Moving the planning system towards digital mapping and digital plan-making

The Department of Planning and Environment is moving towards digital plan making through the transition from PDF maps to digital mapping as the legal map reference for environmental planning instruments.

As part of the transition to digital environmental planning instruments (EPIs) we are releasing a document titled *Standard Technical Requirements for Spatial Datasets and Digital Mapping*. This document will guide and support councils as they transition to digital plan making.

The document details the standard technical requirements for digital datasets and covers:

- the spatial data lifecycle and associated governance
- responsibilities
- key technology components
- applicable guidelines to ensure data quality and consistency.

The *Standard Technical Requirements for Spatial Datasets and Digital Mapping* does not replace the *Standard Technical Requirements for Spatial Datasets and Maps V2.0*. These 2 documents should be read together to give a complete picture of the requirements when working with spatial datasets, digital and pdf mapping. We will continue to assess the suitability of the standards associated with EPIs.

Benefits of digital EPI

The transition to digital EPI will increase confidence and trust in the plan-making process. In addition to resolving inefficiencies associated with PDF maps, it will:

- provide cost and time savings for all stakeholders
- make spatial data available to support evidence-based decision-making across the entire planning proposal process and multiple jurisdictions
- enable users to conduct more self-service transactions online, which will be cheaper and faster and reduce errors and the need for rework
- provide users with access to better, easier-to-find digital EPI maps
- enable users to get a better understanding of development opportunities and constraints.

More information

For more information on the move to digital EPI or digital mapping, please contact the Director of GIS, Mapping and Design by email at gis@planning.nsw.gov.au