

NSW SPATIAL COUNCIL (NSC) STRUCTURES, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND SUPPORT

INTRODUCTION:

The NSW Spatial Council (NSC) was established in 2009 as the Cabinet endorsed peak body to provide the strategic direction and leadership for a whole-of-government standards-based approach to the sharing and use of spatial information. The current NSW Spatial information strategy is known as the Common Spatial Information Initiative (CS2i) see www.cs2i.nsw.gov.au/resources .

GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGIC PLANNING STRUCTURES:

NSW strategic direction and structure revolve around four components:

1. A Governing Council (NSC)

The NSC is a whole-of-government body including representatives (at senior executive level) from central agencies; GCIO; NSW Chief Scientist and cluster/super agencies including Emergency Management, Transport, Local Government, Natural Resources and Environment, Industry & Investment, Water, Planning and LPMA.

The Council is chaired by the Surveyor General and CE, LPMA.

Approval has been given to include industry representation to expand the scope to whole-of-industry. The Council anticipates an increased future representation from the Human Services and Education clusters.

2. Working Groups

NSC Working Groups have been established to support cluster representatives such as Water, Transport, Local Government, Emergency Management and provide a co-ordinated input on strategic initiatives decision making, case study/prototype demonstrators and policy development.

In addition, Working Groups have also been established to progress specific issues or themes such as Property Addressing, Metadata and Imagery.

The CS2i Program Office provides leadership, coordination and administrative support to the Working Groups.

The formation and operation of Working Groups has enabled the active engagement and participation by more than 200 agencies to date. The NSC Water Group has recently been successful with Commonwealth funding to improve the 'Blue-line' dataset.

3. CS2i Program Office

The CS2i Program Office provides administrative and operational support to the NSW Spatial Council and Working Groups. The Program Office develops policies, guidelines and best management practices based on its research program and consultation with other stakeholders across government, industry and the community for consideration and endorsement by the NSC. The Program Office also manages a range of projects and strategic initiatives as part of its work program.

The Program Office uses consultants and contractors to help deliver the Work Program which consolidates and manages the full extent of Spatial Council/CS2i policies, strategies, projects, demonstrators and initiatives.

4. NSW Spatial Centre of Excellence (CoE)

The NSW Government Chief Information Office in conjunction with CS2i launched in 2009 a Spatial Centre of Excellence as the first of several 'Centres of Excellence'.

This 'virtual' institution provides a focal point for best practice spatial infrastructures, applications and spatial knowledge management.

The launch of the Centre of Excellence took place at the NSW Spatial Summit 2009, providing a platform to showcase and share the latest in (Government) spatial information management, similar to the Commonwealth's 'Spatial@Gov' forum.

The Centre of Excellence provides a useful strategic enabler and mechanism to diffuse knowledge and engage the CIO and geospatial communities.

The next NSW Spatial Summit is planned for 2011 and will take into account the national 'Spatial Conference' agenda.

STRATEGIC PLANNING:

It is intended to revise the current CS2i Action Plan, which is now four years old, during 2010/2011 into a 'NSW Location Intelligence Strategy' that will be linked under the NSW State Plan.

This new strategy whilst having a whole-of-government focus will have industry input and be developed with input from the broadest range of stakeholders to be inclusive to ensure ownership and commitment.