



Who we are

The **Association for Geographic Information** (AGI) exists to represent the interests of the UK's geographic information (GI) industry; a wide-ranging group of public and private sector organisations, suppliers of GI software, hardware, data and services, consultants, academics and interested individuals. The AGI, by way of its unique membership forum, brings together this previously disparate GI community to share ideas on best practice, experience and innovation, and offers access to unparalleled networking opportunities with significant business benefits.

The AGI currently has over 2000 members, many of whom work within central and local government. Membership is offered at varying levels from Student to Sponsor membership. As a non-profit making organisation, we rely on annual subscription income to fund our work and meet our mission statement – *“to maximise the use of geographic information for the benefit of the citizen, good governance and commerce”*.

How we achieve our aims & support our members

The AGI...

- ☑ Promotes geographic information in the market place
- ☑ Educates the GI user community
- ☑ Represents the industry and its members to public policy makers
- ☑ Raises awareness within the wider IT and business communities
- ☑ Ensures appropriate industry standards exist
- ☑ Provides a focus for the GI community
- ☑ Encourages best practice and innovation
- ☑ Supports geographic information in education
- ☑ Provides unique member benefits

Public sector activities

The AGI is in a strong position to influence government policy through its representation on the newly established Geographic Information Panel. This Panel of senior figures in the field of Geographic Information (GI) was set up by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) - now the DCLG - in order to provide government with high-level advice on geographic information issues of national importance for the United Kingdom.

Aside from the GI Panel, the AGI also lobbies government ministers, departments, agencies and other bodies on its members' behalf. This lobbying takes place both through responses to consultation documents and also by means of unprompted approaches to government organisations on specific issues, such as a call for the National Health Service to be included in the next Pan-Government Agreement with the Ordnance Survey and therefore to be able to benefit in future from the special terms included in this broad agreement.

For members with a specific interest in public sector geographic information use, the AGI has both a Local Government and a Public Policy special interest group.

AGI also hosts and manages the UK's national geographic metadata service – gigateway – a government funded initiative to encourage sharing of locally held geographic information and data recording standards and best practice.

www.gigateway.org.uk.

Recent initiatives and legislation of interest to AGI members

- ☑ National Spatial Address Infrastructure (NSAI)
- ☑ Mapping Services Agreement (MSA)
- ☑ Regional GI Strategies
- ☑ PSI Directive
- ☑ INSPIRE (Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe)
- ☑ Traffic Management Act 2004
- ☑ Pan Government Agreement (PGA)
- ☑ National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG)
- ☑ National Land Information Service (NLIS)
- ☑ National Street Gazetteer (NSG)

Further Information

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