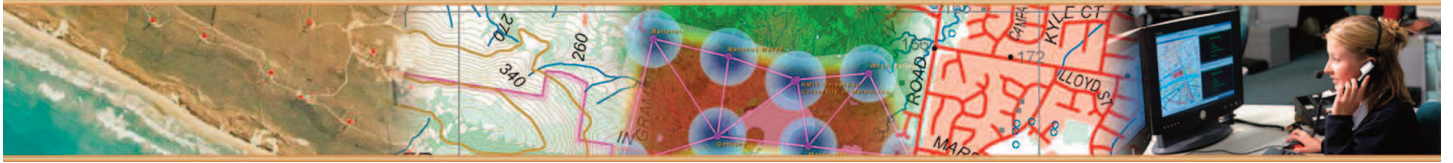


Spatial Data Custodianship



Custodianship FAQ

How will becoming a formal custodian help me and my organisation?

This is a big question, but in a nutshell it formalises and acknowledges what you are already doing. It gives you a structure to work in with ready-written agreements and role descriptions. It establishes you as the "authority" for your data. Custodians report that putting their data under the spotlight and widening its use has helped justify improvements and has significantly boosted morale.

What is the difference between the Custodian and the Custodial Officer?

The Custodian is the organisation which takes responsibility for the accuracy, currency, storage, security and distribution of a dataset. The Custodial Officer is the person who ensures the dataset is documented, maintained and distributed according to the agreed standards.

I am appointing the Custodial Officer. Is there any documentation that will help get them up to speed?

Yes, there is a fact sheet about the role of the Custodial Officer and other user friendly fact sheets and FAQ documents on the website <http://www.land.vic.gov.au/>

If my contact details are published for dataset enquires will I be inundated with questions?

Instead of publishing a name, you can have a phone number (this should be a direct line) and the email can be custodian@your.organisation.au so that it can be easily redirected. SII can field initial calls or you can engage a third party to handle these and dataset delivery.

What is the role of SII in all this?

SII provides the custodianship framework, templates, assistance and advice and creates awareness of your datasets through the Victorian Spatial Data Directory

I need to get the heads of each department on side. Can SII help?

Yes. We can supply a presentation or we can go one better and send a member of the Custodianship Team to present to your management.

How can I meet other Custodial Officers to share problems and ideas?

There will be forums several times a year. You can also subscribe to the custodian email distribution. If there is demand we will create an on line forum so that you can ask your peers if you have a question or problem.