2018 Local Government Spatial Capabilities Workshops series - Ararat

Attendees:

- David
- Mohan
- Mike
- Lettie
- Michael
- Diane
- Kelly
- Stretch
- Libby
- Bruce
- Nick

Comments from Survey Results:

- Different people from each council filling out the survey differently to last year may impact results
- Bruce commenting on the fact that all areas of council can have some responsibility in conducting community engagement so it's tough to enforce this across all areas
- Lettie saying that community engagement will most likely to improve with data becoming more open data

Comments from Survey Questions:

- Diane commenting on the fact that implementing policy and procedure is quite tough
- Policy is hard to implement when people wear multiple hats at council
- Metadata is only completed when officers have nothing else to do and is generally forgotten

Results from Survey Question Discussions:

- **Maintenance of Council road assets against VM Transport (**Bruce, Mohan, Kelly, Mike)
    - Alignment changes need to be notified to DELWP
    - Need improved notification method through NES/ VES
    - Difficult to determine responsibilities
    - VM Transport not reflective of council roads
    - Existing segmentation would need to be reviewed
    - Need for a hierarchy and ownership
    - Detailed intersection/roundabouts is not appropriate
    - VM Transport not very accurate
    - Council needs to apply other classifications/groupings to existing Vicmap roads in order to use them
    - No council has a link between their roads and Vicmap roads
    - Suggestion (Libby) of an additional field in Vicmap to capture a council asset ID
    - Diane – council relies on their own centreline data. Road assets are linked to Vicmap roads. Vicmap roads data is not segmented in the best way for council needs
    - Bruce – council's street signs, roundabouts and traffic lights to Vicmap

- **Publishing (Vicmap) metadata internally** (Diane, David, Lettie)
  o Councils need to understand what metadata is available to them
  o Audit may need to be done to see if any metadata is being captured
  o Posi system has metadata inbuilt
  o Councils may need to be trained in what metadata is and how it should be captured
  o Open data should lead to metadata considerations
  o Look at utilising inbuilt desktop metadata
  o Populate a metadata table
  o Metadata needs to be maintained
  o Could build it in to FME scripts

- **Policy (and procedure) for maintaining GIS – AMS** (Nick, Stretch, Libby, Michael)
  o Need for an information governance framework
    ▪ To hold all council policies, not just relating to GIS
  o Organisation needs to understand that data is an asset
  o Need top-down support
  o Penalties for not adhering to the framework?
  o Is the central point of truth
    ▪ Custodian
    ▪ Responsibility matrix
    ▪ Standards
    ▪ Audit outcomes
  o Council strategy for implementation
  o Set up integrated team for segmented management of system
  o Procedure and flow chart then steps for implementing
  o Absolute key is to enable as much information to be spatial as possible
  o Policy needs to be sustainable
  o Limited to resources

Feedback on Data Analytics

- Can "stuff" the intention of the data
- May not give you the information you're intending
- Some people don't see the value/use in it and aren't very proactive in using new technologies purely to expand their knowledge as they know they can do it better in another software package

Feedback on the workshop

- Push for more meet ups in "the west"

2018 Local Government Spatial Capabilities Workshops series - Benalla

Attendees:

- Emma
- Jenny
- Simone
- Rana
- Fiona
- Di
- Stephen
- Barrett
- Jane

Comments from Survey Results:

- Difference between GIS sole team vs GIS/Asset integrated team (Stephen) may influence results
- How long have the respondents been at the organisation?
    o Can we put these into the survey? (Barrett)
- How critical are the respondents? Are respondents under job/remuneration pressures and does this influence their responded? (Di & Jane)
- Council is more than just GIS and people are doing not only GIS jobs but also other jobs with lengthy processing (Jenny)
- Should there be a component to the survey relating to what GIS system(s) are in place throughout council?
    o Is there a right or wrong software package/set of packages to be using?

Comments from Survey Questions:

- Is there a stronger presence of GIS – ASM integration where the GIS officer/team works across both roles?

Results from Survey Question Discussions:

- **Publishing (Vicmap) metadata internally** (Stephen, Barrett, Fiona)
    o Suggestion for Vicmap download to have a link/look up table (LUT) relating metadata to Vicmap dataset (as there is no consistent file naming)
    o Challenge is then to get GIS to read this link and then get internal system to give a clickable link to metadata
    o With look up table, internal Vicmap metadata would be 'easily' published
    o Additional internal LUT to determine date downloaded, date updated, etc.

- **Policy for Maintaining GIS data – assets** (Di and Jane)
    o Broad/open statements
    o Consistency with other policies within council
    o Need for executive buy in in-order to get it off the ground

- o Check if existing policies already exist – is it relevant for GIS data
- o Big push for responsibility in enacting the policy (considering people's job descriptions and how it ties in)
- o Making the policy well known to new starters

- **Procedure for maintaining GIS – AMS** (Emma, Rana, Simone, Jenny)
  - o Clear documented purpose
  - o End to end transparency b/w assets and GIS
  - o Need for internal survey and policy working group
  - o Define clear roles and responsibilities (included in Position Description)
  - o Workflow for maintaining future updates/implementation

- **Maintenance of Council road assets against VM Transport**
  - Tim and Rana using Maloney
  - Di using spreadsheet
  - Barrett feels Vicmap Transport isn't a good basis for reporting on
  - Other roads like fire trails and dry weather roads aren't properly represented
  - Council doesn't necessarily use the same intersection breaks to represents roads like what Vicmap roads have
  - DELWP has its own Traralgon roads database for specific road segments – based on Vicmap roads
  - Emergency services needs better road base
  - Need for better class codes to represent other road class types
    - o Push by councils for other councils doing these workshops to be encouraged to get behind a review of the road classifications

2018 Local Government Spatial Capabilities Workshops series - Melbourne

Attendees:

- Tim
- Tim
- Neil
- Matthew
- Kim
- Nikki
- Chrissie
- Will
- John
- Shaun
- Jamie
- Paul
- Mike
- Rizwan
- Jane
- Himalaya

Comments from Survey Results:

- Kim – report helps in their service review. Push for efficiencies in growth council
- Jamie – useful for new GIS manager who started so they can report to their manager
- Will – useful to see how the high achieving councils are achieving their results
- Definitely a trend in how willing executives are to come on board with these practices and how the council performs
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Comments from Survey Questions:

- Very hard for some councils who are only just starting to set up their AMS, let alone get it to link to their GIS data
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Results from Survey Question Discussions:

- **Publishing (Vicmap) metadata internally**
  - Melbourne – no policy for metadata
  - trialling Share Point
  - Need to define what information to capture
  - "Exploration Data"
  - Known data limitations
  - Statement around how fit for purpose it is
  - Should ANZLIC standards be enforced

- o Users discouraged when metadata link from GIS is broken
- o Is there a council data standard?
- o Need for internal system who lists responsible people
- o Can lead to efficiencies and less double-handling
- o Policy to update and maintain
- o Many other councils not implementing metadata
- o Other councils using Share Point
- o Tends to be no accountability for data
- o Fundamentals being missed

- **3D visualisation**
  - o Can be used for showing changes in physical environment – changes over time
  - o Comments can be left in a 3D web scene – ties in well with community engagement
  - o Used as QA and analysis for example shadowing and height limits to see how this would impact
  - o Solar and view-shed analysis could be visualised
  - o Flood mapping and bushfire planning
  - o 3D printed models very effective
  - o Has to be accessible to public and easy to view

- **Maintenance of Council road assets against VM Transport**
  - o Segments differing between councils and Vicmap
  - o No link between roads and property casement data
  - o Council maintained segments is more accurate – digitised from aerial photos
  - o Suggestion for these roads to be fed into Vicmap roads
  - o Review of addresses matching roads
  - o Only reliance on VM Transport is on road names being correct (road reserves/centrelines)
  - o Most Council roads didn't originate from Vicmap Transport

- **Policy for Maintaining GIS data – assets**
  - o Need for 'knowns' and who are the stakeholders
  - o Who is responsible for the data - accountability
  - o Care factor needed for the link between GIS and AMS
  - o Loosely defined contracts (old)
  - o Need for SWOT analysis
  - o New IP being generated and need for policy of maintenance
  - o It's a big task to develop and implement
  - o Need to sell the need for policy

- **Targets to maintain assets and GIS**
  - o Need to have a benchmark/starting point
  - o Need for alignment to reduce duplication between teams

- o Ideal target – 100% matches
- o Automated assignment of asset IDs – trigger from new data where system assigns link ID
- o Need for retiring assets
- o Need to report on changes between the two systems
- o Dashboard for changes/audits

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Feedback on the Data Analytics

- Really good and powerful for sending a simple message
- Tim has basic desktop version of power BI which comes along with Office 365
- Himalaya (Wyndham) using Carto to visualise mowing data (from GPS on mower)
- Kim - used ABS to see how their residents travelled to work and how many people were travelling into their council
- Wanting to map hot spots of historic parking spots (Shaun – Yarra) to dedicate more parking inspectors in certain times of day and day of week
- Wyndham trying to inform residents of vacant car parks to encourage dispersed parking (ParkCam)
- Need to put sensors into dial before you dig

Open Data discussion

- Suggestion for Wangaratta to shorten field names into meaningful names
  - o Make date fields – now text fields
  - o Standardise field values
  - o Provide metadata for fields
- Councils are afraid to publish customer service data – harsh realities
- "What benefit is it to councils to publish open data?"
- Not much awareness of open data at council
- Taking the initial plunge of publishing open data is the hardest
- Not much confidence in accuracy of data in order to publish because of lack of QA
- A few councils direct contractors to open data platform to consume data rather than supply iteratively
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2018 Local Government Spatial Capabilities Workshops series - Nunawading

Attendees:

- Stuart
- Aloysius
- Marina
- Andrew
- Anne
- Jonathan
- Joshua
- Mike
- Juan
- Nigel
- Claudia
- Surag
- Greg

Comments from Survey Questions:

- Many councils looking into implementing more metadata capabilities
- Asset Management System at Monash (Confirm) from Pitney Bowes
- Not many councils used Vicmap Transport
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Results from Survey Question Discussions:

- **Maintenance of Council road assets against VM Transport**
  - Linearity of VM Transport doesn't line up to assets in streets
  - Issues around attribution
  - No LGA attribution
  - Extents of road casements doesn't match VM Transport in some cases
    - These often cross wards/suburbs so hard to report
  - VM Transport used for things like network analysis
  - Unsure of the maintenance of VM Transport
    - Update of extents and road names – is it being maintained?
  - Accuracy of VM data an issue
  - Local council data far superior to VM trans
  - Suggested fixes
    - Use road casement
    - Road management act disjointed to property management system
  - Roads seem less of a priority and value because no revenue generated from this, say compared to property
  - Road classifications differ – there should be a standard around this
  - Vicmap Transport needs to be divided up into better segments
  - Vicmap Transport not built around how assets tie in
  - Should be mandatory for council to provide their road data back into the Vicmap data to ensure it is more accurate and more aligned

- **Policy for Maintaining GIS data – assets**
  o Asset inspection using mobile and other councils needing to find a solution for asset inspection and maintenance
  o Challenges around data integrity issues
  o No set policies or procedures to ensure links are maintained between GIS and AMS
  o Mobile asset collection is the way of the future
  o When should the AMS be brought in?
  o Perhaps using machine learning based on previous years data and base inspections based on these predictions
  o Key to have the correct work orders listed against respective asset

- **3D Visualisation**
  o Many councils 'early on' in this space
  o Need to establish users and use cases
  o Community engagement – photo realism and 3D
  o Strategic Planning is a perfect example
  o Overshadowing/viewshed analysis
  o Asset modelling particularly for drainage network/assets
  o Inputs – terrain surface, building footprints, polygon extrusion, building models and draping – question around trees and how they should be represented, should it include cars and street furniture
  o LiDAR usage
  o Data inputs and how to maintain update frequency – metadata?
  o Links to other GIS systems and layers (Terra Explorer does it well)
  o Extent depends on the use case
  o How do councils resource and fund this? Councils very interested but limited resources, who will be responsible in maintaining
  o Should pilot projects be established?
  o How do councils seek other areas of the council who have a need for it and would use it so it can be seamlessly maintained and establish ownership over the model
  o Recognise who needs to use the model and have them contribute and own and contribute to the model
  o Is there a practicality to the 3D models and augmented reality?
  o Need for standardisation on data coming in and going out

- **Publishing (Vicmap) metadata internally**

  o Currently metadata isn't maintained
  o Stored in excel, geonetwork, people who are 'the metadata'
  o In future – open data standard creates metadata standard
  o Simplify things by using/developing a standard
  o Way of the future – WMS/WFS may simplify things and eliminate the need for council to maintain metadata on a dataset by dataset basis
  o Is data fit enough for purpose in terms of attributes so that there isn't as much a need for metadata
  o Offset from a specialist in the council to pointing people to metadata

- o Until metadata becomes part of a policy or data plan, it will never take priority
- o Need to consider the audience who will be consuming the metadata and what information do they need to know

Feedback on the Data Analytics

- Hard to convince senior managers that this would be valuable to publish
- More councils have to set the precedent in doing/publishing this data and more people will follow
- If internal customers are happy, external and comms team would be happy as well
- Issues are accessibility and bigger issues created when trying to be innovative
- Considerations around where data lives and who owns the data
- Where it's hosted too

Open Data discussion

- Suggestions for Wangaratta/Open Data considerations:
  - o Refine the fields – field names too technical
  - o Measure of KPI to analyse against within the data – ie. How many working days to close a request against how many days should it be responded to by council in
  - o Consider how frequently the data should be published as open
  - o City of Port Phillip wanting to be a more transparent council (business plan)
  - o Roughly 3 councils have published open data in the last year
  - o Couple more considering it

Feedback on the workshop

- Can SV organise some councils to present on topical products/solutions they have developed and can share to inspire other councils