

The Tasmanian Spatial Information Council (TASSIC) provides a forum for increased collaboration and cooperation between public, private and community sectors in the collection, maintenance and use of spatial information in Tasmania.

TASSIC has defined its purpose as '*facilitating full access to, and application of, spatial information to underpin Tasmania's economic, environmental and social prosperity*'.

TASSIC's vision for the future of spatial information in Tasmania is for:

Abundant and useful spatial information within reach of all

Invitation to stakeholders and user groups

Do you or your organisation have an issue or a proposal that you would like to discuss with TASSIC?

In 2011, TASSIC will be scheduling meetings with different stakeholder and/or user groups to discuss current and emerging issues or initiatives.

To express your interest in arranging a focus meeting, please email tassic@dpiwwe.tas.gov.au.

Activity since last report

The *spatial@gov* conference was held in Canberra on 6-7 October 2010, attracting over 450 registrations and a broad cross-section of attendees and presentations. The TASSIC Chair, Gary Nairn, chaired two expert panels at the conference, discussing alignment of the three tiers of government and the transformation of the Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) concept into virtual infrastructures.

TASSIC is progressing a number of activities in accordance with the 12-month work plan (June 2010 – June 2011):

- Preliminary work on an independent assessment of the value of spatial information to the Tasmanian economy has been initiated through the Department of Premier and Cabinet.
- Council is reviewing its existing stakeholder distribution list for regular and targeted communication.
- TASSIC members continue to establish and maintain links and knowledge of activities and trends in other jurisdictions.
- Work on defining the components of an ideal SDI for Tasmania is progressing. Rather than adopt a traditional view of an SDI, TASSIC is considering a more contemporary model that reflects a federation of data supply chains. The model would encompass the principles articulated in TASSIC's strategic plan, which would be used to guide the efficient implementation of a more flexible and responsive model for the future.
- Council is currently working in conjunction with the Tasmanian Government Spatial Committee (TGSC) on the development of a business case for further investment by the Tasmanian Government in spatial information. A number of TASSIC members have been involved in recent workshops convened by the Department of Premier and Cabinet, reviewing priorities for spatial services and tools as well as priorities for data acquisition, development or update.
- A working group has been established to investigate best practice in spatial data licensing and draft a model to suit Tasmanian data custodians.
- TASSIC is partnering with secondary and tertiary education providers, government and non-government employers, in the formation of a semi-permanent committee to focus on strengthening the spatial component of education and skills development in Tasmania.

Meeting with the Minister for Primary Industries and Water

At the last TASSIC meeting held on 12 October 2010, the Minister for Primary Industries and Water, Bryan Green, met informally with Council members and discussed the significance of the TASSIC work plan and its relevance for a range of integrated issues that impact on the Tasmanian Government.

The Minister noted that the work initiated by TASSIC has important implications for initiatives in key areas including infrastructure planning and agriculture.

Council agreed to forward more regular reports to the Minister, including synopses of key issues, advice and recommendations on relevant issues and new initiatives.



Minister Bryan Green and TASSIC Chair Gary Nairn

TASSIC Membership

TASSIC has seven permanent members and one interim member, providing a balance of competencies and experiences from private enterprise, academia and government.

Current members and their respective nominating organisations are:

- Hon Gary Nairn, Independent Chair
- Mr Mitchell Knevet, Department of Premier & Cabinet (DPAC)
- Ms Kate Kent, Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water & Environment (DPIPWE)
- Mr Mark Wise, Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT)
- Dr Jon Osborn, University of Tasmania (UTAS)
- Mr Ashley Mahar, Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI)
- Mr Malcolm Lester, Spatial Industries Business Association (SIBA)
- Dr Richard Mount (interim member).

Next meeting

TASSIC currently meets six times each calendar year.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 23 November 2010.

Further information

For more information, please contact the TASSIC Executive Officer, Caroline Palfreyman, on 03 6216 4476 or email tassic@dpipwe.tas.gov.au.