ANNEX A

FOI DOF/2025-0377

Request

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the structure and responsibilities of Grade 7 (G7) managerial roles within Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland (OSNI), **as of June 2025**.

DoF response

I can confirm the department holds some of the information requested.

1. A list of current G7 managerial posts within OSNI (as of June 2025), including their official job titles and the divisions or functions to which they are assigned.

   Head of Survey Infrastructure & Development - Survey Infrastructure & Development
   Head of Topographic Survey - Topographic Survey
   Head of Business Development - Business Development
   Head of Geospatial Service Architecture, Address Management & Data Governance – Geospatial Systems
   Head of Asset Management Strategy & Policy – Strategic Asset Management Unit

2. For each G7 managerial post listed:

   - a. The number of staff members who report directly / indirectly to that G7 manager.

Head of Survey Infrastructure & Development – 1 / 8
Head of Topographic Survey – 4.5 / 113
Head of Business Development – 5 / 57
Head of Geospatial Service Architecture, Address Management & Data Governance – 6 / 31
Head of Asset Management Strategy & Policy – 0 / 0

   - b. The annual budget (if any) for which the manager is responsible.

     This information is withheld under Section 43(2) (Commercial Interests of any legal person (an individual, a company, the public authority itself or any other legal entity)).

     Section 43(2) of the FOI Act is a qualified exemption and is subject to a Public Interest Test. The Public Interest Test, provided at Annex B, provides further details of the public interest considerations around disclosure of this information.

- c. A summary of the primary responsibilities or remit of the post.

Head of Survey Infrastructure & Development

- Maintaining the National Grid, Geodetic and Height Networks for Northern Ireland and linking these to International Systems
- Management of the Geospatial Survey Service
- Management of specialist outposted survey staff

Head of Topographic Survey

- Management of all field and aerial data collection
- Management of delivering on the DAERA Land Parcel Information System SLA
- Management of OSNI database and intelligence systems

Head of Business Development

- Management of NI Mapping Agreement & staff
- Management of IPR, commercial partners & sales
- Management of Product & Stakeholder Experience
- Management of Government Land & Property Register database

Head of Geospatial Service Architecture, Address Management & Data Governance

- Management of mapping & addressing systems
- Management of LPS Geospatial support
- OSNI Information Asset Owner

Head of Asset Management Strategy & Policy

- To establish a Strategic Asset Management Unit to support Departments
- To promote the role of the Strategic Asset Management Unit
- To create a baseline asset report for Departments and ALB's

- d. A list of any major projects, deliverables, or outputs the manager has overseen in the last 12 months.

In 2024/25 OSNI as well as our business-as-usual processes of upgrading platforms and software, collating data, delivering mapping services to the public and private sector and retrieving licensing income from our mapping OSNI also:

- Delivered the NICS Earth Observation Portal - https://oreo-ni-oreoni.hub.arcgis.com/
- Awarded an NICS GI Contract and
- Met the Land Parcel Information Service Level Agreement which underpins the Single Farm Payments

- e. Any documented key performance indicators (KPIs), objectives, or targets used to measure the performance of the role.

Staff performance metrics are withheld as this information is exempt under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act because such disclosure would contravene the first principle of the Data Protection Act 2018, which requires that personal data must be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner. Disclosure would be unfair, because the sole trader would not expect that this information would be made available to others.

Section 40(2) exempts personal information from disclosure if that information relates to someone other than the applicant and if disclosure of that information would contravene one of the data protection principles in the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) (or certain other provisions of the Data Protection Act 2018).

Having considered all the information contained within the Lawfulness, Fairness and Transparency Test (which we are providing as a separate attachment – Annex C), the department has established that, on balance, there is no lawful basis for the disclosure of third-party personal data falling within the scope of the request of which the requester is not the data subject

3. A copy of the most recent organisational chart for OSNI, showing the structure of managerial posts (including all G7 positions) and their reporting lines.

   Please see Annex D for staff chart

Annex B

PUBLIC INTEREST TEST				
Request Ref:	FOI DOF/2025-0377			
Request Summary:	The annual budget (if any) for which the manager is responsible.			
Information details:	Exception applied	Disclosure	Non-disclosure	
OSNI Financial Information	**Section 43 (2) Commercial Interests**	There is a public interest in individuals being able to exercise their rights under the FOI/EIRs, in order to enhance their understanding of the reasons for decisions taken by senior members of a public body. Showing compliance with the spirit of the FOI Act 2000 by disclosing information held by the Department. Promoting accountability and transparency by public authorities.	Providing budget information for each managerial area to competitors could prejudice OSNI commercial interests and ability to cost recover. This information may indicate payments to third parties through contracts, budget limits available for procurements, and requirements for future procurement. Providing budget information to competitors could result in; • Increased pressure from third parties to reduce charges for the data, reducing potential for OSNI to cost recover. • Encouraging competitors to establish their own solutions, diluting the market and reducing potential for OSNI to cost recover. • Increasing knowledge of current costs and budgets, resulting in higher future costs to procure replacement hardware, software, and maintenance. • Increasing knowledge of resource and operational costs encouraging competitors to head-hunt skilled OSNI staff.
PUBLIC INTEREST DECISION: In balancing where the public interest lies, my view is that the public interest considerations against disclosure are predominant, and the public interest would be better served by non-disclosure. Signed: Suzanne McLaughlin Date: 25/07/2025				

LAWFULNESS, FAIRNESS AND TRANSPARENCY TEST

Application of FOI exemption Section 40(2)

DOF/2025-0377 ANNEX C

A Lawfulness, Fairness and Transparency Test must be carried out by the Department of Finance when considering disclosure of third-party personal data which falls within the scope of an FOI or EIR request.

FOI / EIR request

Please provide a summary of the professional qualifications, academic degrees, or professional body memberships (e.g., MRICS, CGeog, BSc/MSc in surveying, geodesy, or geomatics) held by staff responsible for geodetic and control network services.

Consideration of the personal data falling within the scope of the request

Guidance from the Information Commissioner's office states that personal data only includes information relating to natural persons who:

- can be identified or who are identifiable, directly from the information in question; or
- who can be indirectly identified from that information in combination with other information.
- The ICO doc "*requests for personal data about public authority employees*" (Requests for personal data about public authority employees) includes the following advice; "*The job description for a post does not in itself constitute personal data about anyone who may happen to hold that post. However, if the post holder is identifiable from that job description, or from the job description and other available data, then this is personal data*."

Description of personal data/issue(s) under consideration:

LPS Staff performance metrics.

Lawfulness

Do either of the two lawful basis below, which allow for the disclosure of personal data, apply? **No**

☐ **Consent:** This applies when the data subject(s) clear consent exists, allowing the department to disclose personal data falling within the scope of this request.

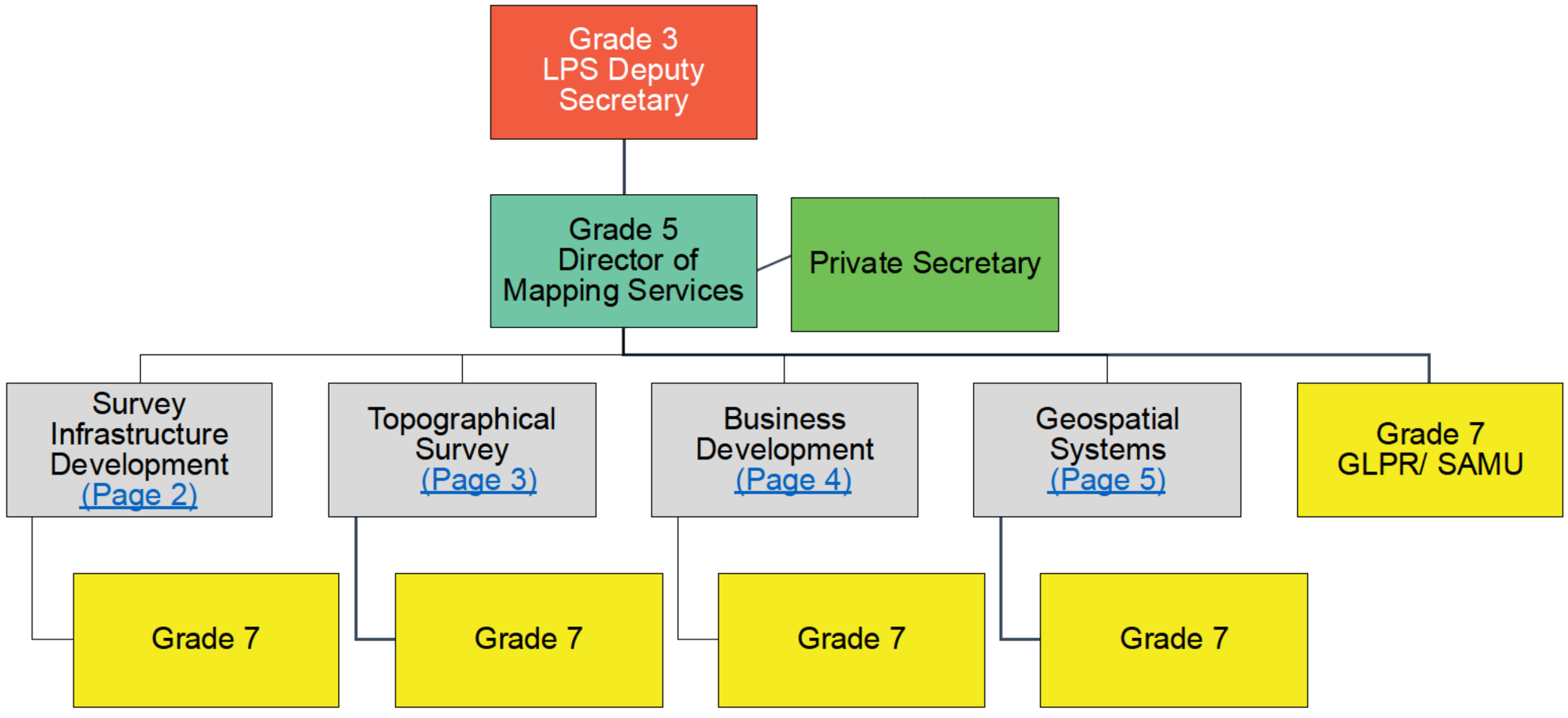
☐ **Legitimate interests:** This applies when disclosure is necessary for the department's legitimate interests or the legitimate interests of a third party that overrides the data subject(s) rights and freedoms, particularly their right to privacy.

Conclusion

Having considered all the information contained within the Lawfulness, Fairness and Transparency Test, the department has established that, on balance, there is no lawful basis for the disclosure of third-party personal data falling within the scope of the request (of which the requester is not the data subject).

OSNI Organisational Chart June 2025

Land & Property Services
Seirbhísí Talún agus Maoine



Legend:

Grade 3	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Deputy Principal
Staff Officer	Executive Officer 1	Executive Officer 2	Administrative Officer	Administrative Assistant

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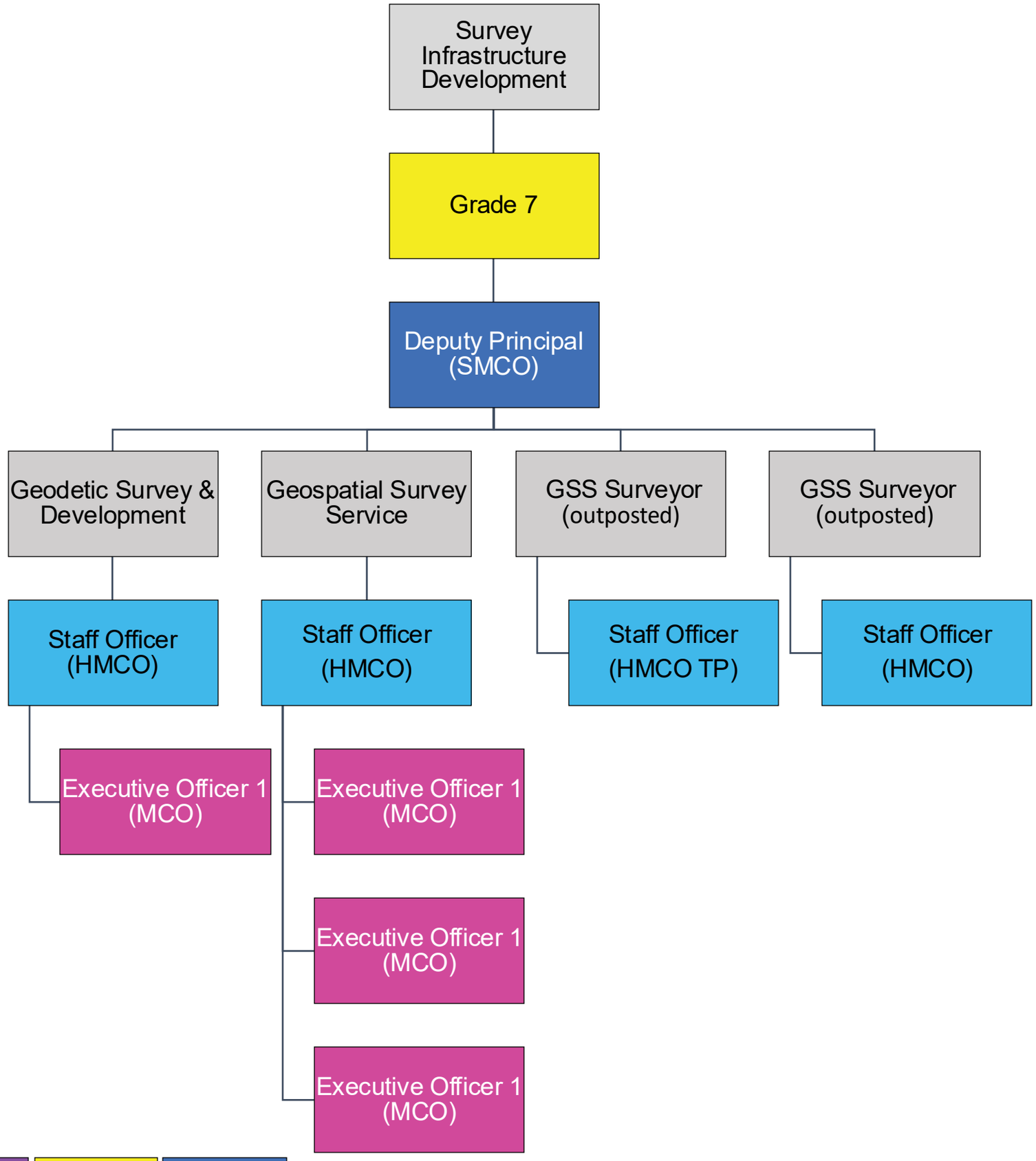

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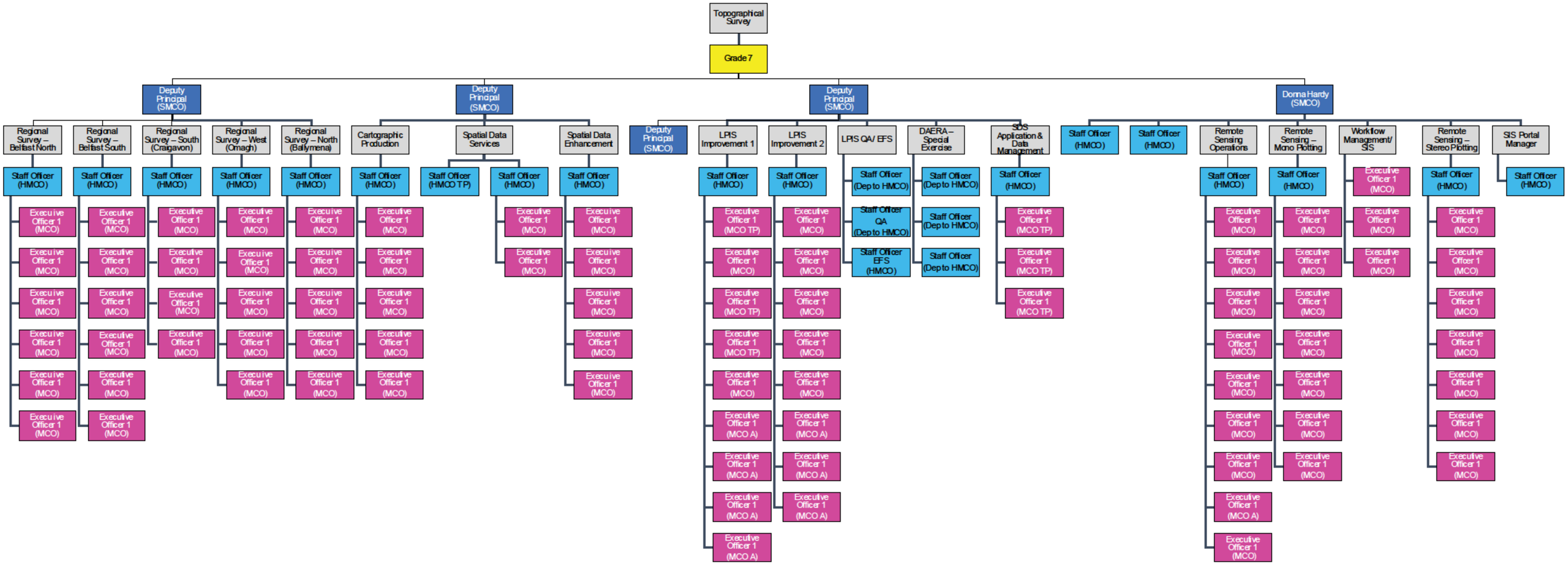

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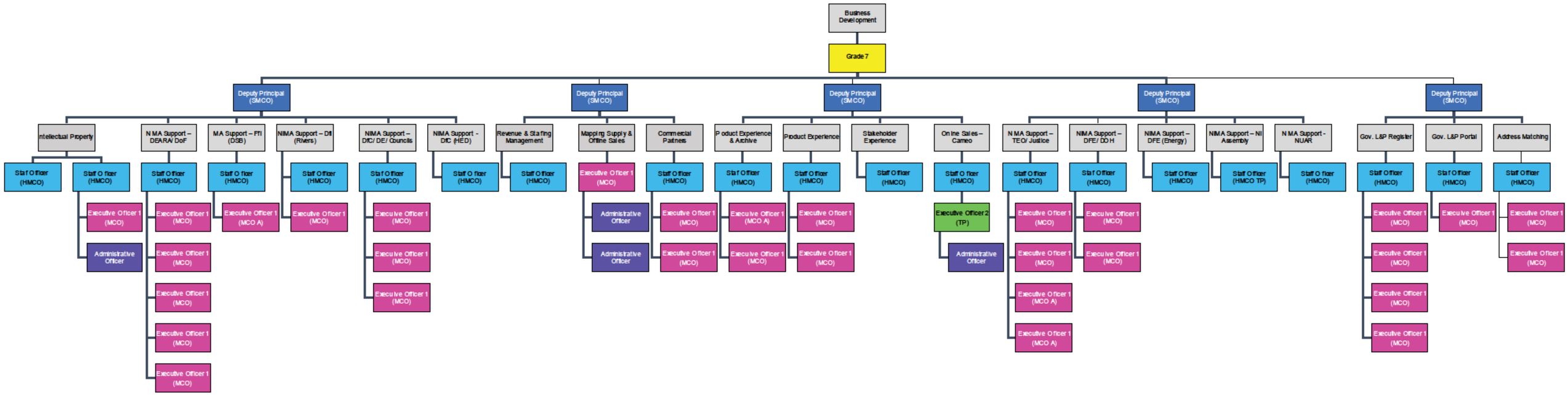

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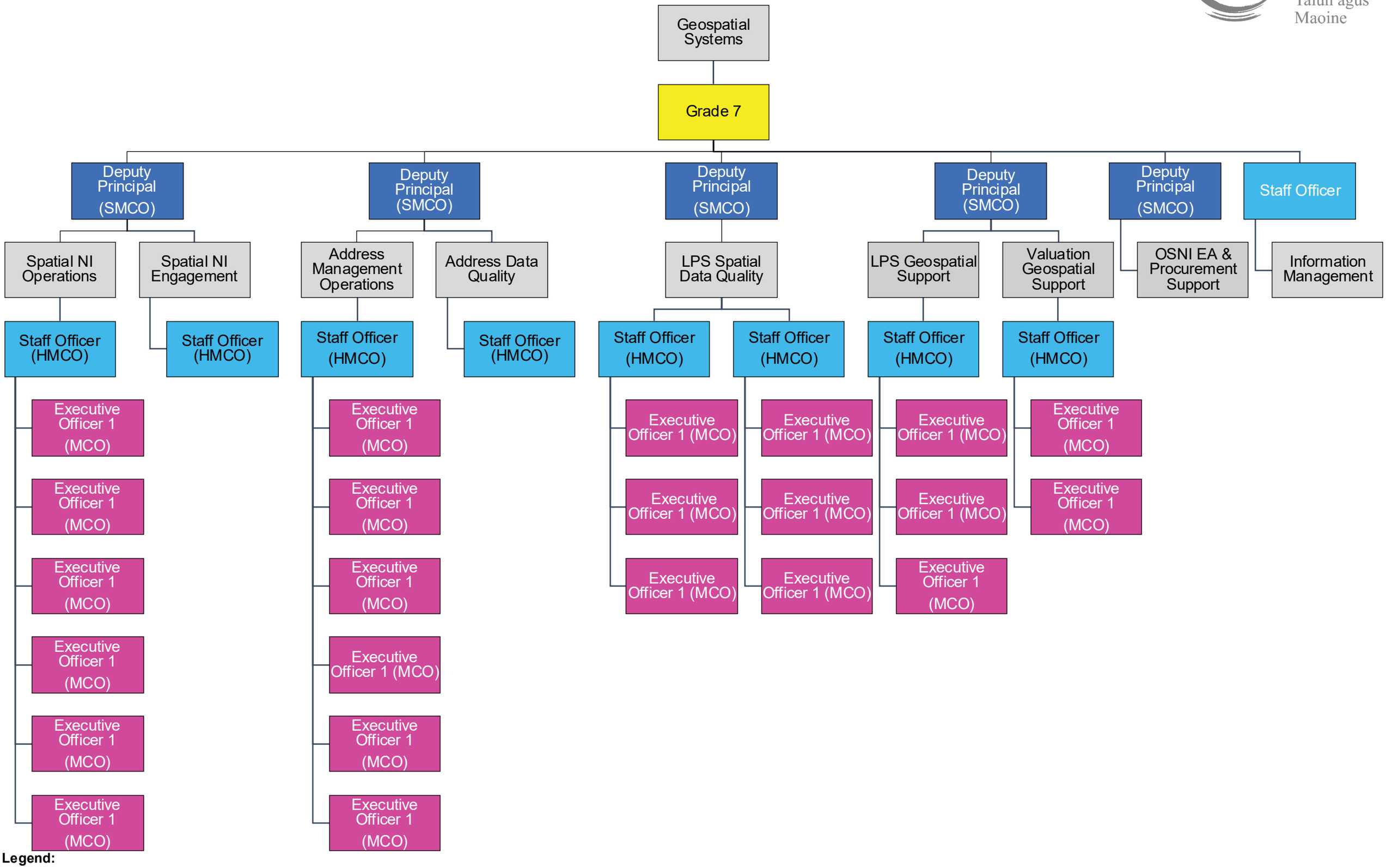

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