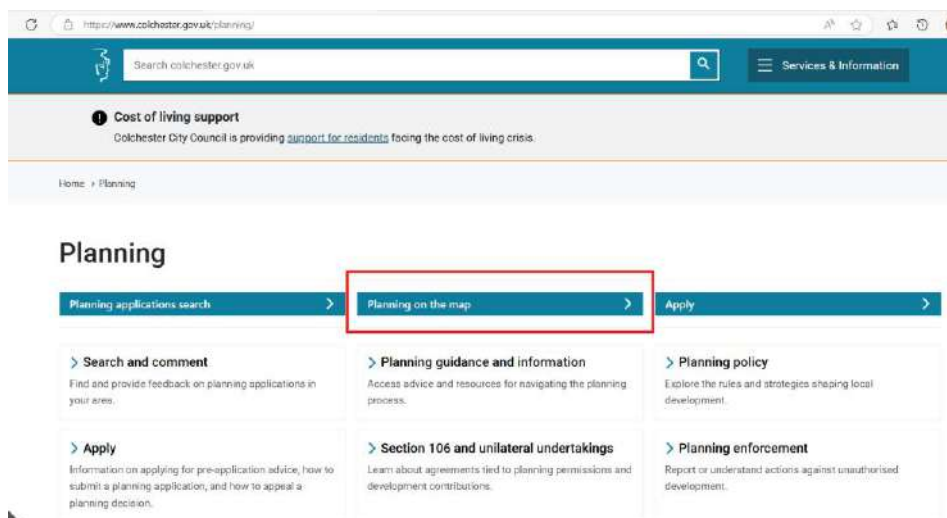


Introduction

This interactive map allows you to view a variety of spatial information held by the council including planning and building control applications, tree preservation orders, wards and boundaries.

Accessing CCC External Maps

The mapping can be accessed directly from your laptop browser via www.colchester.gov.uk/maps or via the Planning webpage www.colchester.gov.uk/planning and selecting the icon below.



A link to the web mapping and user guidance will then be available.



Search colchester.gov.uk



Planning on the map

Using the interactive map

You can use the map to:

- switch layers on/off
- change the base maps
- search for addresses
- take measurements
- click on visible features to show any relevant information

[View our guide on how to use the interactive map](#)

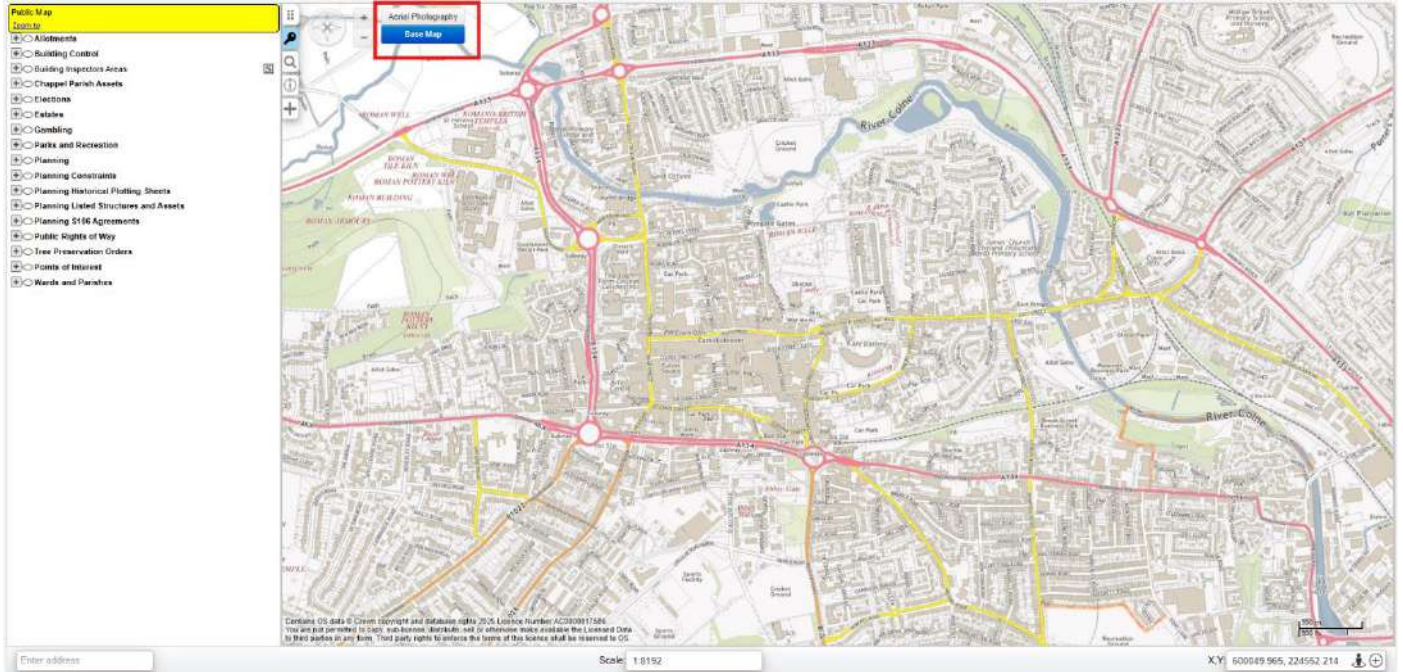
[Use the map](#)

Page last reviewed: 13 May 2025

Background Mapping

Both Ordnance Survey base mapping and aerial photography are available. You can toggle between the two using the located buttons in the top left corner of the map window.





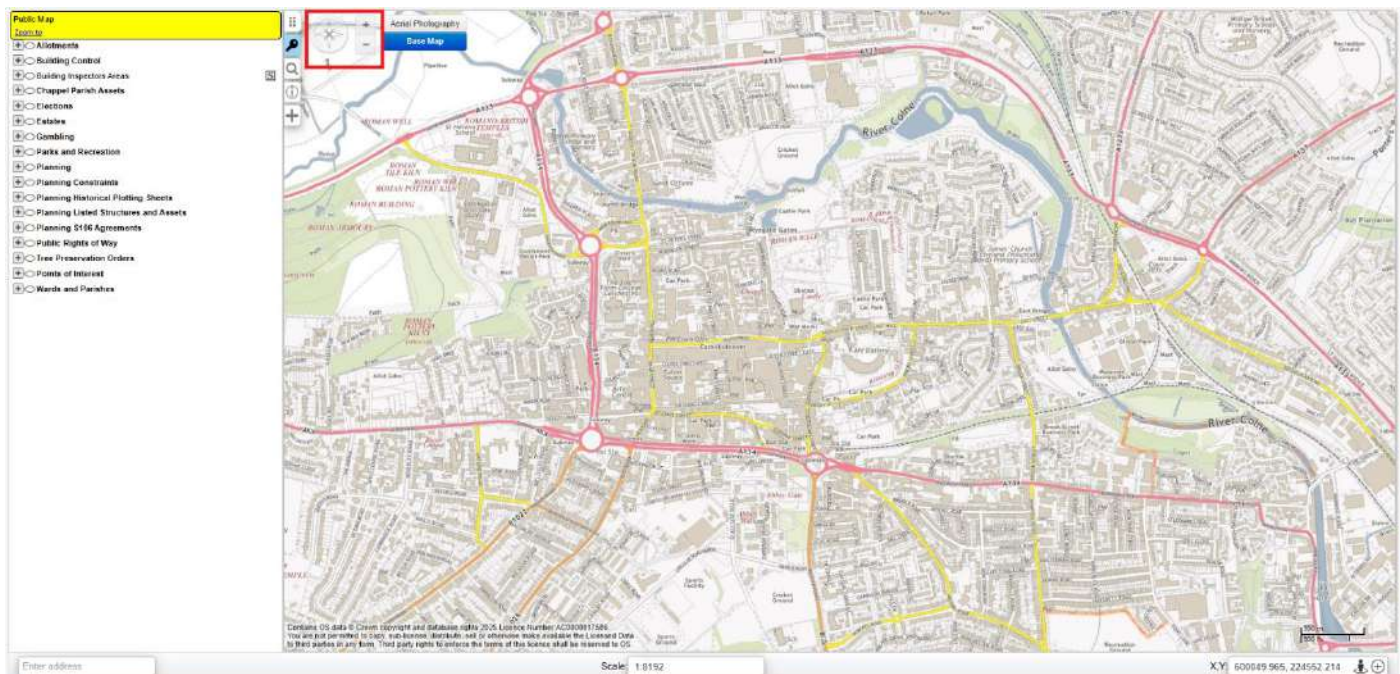
Zooming and Panning

The zoom and pan tools are found in the top left-hand corner of the map window.

The Windrose allows you to drag the map in any direction.

The plus and minus buttons allow you to zoom in and out on the map.

You can also use the mouse to zoom and pan.

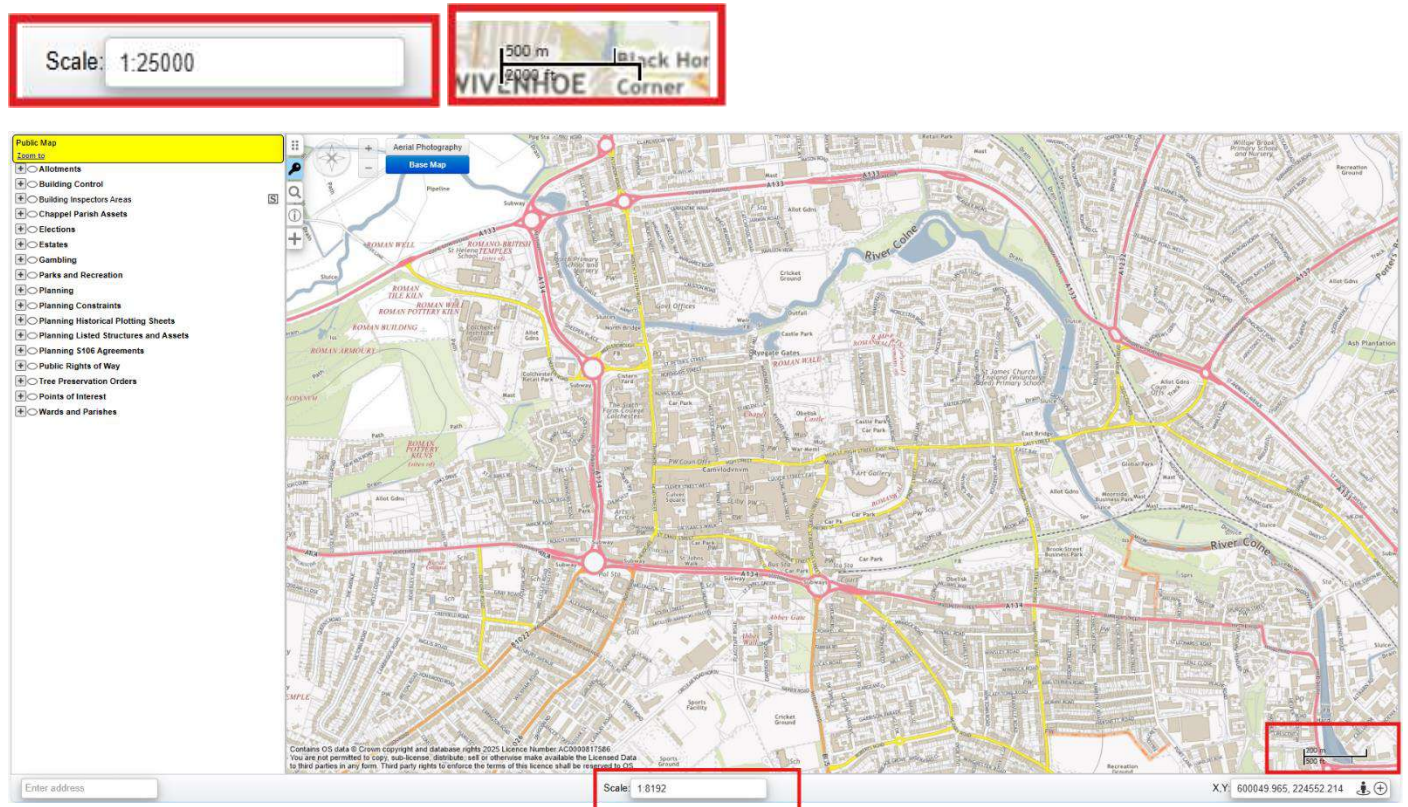


Scale Bars

The scale bars can be found at the bottom of the map window. The scale of a map is the ratio of a distance on the map to the corresponding distance on the ground.


You can use the zoom to alter the scale, or you can type your own scale in e.g. 1:12500.

The default scale is 1:2048

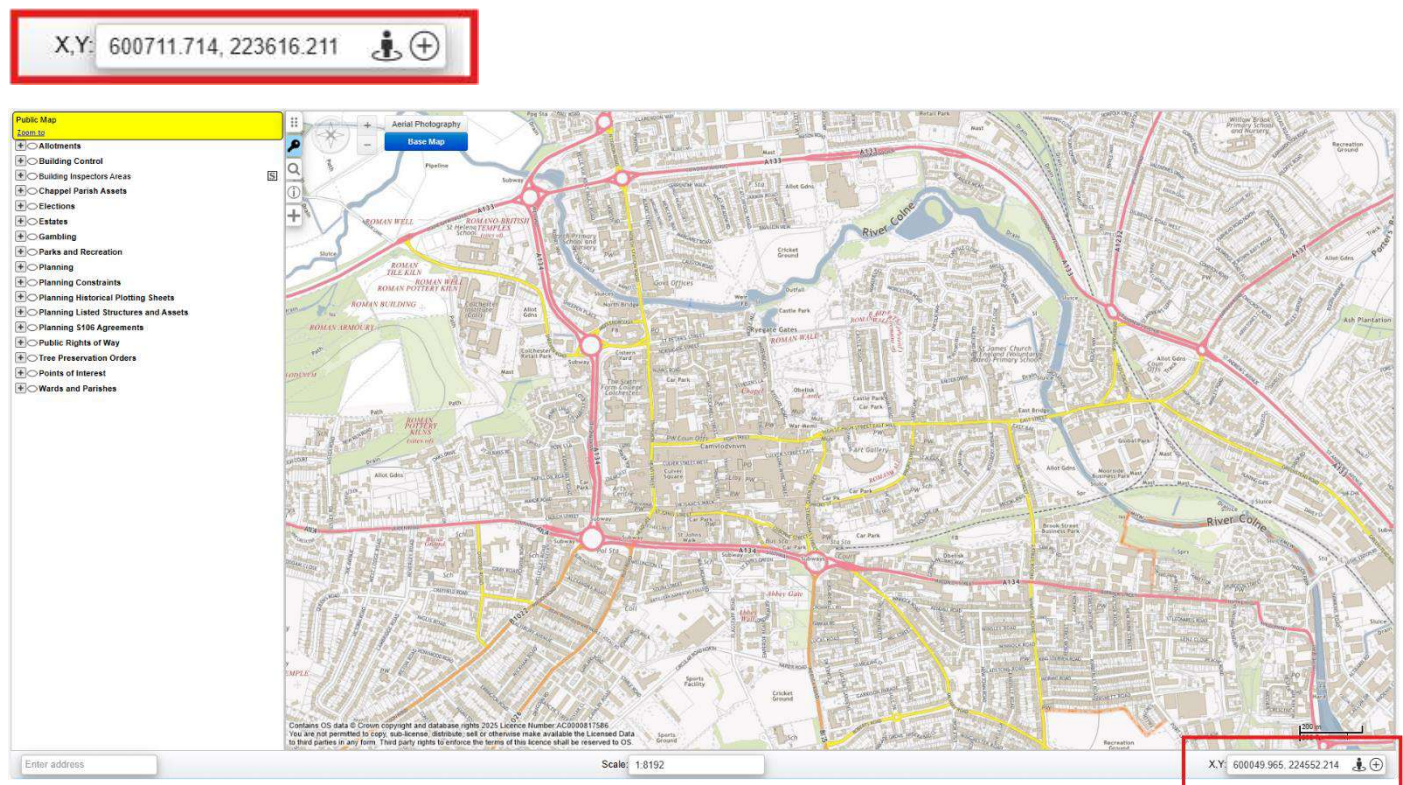


Co-ordinates and Google Street View

The co-ordinates and Google Street View icons are available at the bottom of the map window. When you hover over the map with the mouse or use the zoom buttons, the co-ordinates will change.

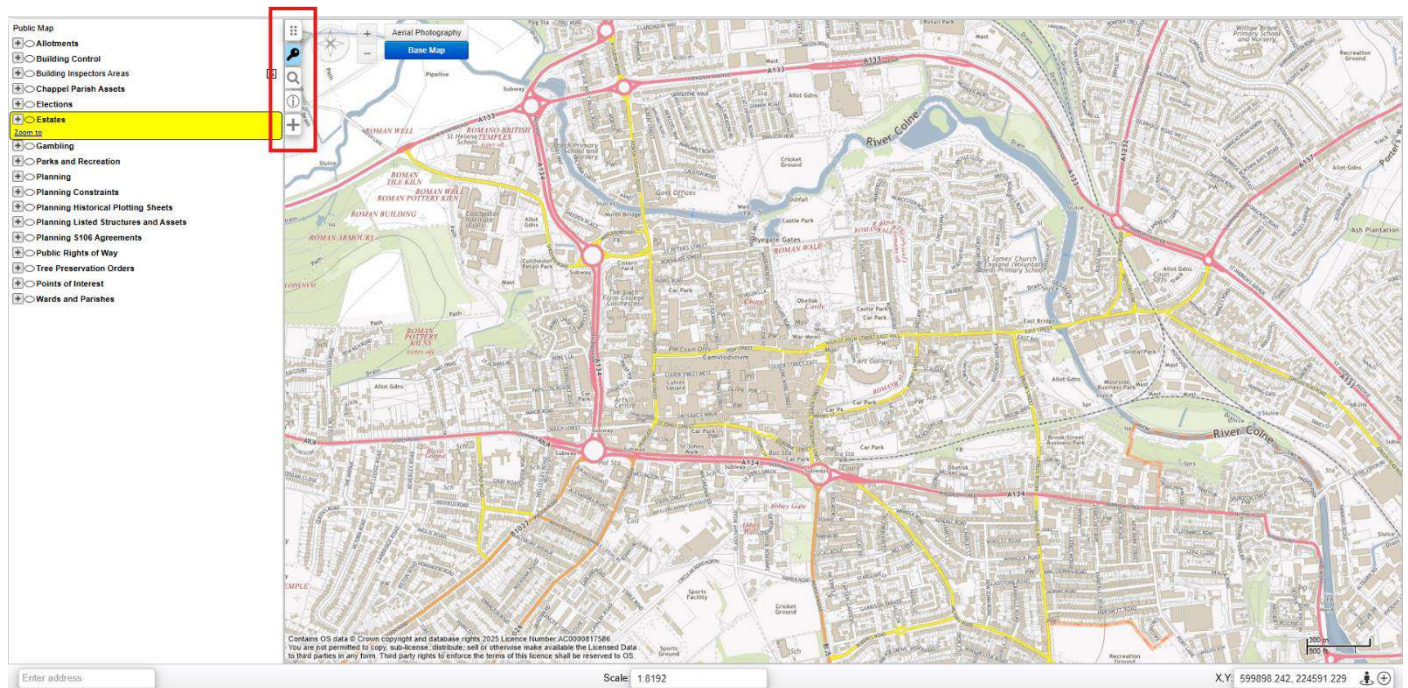
When selecting the  sign button next to the person icon, you can select a specific point on the map and the co-ordinates will show. By selecting the drop-down arrow, you can copy the co-ordinates in different formats (Easting and Northings, Longitude and Latitude).

Google Street View can be selected by using the mouse, clicking on the Person icon button and dragging it to a location on the map. A separate tab will then open with that location's street view.



Side Tool Bar

There are several tools available in the side toolbar located on the top left of the map. Below explains these.



Map Viewing Area

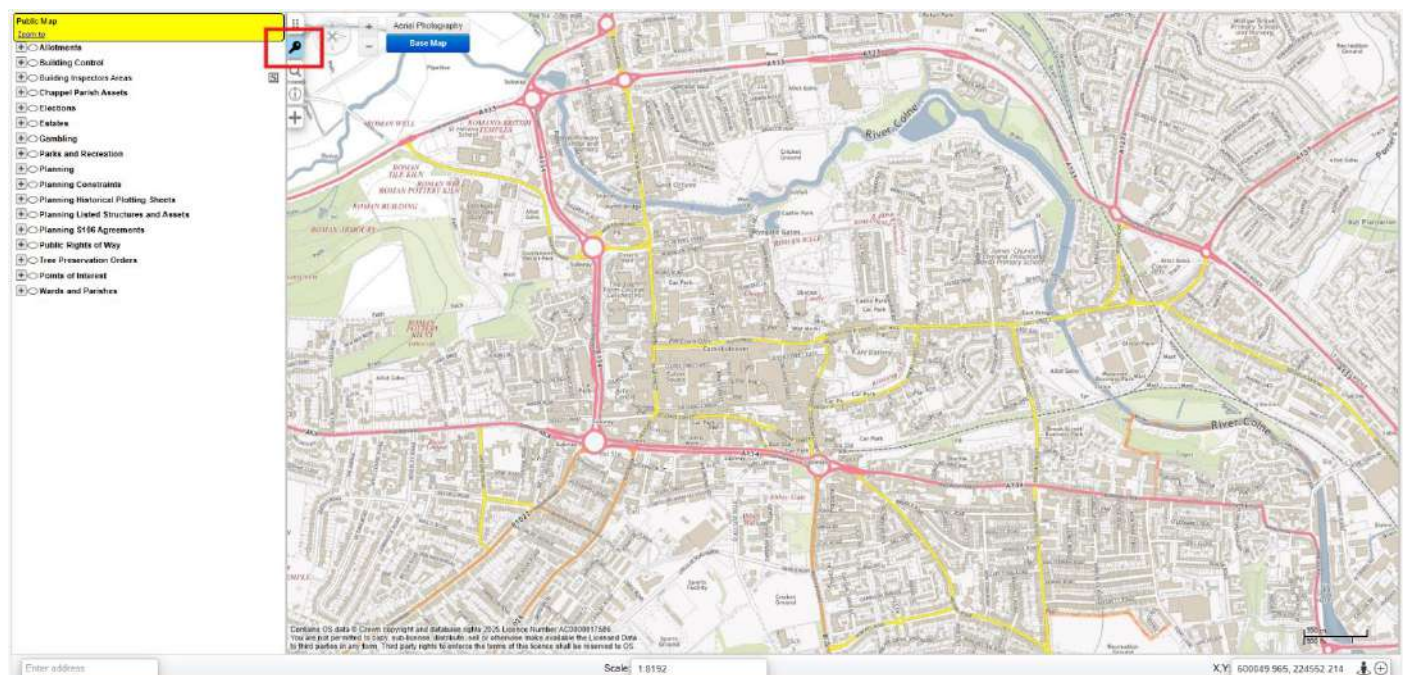
Use the below icon to change the viewing area of the map window by dragging it left and right.






Key

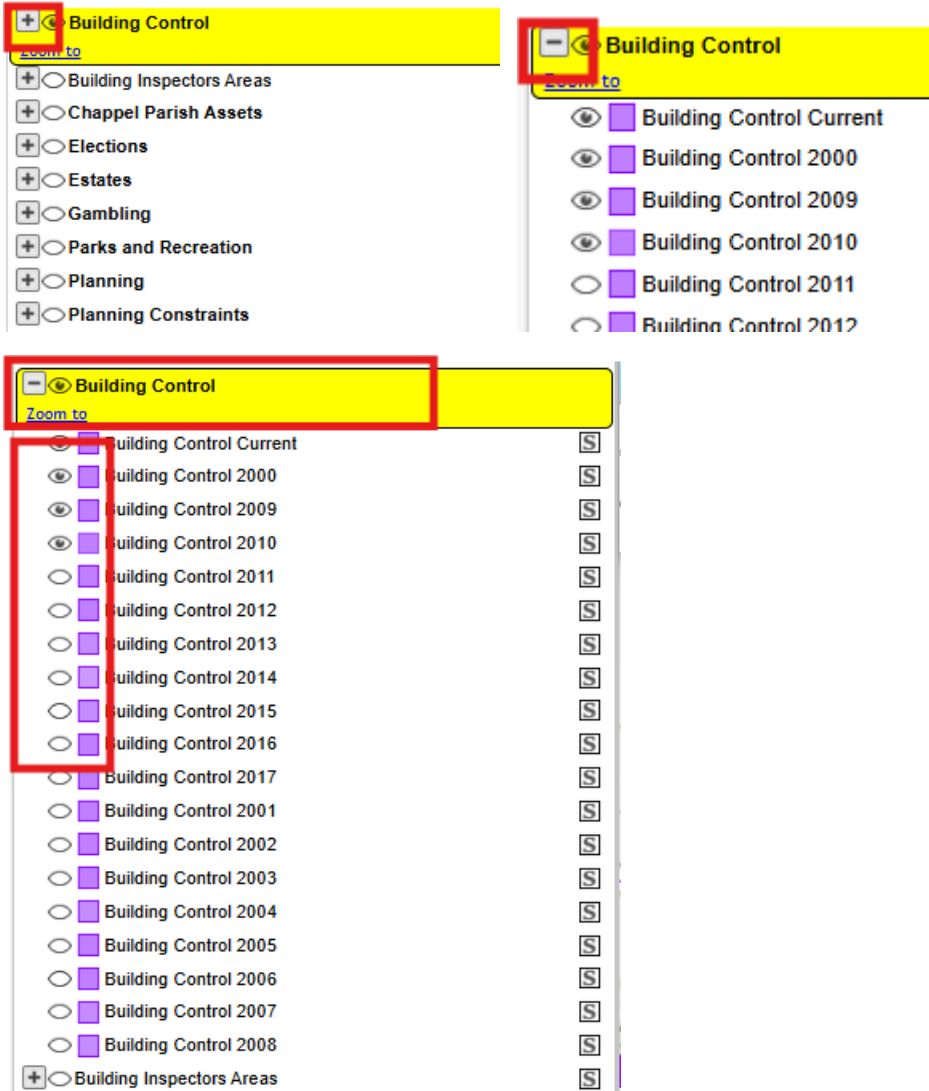
The key tab opens and closes the map layer window where you can toggle on and off the layers you would like to have displayed on the map.

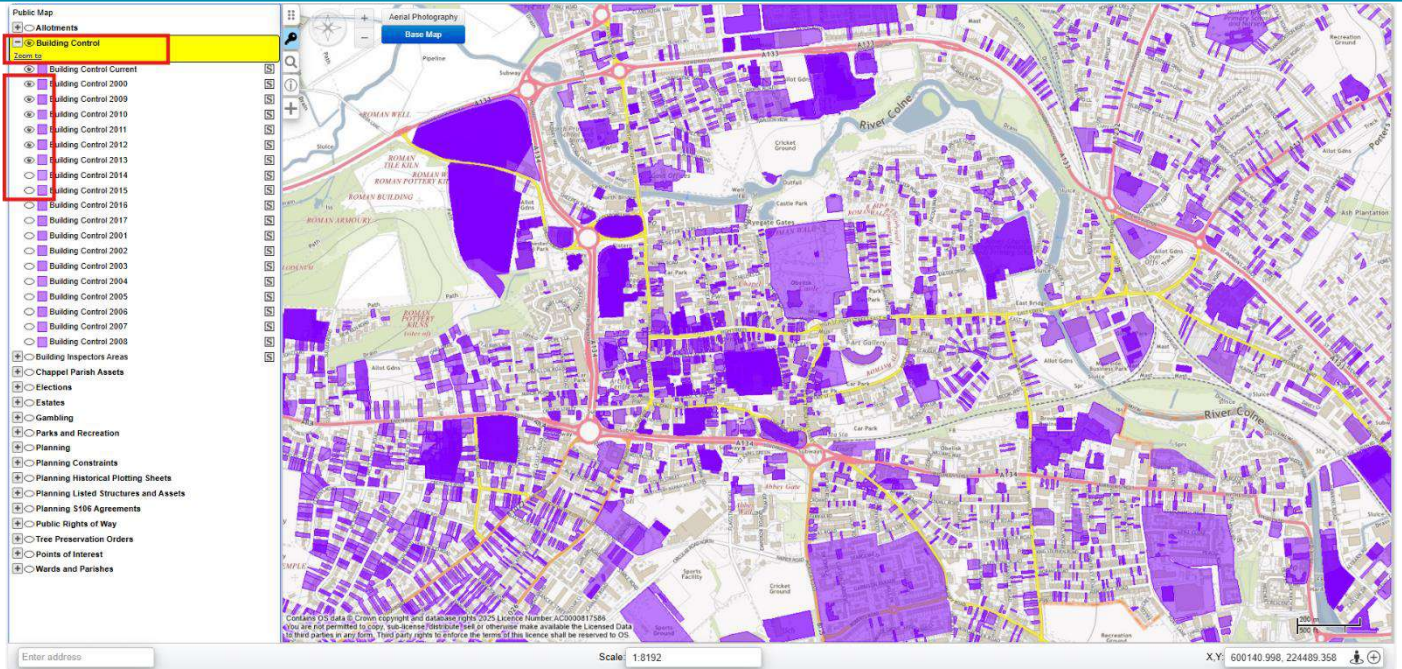
Selecting this icon will display and hide the map layer window.




You can toggle on and off the layers that show on the map by selecting the eye icon  next to the layer in the map layer window.

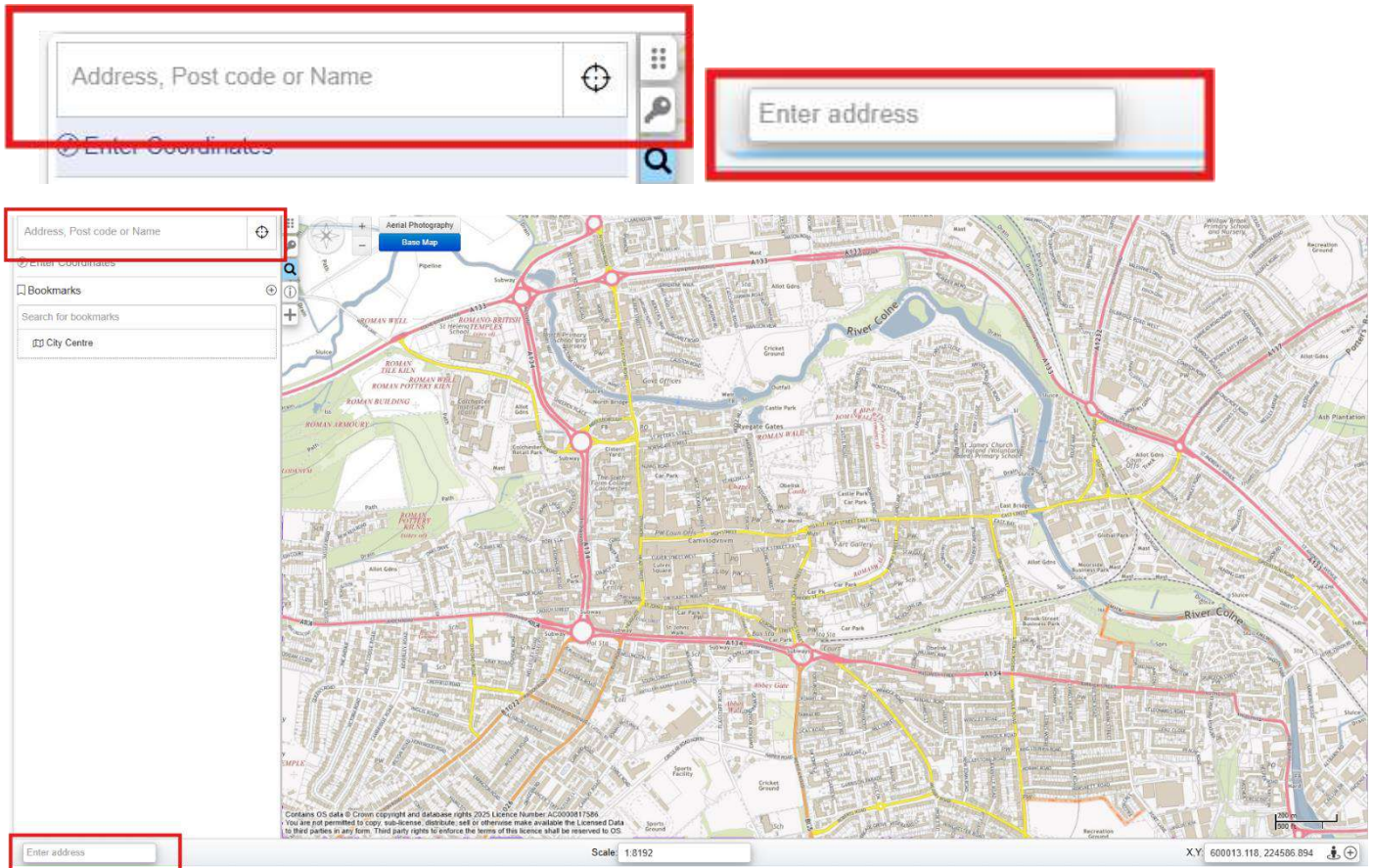
Selecting the  icon next to the eye will display all layers within that category (as per below screenshot for Building Control). Selecting the  icon next to the eye will close the layers.





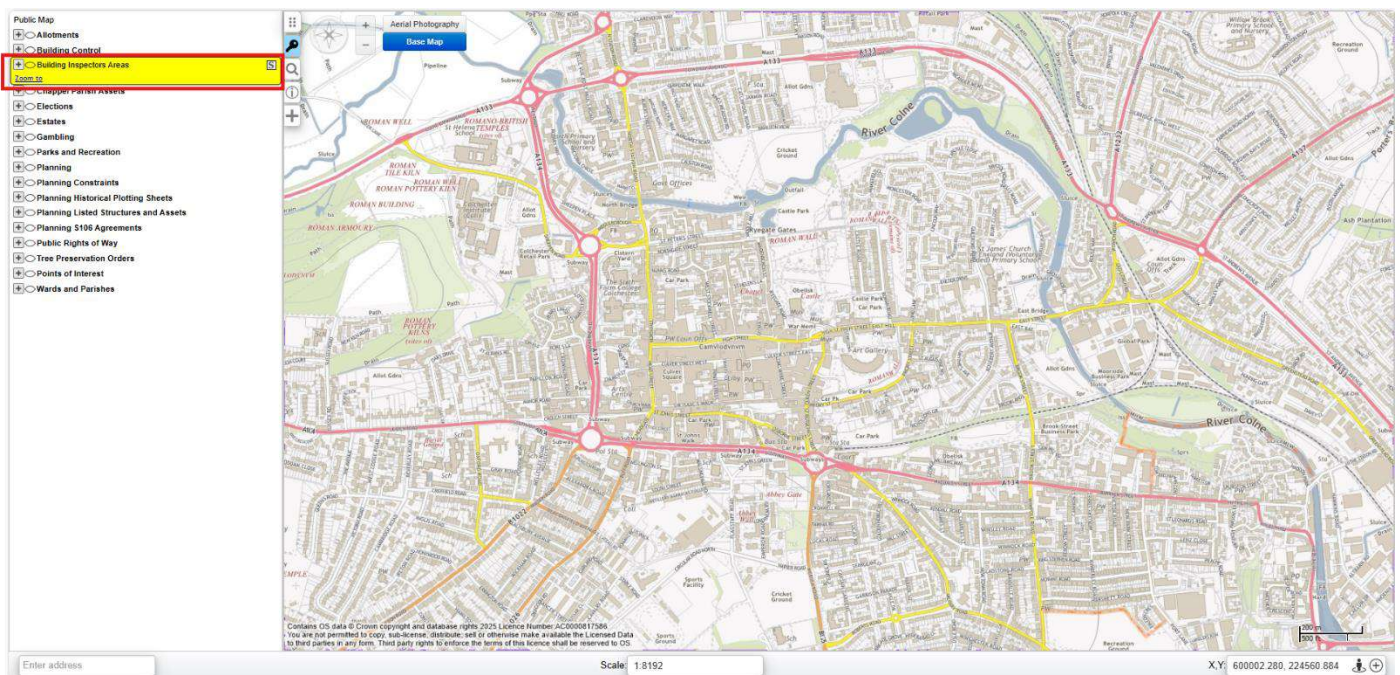
Address Search

You can search for an address in two ways. Via the side tool bar using the  icon or typing the address in the address bar located at the bottom left-hand corner of the map. When you start typing, a list of applicable addresses will appear. Use the mouse to click on the required address and the map will zoom to that location, placing the address in the middle of the map window.

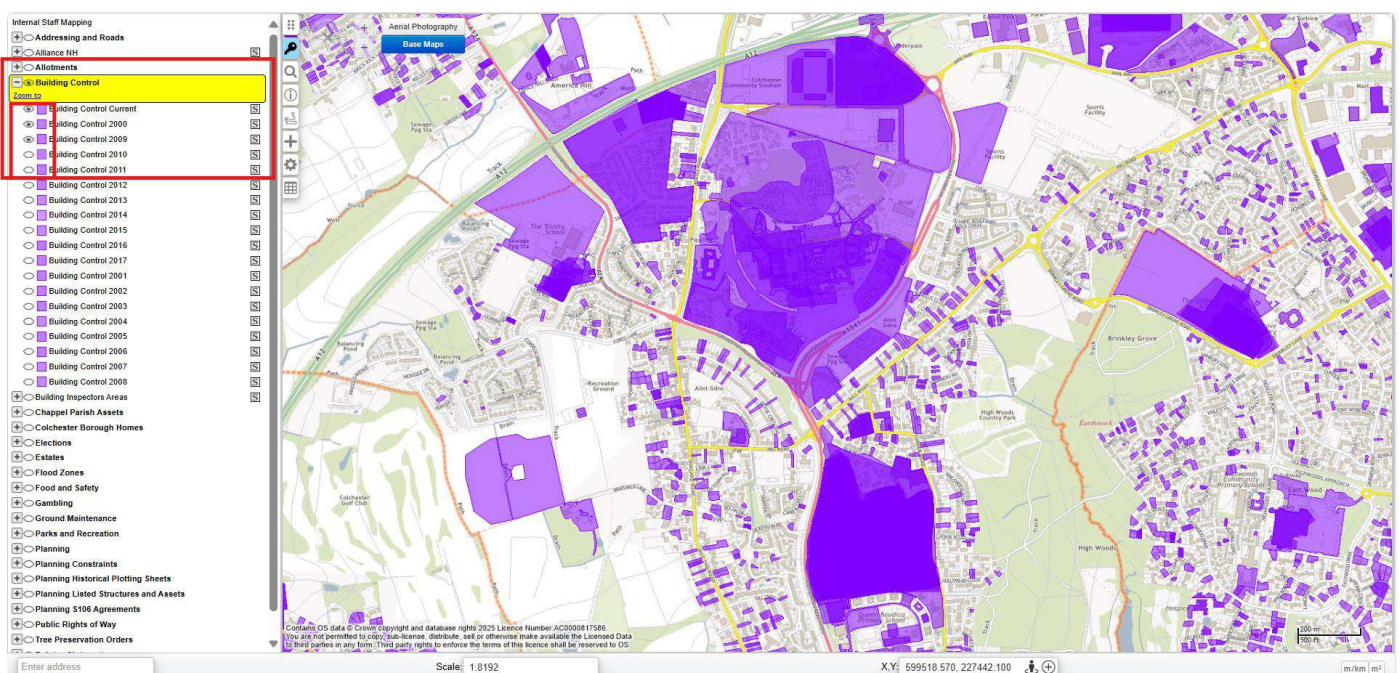


Inspection

The Inspection function displays the textual data associated with the layer for the various points and shapes on the map. To enable this, click on the layer you want to know more about (inspect) in the Key Tab window. This will highlight the layer in the map layer window.



Make sure the eye icon is switched on for each layer, so the layer(s) are displaying.

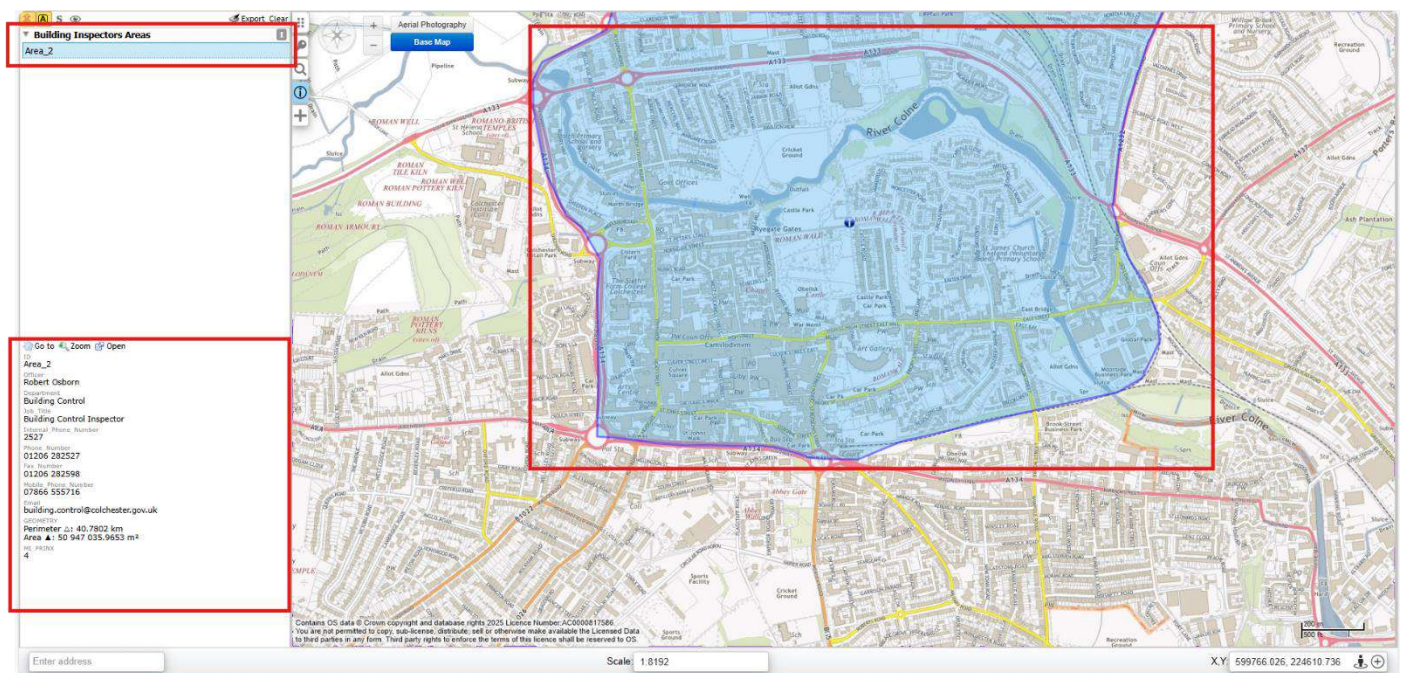


Next click on the point or shape on the map that you would like to know more information about.

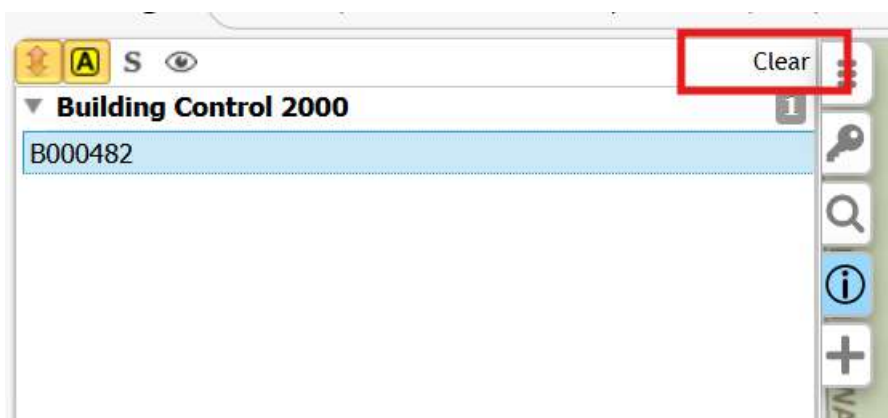
The Side Tool Bar tab will change to the Inspection tab and display the associated data for that point or shape.

You can select more than one layer by holding down the CTRL key and clicking on the layers you require. These will be highlighted.

The example below shows all building control records for that specific location. You can toggle between the records in the top window and the associated data for that record will show in the bottom window. The map window will also display the relevant shape or point.



This information can be cleared using the 'Clear' function at the top of the Side Tool Bar.



To go back to all layers again click on the Key icon tab on the Side Tool Bar.

Annotations and Measurement Tools

There are several tools available to annotate and measure which can be found via the Plus shape icon tab.

Annotation allows you to markup specific locations, highlight areas of interest, illustrate directions on the map, or add descriptive text, etc without compromising the original map itself.

The measurements tool allows you to define distances and areas on the map.

Click on the shape or measurement tool you require and click on the map to create.

Double click the mouse to end the shape or measurement.

To clear the shape, click on the Delete Shapes button.

To clear the measurement, click on the Clear Measurement button.

