

## GI Customer Group Principles

The GI Customer Group will represent the interests of the public sector, advising BIS on strategic management of the Agreement. It will act as an intelligent and forward-thinking public sector customer for geographic data.

The GI Customer Group has three key objectives:

- (a) to secure access to the geographic information the public sector requires from a dynamic, innovative and sustainable geographic information supply base (the **GI supply base** being the national mapping agency, Ordnance Survey, for this Agreement and the national mapping agency and other private sector geographic information providers for products and services outside this Agreement); and
- (b) to ensure that the GI supply base has incentives to continuously and sustainably improve the value for money of the geographic information data and services it provides to the public sector; and
- (c) to work collaboratively with Ordnance Survey with a view to maximising the utility of the data provided under this Agreement, whilst recognising the data supply and specification needs of the private sector, so that the data meets the public sector's needs in terms of relevance and quality, enabling the public sector to achieve its strategic objectives and deliver value for money over the longer term.

The GICG's specific responsibilities include:

- advising Ministers;
- provision of oversight of this Agreement including reviewing and monitoring performance against and proposing changes to this Agreement, with a view to ensuring that the Agreement:
  - is aligned to public sector strategic objectives;
  - meets user needs;
  - drives efficiencies and increased productivity in the agreement;
  - provides a cost efficient and effective value for money service for the sector;
  - is affordable;
- conducting or commissioning consultation and/or research as required to analyse:
  - the needs and use of geographic information across the public sector;
  - how the public sector could use geographic information in different ways and/or more extensively to deliver more efficient and effective public services;
  - the future requirements of the public sector for core geographic data;
- proposing changes to the Agreement and where necessary supporting and contributing to the development of an appropriate business case, in response to the Group's analysis of future public sector needs;
  - conducting or commissioning appropriate financial or technical scrutiny to ensure:
  - delivery of value for money in relation to the quality of services required;
  - efficiency;
  - considering and endorsing proposals for changes within the Agreement as required;

- working with Ordnance Survey to ensure that the Agreement delivers geographic data of appropriate quality and in the required form to enable the public sector to realise its strategic objectives;
  - promoting best practice use of geographic data across the public sector;
  - ensuring adequate representation of the Agreement and contact with other related initiatives.

The GICG will be led by an independent chair, and other members (**Group Members**) will be employed in senior positions in the public sector. Group Members will be appointed by the Chair and a senior BIS official and are appointed in personal capacities for a fixed term of 3 years, which may be extended for a further 3 years.

Group Members will represent the interests of the public sector as a whole, as opposed to individual constituencies. Ordnance Survey will be invited to attend GI Customer Group meetings, but will not be formal Group Members. The GI Customer Group will be supported by a small Secretariat.

The Secretariat will be separate from BIS's ownership function, with resources likely to be drawn from existing structures in the public sector. It will report to the Chair of the GI Customer Group.

The GI Customer Group, through its Group Members and the Secretariat, will engage with public sector stakeholders to provide feedback on the performance of the Agreement and proposals for changes to the Agreement.