

ACTIVITY REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Volume 4, October 2008

The Tasmanian Spatial Information Council (TASSIC) was established earlier this year to provide a key forum to facilitate increased collaboration and cooperation between public, private and community sectors in all aspects of spatial information in Tasmania.

Strategic Direction

One of the first major tasks for the Council is the development of a Strategic Plan for Spatial Information in Tasmania.

A one day strategic planning workshop was held on 7 October 2008, with TASSIC members critically reviewing the work done by other jurisdictions, as well as working on the identification of issues and critical gaps in a Tasmanian context.

An external scan was provided by the facilitating consultant, Paul Kelly, to all members prior to the workshop. It was noted that there is a wide diversity between jurisdictions relating to drivers, strategies and the implementation of Spatial Data Infrastructures, but there are some good lessons to be learned from this diversity.

There is now a more diverse range of users of spatial data in the broader business and general community. It was noted that there is a strong need to engage users through focusing on user-driven activities.

On its own, government cannot unilaterally significantly improve the quality, assembly and use of spatial data. This requires the involvement of all sectors – business, industry, private sector, public sector and academia. Improved data will enable government to make better decisions for the benefit of the entire community. Better decisions will help in the development of a robust spatial industry and a wider range of opportunities in the private sector.

Further action is required to frame the vision and key milestones which will form the framework of the strategic plan. It was recognised that there are a number of interrelated components which need to be reviewed before the next stage of the strategic planning process can commence.

TASSIC Membership

TASSIC has seven permanent members and one interim member, providing a balance of competencies and experiences in different industry sectors. Members and respective nominating organisations are:

- Mr Michael Giudici, Independent Chair;
- Mr Mitchell Knevett, Department of Premier & Cabinet (DPAC);
- Mr Stephen Godfrey, Department of Primary Industries & Water (DPIW);
- Mr Mark Wise, Local Government Association of Tasmania;
- Dr Jon Osborn, University of Tasmania;
- Mr Hugh Clement, Spatial Sciences Institute;
- Mr Malcolm Lester, Australian Spatial Information Business Association;
- Dr Richard Mount (interim member).

Administration

The next Council meeting is scheduled for 25 November 2008.

Further Information

For more information on TASSIC activities, please contact the Executive Officer:

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