



# ACT Office of the Surveyor-General Update

19 June 2026



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Government

Office of the Surveyor-General

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# Registration renewals 2026-27

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## ACT Surveyor Registration Renewals are due by 30 June 2026

- **Fees:** \$618.59 (before 30 June) | \$638.69 (after 30 June)
- **How to renew:** Complete Registration Renewal Smart Form + pay fee
- CPD Compliance Certificate/CPD Summary report is required. It is issued by a ratified organisation.
- **Email** the certificate to [Surveyors.Registrar@act.gov.au](mailto:Surveyors.Registrar@act.gov.au) before 30 June.
- **New applicants:** Contact Surveyors Registrar for ACT Registration

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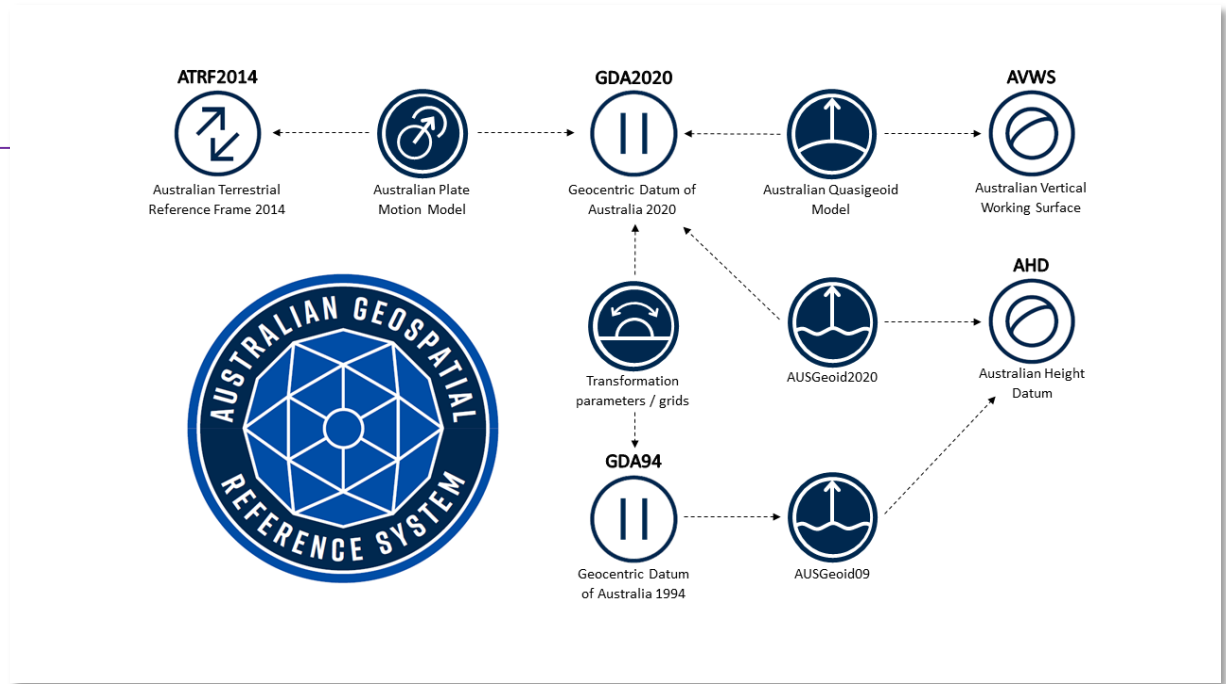
Office of the Surveyor-General

# OSGLI Survey Team Update

## Control

Australian Geospatial Reference System (AGRS) Vertical Datum Project is progressing

- Australian Gravimetric Quasi-Geoid (AGQG) model is being updated with the inclusion of new gravity data captured over regions of Australia
- Work underway to update the AUSGeoid2020 model



## Data

- Reminder to send in easement polygons for all 'Transfer and Grant of Easements'

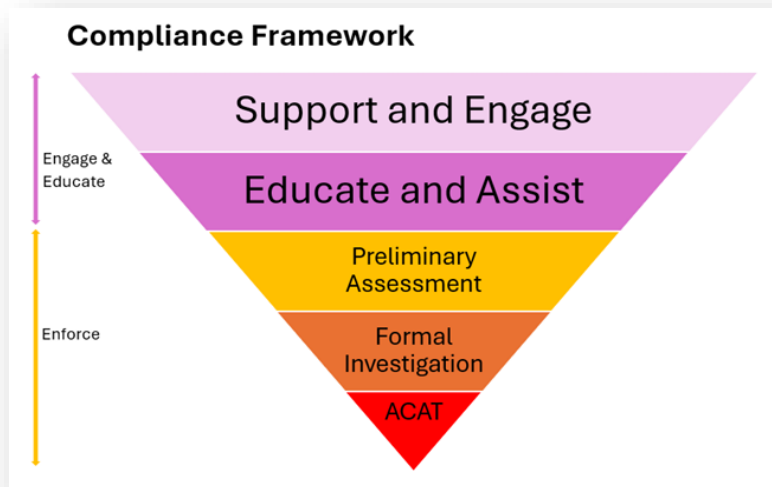
Please provide suggested changes to [Guidelines](#) or the [SPDs](#) to: [actplasurvey@act.gov.au](mailto:actplasurvey@act.gov.au)

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# OSGLI Survey Team Update

## Cadastral

- Calling ACT Candidates going through registration – OSGLI are happy to help with any questions
- Fence dispute? information on CED website [Fences - City and Environment Directorate - Planning](#) can help
- Did you know there will be more work coming your way due to the [Missing Middle Housing Reforms - City and Environment Directorate - Planning](#)



## Complaints

- 2 complaints progressed to Preliminary Assessment
  - One conciliated by a Mutual Undertaking
  - One instance of an unregistered surveyor doing a detail survey and showing a disclaimer 'no boundary survey has been done'
- 1 complaint progressed to Formal Investigation

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## OSGLI Land Information Team - Update

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- One Stop Shop is here to stay:
  - New Plans will continue to be added over time.
  - Please provide feedback as this helps to prioritise where we focus.
- Discovery work for 3D Datum ground level to begin next FY.
- Imagery contract ends 30/06/2026. Targeting new contract.
- Please read ACTmapi popups. They are there to tell you about new features or retirements or issues.

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# Legislation – Units Plans

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## G17 amendment Process:

- Government internal review of draft G17 by OSGLI, LTO & UT now complete
- Later this year a draft will be sent to industry for further comments

## Some of the proposed changes:

- General clarification of UP requirements
- Clarify when & where to show offsets
- Unit and Subsidiary Index renamed to Subsidiary and Address Index
- Requirements of Site Plans for stratum parcels
- Must show purpose of each subsidiary
- Add a section on mezzanines
- Add a section on Boundary Authorities and amendments



**Surveyor-General**  
of the Australian Capital Territory

## Guideline No. 17

### Standards and Specifications for Units Plans

Office of the Surveyor-General and Land Information  
ACT Government

September 2023

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# Legislation – Survey Records – NSW and ACT

BOSSI is developing a new Fieldnotes Guideline

OSGLI will develop a new provisions to address Survey Records issues such as:

- Providing clear definitions, recognising
  - Fieldnotes are field documents
  - Calculation sheets are derived from fieldnotes
  - Survey Reports and Plans are derived from both
- Field notes are often not ‘readily intelligible’
  - Electronic fieldnotes often in proprietary formats
  - Raw data and observations need to be reduced to an intelligible form
- Retention of records
  - Registered Surveyors must keep a copy of the records
  - Issues arise if they leave a firm but does not take copies of the records
  - OSGLI can’t enforce a requirement for a firm to provide them

Board of Surveying  
& Spatial Information



## Guidelines for Field Notes

February 2026  
Edition 3



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# Survey Practice Advisory Committee – Recruitment

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Thanks to the previous members of SPAC for their contributions.

The Minister recently approved the new committee arrangements:

- The Institution of Surveyors NSW has been nominated as the Professional Entity to replace GCA.
- There will be a maximum of 7 SPAC members with up to 3 people who are not Registered Surveyors.
- For the new committee we will be looking to align with ACT Government requirements for boards and committees, by increasing the diversity in membership.

OSGLI will, in the coming weeks, start the recruitment process by distributing:

- the committee terms of reference,
- membership position descriptions and selection criteria, and a
- a call for Expressions of Interest from the professional entity and other interested people.

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# Datum Ground Level (DGL) - Update

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A working group of local surveyors was established to look at the DGL issues resulting from the ACT Supreme Court Decision in December 2025.

The group comprises the Greg Ledwidge, Matt Stevenson, Mike Stapleton and Jeff James. In relation to the DGL definition, the main issues are:

- Operational Acceptance not applying pre-2010,
- Timing of an old survey in relation to the date of the grant of the first lease providing no new earthworks have occurred, and
- 'Best Estimate' approach for infill areas including reliable and relevant old surveys & using Detail Surveys

Possible solutions may include:

- Maintaining current methods and improving the DGL definition, clearer terminologies and improved guidance.
- Moving over time to one authoritative DGL dataset which may include:
  - New Greenfield site DGL surveys - From Jan 2025
  - 2025 LiDAR for all Territory Land and road verges
  - Old feature and detail series plans with vertical contour intervals equivalent of modern standards ( $\leq 0.5$  m),
  - Detail surveys pursuant to Guidelines 3 & 15 – From Jan 2025

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# Let's Locate Canberra

## Planning and Geospatial 4-day event

- Dates – Mon, 6 July to Thu, 9 July 2026
- Location - Evelyn Scott School in Denman Prospect, Molonglo Valley, ACT
- Please share the slide & event flyer to people who may be interested

## Surveying and Mapping 4-day event

- Dates – Mon, 28 September to Thu, 1 October 2026

We are still looking for sponsors – this year we have 2 sponsorship levels to help grow the program.

- Sustaining Partner, or
- Event Sponsor

See the flyers to the right for more details. Use the QR codes to access the online registration sponsorship form.



**LET'S LOCATE**  
*Canberra*

LET'S LOCATE IS A GEOSPATIAL STEM SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM FOR YEARS 10 TO 12.

Let's Locate is a 4-day school holiday program where you'll get hands on with high tech equipment and explore how urban planning affects where you live. You will work with industry experts to solve a real world planning issue while using the latest geospatial capabilities in ACTmapi and the Digital Atlas of Australia.

Get hands-on with high-tech equipment, learn from industry experts, and discover how we map, survey and shape local communities.

If you're into tech, design or just want to see your world differently – this is for you!

**6 JUL- 9 JUL 2026**  
**EVELYN SCOTT SCHOOL**

**\$100 PER STUDENT - COVERS REGISTRATION & LUNCH (DAY 4 ONLY)**  
**16 SPACES AVAILABLE - REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 29 JUNE**

REGISTER HERE

ACT SOCIETY SURVEYING CAREERS



**LET'S LOCATE**  
*Sponsorship Packages*

There are 3 events which we run in Canberra for students from the ACT and surrounding regions. The events are:

- Geospatial and Planning. 4-day event from 6 to 9 July 2026, using geospatial technologies such as ACTmapi and Digital Atlas to solve for a real-world planning issue.
- Surveying and Mapping. 4-day event from 28 September to 1 October 2026, using surveying and mapping technologies to prepare a Detail Survey map and report.
- Geospatial Day on 14 October 2026 at Geoscience Australia in Canberra

**Sustaining Partner \$2,500**  
As a sustaining partner you will be supporting the entire program of events, activities such as work experience and the growth of the program. You will receive:

- inclusion of your logo on material for all events and all program documentation
- be given the opportunity to present to the students on the final day of the 4 day events, at the industry showcase.

**Event Sponsor \$600**  
As an Event Sponsor (4 day event) you will receive:

- inclusion of your logo on the event material and documentation
- be given the opportunity to present to the students on the final day at the industry showcase

SUBMIT EOI HERE

ACT SOCIETY SURVEYING CAREERS

# Certificate IV in Surveying for the ACT and regions - In 2027

OSGLI is partnering with the ACT Master Builders Association, ISNSW and Surveying Careers to deliver a Certificate IV in surveying.

Why?

- To meet the growing needs of local and regional industry and government
- To meet the minimum qualification requirements for a person to :
  - Be an ACT Associate Surveyor, and
  - Apply for the new ISNSW Engineering Surveyor Certification.



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# Certificate IV in Surveying - ACT and region

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## When will it start?

- February 2027

## Where will the course be delivered?

- Online and face to face in Canberra

## Who can study?

- The course will be open to anyone from ACT, NSW or beyond

## What needs to be included in the course to meet the current and future challenges?

- An industry poll was run recently, and the responses are informing the course content and delivery.



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# Alternative pathway to registration - Why?

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It has been stated the ACT needs an alternate pathway to registration as a Land Surveyor that:

- Is relevant to the needs of a Registered Surveyor in the ACT
- Speeds up the competency assessment process. Some graduates don't even start because it is viewed as too long.

The ACT, Northern Territory, Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia are discussing the development of a multi-jurisdictional pathway that:

- Addresses their similar concerns around workforce capacity and registration pathway timeframes
- Is fit for purpose for the next 10 years or more
- **Does not** compromise on standards required to be a Registered Surveyor
- Addresses ADR/AMR competency concerns
- Allows graduates to move around the country and still complete their competency assessments.

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# Alternate pathway to registration – What might it look like?

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## Delivered in 2 years

- It is achievable - other professions such as nursing have done this in the past.
- Must deliver on the national competencies but not sacrifice standards.
- Using hybrid online and face to face delivery method.

## Training and assessment of:

- Competencies common for all surveyors – This ensures everyone meets the same minimum standards across the country.
- Jurisdictional relevant competencies (Cadastral and maybe Mining).
- Include future relevant knowledge areas not currently included in some competency assessment processes.

## A supportive, structured and rigorous learning and assessment program to:

- Minimise the risk of losing candidates during the program.
- Have mentors involved to engage with candidates and fill some of the skills gaps the supervising surveyors have.

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# Alternative pathway to registration – Possible model

The possible model includes 6 competencies required by nearly all surveyors.

- A graduate could complete the ‘common’ competencies even if moved around the country by their employer.
- New competencies may be included e.g. Terrestrial Laser Scanning

A graduate may then undertake relevant ‘jurisdictional cadastral’ competencies.

It would deliver relevant training in other areas such as:

- Planning & Engineering in the Planning & Engineering practice competency
- Detail & Compliance surveys in the Land Development Surveys competency

## Competency Modules - Possible

### 6 Common competency modules

- Survey measurements, Computations & Control Surveys
- Land Record Systems and Survey Information
- Law and Professional Practice
- Planning and Engineering practice
- Cadastral Surveying Fundamentals
- Land Development Surveys

### 3 Jurisdictional Cadastral Modules

- Urban Surveys
- Unit Title Surveys & Community Titles
- Rural Surveys

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## Alternative pathway to registration – Comparison with NSW

Option – NSW, BOSSI Currently 5 projects/exams	Option Alternative pathway
<p>Timeframe open ended</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Town Planning</li><li>• Engineering Design</li><li>• Urban Cadastral</li><li>• Strata &amp; Community Title</li><li>• Rural Cadastral</li></ul>	<p>Year 1 - Semester 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Survey measurements, Computations &amp; Control Surveys</li><li>• Land Record Systems and Survey Information</li></ul> <p>Year 1 - Semester 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Law and Professional Practice</li><li>• Planning and Engineering practice</li><li>• Cadastral Surveying – Fundamental Principles</li></ul> <p>Year 2 - Semester 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Land Development Surveys</li><li>• Urban Surveys</li></ul> <p>Year 2 - Semester 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unit Title Surveys &amp; community titles</li><li>• Rural Surveys</li></ul>

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# Future Events

## ISNSW Murray Group Day Seminar

- Location - Wagga

<https://www.surveyors.org.au/eventdetails/39220/bossi26e185-dm1-isnsw-murray-regional-group-full-day-seminar>



## Consulting Surveyors NSW - Event

- Location – Canberra – Date to be confirmed



## ISNSW Surveyors Twilight Event

- Location – OSGLI office in Dickson ACT
- Save the Date – Thur, 10/9/2026 – to be confirmed

## ISNSW – ACT Associate Surveyors – Twilight Event

- Location – OSGLI office in Dickson ACT
- Save the Date – Wed, 21/10/2026 – to be confirmed

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# Feedback

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Please provide feedback on any of the topics included in this update to:

[Surveyors.Registrar@act.gov.au](mailto:Surveyors.Registrar@act.gov.au)

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The End

