Transport for London

Geographic maps file format standard

Our content management system (CMS) is Open Text Web Site Management Server (formerly RedDot CMS). Our Geographic maps standard allows you to add maps to CMS content pages. The widget that you use to insert a map gives you the ability to select certain pre-existing map layers like Stations, Stops and Piers.

You may sometimes, however, need to add data to a map that isn't in the existing set of layers. You can do this by specifying a KML file within the widget. A KML file is a data file that defines a set of pins, lines and polygons to be plotted on a map.

The purpose of this document is to specify the requirements for creating KML files.

Audience

- Designers

- Developers

Requirements

1. You can create a KML file using free applications like Google Earth

2. The following KML entities are supported:

    - StyleMap

    - Point

    - LineString

    - Polygon

3. The following subset of entity properties are supported:

    - Point

        o StyleMap/IconStyle/Icon/href

        o name - This **must** be a simple string and **must not** contain any HTML markup (links, images etc.)

    - LineString

        o StyleMap/LineStyle/color (including opacity using #aaggbbrr)

        o StyleMap/LineStyle/width

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- Polygon
    - StyleMap/LineStyle/color (including opacity using #aaggbbrr)
    - StyleMap/LineStyle/width
    - StyleMap/PolyStyle/color (including opacity using #aaggbbrr)

4. You **must** only use TfL style pins listed in the [Brand identity standard](#)

5. If you use any other icon (eg Google Earth provided icon) it will be ignored when the pin is shown on the map on the TfL site and instead a TfL style pin will be shown with the name of the pin in it

6. You **must** only use colours listed in the [Brand identity standard](#) for lines and polygons

7. You **must** seek approval from us before using any other pins or colours

8. We will confirm URLs for the pin images

Why we do this

There are a number of benefits to using a single file format for adding new layers to geographic maps

- **Sharing new functionality**
  New layers developed for one map, where appropriate, will be available to other maps at little or no additional cost

- **Rapid development of new maps**
  New maps will be quicker and cheaper to develop as they will be able to re-use common elements from other maps, and their elements will be available for use in existing maps

- **Future upgradability**
  As the TfL Online mapping platform is updated with new functionality or features, it will be easier and cheaper to update all the maps at once

Further reading

- [Brand identity standard](#)

- [Geographic maps standard](#)

- [Schematic maps standard](#)

- [Map data](#)

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Version history

Version	Date	Summary of changes
1.0	03/02/2014	First issue

Review history

Name	Title	Date	Comments

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