

TOWN PLANNING BOARD

TPB Paper No. 10549

**For Consideration by
The Town Planning Board on 28.6.2019**

Releasing Digital Planning Data of Statutory Plans

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1. Purpose

This paper is to report to Members on the proposed arrangement to release digital planning data of currently in force statutory plans as open data for free public access and to seek Members' agreement on the proposed arrangement.

2. Background

Currently, hard copy of statutory plans is available for public inspection at the Planning Department's public enquiry counters and for purchase at Survey and Mapping Offices (SMO) of the Lands Department (LandsD). The general public can also view statutory plans online via the Statutory Planning Portal 2 (SPP2) on Town Planning Board's (the Board) website. The SPP2, which was established in 2002, is a web application system providing an one-stop online statutory plan internet services by allowing browsing and performing interactive online searching of statutory planning information. At the moment, planning data of statutory plans is not available to the public in digital form. In line with the Open Data Policy of the Government, it is proposed to implement measures to release planning data in digital form to the general public.

3. The Proposal

3.1 The original gazetted statutory plans comprise different planning data imposed on base maps produced by SMO of LandsD. It is proposed to release the digital planning data, including (i) planning scheme area, (ii) land use zonings, (iii) building height control areas (e.g. building height restrictions as shown on plan and non-building area), and (iv) amendment items to statutory plans in digital form for public access. The data of the base map will not be included in the proposal as the copyright of the base map is owned by LandsD. The digital data would be released in Geographic Information System (GIS) formats so as to allow various computer applications and would be updated upon each gazettal of statutory plans. The publication of planning data in digital format would allow data analysis/compilation, which may facilitate the preparation of planning applications and carrying out of researches.

3.2 Generally speaking, the above information of digital planning data are identical with those on hard copy of statutory plans. However, the hard copy statutory plans are prepared in a pre-defined map scale, using symbols and lines for cartographical presentation, while the digital planning data are dynamic in viewing. To assist users, a set of guidelines and a data dictionary are prepared to facilitate the use of such data (**Annex I**). A set of Terms & Conditions of the use of data (**Annex II**) will be available on the website to

remind users of the technical limitations when downloading dataset with disclaimer to safeguard the interest of the Board from any legal dispute.

- 3.3 Subject to Member's agreement, the release of digital planning data together with relevant Notes and Explanatory Statement (ES) (in searchable PDF format)¹ of statutory plans as proposed will be made available for free public download at the Board's website in July 2019. Subject to the fulfilment of technical requirements of Data.Gov.HK, the digital planning data will also be available for public download at Data.Gov.HK.
- 3.4 Subject to Members' agreement to the release of the digital planning data as proposed, a notice will be posted onto the Board's website to notify the public upon commencement of the publication of the data.

4. Decision Sought

Members are invited to agree that digital planning data together with relevant Notes and ES (in searchable PDF format) of statutory plans will be made available for free public download at the Board's website together with the Guidelines and Data Dictionary and Terms & Conditions of Use as attached.

5. Attachments

Annex I	Draft Guidelines and Data Dictionary
Annex II	Draft Terms & Conditions of Use

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT
JUNE 2019**

¹ Currently, Notes and ES of statutory plans in PDF format are available for free download via SPP2 website.

Guidelines on using the Digital Planning Data

1. The digital planning data of statutory plan are provided on plan basis. The downloaded files consists of the following documents and data:
 - (i) Guidelines on using the Digital Planning Data (this document);
 - (ii) Terms and Conditions of Use;
 - (iii) Data Dictionary;
 - (iv) Geographical Information System (GIS) data of the statutory plan; and
 - (v) Notes and Explanatory Statement of the statutory plan.
2. Please read and agree to the Terms and Conditions of Use before using the Data.
3. Please read the Data Dictionary before using the Data.
4. The Data provided may include the following –
 - (i) statutory planning scheme boundary;
 - (ii) zoning boundaries;
 - (iii) boundaries of building height control area, if applicable; and
 - (iv) boundaries of amendment items, if applicable.
5. The Data provided are available in the following GIS file formats –
 - (i) Shapefiles;
 - (ii) GML; and
 - (iii) GeoJSON.
6. The Notes and Explanatory Statements, in both English and Chinese, are provided in Portable Document Format (PDF).
7. Please feel free to contact us –

Postal Address: Town Planning Board Secretariat, 15/F, North Point Government Offices,
333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong

Telephone: 2231 4810 and 2231 4835

Email: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk

Data Dictionary for Digital Planning Data of Statutory Plan

The digital plan data of statutory plan downloaded may contain the following four layers in geographical information system (GIS) format.

(1)PLAN_SCHEME_AREA

This is a polygon feature class delineating the planning scheme boundary of statutory plan.

Field	Data Type	Length	Description
FID	ObjectID	-	Feature ID
Shape	Geometry	-	Feature geometry type
PLAN_NO	Text	30	Statutory plan number
NAME_ENG	Text	254	Planning scheme area in English
NAME_CHT	Text	254	Planning scheme area in Chinese
PUB_DATE	Text	-	Date of publication in YYYY-MM-DD format
APRV_DATE	Text	-	Date of approval in YYYY-MM-DD format
SECT_NO	Text	10	Exhibited under Town Planning Ordinance Section No.
PLAN_SCALE	Long	-	Scale on hardcopy plan
SHAPE_Leng	Double	-	Perimeter in meters
SHAPE_Area	Double	-	Area in square meters

(2)ZONE

This is a polygon feature class delineating the broad land use zonings and major transportation networks within the Planning Scheme Area.

Field	Data Type	Length	Description
FID	ObjectID	-	Feature ID
Shape	Geometry	-	Feature geometry type
PLAN_NO	Text	30	Statutory Plan number
ZONE_LABEL	Text	10	Zoning on plan
DESC_ENG	Text	254	Zoning description in English
DESC_CHT	Text	254	Zoning description in Chinese
SPUSE_ENG	Text	254	Annotation for OU/URA/LDC/WKCDA in English
SPUSE_CHT	Text	254	Annotation for OU/URA/LDC/WKCDA in Chinese
SHAPE_Leng	Double	-	Perimeter in meters
SHAPE_Area	Double	-	Area in square meters

(3)BHC

This is a polygon feature class delineating the building height control areas as shown on plan and non-building area.

Field	Data Type	Length	Description
FID	ObjectID	-	Feature ID
Shape	Geometry	-	Feature geometry type
PLAN_NO	Text	30	Statutory Plan number
BHC_TYPE	Text	10	Types of building height restriction #
BHC_VALUE	Text	10	Maximum building height value as stipulated on plan
SHAPE_Leng	Double	-	Perimeter in meters
SHAPE_Area	Double	-	Area in square meters

Remarks: # Types of building height restriction.

BHC_TYPE	Description
BHCB	Maximum building height in metres above principal datum as stipulated on plan
BHCS	Maximum building height in number of storeys as stipulated on plan
BHCN	Maximum building height restriction as stipulated in the notes
NBA	Non-building area as designated on plan

(4)AMENDMENT_ITEM

This is a polygon feature class delineating the amendments to matters shown on the plan.

Field	Data Type	Length	Description
FID	ObjectID	-	Feature ID
Shape	Geometry	-	Feature geometry type
PLAN_NO	Text	30	Statutory Plan number
AMEND_ITEM	Text	10	Amendment item number
SHAPE_Leng	Double	-	Perimeter in meters
SHAPE_Area	Double	-	Area in square meters

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- iii. advised to obtain independent advice if necessary; and
- iv. advised to read and note the data quality as detailed in Section 6 below.

Data Quality

6. Users should note the quality of the Data before making use of the Data on this web page for reference:
 - i. the Data available on this web page for download include GIS data layers of the statutory planning scheme boundary, zoning boundaries, boundaries of building height control area, and boundaries of amendment items, which only constitute part of the original publications. Other information in the original publication, such as plan title, annotations and notations, which are for illustrative and cartographical presentation purpose and for general reference, as well as the base map provided by the Lands Department, are not included in the Data available on this web page;
 - ii. the Data available on this web page is dynamic in nature, users can freely pan, zoom or switch data layers; and
 - iii. the Data available on this web page may contain technical inaccuracies or mistakes and should not be relied on as totally accurate. For example, some discrepancies may occur at boundary between GIS data polygons. Refinements will be made when opportunities arise.

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