Northern Ireland

Providing a single view of land and property in Northern Ireland

Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland mapping data has been instrumental in joining up disparate datasets creating a single view of land and property information in Northern Ireland for the first time.

Land & Property Services (LPS) was formed by the merger of four former agencies: Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland (OSNI), Land Registry, Valuation Agency and Rates Collection Agency. The aim of the merger was to realise efficiencies in service delivery via a single land and property service organisation. LPS plays a vitally important role in supporting economic development in Northern Ireland including collecting approximately £1.3 billion of rates revenue helping fund vital public services.

Due to the services provided, LPS has a wealth of data relating to land and property within Northern Ireland. However, this data is held within separate line of business legacy systems which has prevented it from being shared across the organisation to improve decision making and ultimately the services that are delivered to individual citizens.

OSNI initiated a project to investigate if it would be possible to create a single point of access for this land and property information to serve business needs across the organisation.

They have used their mapping and address data as the framework for joining these disjointed datasets together to create a single view of all the relevant data. They have also developed an innovative prototype where staff within LPS can search for information on properties, see the spatial extent of the property on a map and view associated attribute information such as the authoritative address, land registry ownership, valuation and rating information. The user can then easily query or compare their selected property in relation to similar properties within the same geographical area.

The integration of this data within a single application is already starting to show many organisational benefits. Staff are able to swiftly locate the core information relating to a single property – assisting them with delivering their daily work tasks. This is not only saving time but is also aiding staff to make better informed decisions ensuring that the citizen is getting the correct information at the right time.

The outcomes of this project will be used by LPS to help inform an ongoing digital transformation programme within the organisation to improve service delivery to clients and citizens.