESRI Shapefile.

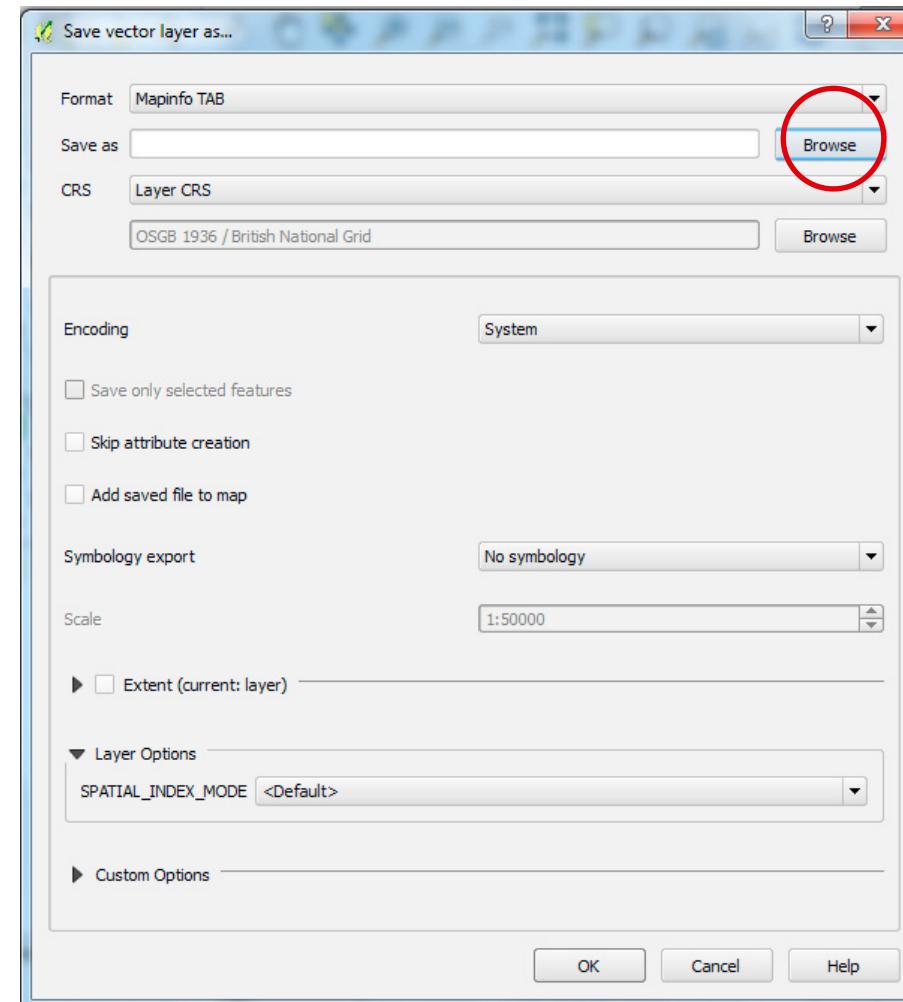


- When selected, by clicking on the 'Browse' button, save your file to location of your choice.

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Then click 'OK' to save the data in your chosen format.



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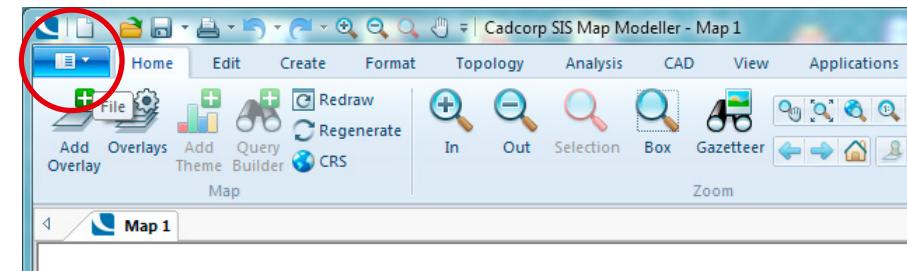
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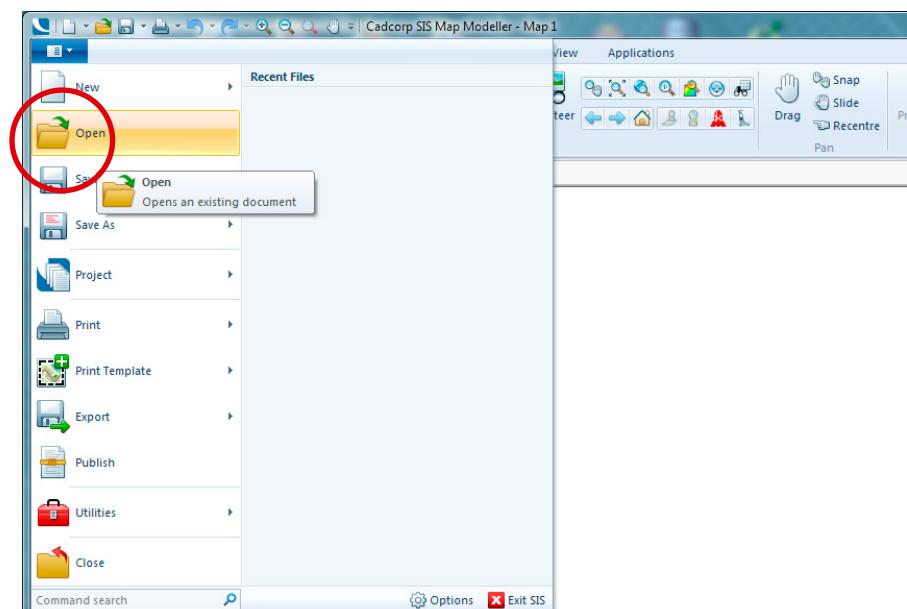
## 5.2 Cadcorp Map Modeller®:

These notes outline how to load Sites into Cadcorp using the GML file you have received. They have been prepared using Cadcorp SIS Map Modeller version 8.0 (x64).

- Open Map Modeller.
- Select the ‘File’ icon on main menu toolbar.



- Click the ‘Open’ icon.



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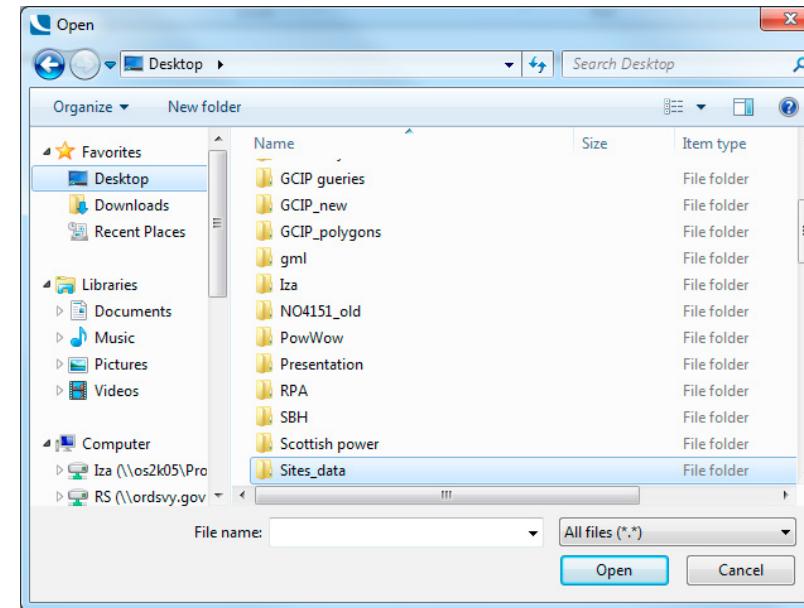
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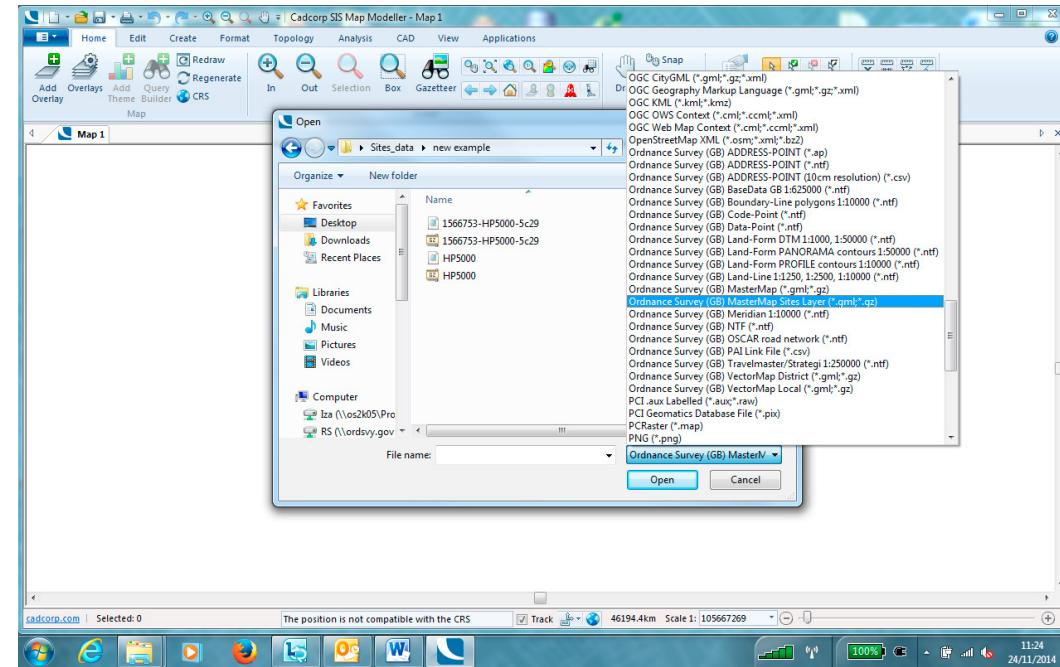
- This will open the 'Open' window.



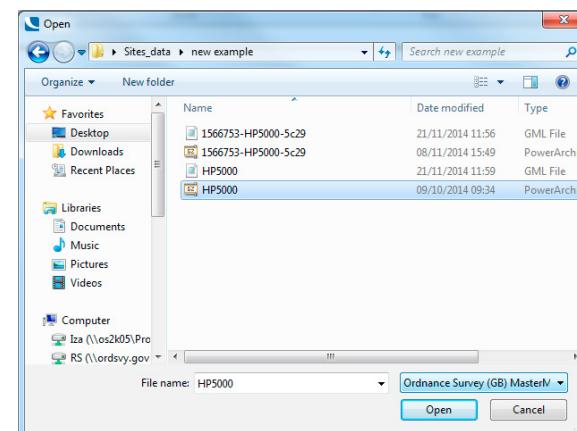
- Navigate to the folder you have saved the GML data in.
- In the bottom right-hand corner change the files from 'All files (\*.\*)' into 'Ordnance Survey (GB) MasterMap Sites layer (\*.gml, \*.gz)'.

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- In the main window select the file(s) and click 'Open'.



Sites features have been added to the Map window.

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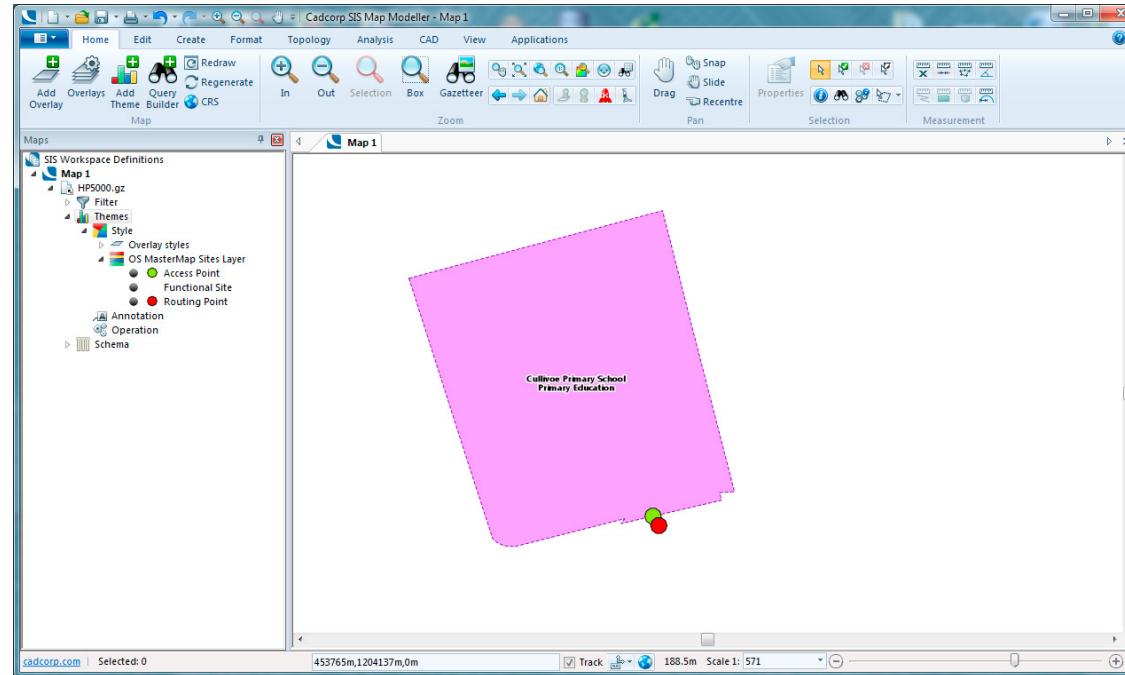
### 5 How do I load the Sites GML product into a GIS?

### 6 Importing the Sites into a database

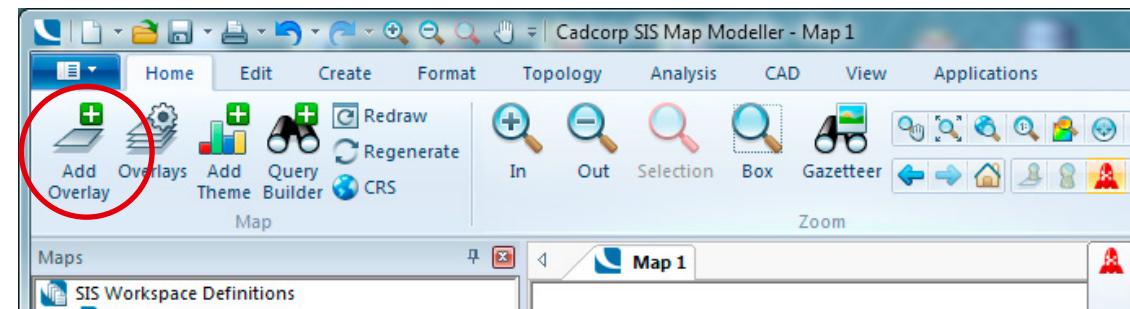
### 7 Open Source Translation of Sites

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Sites features have been added to the Map window.



- You can also load other OS MasterMap Layers into Cadcorp for analysis.
- Click on 'Add Overlay' on the Main Menu toolbar.



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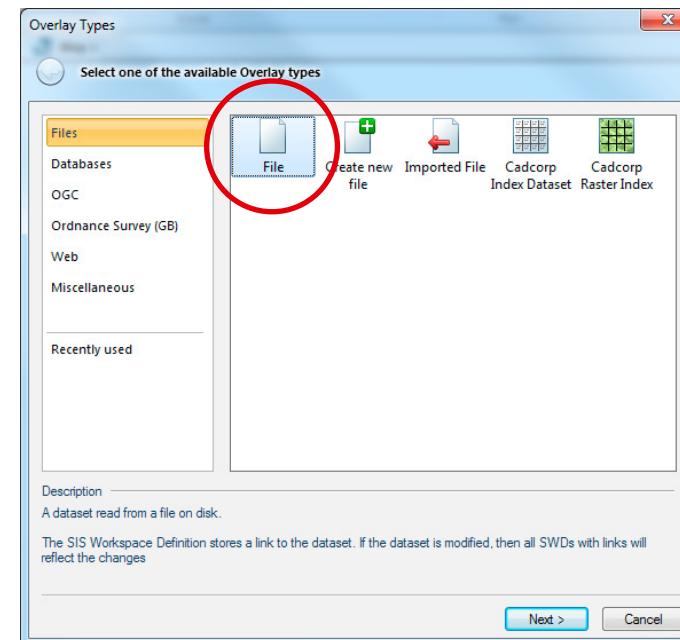
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- The ‘Overlays Types’ window will open.
- Click on the ‘Files’ tab, and then on ‘File’ icon.
- Click Next.



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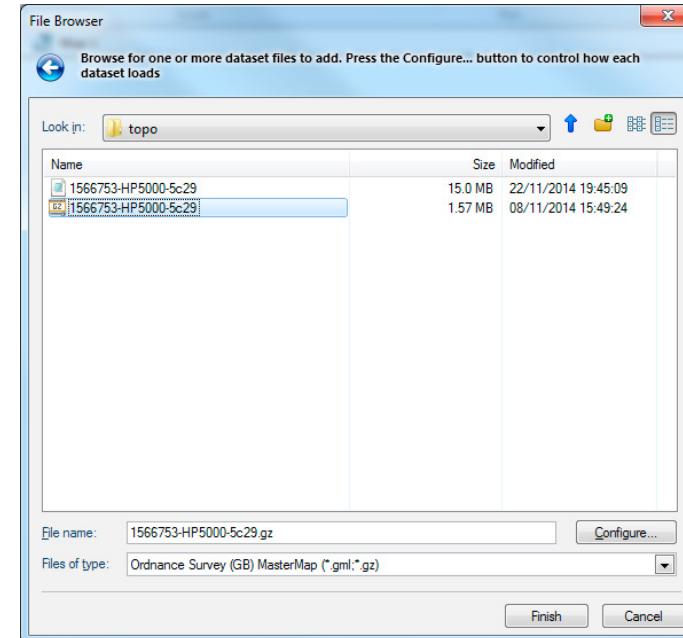
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- In 'Look in' navigate to the location of the file you wish to add.
- In 'Files of type' select the type of data you want to load, for example Ordnance Survey (GB) MasterMap (\*.gml, \*.gz).
- In main window select the file to load.
- Lastly, click 'Finish'.



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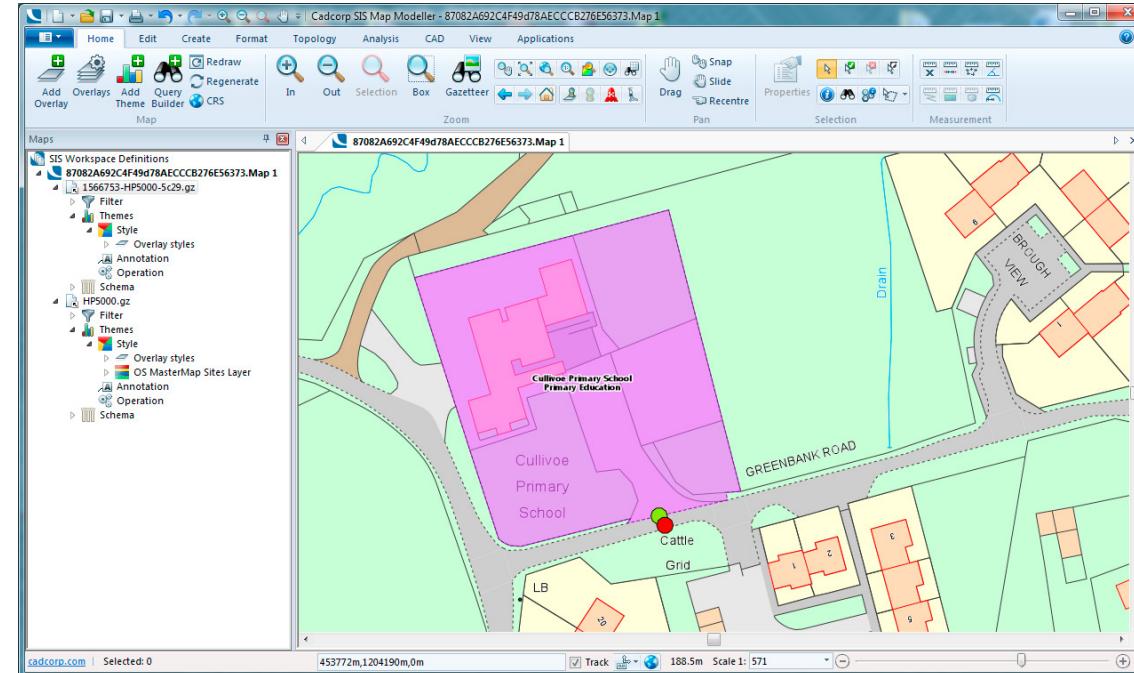
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- By loading OS MasterMap Topography Layer you will create a result similar to the following:



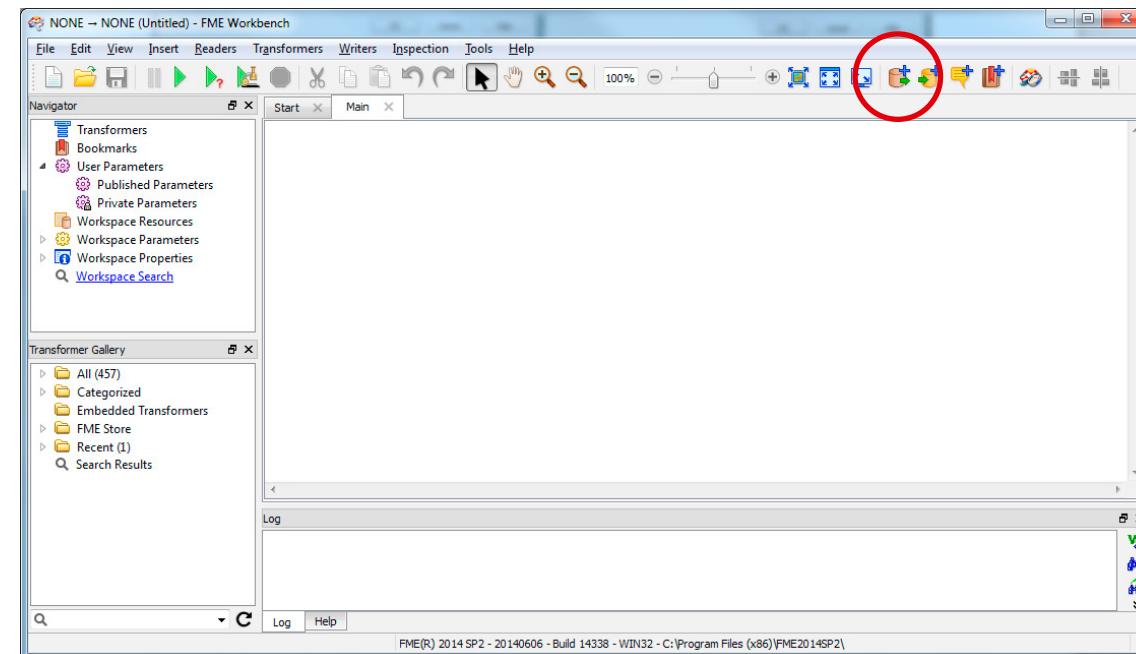
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### 5.3 Viewing and translating Sites data in FME®:

The following section details how to load Sites into FME using the GML file you have received. They have been prepared using version 2014 of FME.

- Open FME Workbench and select ‘Blank workspace’ in the Getting Started box.
- Click the ‘Add Reader’ icon in the main toolbar to add a Reader. This will open the ‘Add Reader’ dialogue box.



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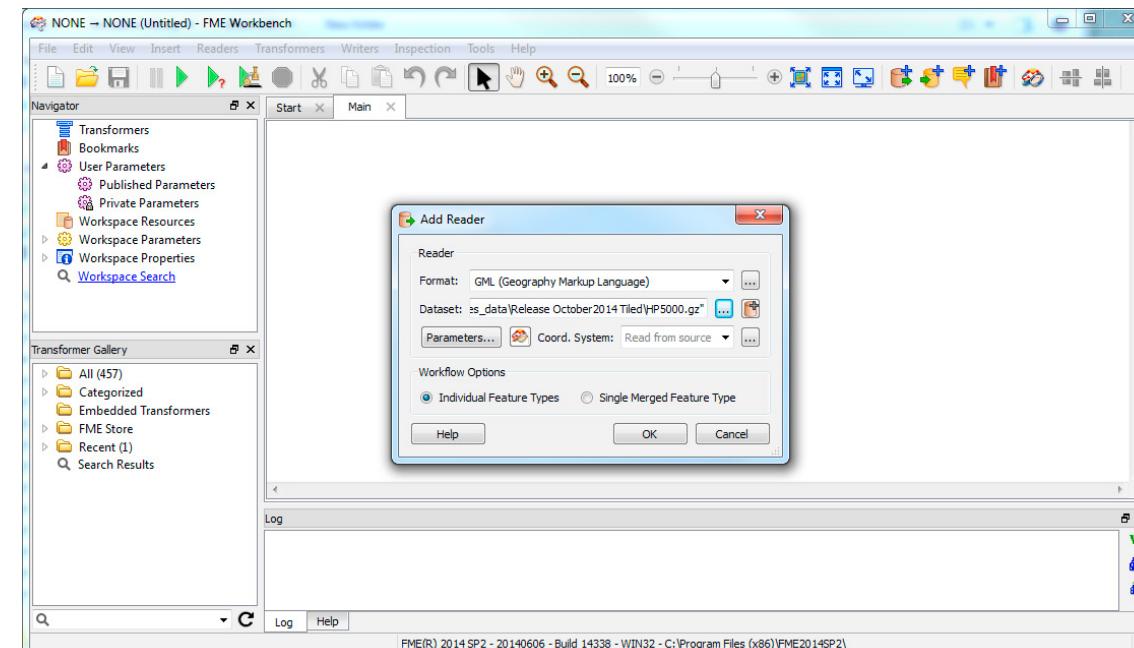
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- In 'Format' select GML (Geography Markup Language).
- Use the Browse button next to Dataset to navigate to your files and select them.
- Leave the Parameters as default and the Workflow options as 'Individual Feature Types' and select 'OK' to add the Reader.



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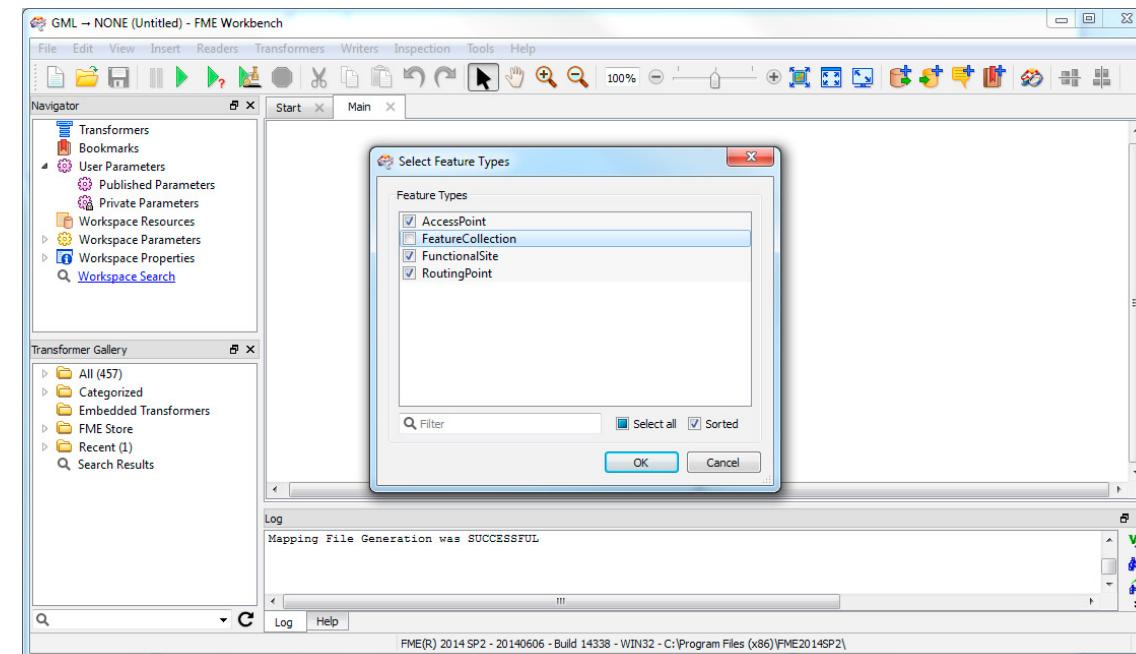
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- Once the Reader has been added successfully, the log window will display ‘Mapping File Generation was SUCCESSFUL’ and the ‘Select feature type’ window will open.
- Select the Sites objects that you wish to translate, or use the Select All option to add all objects.



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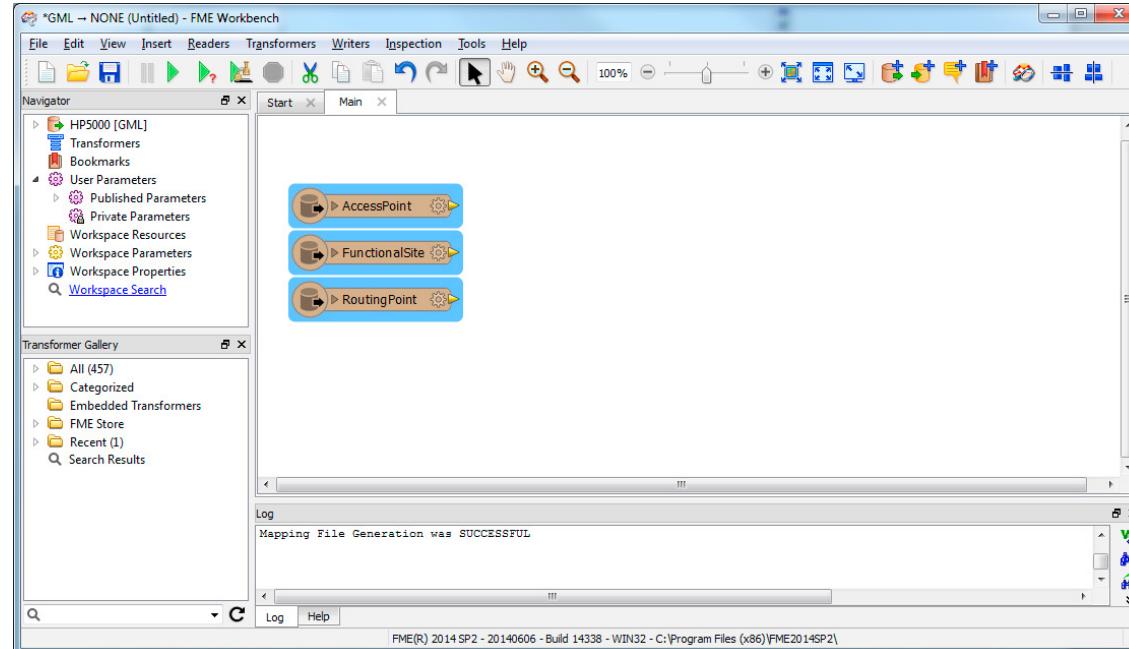
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- This should add the Sites objects to the canvas.



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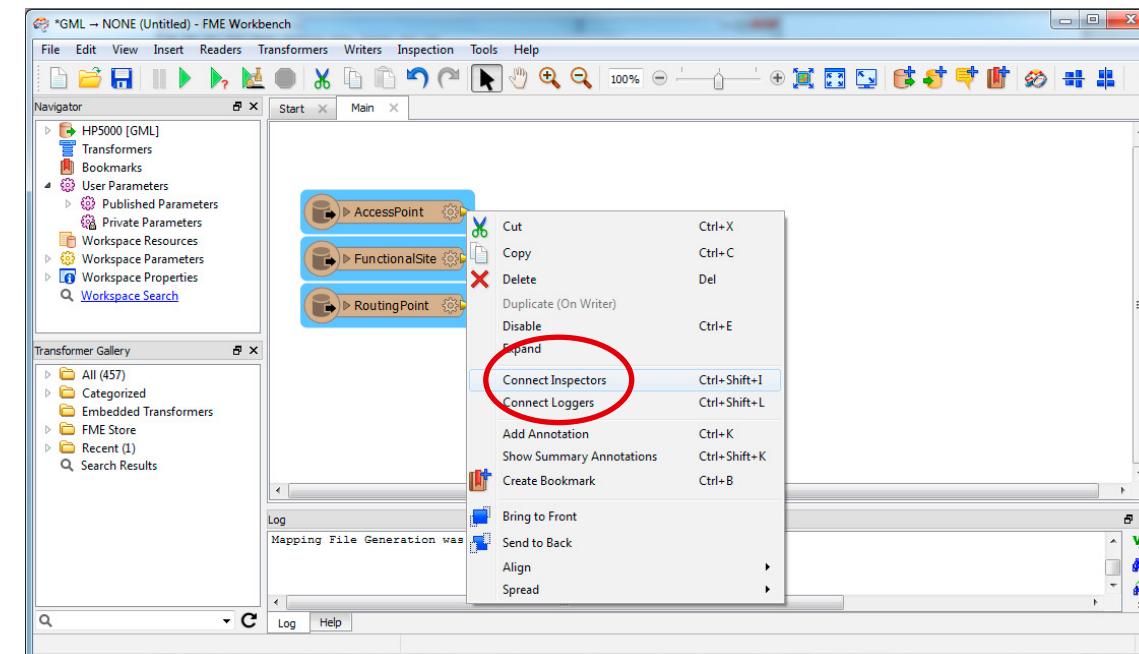
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#### 5.3.1 Viewing the data using Data Inspector before translation

Before translating the data, FME allows users to view the data. This process is faster than translation and allows a quick interrogation before translation is started.

- Highlight all of the features you wish to view by either selecting them individually or drawing a box around them. Right click on one of the features and select ‘Connect Inspectors’.



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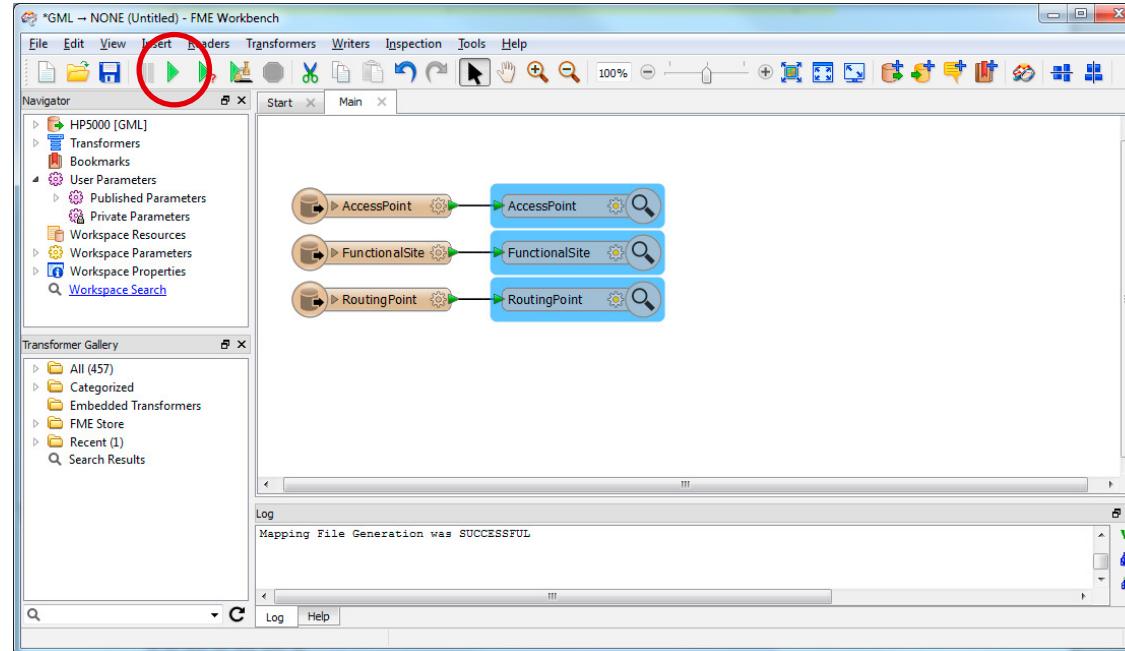
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- Run the workspace with the Inspectors connected in order to view the data in FME Data Inspector.



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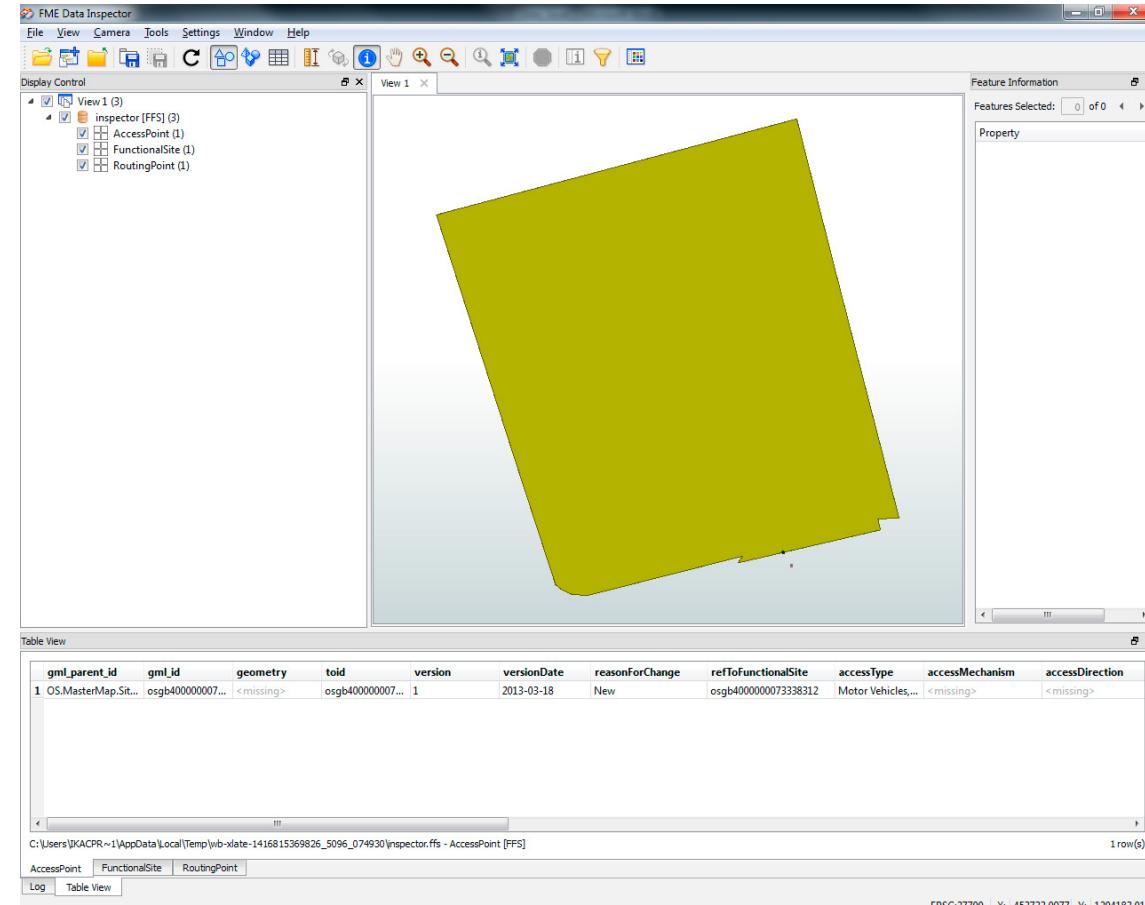
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- When finished, an ‘FME Data Inspector’ window will open visualising the three layers of Sites.



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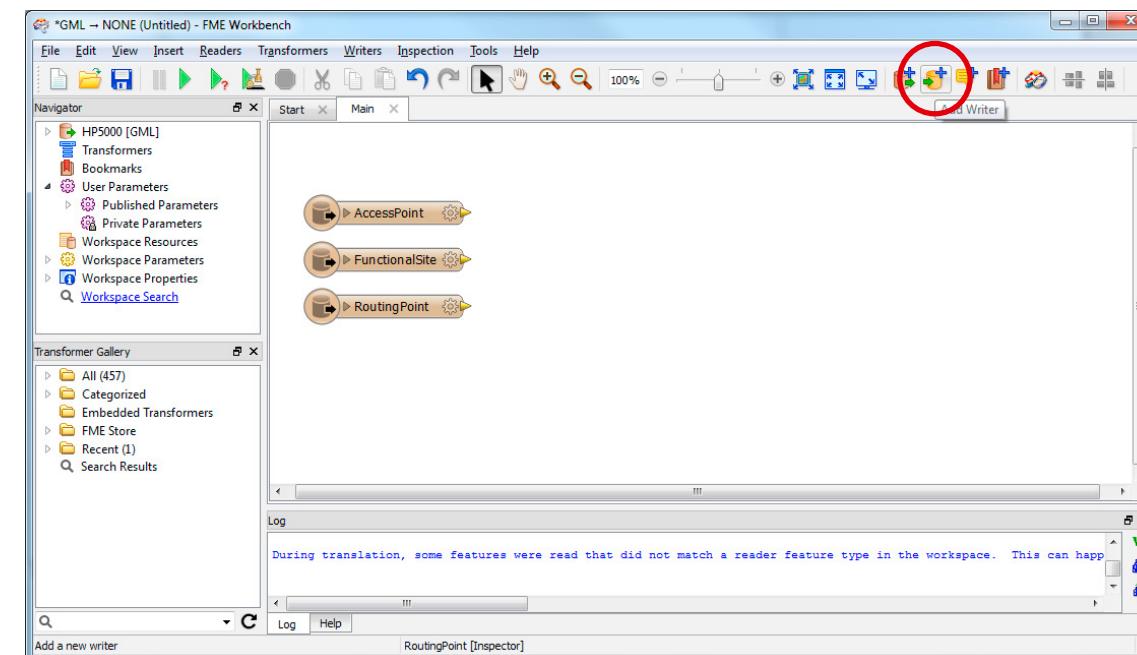
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### 5.3.2. Translating GML in FME

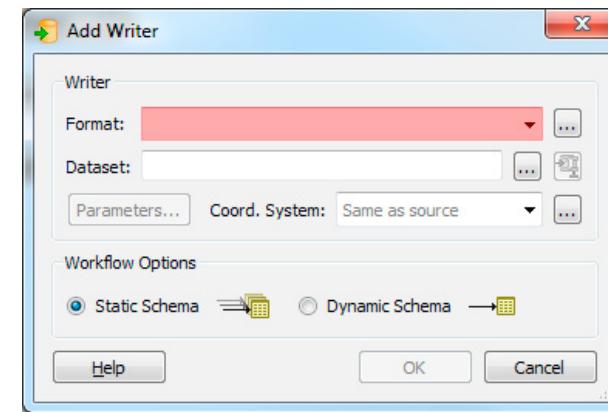
You can use FME to translate the files from GML to any other format supported by FME (for example TAB, SHP).

- In the main FME window remove the inspectors you have connected if you have chosen to carry out this first step. You can do this by clicking and deleting each of them separately, or selecting them all and deleting them together.
- Click on the ‘Add Writer’ icon in the main toolbar. This will open the ‘Add Writer’ dialogue box.

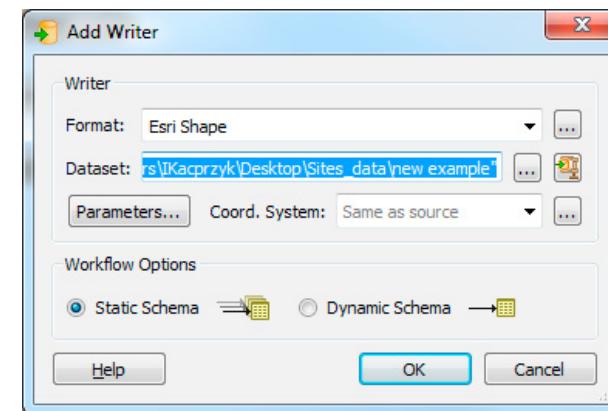


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- In 'Format' select the format you are translating into, for example ESRI Shapefile.
- In 'Dataset' navigate to the folder you want to save the translated data to.
- Leave the Parameters set to default and the Workflow Options set to 'Static Schema'
- Click 'OK' to add the Writer.



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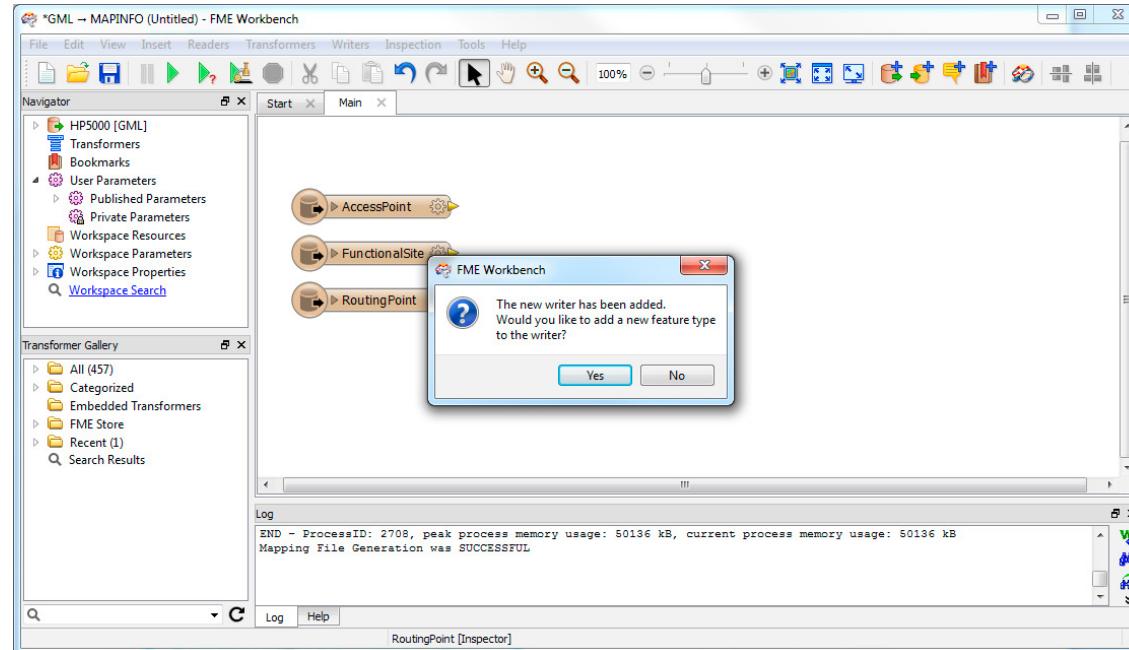
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- A dialogue box will open prompting you to add a feature type to the Writer you have created.



- Click 'Yes' to add a new feature type. This will open the 'Feature Type Properties' dialogue box.
- Enter a name for the feature type in the 'Feature type name' box (for example, access point) and choose the appropriate geometry from the 'Allowed geometries' drop-down (either polygon or point in this case).

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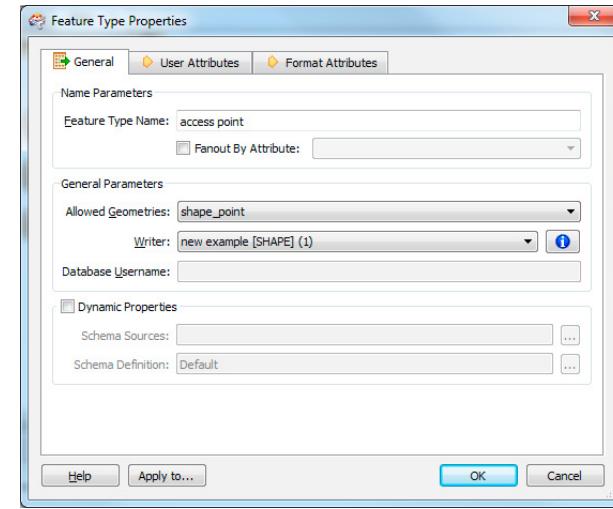
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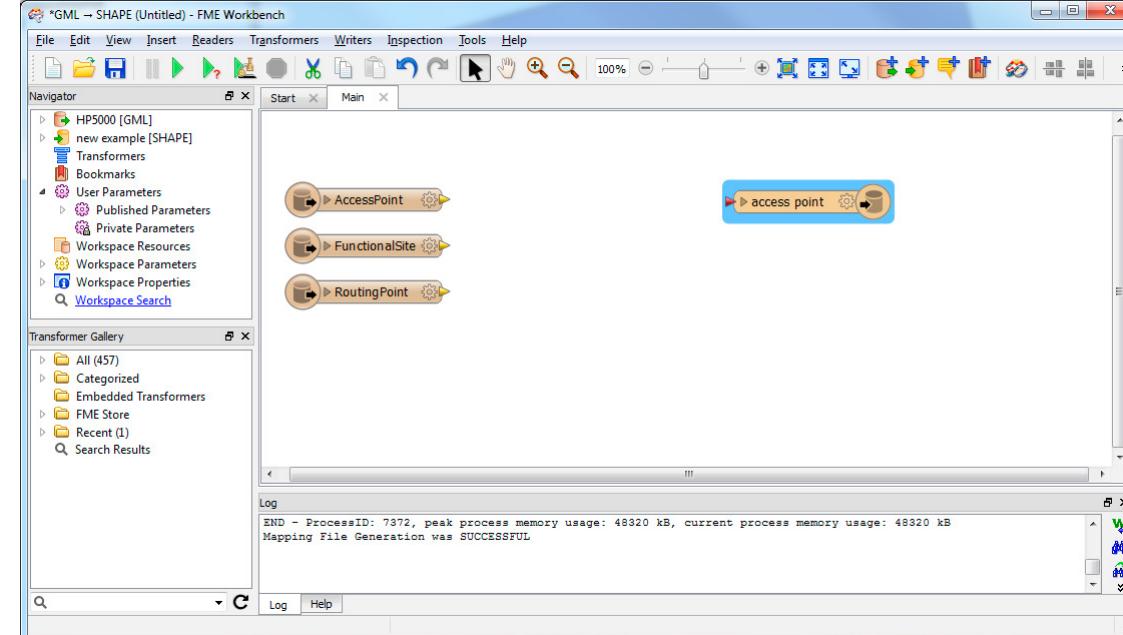
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- When completed, click 'OK'.



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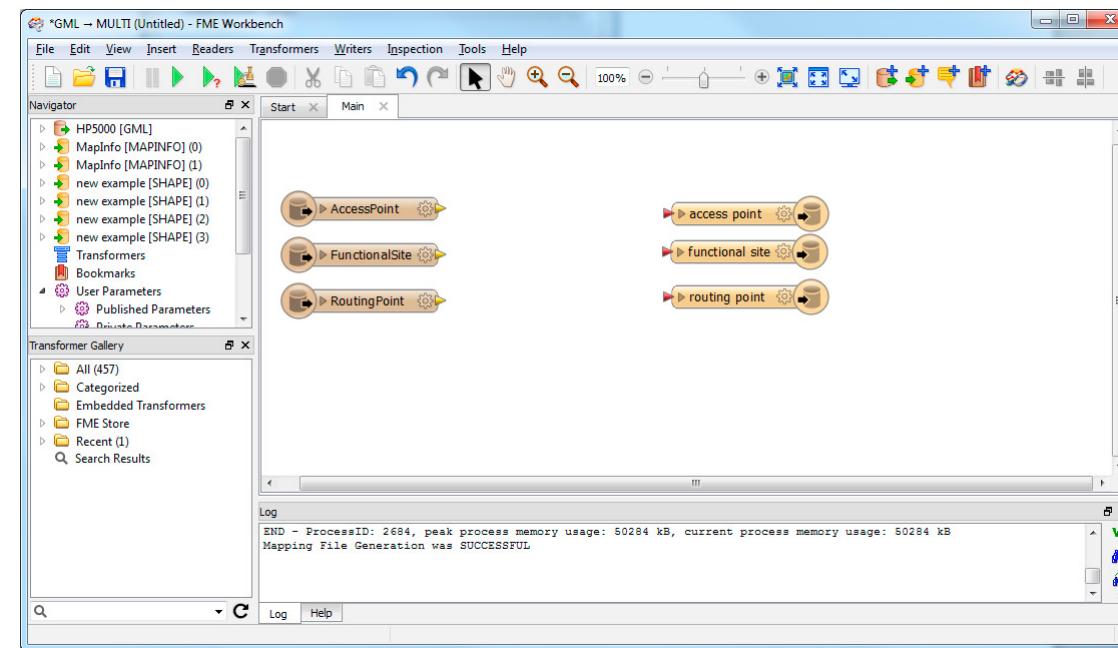
### 5 How do I load the Sites GML product into a GIS?

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- One feature type will now be added to the canvas. To add additional feature types to this Writer select ‘Add Feature Type’ from the ‘Writers’ drop-down in the toolbar. Enter the appropriate information to each ‘feature Type Properties’ dialogue box that opens.



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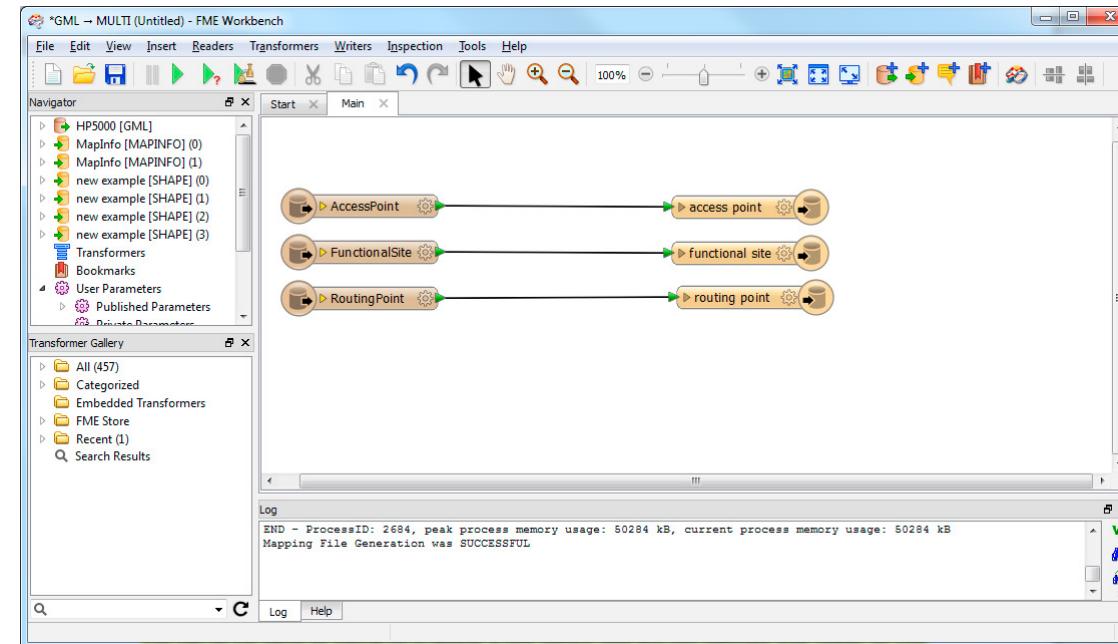
### 5 How do I load the Sites GML product into a GIS?

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- Connect the Sites Readers with Writes you have created by dragging the yellow triangle on the Reader and connecting it to the red triangle on the Writer.



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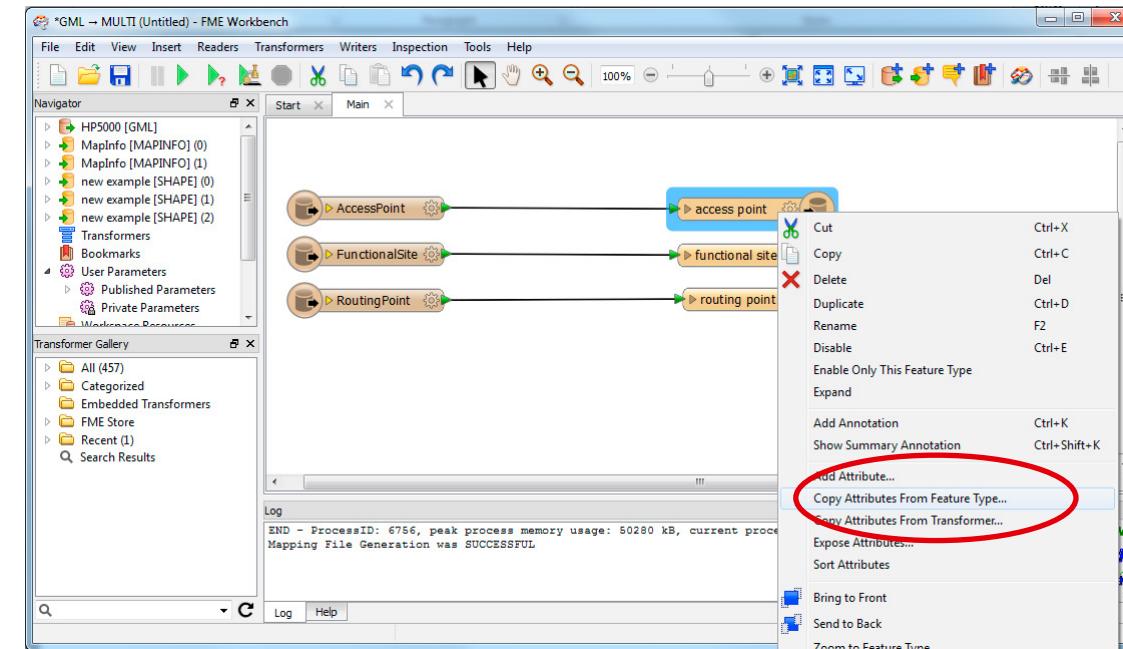
### 5 How do I load the Sites GML product into a GIS?

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- You can copy the attributes of the Readers to the Writers by clicking on each writer and selecting ‘Copy Attributes From Feature Type’.



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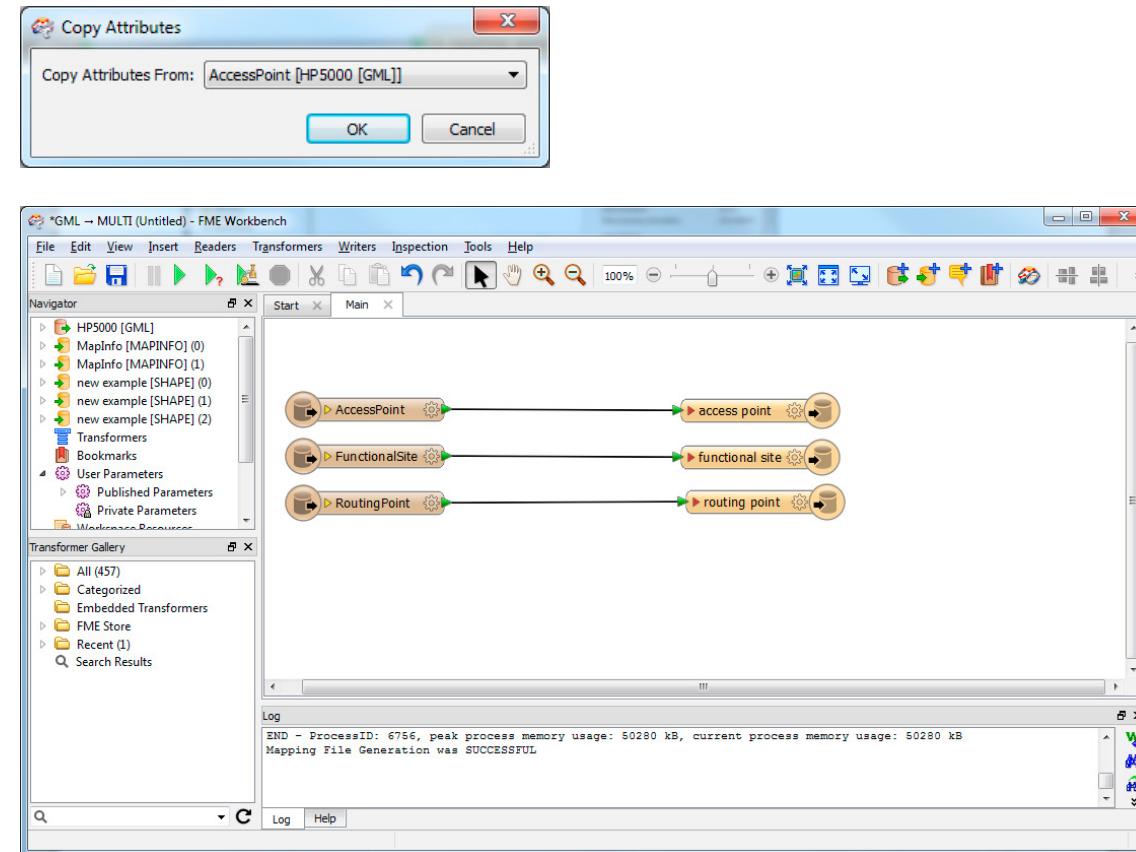
### 5 How do I load the Sites GML product into a GIS?

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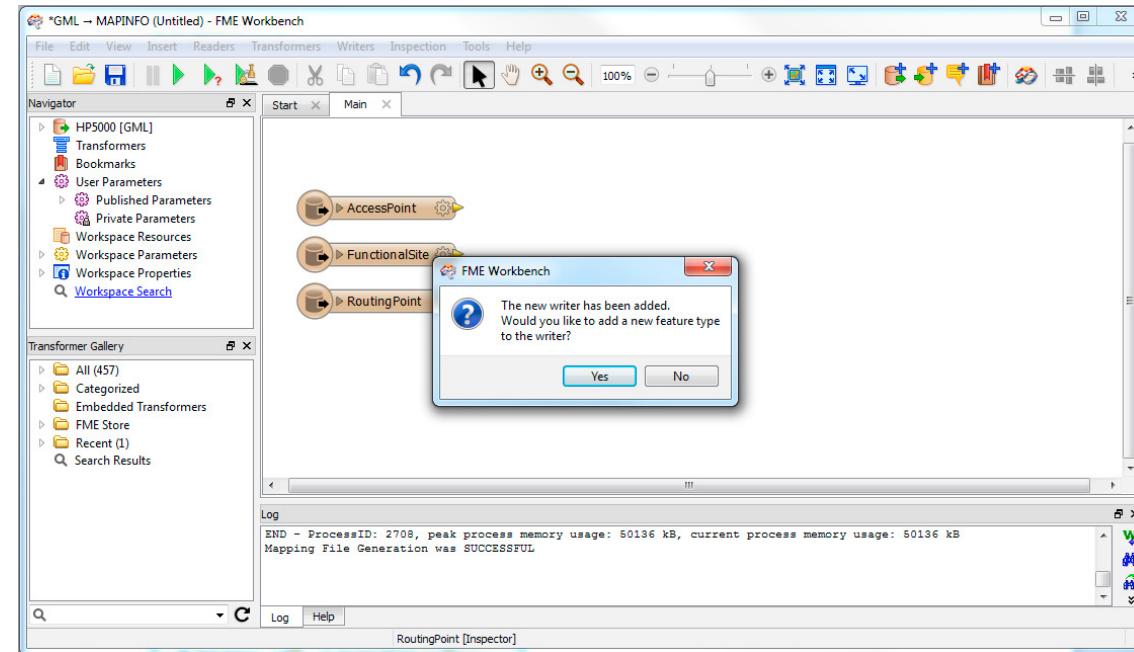
- This opens the ‘Copy Attributes’ window. In ‘Copy Attributes From’ select the appropriate Reader from drop-down menu and click ‘OK’.



Note: You can carry out this step by choosing ‘No’ when prompted to add the feature type to the Writer. Then right-click on a reader feature and select ‘Duplicate on Writer’. This will add the Writer feature type to the canvas, with the attributes of the Reader feature already mapped across the Writer.

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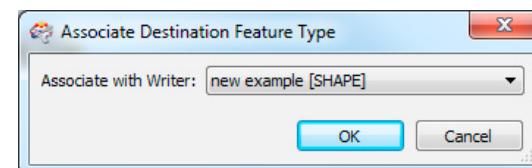
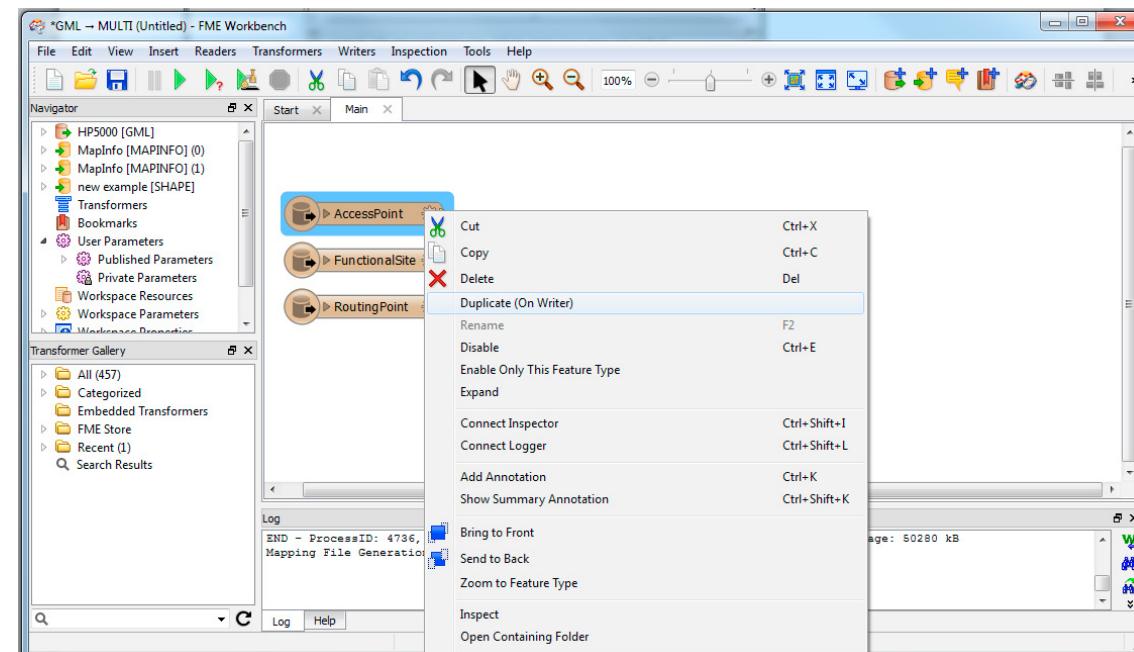
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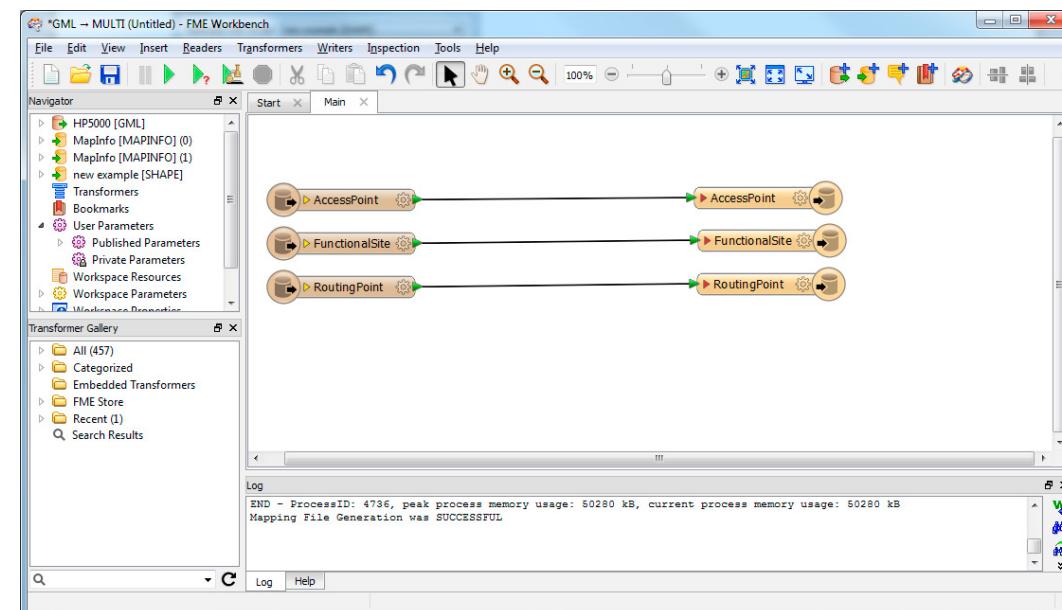
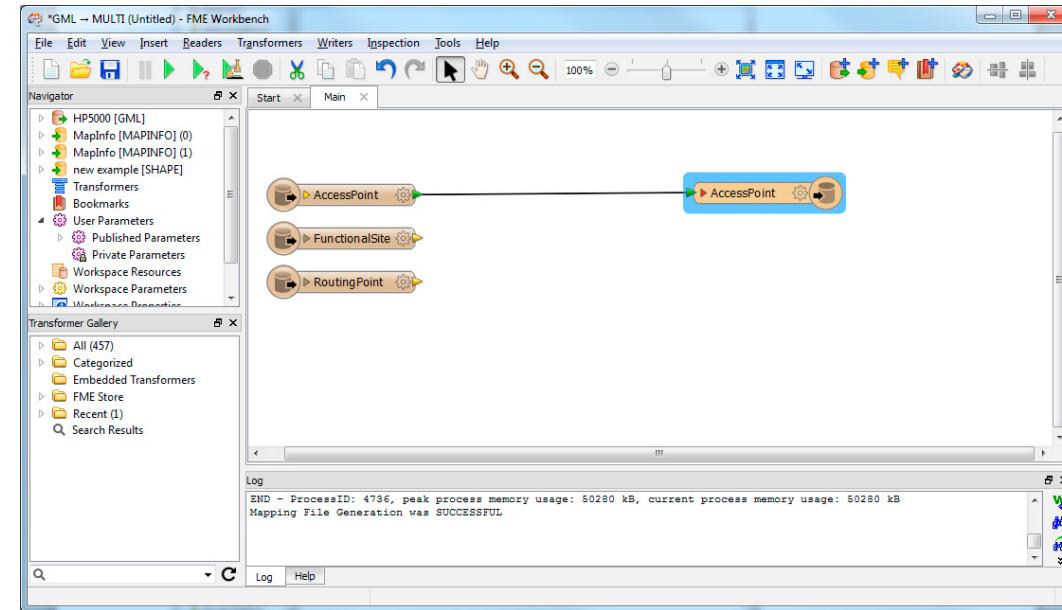
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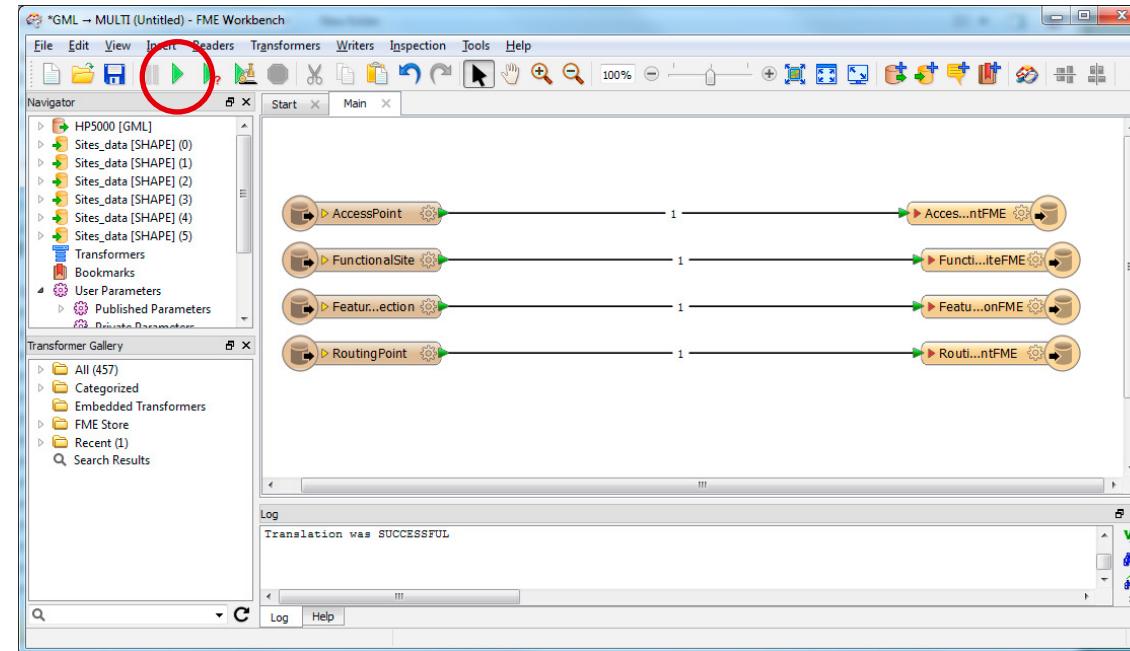
### 5 How do I load the Sites GML product into a GIS?

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### 8 Further information

- Once the workspace has been set up run the translation by choosing the 'Run Translation' icon.



This is a basic translation of the data and within FME workbench you could manipulate the data further if needed. However you can use the software just as a translator and open the data in other GIS software for analysis.

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### 5.4 ESRI®:

These notes outline how to load Sites into ArcMap. They have been prepared using Version 10 of ArcMap and ESRI Free (Limited Edition) Extension – Quick Import (Data Interoperability).

You can find more information about Quick Import on:

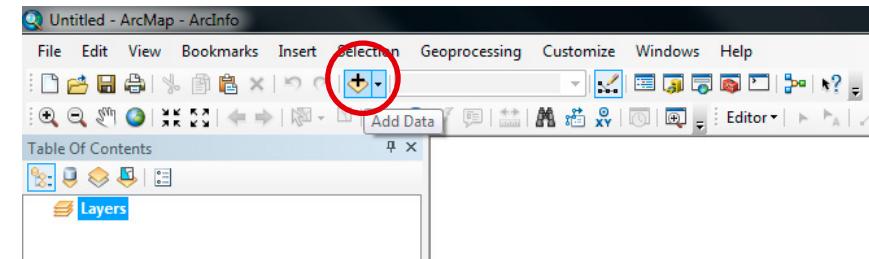
<http://www.esri.com/software/arcgis/extensions/datainteroperability>

Before you open ArcMap uncompress the GML file you have received. To uncompressed the zipped data files (.gz extension), use an unzipping utility found on most PCs, for example WinZip®. Open-source zipping/unzipping software can be downloaded from the Internet, for example, 7-Zip.

When unzipped, rename the file extension into \*.gml, for example HP5000.gml.

- Open ArcMap.

Click on the ‘Add data’ button on the main toolbar.



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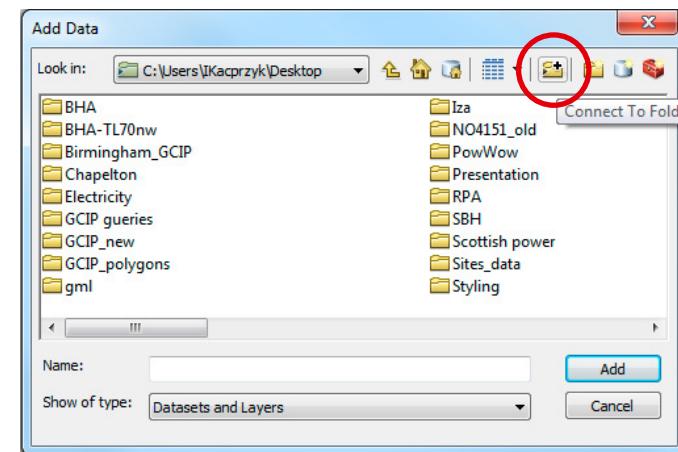
### 5 How do I load the Sites GML product into a GIS?

### 6 Importing the Sites into a database

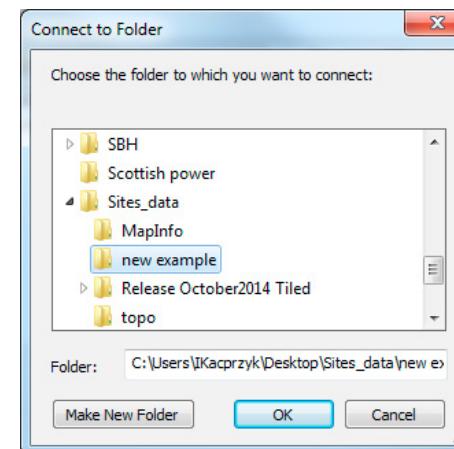
### 7 Open Source Translation of Sites

### 8 Further information

- 'Add Data' window opens.
- Connect to the folder that you have saved GML data in.
- To do this, click on the 'Connect to Folder' button.



- The 'Connect to Folder' window will open. Navigate to the folder and click 'OK'.



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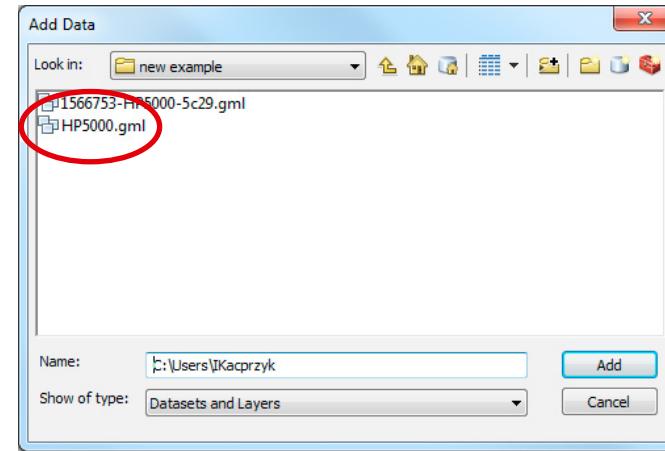
### 5 How do I load the Sites GML product into a GIS?

### 6 Importing the Sites into a database

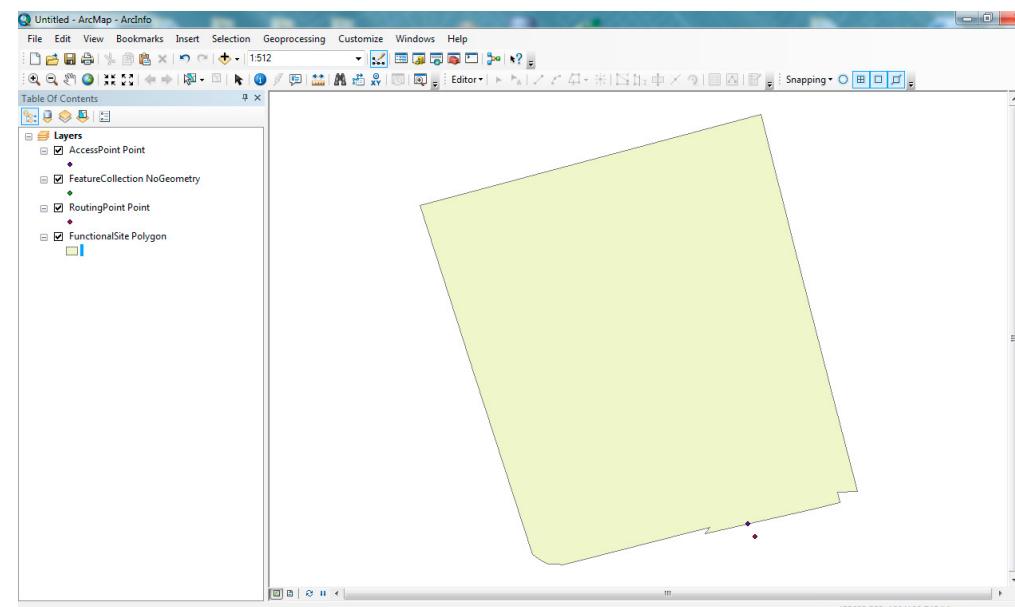
### 7 Open Source Translation of Sites

### 8 Further information

- Select the Sites GML file and click 'Add'.



- You will notice that four Sites features have been added to the ArcMap Layers: Access point, Feature Collection, Routing Point and Functional Site.



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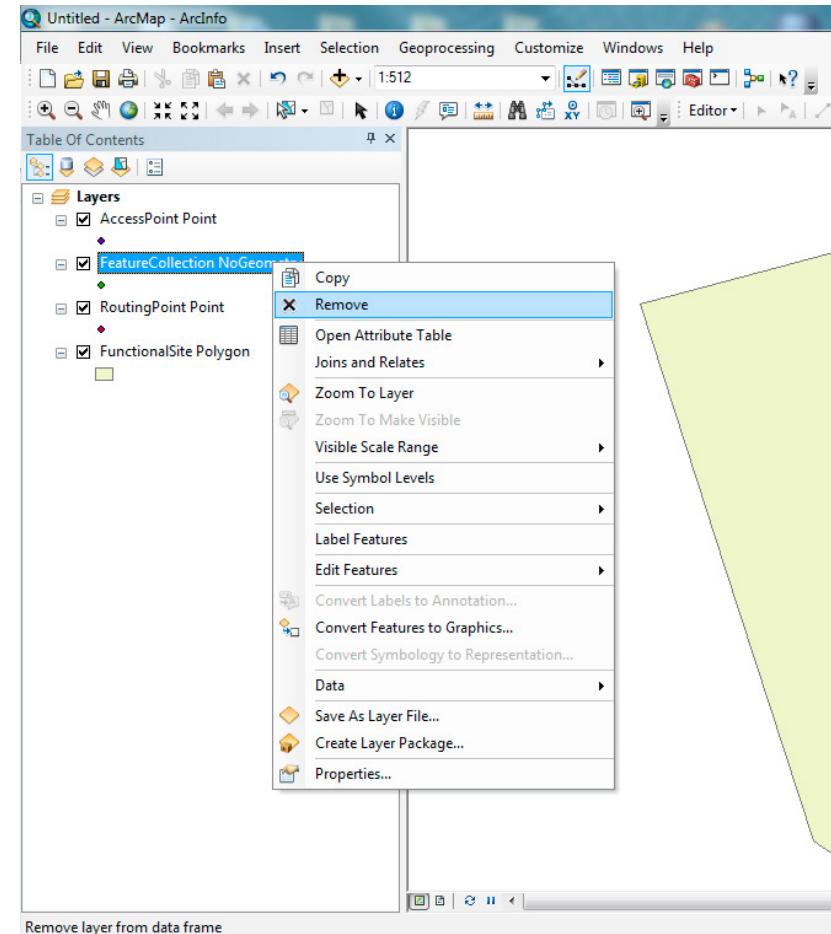
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- As this layer has no geometry you can ignore Feature Collection and remove it from the map by right clicking on the layer within the Table of Contents and choosing 'Remove'.



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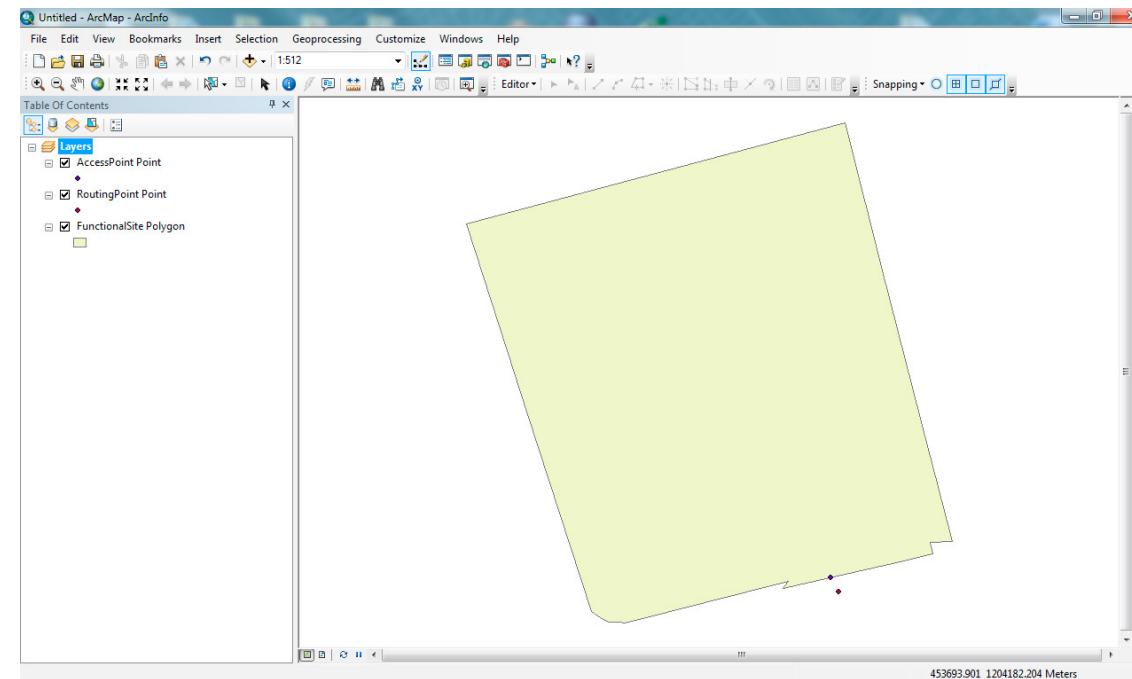
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- You can view and analyse the features as they are, in GML format, and repeat the same steps for other OS MasterMap Layers, for example OSMasterMap Topography Layer.
- You can also save the Sites data as ESRI shapefiles or Geodatabase feature classes.
- To do this, right click on the feature in the Table of Content, select 'Data' then 'Export Data'.

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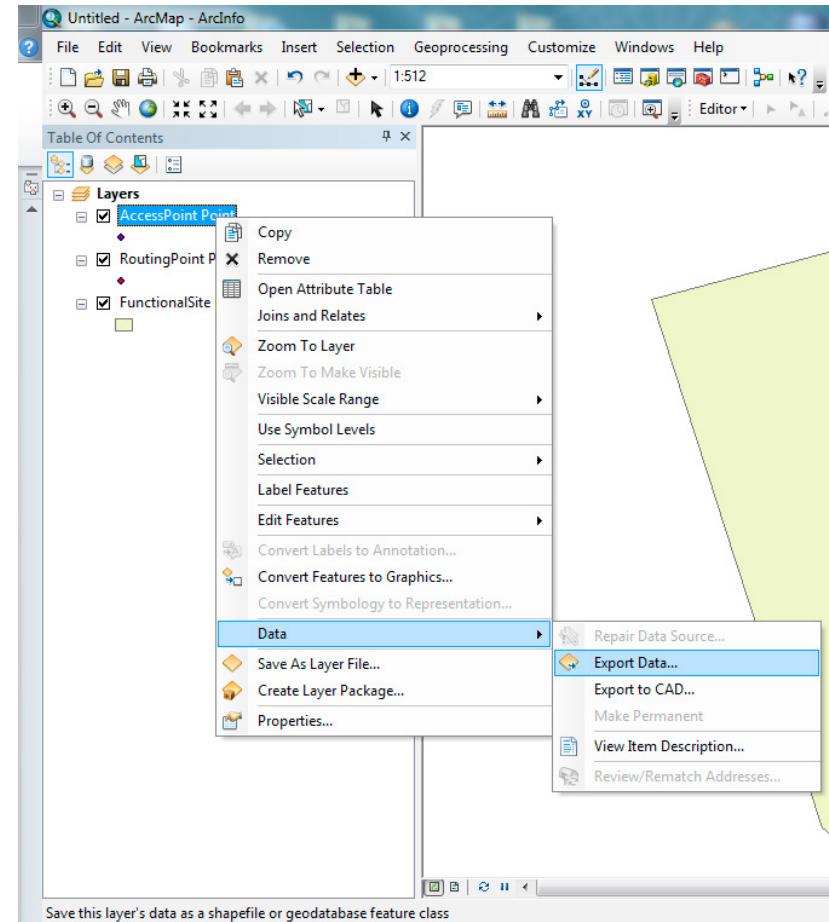
### 4 Structure of the supplied data

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- As this layer has no geometry you can ignore Feature Collection and remove it from the map by right clicking on the layer within the Table of Contents and choosing 'Remove'.

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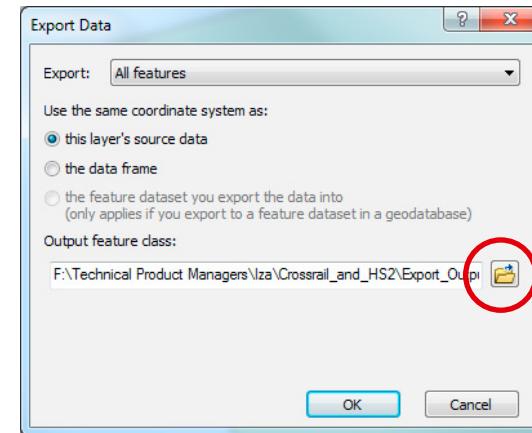
### 5 How do I load the Sites GML product into a GIS?

### 6 Importing the Sites into a database

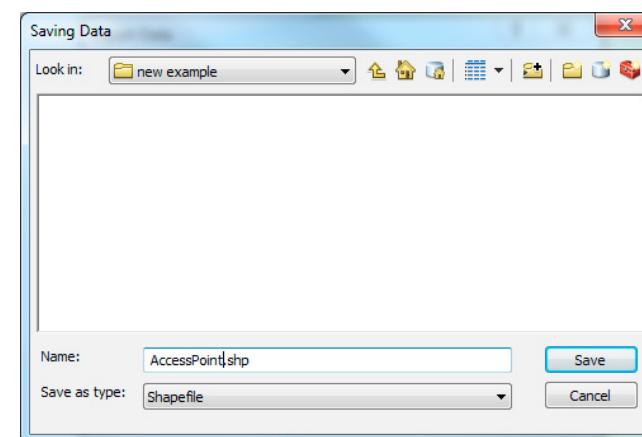
### 7 Open Source Translation of Sites

### 8 Further information

- The 'Export data' window will open. Click on the folder icon.



- Navigate to the folder where you wish to save your data.
- In 'Name', rename your data accordingly, for example AccessPoint.shp.
- Click 'Save'.



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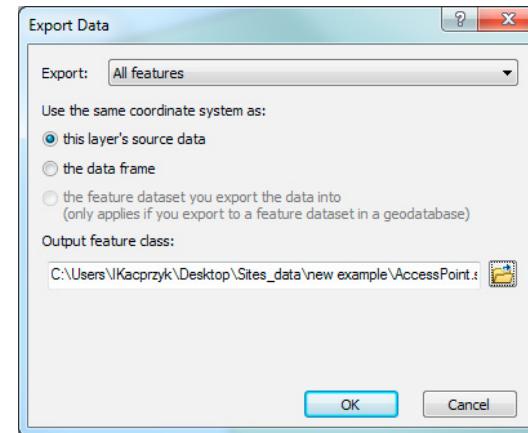
### 5 How do I load the Sites GML product into a GIS?

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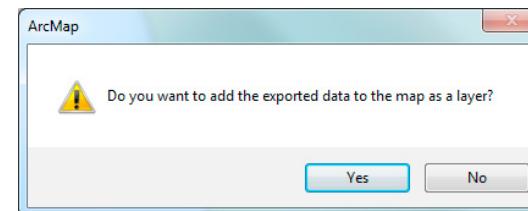
### 7 Open Source Translation of Sites

### 8 Further information

- Leave the rest of the settings in the ‘Export Data’ window and click ‘OK’.



- An ArcMap window will appear asking if you want to add the exported data to the map as a layer.
- Click ‘Yes’ to add it to the layers.



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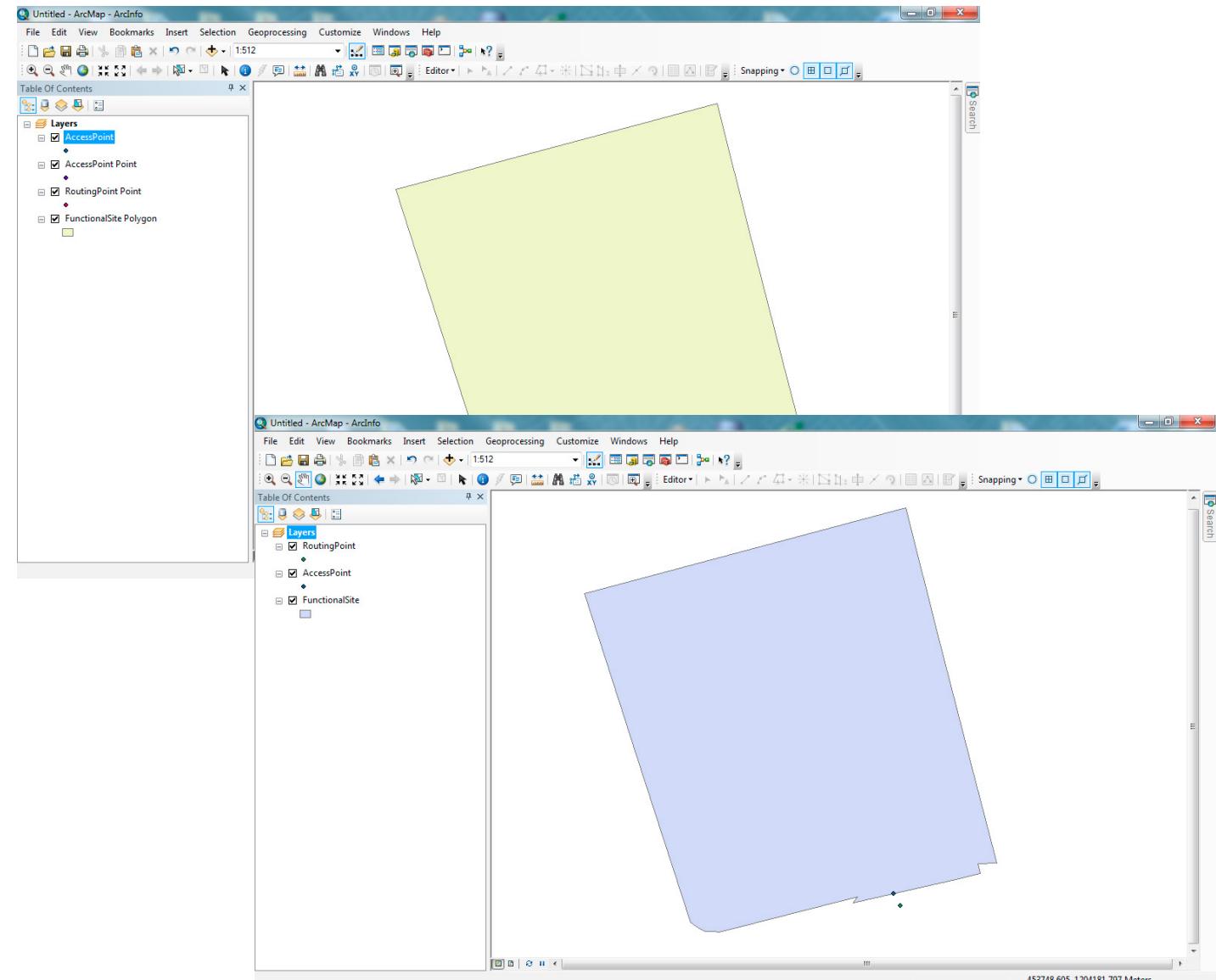
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- You will have two Access Point layers visible in your 'Layers' window.
- Remove the GML version.



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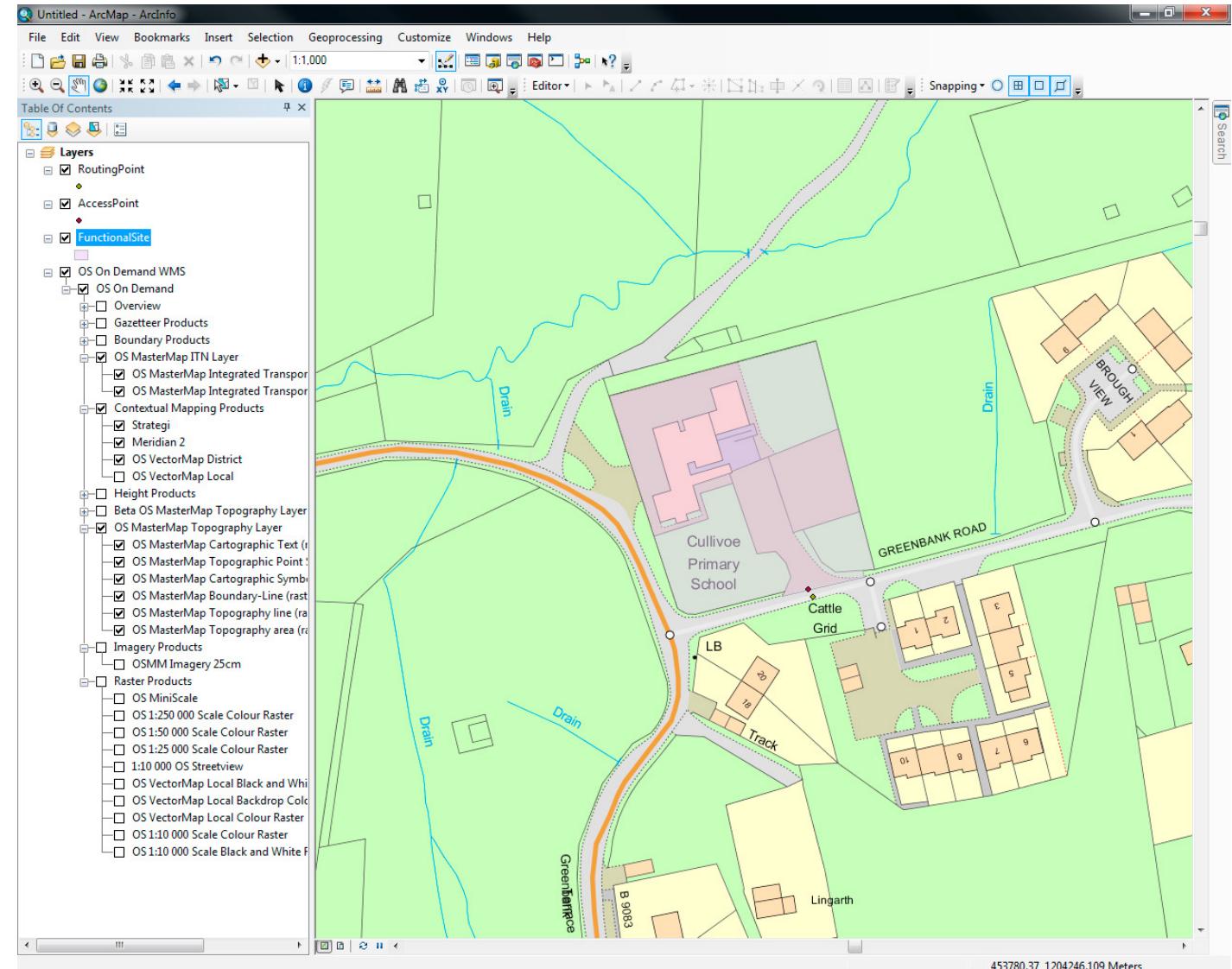
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### 7 Open Source Translation of Sites

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- Overlaying the Sites over Topography Layer and ITN you will create a result similar to the following:



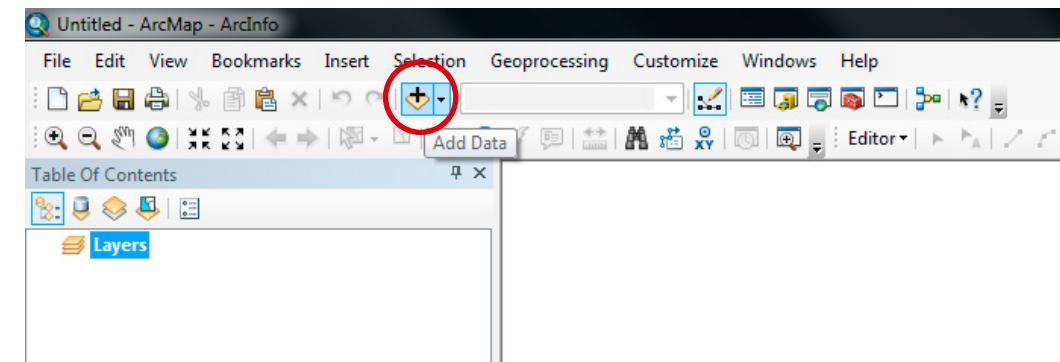
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### 5.4.1 Loading translated GML into ESRI®:

If your version of ArcMap is older than 10 or if you do not have access to the Quick Import (Data Interoperability) extension, you will have to use translation tools available in FME or QGIS (explained in the earlier chapters) to first translate the GML Sites data into ESRI shapefiles, before you can load them in ArcMap.

- Open ArcMap.
- To load a shapefile into ArcMap, click on the ‘Add data’ button in the main toolbar.



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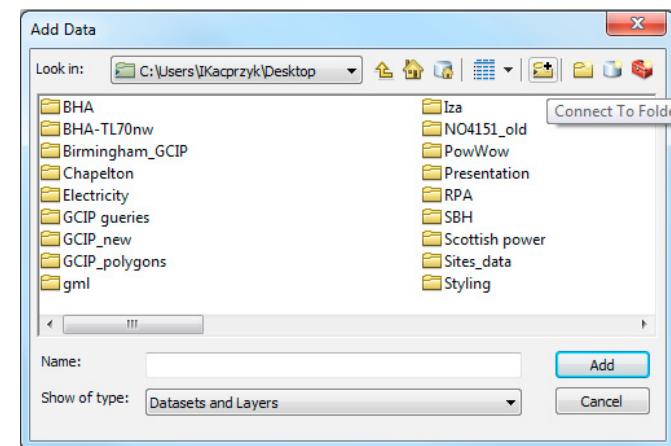
### 5 How do I load the Sites GML product into a GIS?

### 6 Importing the Sites into a database

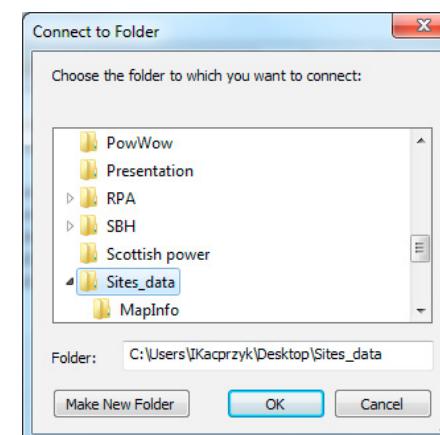
### 7 Open Source Translation of Sites

### 8 Further information

- The 'Add Data' window will open
- Connect to the folder where you saved your translated Sites data
- To do this, click the 'Connect to Folder' button.



- The 'Connect to Folder' window will open. Navigate to your folder and click 'OK'.



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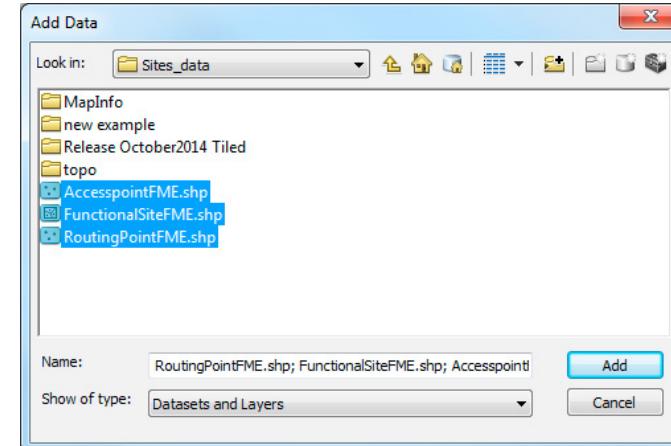
### 5 How do I load the Sites GML product into a GIS?

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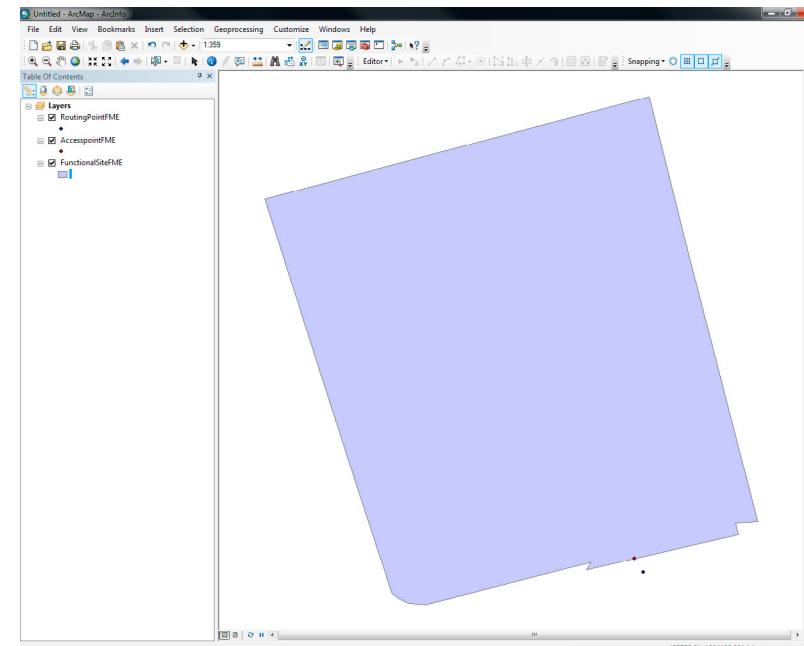
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### 8 Further information

- Select the Access point, Functional Site and Routing Point shapefiles in ‘Add data’ window and click ‘Add’.



- The three Sites features will be added to ArcMap.



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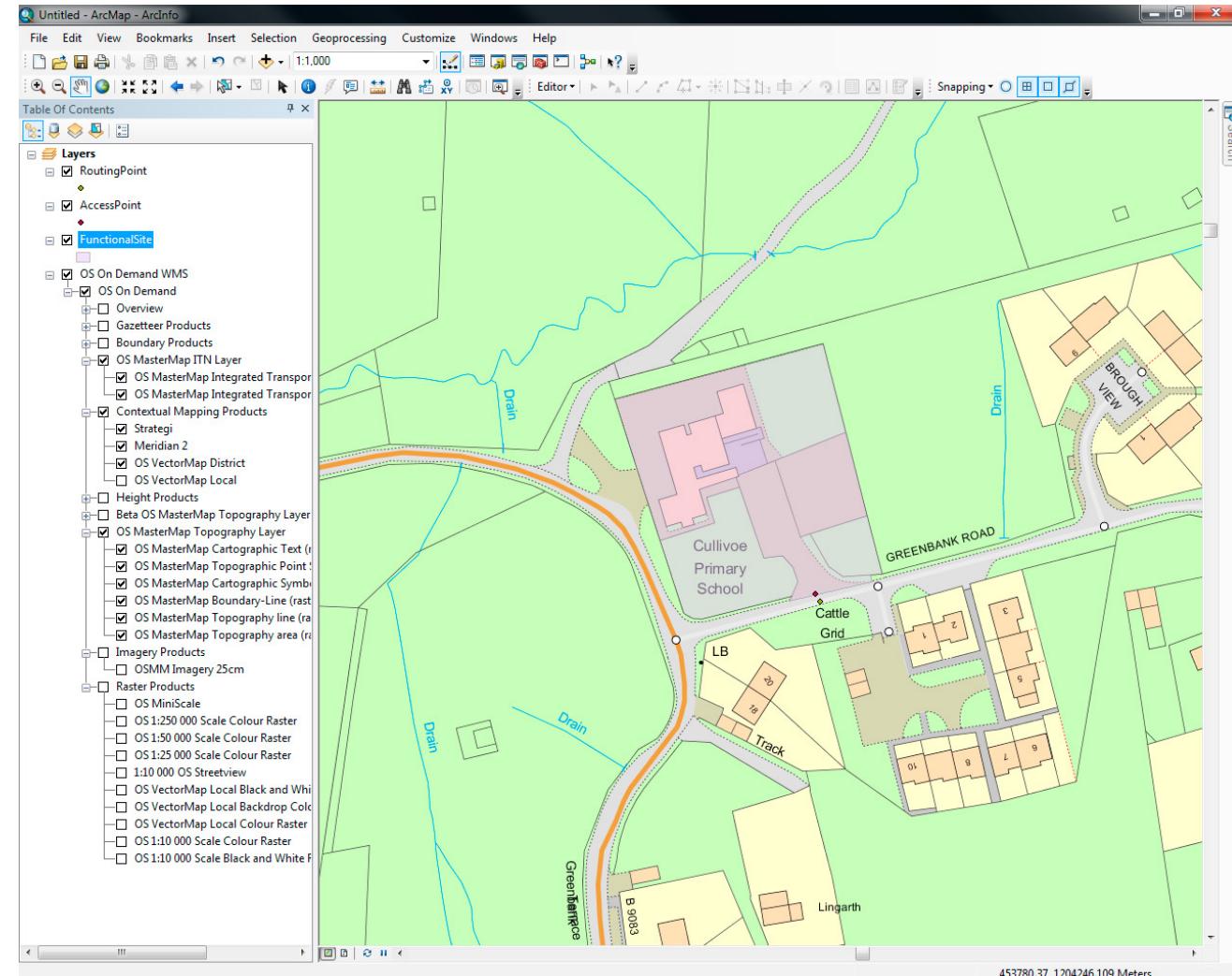
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- Overlaying the Sites over Topography Layer and ITN you will create a result similar to the following:



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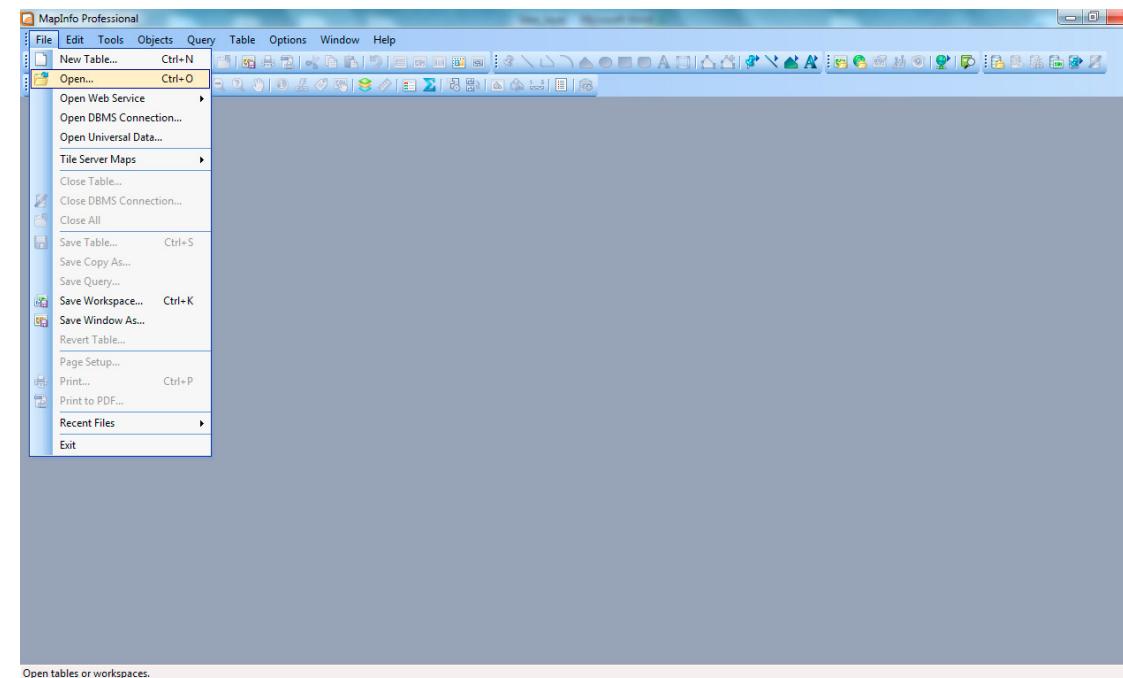
### 8 Further information

## 5.5 Loading translated GML into MapInfo Professional®:

At present it is not possible to open or translate GML 3.2 data in MapInfo. The following section explains how to import translated Sites data into MapInfo Professional. Translation can be done using FME or QGIS as explained above, or alternatively using Astun Technology Loader, details of which are provided in Section 7 below.

The below instructions have been prepared using version 12.0.2 of MapInfo.

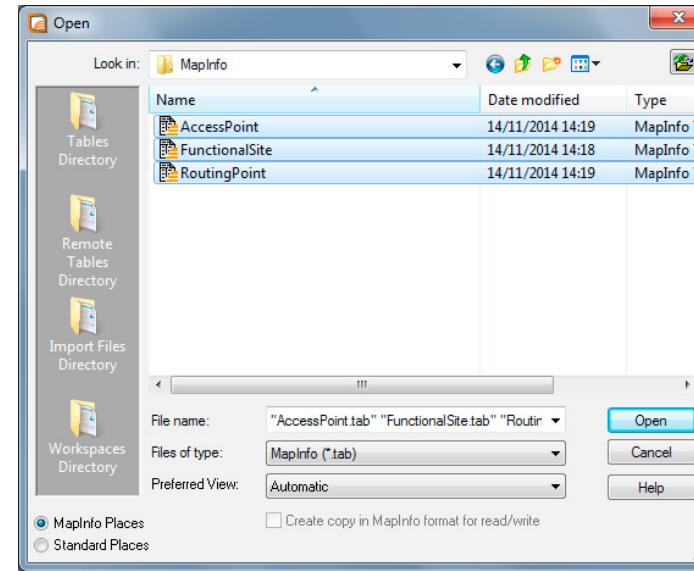
- Open MapInfo Professional.
- On the main toolbar select File>Open. The ‘Open’ window opens.



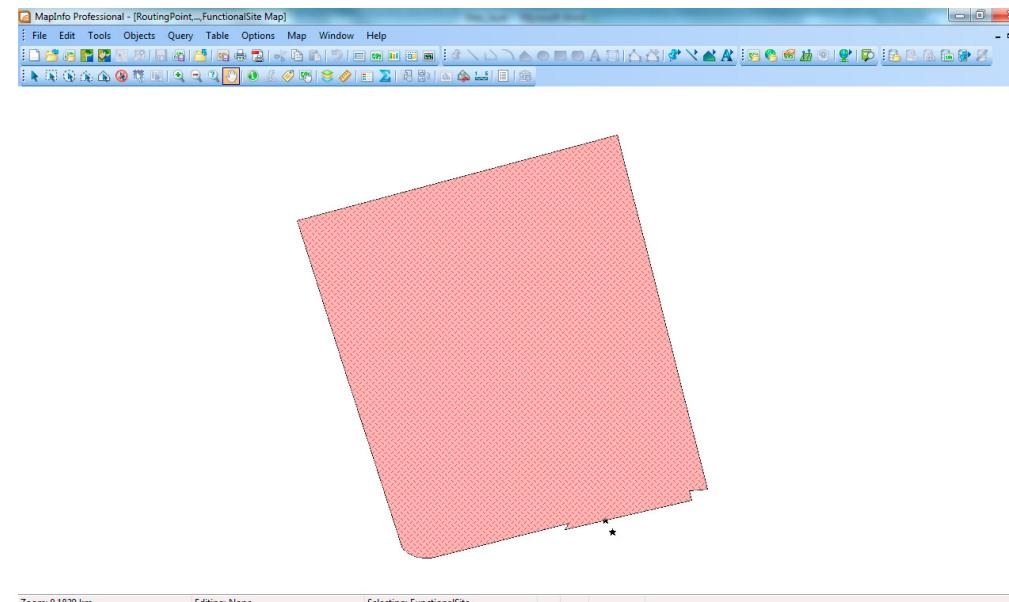
- In ‘Look in’ navigate to the location where you saved Sites MapInfo.TAB files
- In the ‘Files of type’ drop-down menu select MapInfo (\*.tab). Select the three Sites TAB files in the main window and click ‘Open’.

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- The Sites data will now load into MapInfo.



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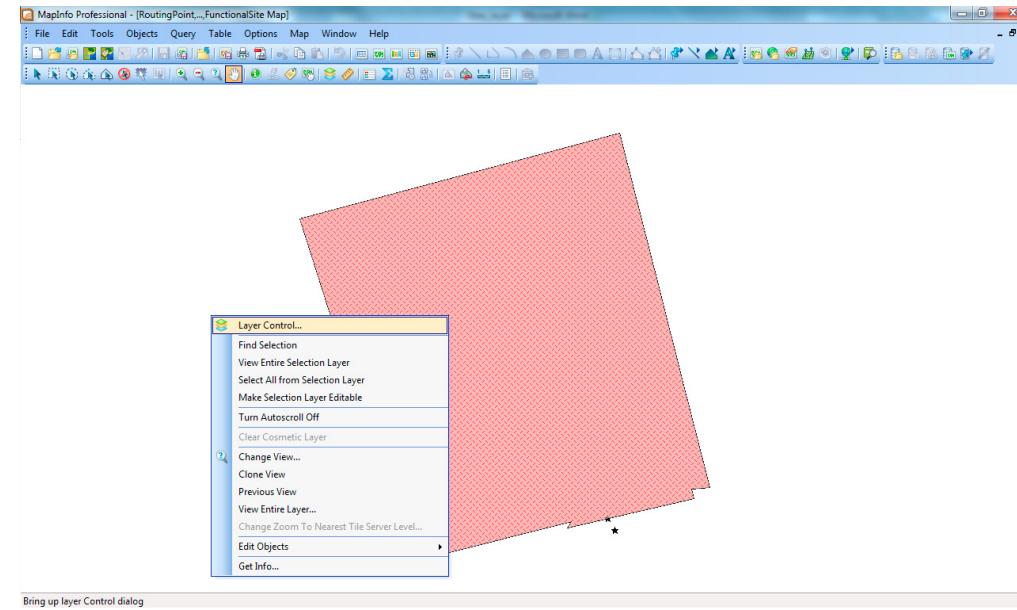
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- To add the Layers window right click in the main window and select Layer Control.



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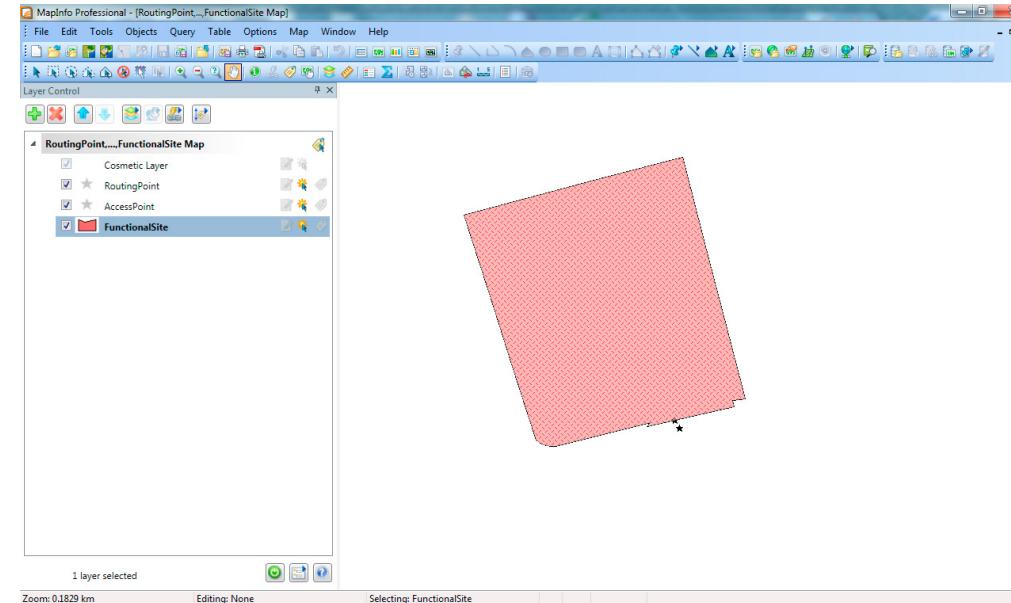
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- This will display the three Sites objects that have been loaded: Functional Site, Access Point and Routing Point.



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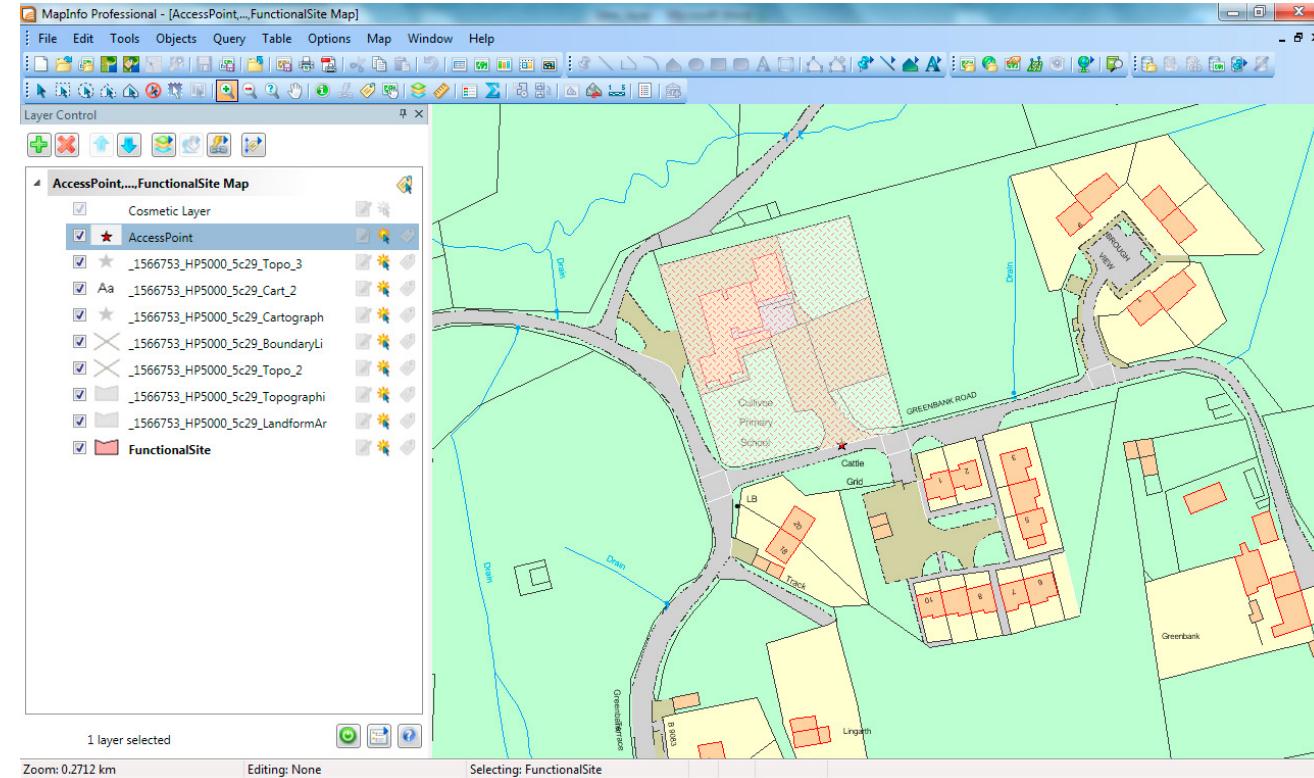
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- Overlaying the Sites over Topography Layer will create result similar to the following:



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The Sites can be loaded into several commonly used databases like PostGIS or Oracle. We intend to add more information on how to do this to this *Getting Started Guide* soon. In the meantime if you require this information please contact your Relationship Manager or the Customer Service Centre, 03456 05 05 05 or email [www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/contactus](http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/contactus).

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## 7 Open Source Translation of Sites

Sites data can be translated from GML 3.2.1 data format using several different GIS packages, for example FME, QGIS and ESRI, as outlined above. An alternative method, using Open Source software is provided by Astun Technology.

<https://astuntechnology.com/>

Astun Technology Loader is a GML loader written in Python that makes use of OGR 1.9. Source data can be output to any of the formats supported by OGR, for example ESRI Shapefile and MapInfo TAB. Although the Loader was originally written to load Ordnance Survey OS MasterMap Topography Layer data in GML/GZ format, it can be used to load other GML data.

Information on the loader itself, its dependencies and basic configuration can be found at the following location;

<https://github.com/AstunTechnology/Loader>

This page also contains the necessary files for download and a link containing details on how to setup the loader;

<https://github.com/AstunTechnology/Loader/wiki/Installation>

#### 7.1 Single Source solution for MapInfo TAB output

Astun Loader supports MapInfo TAB as an output format but only when there is a single source file as OGR does not support appending to an existing TAB file. This is a limitation of the TAB file itself.

#### 7.2 Multiple source solution for ESRI Shape output

For appending multiple source files it is possible to output data to ESRI Shape. This requires modification of existing gfs files suitable for Postgres (specifying tables, column names and types). The output ESRI Shapefile can then be translated into alternative data formats, for example MapInfo TAB.

For further information for either solution please refer to the following webpage.

<https://github.com/AstunTechnology/Loader/wiki/Configuration-examples>



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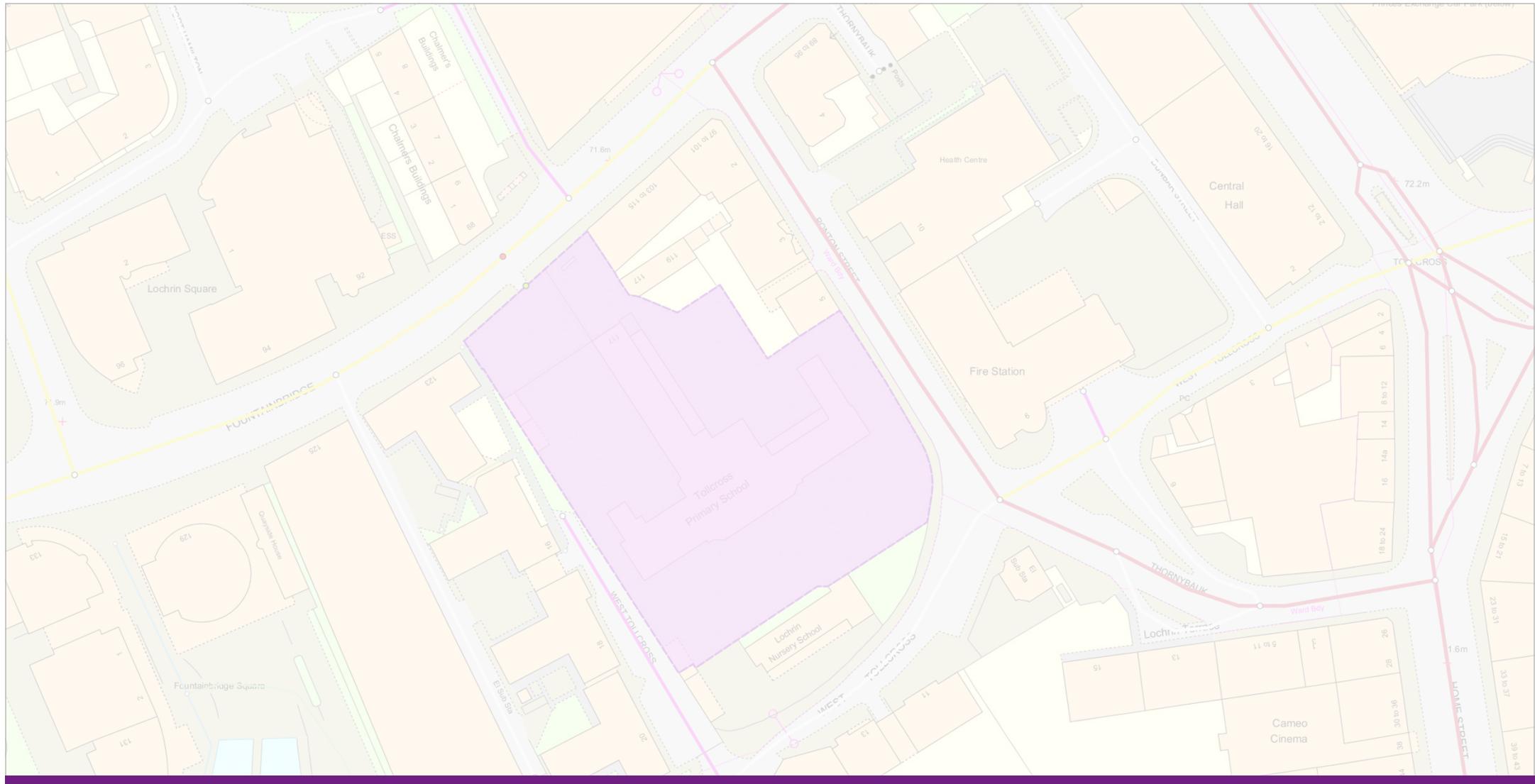
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Further information about the Sites can be found on the Ordnance Survey website:

<http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/business-and-government/help-and-support/products/sites-layer.html>



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