

# eNEWS

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*Image developed through AI*

## CONTENTS

- Newest Licensed Surveyors
- Registered Surveying Graduates - CPD points
- Understanding the Supervision Policy for Cadastral Survey Work in South Australia
- LSSA Plan Presentation Requirements Review Process
- **SurveyingSA** - Graham Walker
- Survey Audit Report - Peter Brinkley
- Chair's Christmas Message
- 2025 Calendar
- VALE Notifications

## Newly Licensed Surveyor

### Nelson Tucker

Nelson was awarded his licence and certificate following his successful Professional Assessment Presentation titled *Olympic Dam Airport (Runway and Terminal)* to the Surveyors Board of South Australia on Thursday 21 March 2024.

Board members congratulated Nelson and thanked his work supervisors Simon Crowe and Mark Williams, Board Supervisor Joe D'Aloia and Board Examiner Michael Liebelt for their hours of support.

Congratulations Nelson, we wish you a long and successful Surveying career.



Nelson Tucker being presented his certificate by Michael Williams and Noel Gehren

## Newly Licensed Surveyor

### Tim Sibly

At the 17 October 2024 meeting of the Surveyors Board of South Australia Tim Sibly presented his Professional Assessment Presentation *The Usability of Laser Scanning for Cadastral Surveying*.

Board members congratulated Tim and thanked his work supervisor Ruhi Afnan, Board Supervisor Mark Pittman and Board Examiner Bradley Slape, Surveyor-General for their hours of support.

A mammoth effort by Tim who completed his Registered Surveying Training in less than 3 years.

Congratulations.



Tim Sibly being presented his certificate by Chair Michael Liebelt



# What the new CPD Policy means for Registered Surveying Graduates.

**As part of your ongoing professional development and commitment to the surveying profession, it is essential to be familiar with the changes to the Surveyors Board of South Australia's Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Policy for Registered Surveying Graduates (RSGs).**

This policy, effective from 1 July 2024, outlines the expectations and requirements for RSGs to ensure they maintain and develop their skills and knowledge in the fields of surveying.

## CPD Cycle and Reporting

The CPD cycle for RSGs is **six months**, and it runs concurrently with your reporting periods. This means that each six-month practical experience period represents a new cycle for your CPD activities (see Table 1).

## Key Points to Remember:

- A **current CPD Register** must be submitted with each 6-monthly report (refer to page 8 of the CPD Policy for details).
- **CPD Register:** A downloadable form is now available on the website. [Click Here](#)

## CPD Point Requirements

You are required to accumulate a minimum of **6 CPD points** within each cycle. These points must include at least **4 Cadastral Content Points (CCP)** (see Table 2).

## Cadastral Content Points (CCP)

- The CPD policy stipulates that **Cadastral Content Points (CCP)** are critical for RSGs working in cadastral surveying. A minimum of **16 CCP points** must be accumulated over a two-year Professional Training Agreement (PTA) period for RSGs majoring in cadastral surveying.

## Consequences for Insufficient CPD Points

- If you accumulate **less than 24 total CPD points** in a two-year PTA period, this could also result in **non-renewal** of your Professional Training Agreement (PTA).
- If fewer than **16 CCP points** are accumulated in the two-year period, it could result in the **non-renewal** of your PTA.

- Table 2 on page 8 of the CPD Policy outlines these requirements and grounds for non-renewal.

## CCP Points for Timely Reporting

To encourage compliance with practical experience reporting deadlines, **2 CCP** points (CPD Code - CCP 5) can be claimed for each 6-monthly report that is submitted **on time** and **approved by the Board**. Here are the key details:

- The **2 CCP points** are awarded for the **current 6-month reporting period**. This means that when you submit your 6-monthly report, the **2 CCP points** should correspond to that specific period.
- To claim the CCP points, the report must be **submitted within 28 calendar days** of the due date listed in your Time Schedule (see Survey Regulations 2020 Section 6, subsection (7)).
- It is important to note that these **2 CCP points will be forfeited** if the report is **not approved** by the Board.

## Action Required: Be Prepared for the Changes

Please ensure that you familiarise yourself with the updated CPD Policy, which took effect on **1 July 2024**. This policy introduces updated guidelines to help you stay on track with your professional development requirements.

Remember as an RSG, your engagement with CPD is essential not only for maintaining your PTA but also for contributing to the integrity and advancement of the surveying profession.

If you have any questions or need clarification regarding the [CPD policy](#), the CPD form, or how to track your points, don't hesitate to reach out. Your **Board Supervisor** is a valuable resource for guidance on your CPD requirements. Additionally, the **Registrar** is available to assist with any general inquiries related to CPD submissions or the Professional Training Agreement.

# Understanding the Supervision Policy for Cadastral Survey Work in South Australia

The Surveyors Board of South Australia's Standing Operating Procedures (SOP) has a long-established supervision policy to ensure high standards in cadastral survey practices. The purpose of the supervision policy is to define the level of oversight required when non-licensed surveyors, such as Registered Survey Graduates or Technical Surveyors, assist in making Cadastral Surveys. This ensures the integrity, accuracy and timeliness of survey work while supporting the professional development of emerging surveyors.

## What Does Supervision Mean?

Under the *Survey Act 1992* (the Act), anyone performing certain surveying tasks—like placing a survey mark or conducting cadastral surveys for fee or reward—must either be a licensed surveyor or work under the supervision of one. Supervision involves overseeing the work to ensure it meets professional standards, legal requirements, and quality expectations of the community.

## Key Definitions

The policy outlines several key roles:

- Graduate Surveyor: An individual registered with the Institution of Surveyors Australia, South Australia Division and undertaking training to become a licensed surveyor.
- Technical Surveyor: Means a person holding a Certificate IV or higher qualification in surveying and has at least two years of practical experience in surveying.
- Supervising Person: A licensed surveyor responsible for overseeing the activities of others in the conduct of cadastral survey work.
- Supervised Person: A surveyor or surveying graduate working under the supervision of a licensed surveyor.

## Principles of Personal Supervision

The overarching principle is that the supervising surveyor retains full responsibility for the quality of the survey work. Supervision must be tailored to the abilities and experience of the supervised individual. More experienced surveyors may require less frequent oversight, while less experienced individuals may need closer supervision.

## Two types of supervision are defined in the SOP:

1. Immediate Supervision: Involves a high level of involvement, including site visits, detailed instruction, and regular checks to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the work. This is typical for less experienced surveyors, such as Graduate Surveyors in their early stages of training.
2. General Supervision: Allows for more autonomy, though the supervising surveyor remains responsible for the work. This level of supervision is typically appropriate once the supervised individual has gained more experience and demonstrated competency.

## Guidelines for Supervision

The policy provides practical guidance on when Immediate or General Supervision is required.

# Understanding the Supervision Policy for Cadastral Survey Work in South Australia

Supervised Person	Survey Requiring Immediate Supervision (see definitions below)		
	Boundary Pegging	Simple Cadastral Survey	Complex Cadastral Survey
Graduate Surveyor < 6 months	X	X	X
Graduate Surveyor 6 - 18 months		X	X
Graduate Surveyor > 18 months			X
Graduate Surveyor > 18 months <sup>1</sup>			
Technical Surveyor < 1yr Cadastral Experience	X	X	X
Technical Surveyor > 1yr Cadastral Experience			X
Registered Surveyor < 1yr Cadastral Experience		X	X
Registered Surveyor > 1yr Cadastral Experience <sup>1</sup>			
Licensed Surveyor			

<sup>1</sup> A Surveyor in this category would be expected to have gained significant experience in complex cadastral surveys before General Supervision is considered appropriate.

See [ANNEX C TO SECTION 10 of the SOP](#) for definitions of simple and complex surveys.

It is important to note that all surveys, regardless of complexity, must always have at least General Supervision in place to ensure compliance with the Act. The policy emphasises the importance of professional judgement in determining the appropriate level of supervision.



# Understanding the Supervision Policy for Cadastral Survey Work in South Australia

## Approved Form of Certificate

In addition to the supervision policy, supervising surveyors must also be aware of the Notice of the Surveyor-General (No. 6)- Approved Form of Certificate, Survey Regulation 2020. This notice sets out the approved form of certificate for certifying a plan of cadastral survey. This includes confirming whether the fieldwork was conducted by the certifying surveyor or another licensed surveyor under their supervision or by a person other than a licensed surveyor under their personal supervision.

## Supervision of Technical Surveyors

The Surveyors Board maintains a register of approved Technical Surveyors working in South Australia. Supervising Surveyors are required to submit a Curriculum Vitae (CV) for each Technical Surveyor under their supervision who is involved in cadastral surveys. The CV should include details of the Technical Surveyor’s qualifications, and a summary of their relevant cadastral surveying experience. The Surveyors Board will assess the qualifications and experience of the Technical Surveyor, and if deemed satisfactory, they will be added to the SBSA Register of Technical Surveyors under supervision.

## Maintaining Professional Standards

The Surveyors Board’s Supervision Policy ensures that South Australian surveying practices maintain a high standard of professionalism and accuracy. By defining clear roles and responsibilities for supervision, the policy not only protects the South Australian community but also supports the development of future leaders in the surveying profession. Surveyors must remain vigilant in their adherence to these guidelines, ensuring that all work—whether simple or complex—is carried out to maintain the integrity of the Cadastre.



# LSSA Plan Presentation Requirements Review Process

**The implementation of the Real Property Act Regulations 2024 has changed the Plan Presentation Guidelines to the newly titled Plan Presentation Requirements (PPR).** In light of this shift, Land Services SA (LSSA) has initiated a comprehensive review of the PPR with the goal of publishing an updated version. The aim is to streamline requirements, enhance formatting, and reduce ambiguities to reduce the risk of plans being approved or deposited with errors.

The review is limited in that changes which would require legislative amendments will not be included in this update.

As part of the Real Property Act, the PPR is under the governance of the Office of the Registrar-General (ORG), meaning any proposed changes must receive the Registrar-General's approval before implementation.

## **Progress on the PPR Review**

Over the past few months, LSSA has conducted a thorough review of the PPR, pinpointing areas in need of updating and refinement. Following a review with the Office of the Surveyor-General (OSG), a comprehensive list of over 160 proposed updates has been developed. These potential updates are currently being evaluated through workshops with a dedicated working group. This group comprises representatives from the surveying industry, professional bodies, LSSA plan examiners, and the OSG.

The workshops have provided an invaluable platform for in-depth discussion, feedback, and the submission of additional proposals from industry stakeholders.

## **What's Next?**

Building on the feedback from these workshops, LSSA plans to prepare a consultation paper outlining the proposed updates. This paper is expected to be released by mid-December 2024, with a consultation period running until the end of January 2025.

Surveying industry members are strongly encouraged to review the consultation paper upon release and provide feedback. Consolidated responses should be submitted through industry representative bodies, including Consulting Surveyors SA (CSSA) and the Geospatial Council of Australia (GCA).

## **Implementation Timeline**

Following the consultation phase, the proposed changes will be submitted to the ORG for approval. The updated PPR is anticipated to be implemented by the end of February 2025.

This is not the end of the PPR review process. There will be ongoing continuous reviews, including future enhancements requiring legislative changes to be considered by the state.

## **Get Involved**

For any queries or to contribute to the review and consultation process, please reach out to either CSSA or GCA. Your input is vital to ensuring the revised PPR meets the needs of the industry and supports accurate and efficient plan examinations.



## Surveying SA – Graham Walker

**Given SurveyingSA's mandate to promote the profession and encourage enrolment of students into the new Bachelor of Surveying degree at Flinders University, 2024 has proven to be another successful year.**

Over the past year, SurveyingSA have coordinated the attendance of over 30 careers expos and careers fairs across South Australia. These have varied from individual schools, through to large events such as those held at the Adelaide Convention Centre and Adelaide Showground, as well as running specific interactive surveying immersion sessions and supporting some of the Flinders University outreach sessions. All of this hard work and volunteered time has been vindicated by the extremely positive first preference numbers to start studying surveying at Flinders University in 2025.

A highlight of 2024 was SurveyingSA being awarded the Workforce Development and Inclusion Award at the South Australian Geospatial Excellence Awards. Judges praised the initiative for its innovative approach and growing impact, noting that it is making waves not only in South Australia but also on a national level. As a result of this, SurveyingSA will go forward to national awards to be announced at the ceremony to be held in Brisbane during the Locate and FIG Working Week from 6-10 April 2025.

Looking forward to 2025, the SurveyingSA committee will again liaise with industry volunteers to coordinate and maintain our presence at these events, continuing to build on the strengthening relationships being formed with schools across South Australia.

As an industry we cannot afford to allow complacency to creep in, so there are multiple opportunities to get involved. If you are interested in supporting the pipeline of talent required by our industry, please consider volunteering towards one of the following:

- Attendance to a careers fair/careers expo,
- Running an interactive immersion session at a high-school,
- Offering work experience to high-school students,
- Registering your interest in offering Work-Integrated-Learning (WIL) opportunities to Flinders University students.

*Please send an email to Joy Oddy at [registrar@isasa.org.au](mailto:registrar@isasa.org.au) if you or your company are interested.*



*GCA Conference and Awards Dinner photo  
L to R SurveyingSA Committee members, Graham Walker,  
Michael Liebelt (Chair) and Simon Crowe*



# Audit Survey Report - Peter Brinkley

## December 2023

**Firstly, I would like to welcome Damien Ferretti to the Office of the Surveyor-General. Damien started with us in June this year and is currently undertaking his Professional Assessment Project to obtain his licence. Since commencing, Damien has been working under the guidance of the Licensed Surveyors in the team and we look forward to him continuing to develop his surveying skill set moving forward.**

Since the last audit summary there has been an ongoing emphasis on combining desktop checks with the regular auditing process. The desktop checks provide a wide-ranging review of lodgements and offer more information related to trends in errors that can then be addressed through industry education and support.

From recent plans that have been lodged, the trends in errors include:

**Searching:** Modern plans on adjoining allotments have been overlooked. Increased urban development activity and time delays in finalising conditions of land divisions can result in plans being lodged and approved that had not previously existed in the initial search. These surveys may alter the details of reference marks or if data discrepancies exist, the new plan may not agree with the definition that you had settled on. Prior to lodgement it is important to research the PSM's on your plan to ensure that no new plans relevant to your definition exist. You may also consider having the development layer in SAPPa turned on when searching to be aware of other activity that is happening in the vicinity. Consider also that nearby historic plans and Filed Plans such as Outer Boundary surveys and Plans for Information may not be evident unless the graphic index, Plots and PSM database are adequately searched.

**Easements:** an ongoing issue is the errors related to easements on plans. I am aware that LSSA are putting significant resources into training and education and have included existing easements in the new DPL solution to help to reduce the errors in this space. The various errors in general reflect the attention to plan checking and if the purpose for creating the easement has been properly considered. The Plan Presentation Requirements offers significant resources on easement examples that will assist in reducing these types of errors.

**Data discrepancies going unrecognised:** often anomalies to the original data are not being considered or being addressed through the survey reports. Comparisons to modern surveys are useful to prove that reference marks have not been disturbed and generally only serve to reinforce that the measurement is sound. What is important is the comparison to the original data or the title data that exists within the road framework that includes your subject land. Where discrepancies exist outside the tolerances referenced in Table 13.1 of the CSG, it is important to address these in your survey report. In particular, detailing how these discrepancies have been considered against the definition of the subject land.

**Survey extents:** the amount of work required to re-establish a boundary position remains a matter of professional judgement (see CSG 15.4). However, it is often clear that insufficient attention has been given to existing surveys and the connection between established parcel boundaries and the subject land being redefined. At times, surveys have left a hiatus or even overlapped boundaries due to not considering adjoining surveys, in particular along rear boundaries. Attention should be given to the marks connected on these adjoining surveys to ensure that these boundaries can be sufficiently re-established and be protected.

Surveyors are also reminded that the validation reports in DPL offer assistance on presentation errors that may exist on the plan. If further advice is required from LSSA to interrogate these validation reports, please refer to their DPL support videos <https://www.landservices.com.au/industry-education-hub> or direct enquiries to [dpl@landservices.com.au](mailto:dpl@landservices.com.au) for clarification.

# Audit Survey Report (continued)

## December 2024

Of the recently finalised field audits some of the errors include:

- Rural survey where old occupation on the subject land northern boundary was overlooked, changing this boundary by up to 0.9m. Also, offside occupation was not located and a concrete strainer adopted for a bend in the subject land road boundary. This resulted in a comparison to original data of -2.97 and +4.41 either side of this bend. Upon locating the offside occupation, which was much older, this discrepancy was removed and distances found to be more proportional to the surplus that existed. The position of the bend changed by 3.6m where the butt of a very old strainer was found to exist.
- Urban survey where there was 0.06m shortage in the street of the subject land with a MP NLF (under pavers) at one end. Audit lifted the pavers and found the MP which resulted in data in the street and changed the definition by up to 0.05m.
- Rural survey where 2 metal pins were called gone on the subject land and found to exist by the audit. Also, a peg on the new boundary was out of position by 0.45m.
- Rural survey where co-ordinates for a PM were provided but found to be incorrect by 0.60m, the definition of the subject land was also incorrect by up to 0.25m due to ignoring old occupation that existed on adjoining land parcels.

Surveyors are reminded that pursuant to Regulation 15 of the Survey Regulations 2020, they have 14 days to supply a copy of the original field notes, digitally recorded observations or relevant copies of records requested in relation to a specified cadastral survey. Failure to adequately fulfil these obligations without a valid reason, will automatically result in a Low Compliance assessment. These records or notes are also required to be retained for a period of at least 10 years after the completion of the survey.

**Peter Brinkley - Principal Cadastral Surveyor**





## Chair's Christmas Message

On behalf of the Surveyors Board of South Australia, I would like to wish all members a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

2024 has been a very busy and productive year. With our new Registrar, Joy, working behind the scenes to streamline operations, and the Board tirelessly advancing our goals, we have achieved significant milestones. These include the development of a new CPD Policy, improvements to our financial position, and expanding the reach of SurveyingSA, among many other tasks we have focused on.

We look forward to continuing to serve you in 2025.



**Michael Liebelt** - Chair



# Surveyors Board of South Australia 2025 Calendar



## Board Meeting Dates:

*Thursday January 16*

*Thursday February 20*

*Thursday March 20*

*Thursday April 17*

*Thursday May 15*

*Thursday June 19*

*Thursday July 17*

*Thursday August 21*

*Thursday September 18*

*Thursday October 16*

*Thursday November 20*

*Thursday December 4*



# VALE

## Shaun Donaghey (19 September 1970 – 3 June 2024)

Shaun Bernard Donaghey, licensed surveyor, passed away on 3 June 2024 at the age of 53.

Shaun grew up in Novar Gardens and, after graduating from Sacred Heart College, studied the Bachelor of Technology in Surveying at the South Australian Institute of Technology at the Levels Campus (now UniSA at Mawson Lakes), graduating in 1995.

Following graduation, Shaun travelled the world with two close friends before returning to Australia to commence work in his father's surveying business, becoming a Licensed Surveyor in 2002.

Shaun was a talented table tennis player and had a passion for boxing, winning the southern district light weight championship in the 1990s.

Shaun worked in the family business, Donaghey Surveyors, for many years before taking over the operations of the small team of engineering and Licensed Surveyors when his father, Frank transitioned to retirement.

Shaun is survived by his three children, William, Lucy and Jack, partner Trinh and her children, Lam and Bunny.

He will be missed by many in the surveying community.

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