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## PLANNING SYSTEM

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### Local planning

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<b>Related</b>	PS 07-007 issued 17 April 2007

# New GIS data requirements for local environmental plans

This circular is to advise councils of the new standard technical requirements for local environmental plan (LEP) GIS data.

## Introduction

A reliable and up-to-date set of the spatial information contained within local environmental plans (LEPs) has been identified as a resource that is critical to the work of planners generally.

A new document *Standard requirements for LEP GIS data* (Department of Planning 2007) has been prepared, which defines data standards for geographic information system (GIS) datasets generated by councils when making their LEP maps. The objective is to ensure that the LEP data fully and accurately reflects the content of the new standard LEP instrument. Common data standards for State and local government improve efficiencies in the creation and assessment of LEPs.

LEP data will be requested for all draft and final LEPs, in accordance with section 33C of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). The Department advises, pursuant to the EP&A Act, that the Crown in right of New South Wales holds copyright over all LEPs and this right extends to the associated maps and GIS datasets. As such the Department does not require a licence to use the LEP GIS data.

The GIS LEP datasets will initially be used for improved assessment of the strategic implications of draft LEPs. The Department will also continue to consider opportunities for further improving access to spatial planning information as part of a future electronic planning (e-planning) framework.

## Key features

The LEP data requirements apply to the preparation of new plans in accordance with the standard instrument for principal LEPs.

These data requirements are intended to apply to a variety of GIS systems used by councils across

NSW. Some key features of the new data standards include:

- procedures for GIS data supply that are integrated with normal LEP submission processes
- a standard data structure to create efficiencies across the State by removing duplication in the preparation of LEP data
- ensuring that the GIS data is a more complete and accurate reflection of the content of the LEP instrument than ever before.

## Further information

Further information, including technical specifications for LEP maps, LEP practice notes, and map templates for some common GIS applications, can be found on the Department of Planning's website at [www.planning.nsw.gov.au](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au) (under The planning system/Local plan making).

If you have further enquiries, please phone the Planning Information Centre 02 9228 6333 or email [information@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:information@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Note: This and other Department of Planning circulars are published on the web at [www.planning.nsw.gov.au/planningsystem/practicenotes.asp](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/planningsystem/practicenotes.asp).

### Authorised by:

Sam Haddad, Director-General

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**Important note:** This circular does not constitute legal advice. Users are advised to seek professional advice and refer to the relevant legislation, as necessary, before taking action in relation to any matters covered by this circular.