

Surveying Alert



Changes to survey plans, accreditation and pre-lodgement advice

28 April 2020
Issue 40

In this issue:

- Changes to owner and planning body consents of survey plans
- Withdrawal of pre-lodgement advice service
- Changes to Accreditation
- GDA94 remains until 30 June 2020
- Positioning Australia webinars

Changes to owner and planning body consents of survey plans

The Titles Registry advised in Titles Alert issue 168 ([available here](#)), that from 27th April 2020, new ways in which to deal with the approvals/consents of survey plans was introduced. The approval (signing) of the survey plan by both registered owners and the planning body will be removed from the Form 21B plan administration sheet and will be replaced by lodgement of modified consent forms.

Under the new process, instead of the registered owners and the planning body signing the Form 21B, their consent to the survey plan may be provided on a new Form 18A and Form 18B consent form, both of which can be signed and transmitted either electronically or in paper if preferred.

To do this will require the Planning Body, the consulting surveyor and the developer to work co-operatively to ensure that there are no issues in recognising an image of the survey plan as being authoritative for the purpose of gaining Planning Body approval.

There will be a transition period for at least the next 6-12 months for the introduction of these new processes. During this time, it is acceptable to use either the current Form 21B version 1 or the new version 2. The new Form 18A and Form 18B consent forms can also be utilised with a survey plan prepared using either version of the Form 21B.

The original survey plan, and the forms 18A and 18B, will need to be lodged in paper with the Titles Registry until these documents are part of the eLodgement protocols.

The Land Title Practice Manual and the Registrar of Titles Directions for the Preparation of Plans have been changed to reflect the new requirements and forms. The Form 10 Plan registration compliance checklist will also be re-versioned to remove reference to the community management scheme name and number, which has also been removed from the new version of the Form 21B.

Withdrawal of pre-lodgement advice service

Following an internal review of the department's fees, charges and related services, it has been decided to discontinue the pre-lodgement advice service from 1 July 2020.

There is confidence that the surveying industry will handle the discontinuation of this service as third party accreditation service providers exist in the private sector. Any surveyor who wishes to have a survey plan endorsed by a third party accredited surveyor should contact the Spatial Industries Business Association

(SIBA) for referral to such providers.

Changes to Accreditation

The department has undertaken an efficiency review into the operation of the accreditation of surveyors. Whilst the overall accreditation scheme is generally achieving the stated purpose, issues surrounding the administration processes have been identified.

A new version of the Accreditation procedures was developed to address these issues. The revised procedures are set out in [SIG/2013/504 Accreditation of Surveyors](#).

Most changes relate to the internal procedures in assessing applications and the reviewing of a surveyor's accreditation, which will now be conducted twice a year in February and August. For surveyors, the most significant changes are the revision of the performance review triggers and the discontinuance of the provisional status category.

Any surveyor who currently holds provisional accreditation will be assessed to be either confirmed as being accredited or not. All such surveyors will be contacted individually in the coming weeks.

GDA94 Remains Queensland's Official Datum until 30 June 2020

The Department has had a number of situations where surveyors have lodged GDA2020 coordinates for inclusion in the Survey Control Data Base (SCDB). Surveyors should note that GDA94 remains the official datum in Queensland until the GDA2020 adoption date of 30 June 2020.

In January 2020, the Department made some changes to its spatial environment to enable users to access and understand spatial data in GDA2020. Changes were also implemented to Survey Control data to enable the display of both GDA94 and GDA2020 information.

However, as stated at the time in [Surveying Alert 38](#), while users are now able to test the use of GDA2020 datasets, GDA94 remains the official datum in Queensland and data lodged for official registers, including survey control information, should continue to be submitted in GDA94. New official spatial datasets should continue to use GDA94 until the adoption date. Any changes to data submission or creation processes will be the subject of a future notification to users closer to the full adoption date of 30 June 2020.

Positioning Australia webinars

Geoscience Australia are running a series of Webinars that may be of interest to some of you. Some are quite specialised while others are of more general interest, e.g. the webinar on the new version of AUSPOS.

These webinars are for anyone with an interest in learning more about Geoscience Australia's programs and projects that are delivering a national capability of accurate and reliable positioning anywhere, anytime.

Every Tuesday in May, the Positioning Australia program will be showcasing a new capability or guiding users through one of our new geodetic products. The Positioning Australia webinars will give you a first-hand look at some exciting new products and services, guided by our experts.

To register or find out more information, please go to the Geoscience Australia website [here](#).