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MEDIA RELEASE

National transformation of the Australian spatial sector in full swing

MELBOURNE, TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER 2017: Six months on from the release of [the 2026 Spatial Industry Transformation and Growth Agenda \(2026Agenda\)](#), and the transformation is in full swing.

The 2026Agenda is pleased to announce five new members to its Leadership Group. The addition of these members creates a new, diverse and powerful leadership group, directly supporting initiative F4 – promote and develop innovative leadership across all sectors:

Agriculture

- Dr Michele Allan: Chair, Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA), Member of the Board for Innovation and Science Australia (ISA)

Health

- Prof. Tarun Weeramanthri: Chief Health Officer of Western Australia Government
- Barry Sandison: CEO, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)

Transport

- Susan Harris: CEO, Intelligent Transport Systems Australia (ITS)

Energy

- Ian McLeod: Head of Smart Energy & Digital Asset Management for Enzen, Energy Committee Chair for the Queensland Futures Institute, and former CEO, Ergon Energy

Dr Peter Woodgate, co-Chair 2026Agenda, said he was pleased to have garnered such heavy hitters for the leadership group.

“A big part of the 2026Agenda surrounds communicating the breadth and wealth spatial science brings to other industries. During the consultation process, it was acknowledged that our industry can do much more to communicate our and must reach out more,” he said. “Spatial touches on most areas of the economy, especially as technologies advance,” Peter said, “bringing together some of the key leaders from priority growth sectors to help guide and support the 2026Agenda was a must. We are so pleased with the contribution our new members have already made.”

It isn't just the leadership group making progress, said Glenn Cockerton, co-Chair 2026Agenda. “The entire industry has come together behind the 2026Agenda,” Glenn said. “Considerable progress has been made against all six pillars, since the launch of the 2026Agenda at Locate in April.

“We would like to share with you some notable work done throughout the year by individuals and organisations to advance the agenda,” Glenn said. “Most of the organisations listed below have initiated the work against the agenda off their own backs. Momentum from all players, including our leadership group, will ensure the success of the agenda and ultimately our sector.”

Pillar A: Public Infrastructure and Analytics – Initiative A1 has seen the release of the Location Infrastructure Knowledge Platform by PM&C and Geoscience Australia in April 2017, \$14 million funding allocated to the Satellite Based Augmentation System (SBAS) to progress the National Positioning

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Infrastructure and \$15 million funding allocated to Digital Earth Australia, the evolution of the Geoscience Data Cube.

Pillar B: *Innovation and Entrepreneurship* – Initiative B1 aims to open location technologies to new sectors through the analysis of their problems, challenges and value chains. Considerable progress has been made by both SIBA | GITA, PM&C and the CRCSI through the Australian Livestock Spatial Innovation Strategy, the National Health Roundtable, the Resilient Cities series, and the Minerals Value Chain workshops.

Pillar C: *Outreach* – The Locate conference board has adopted the recommendations of the 2026Agenda, and will introduce new content at Locate18 to focus on growth sectors, with the aim to increase participation from outside the spatial sector. It will also present a report card on the first year of the Agenda and will be running an open forum session designed to update the Agenda as part of our continuous improvement process.

Pillar D: *Research and Development* – On behalf of the Agenda the CRC for Spatial Information is currently developing a national spatial research agenda to pursue from mid-2018, focussing research efforts on current and emerging areas of national importance, delivering significant private industry benefits.

Pillar E: *Education, Training and Capacity Building* – The Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute, in partnership with Consulting Surveyors NSW, hosted a national workshop in December 2017. This workshop brought together 15 organisations focussed on education and capacity building from primary school through to university and beyond. The group discussed all six Pillar E initiatives, and agreed to meet on a regular basis to create a strategic framework, share learnings and develop a well understood and measured education and capacity building pipeline.

Pillar F: *Representation* – The formation of the 2026Agenda Leadership Group is a major milestone for Pillar F, and has already resulted in new ideas, discussions and opportunities for the 2026Agenda.

“The 2026Agenda Team is always open to discussions with new organisations willing to make a change,” Peter said. “We are keen to link people from across the industry with likeminded, forward thinking individuals and businesses to deliver the plan.”

The 2026Agenda can be downloaded at: www.2026agenda.com

If you wish to be involved please contact the 2026Agenda team, Phil Delaney (CRCSI) and Stephanie Pradier (CRCSI) on 03 9035 9936 or via email on pdelaney@crcsi.com.au or spradier@crcsi.com.au.