

## GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

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### GENERAL

Government administration in Victoria is of a tripartite nature, involving the activities of the Commonwealth Government, the Victorian Government, and a local government network of 211 municipalities. The role of the Commonwealth Government is discussed briefly in the following paragraph, followed by a comprehensive description of the administration of the Victorian Government's Departments of State and statutory bodies. An outline of the system of local government, which is described in more detail at the beginning of Chapter 6 of this *Year Book* is followed by a comprehensive treatment of planning activities in Victoria. The chapter concludes with a section dealing with public safety.

### COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

Since Federation, there have been considerable changes in the functions actually performed by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments, because of various constitutional amendments and inter-governmental agreements affecting functions. The main fields of activity of the Commonwealth Government today are: foreign affairs and diplomatic representations; maintenance of the Armed Forces; customs and excise; posts and telegraphs; control of broadcasting and television; control of civil aviation; repatriation of ex-servicemen; immigration; industrial arbitration for national industries; control of coinage and currency; overseas trade promotion; employment service; age, invalid, widows, and various other pensions; national health benefits; Federal territories and overseas dependencies; census and statistics; meteorological service; Federal courts and police; control of banking; collection of sales and income taxes; housing assistance and defence service homes; scientific and industrial research; management of State and national debt; lighthouses and navigation; and Australian territorial sea and seabed. A more detailed treatment of this subject can be found in the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, included on pages 7-24 of *Year Book Australia* (No. 62).

A comprehensive guide to the organisation and functions of the Commonwealth Government can be found in the annual *Commonwealth Government Directory*, which lists all Commonwealth Parliamentary departments, courts, tribunals, Ministers, and their departments. Each ministerial portfolio includes its enactments, Ministerial staff listing, and details of departmental establishments, role and functions, and the executive staff of its divisions, and branch offices or representatives throughout Australia and the world.

### VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

#### **Victorian Public Service**

The Victorian Public Service consists of those officers and employees who staff the ministerial departments as distinct from those employed in the teaching service, the police force, or in local government or in those statutory authorities which do not have staff employed under the Public Service Act. Its duty is to administer legislation, implement government policy, and provide policy advice to government. There are about 27,000\*

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\* At 30 June 1980.

permanent officers who are grouped in three Divisions; the First Division comprising officers exercising the more important administrative or professional functions, the Second Division comprising other officers performing duties of an administrative or professional nature, and the Third Division comprising a wide range of positions, including clerical assistants, stenographers and typists, chauffeurs, tradesmen, and various inspectors.

Permanent heads are selected by the government of the day, mostly from within the Public Service. First Division officers are either promoted from within the Service or appointed from outside. Entry to the Second Division requires a professional qualification or the passing of a competitive entrance examination and there is also special provision for the recruitment of graduates for administrative work. Appointment to the Third Division is based on acceptable educational and other qualifications. A cadetship scheme operates to complement recruitment in a number of areas.

Because of the career nature of the Service, the classification of officers within the Divisions provides for some progression by salary increments in most positions, commensurate with increased knowledge and experience, but subject to a satisfactory level of performance. Creation of new offices or the abolition of existing offices is by Order of the Governor in Council after recommendation by the Public Service Board. For new offices, the Treasury must specify that the necessary funds are available before the offices can be created.

About 4,700\* persons are employed on a temporary basis and recruitment for permanent positions often comes from this group. While legislation limits their employment to a maximum period of two years, the Public Service Board may renew these engagements in special circumstances. A further group of about 7,800\* persons known as "exempt employees" are not subject to the provisions of the Public Service Act and are engaged in intermittent or casual work or are employed under the provisions of Commonwealth Awards, State Wages Board determinations, or at special rates determined by the Public Service Board.

### **Public Service Board**

#### *Functions of the Board*

The Public Service Board is constituted under the *Public Service Act 1974*, and operates as the central personnel agency of the Victorian Public Service.

The primary function of the Board is to ensure that the Public Service is so organised and staffed as to be capable of performing its functions in the most efficient and economic manner. The Board assists departments in making improvements to their management, organisation, and work procedures. It supervises Public Service recruitment and provides facilities for the development and training of Public Service officers and employees. While a separate Promotions Appeal Board hears appeals against the provisional promotion of officers in the Second and Third Divisions of the service, the Board does this for First Division officers.

The Board has an important industrial role. It determines salaries, wages, and conditions of employment, either on its own initiative or that of departments, or on the basis of claims submitted by approved Public Service staff associations.

#### *Composition of the Board*

The Board consists of three members appointed by the Governor in Council. One of the members is appointed Chairman until the age of sixty-five. A second member is appointed for a term of five years. Depending on the matter being considered by the Board, the third member is either of two persons appointed for a term of five years, having been:

- (1) Elected by officers of the Public Service generally; or
- (2) elected by officers of the Third Division in the Health Commission of Victoria employed in State Institutions within the meaning of the *Mental Health Act 1959*.

#### *Structure of the Board's Office*

The Division structure of the Board's Office is under review following the appointment of the new Chairman. The two senior officers of the Board are the Principal Consultants. Subject to a further review, the Board's Office has been divided into five divisions, each

\* At 30 June 1980.

of which is managed by a Director. The divisions are as follows: Industrial Relations Division, Organisation and Manpower Division, Consultancy and Management Review Division, Human Resource Development Division, and Personnel Services and Research Division.

### **Victorian Government Departments and Ministries**

Brief descriptions of the functions and services of Victorian Government Departments and Ministries constituting the Public Service of Victoria are shown below, followed by a list of statutory authorities under the jurisdiction of the respective ministers.

There are instruments of ministerial action and legislative enactment is not required to establish, abolish, or reorganise a department although this is often the method used. Alternatively, section 21(3) of the *Public Service Act 1974* can be used. It empowers the Governor in Council by order to abolish any department, alter the name of any department, or create a new department.

#### *Department of Agriculture*

Minister: Minister of Agriculture

Permanent Head: Director-General of Agriculture

The functions of the Department of Agriculture are to provide regulatory, research, diagnostic, and extension services in the fields of animal health, animal industries, agriculture, dairying, horticulture, economics, and marketing; to discharge the statutory responsibilities imposed by the legislation administered directly by the Department under the Minister; and to administer Victoria's agricultural and horticultural research establishments, veterinary laboratories, and offices throughout Victoria.

The Department is organised in functional areas which include administration; industry, extension, and education; planning and communication; regulation; and research development and diagnosis. A number of statutory bodies also come under the jurisdiction of the Minister. (For the history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book 1971*, pages 105-8.)

#### *Department of Crown Lands and Survey*

Minister: Minister of Lands

Permanent Head: Secretary for Lands

The Department is responsible for the management and control of the uncommitted Crown lands of Victoria; the provision of Crown land reserves for recreational and other purposes and the appointment of committees of management for such reserves; the co-ordination of all survey work in Victoria and the compilation of comprehensive maps; the disposal, in various forms of tenure, of Crown lands for agricultural, pastoral, residential, and industrial purposes and survey work in this connection; the purchase of land for the Crown; and the destruction of vermin and noxious weeds. It also controls and maintains the Royal Botanic Gardens and the National Herbarium. (For the history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book 1968*, pages 100-2.)

#### *Education Department*

Minister: Minister of Education

Assistant Minister of Education

Permanent Head: Director-General of Education

The function of the Education Department is to ensure that children between the ages of 6 and 15 years receive suitable, efficient, and regular instruction in general subjects and to provide more specialised higher education for older students.

Much of the administration of the Department is decentralised into eleven Education Regions, each headed by a Regional Director of Education.

The teaching service provides the teachers for all State schools, the Department being responsible for general administration including the provision, maintenance, and equipment of school buildings, teachers' salaries, and transport of children to school.

(For a brief history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book 1969*, pages 107-10; for a detailed history see Volume 1 of the Department's 1973 publication *Vision and Realization: a centenary history of State education in Victoria*.)

*Health Commission*

Ministers: Minister of Health

Assistant Minister of Health

Permanent Head: Chairman of the Health Commission

Through the Health Commission, the Minister controls all health, hospital, and associated services administered directly or supported financially by the Victorian Government.

The advent of the Commission meant a re-organisation of Victoria's health services. Prior to December 1978, these services were provided by the Department of Health, the Mental Health Authority, the Commission of Public Health, and the Hospitals and Charities Commission. These organisations were dissolved and their functions assumed by the Commission operating through three "line" divisions: Hospitals, which is responsible for public general hospitals, private hospitals, and nursing homes, and charitable institutions and benevolent societies; Mental Health, which is responsible for mental and psychiatric hospitals, psychiatric services, training centres, mental retardation services, and alcohol and drug services; and Public Health, which is responsible for public health, general health, school, and maternal and child health services. These divisions are supported by five "service" divisions: Building and Services, Finance, Management Services, Personnel, and Planning and Research. It is intended to create a fourth line division: Mental Retardation. Currently, mental retardation services are controlled by the Mental Health Division. (Further information on the history of the Department of Health can be found in the *Victorian Year Book* 1974, pages 109-11.)

*Department of Labour and Industry*

Minister: Minister of Labour and Industry

Permanent Head: Secretary for Labour and Industry

The Department of Labour and Industry was established under the *Labour and Industry Act* 1958. Through its various divisions, the Department is concerned with physical and non-physical conditions of employment and the enforcement of various legislation concerned primarily with safety of workers and the public. The Department provides administrative, regulatory inspection and training services, and works in liaison with other Commonwealth and State labour departments.

The Department consists of five major divisions: Administration, Industrial Relations, Inspection Services, Industrial Training and Technical Services (two branches: Legal and Research and Evaluation), and five offices of statutory bodies: Building Industry Long Service Leave Board, Hairdressers Registration Board, Liquor Control Commission, Motor Accidents Board, and the Workers Compensation Board. (For the history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book* 1975, pages 140-4.)

*Law Department*

Minister: Attorney-General

Permanent Head: Secretary to the Law Department

The Law Department is primarily responsible for the administration of the legal system in Victoria. Its main functions are the provision of staff and facilities to the courts and the administration of the following offices: Crown Solicitor's Office, Parliamentary Counsel's Office, Public Solicitor's Office, Public Trust Office, Corporate Affairs Office, Registrar-General's Office, and Office of Titles.

In addition, a number of Committees and Boards come within the administration of the Attorney-General. These are: Appeal Costs Board, Companies Auditors Board, Crimes Compensation Tribunal, Director of Court Administration, Discharged Servicemen's Employment Board, Government Shorthand Writers Office, Law Reform Commissioner, Legal Aid Commission, Legal Aid Committee, Metropolitan Fair Rents Board, Motor Accidents Tribunal, the Patriotic Funds Council, Raffles and Bingo Permits Board, Registry of Estate Agents, Registry of Friendly Societies, State Classification of Publications Board, and Victorian Taxation Board of Review.

The Department is also responsible for the management of Royal Commissions and Boards of Inquiry. Broadly, its role is to provide the means whereby an individual may protect his rights. (For the history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book* 1965, pages 100-4.)

*Local Government Department*

Minister: Minister for Local Government

Permanent Head: Secretary for Local Government

The Local Government Department was established under the *Local Government Department Act 1958*. The head office of the Department has both administrative and functional responsibilities including a degree of superintendence over Victoria's 211 municipal councils in relation to the administration of the *Local Government Act 1958* and other Acts relating to local government. The Department acts as the link between local government and State government and in particular has responsibility for:

- (1) Advising the Minister on by-laws, proposals for land acquisition by municipalities, sale and leasing of land, and various other statutory procedures submitted by municipalities for Ministerial or Governor in Council approval or consent;
- (2) examining proposals for new or amending legislation and preparing explanatory notes thereon for the use of the Minister and Cabinet and Parliament;
- (3) preparing draft regulations;
- (4) exercising a supervisory and advisory role over the administration and financial management of municipalities and the statutory functions of councillors and municipal officers, through Inspectors of Municipal Administration;
- (5) dealing with administrative matters arising from appeals to the Minister in areas where he has power to act in a quasi-judicial capacity;
- (6) answering inquiries from municipalities, statutory authorities, and the public on the full range of local government issues; and
- (7) administering certain grants and subsidies to municipalities.

The Victorian Grants Commission recommends the allocation of untied grant money to municipalities, carries out inspections, conducts hearings, takes evidence, and generally makes such investigations as are considered necessary to determine:

- (1) Special needs and disabilities of a municipality;
- (2) the effort made by the municipality to function effectively and provide reasonable services; and
- (3) any other matters of special significance to the municipality.

In addition to these functions, the Department encompasses the Valuer-General's Office and the Weights and Measures Branch. The Valuer-General is responsible under the *Valuation of Land Act 1960* for the co-ordination and standards of valuations made for rating purposes, including those for all municipal, water, sewerage, planning, and land tax authorities.

The Weights and Measures Branch is headed by the Superintendent of Weights and Measures, who administers weights and measures legislation, instructs inspectors in the performance of their duties, and generally supervises the local administration, the design of equipment, and the examination of weighing and measuring equipment.

The Minister is also responsible for a number of Boards and Committees including the Land Valuation Boards of Review, Building Regulations Committee and Referees, Local Government Advisory Board, Municipal Auditors Board, Building Qualifications Board, Municipal Clerks Board, Municipal Electrical Engineers Board, Municipal Engineers Board, Municipal Valuation Fees Committee, Valuers Qualification Board, Local Authorities Superannuation Board, and the Building and Development Control Administration Office. (For the history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book 1972*, pages 103-5.)

*Department of Community Welfare Services*

Minister: Minister for Community Welfare Services

Permanent Head: Director-General of Community Welfare Services

The Department of Community Welfare Services provides services for the social security and development of individuals, families, and communities. It also provides services which contribute to the social safety of the community and its members. This involves the protection of persons who are considered to be at risk, vulnerable, and dependent; and the

control of individuals and problems which constitute a threat to the safety of others. The Department actively fosters and encourages the development of community-based services designed to protect and aid families.

The various divisions of the Department are: Regional Services Division; Correctional Services Division; Family and Adolescent Services Division; Administrative Services Division; Community Welfare Training Institute; and Office of Research and Social Policy.

The Minister is also responsible for the following bodies: Adult Parole Board, Youth Parole Board, Prisons Advisory Council, Family Welfare Advisory Council, Social Welfare Training Council, Seamans Welfare Advisory Council, and the Seamans Welfare Trust Committee.

#### *Department of Minerals and Energy*

Minister: Minister for Minerals and Energy

Permanent Head: Secretary for Minerals and Energy

The Department of Minerals and Energy was established by the *Minerals and Energy Act 1976* which enabled the Mines Department and the Ministry of Fuel and Power to be amalgamated.

The Minister for Minerals and Energy is responsible for the operation of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria and the Gas and Fuel Corporation of Victoria. The Department is responsible for the formulation of energy policies for Victoria particularly in respect to petroleum and brown coal and for the co-ordination of energy research in the State with the exception of brown coal which is now carried out by the Victorian Brown Coal Council (from 1 January 1979.)

The Department is also responsible for carrying out geological surveys of the mineral, brown coal, stone, and groundwater resources of the State and the provision of information and services in these fields of activity.

The Department administers legislation relating to petroleum exploration and production, mining, quarrying, tunnelling and trenching, groundwater resources, gas regulation, explosives, liquefied gases and inflammable liquids and the granting of permits and licences to own and use pipelines for the conveyance of gas, oil, L.P.G. and chemicals. (For the history of the Mines Department, see *Victorian Year Book 1970*, pages 105-8.)

#### *Department of the Premier*

Minister: The Premier

Permanent Head: Secretary, Department of the Premier

The functions of the Department of the Premier derive from the task of serving the Premier as Chief Minister of the State and as Minister of the Department. Its functions essentially relate to policy development, policy implementation, and co-ordination of government activities. The Department provides support services for Cabinet; acts as a channel of communication between Commonwealth, State, and foreign governments; arranges Royal visits and special State ceremonial functions; provides support for various committees and task forces, including the State Co-ordination Council; undertakes special research and investigations; and conducts correspondence with the public on matters affecting the government and the Premier.

The Divisions of the Department are: Federal Affairs, General Services, Projects, Protocol, Research and Policy, and Overseas Division. In addition, the various branches include: Audit Office, Office of the Agent-General, Office of the Executive Council and Office of the Governor, Office of the Public Service Board (for the history of the Board see *Victorian Year Book 1976*, pages 146-9), Office of Industrial Relations Co-ordination, Office of the Commission for Equal Opportunity, Ministry for Federal Affairs and Community Services Centre incorporating Migrant Advisory, Women's Advisory, Anti-discrimination and Interpreter Services Bureaux, and the Government Information Office. (For the history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book 1964*, pages 81-4.)

#### *Department of Property and Services*

Minister: Minister for Property and Services

Permanent Head: Director-General of Property and Services

The Department was created by Order-in-Council on 16 May 1978. The functions of the Department are: to monitor and independently check all aspects of property dealings by government departments and government statutory authorities; to ensure that each real estate transaction involving large sums of money is in the public interest; to be responsible for the functions of the Government Printing Office, the Government Computing Service, and the Public Record Office; to collect and register statistical information; and to conduct elections of members of the Victorian Parliament and a number of government and semi-government bodies.

The following Divisions operate within the Department: Government Computing Service, Government Printing Office, Land Purchasing, Land Sales Monitoring and Research Division, Management Services Division, Office of the Government Statist and Actuary, Public Record Office, and the State Electoral Office.

#### *Public Works Department*

Minister: Minister of Public Works

Permanent Head: Director-General of Public Works

The Department is Victoria's major building construction authority and provides advice to the government in all matters relating to public works and the initiation of design, construction, management, and maintenance of works and buildings for State government departments, ministries, and agencies. It provides property management of all government buildings (excluding schools) in the State, and acquires property (purchase or leasing) for the State. The Department is also responsible for the control, development, and maintenance of ports, harbours, and shipping channels (excluding local areas controlled by the Port of Melbourne Authority, Geelong and Portland Harbor Trusts), and for coastal engineering and foreshore protection.

The Divisions of the Department are: Building, Ports and Harbors, Property and Services, and Administration.

The Building Division is responsible for the design and construction of buildings on behalf of client departments. It is involved with design research and provides minor works and maintenance for client departments.

The Ports and Harbors Division, through the Development, Operations, and Works Branches, is responsible for the control of port navigation and port development, the maintenance of shipping channels, and foreshore protection along the Victorian coastline, excluding only those areas controlled by the Port of Melbourne Authority, and the Geelong and Portland Harbor Trusts.

The Property and Services Division, is responsible for the purchase, acquisition, leasing, and rental of properties for State government departments in accordance with the policies of the State Accommodation Committee and under the direction of the Victorian Public Offices Corporation. The Division is also responsible for the security of government property, provides janitorial services, and manages the State Petrol Centre, the State Garage, canteens, cafeterias, a light transport fleet, as well as vehicle parking.

The Administration Division provides a wide variety of specialist, professional, administrative, and clerical support services to the Department. Control and responsibility for administrative standards throughout the Department is vested in the Director of Administration. Major service branches are the Accounts Branch, the Supply Branch and the Personnel Branch. (For the history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book* 1967, pages 98-100.)

#### *Department of State Development, Decentralization and Tourism*

Minister: Minister for State Development, Decentralization and Tourism

Permanent Head: Director of State Development, Decentralization and Tourism

The Department's activities are directed towards sponsoring and promoting the full and balanced development of the State. The functions of the Department are to promote the development of decentralised secondary and tertiary industries throughout the State, including large scale industries and associated development; to liaise with statutory authorities to provide the utility services necessary for decentralised industry and commerce; and to develop and promote tourism in Victoria.

The various divisions are: Central Administration, Decentralisation, Research Policy and Development, State Projects, and Tourism.

Other bodies encompassed by the Department's administration are the Albury-Wodonga (Victoria) Corporation, Geelong Regional Commission, Small Business Development Corporation, Victorian Development Corporation, and the Victorian Government Travel Authority.

#### *State Forests Department*

Minister: Minister of Forests

Permanent Head: Chairman, Forests Commission

The functions of the Commission are to manage, protect, conserve, and improve the State forest resource to ensure that it sustains production of forest products, and forest benefits in the long-term, in the best interests of the community.

For the administration of its activities the Commission is organised into two groups, central and field. The central administrative group comprises six divisions: Administration, Forestry Education and Research, Forest Management, Forest Protection, Forest Operations, Economics and Marketing. The field group comprises seven territorial divisions: Central, Eastern, Northern, North-Eastern, Southern, South-Western, and Western. A total of forty-six field districts are located within the seven territorial divisions. (For the history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book* 1978, pages 152-4.)

#### *Treasury*

Minister: The Treasurer

Permanent Head: Director of Finance

The prime functions and responsibilities of the Department relate to budget and financial matters including the raising of revenue, control over governmental expenditure within the ambit of Parliamentary authority, and the financial aspects of government policy. Treasury exercises overall control of financial planning and administration.

The other branches are: State Taxation Office, Stamp Duties Office, State Tender Board, State Superannuation Board, State Employees Retirement Benefits Board, and State Insurance Office.

The State Insurance Office issues policies of insurance in respect of Employees' Liability, Compulsory Third Party, and Comprehensive Motor Vehicle to employers and motorists. The Office is administered and controlled by the Insurance Commissioner who also advises the Victorian Government, government departments, instrumentalities, and industry in insurance matters, and the Minister in respect of the annual approval of insurers under the Workers Compensation Act. (For the history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book* 1966, pages 97-100.)

#### *Department of Youth, Sport and Recreation*

Minister: Minister for Youth, Sport and Recreation

Permanent Head: Director-General of Youth, Sport and Recreation

The objectives of this Department are to assist in the growth of the individuality and character of youth; to promote fitness and general health; to improve facilities available in Victoria for leisure-time pursuits; and to administer the Racing Act, Professional Boxing Control Act, and the Youth, Sport and Recreation Act.

The various divisions are: Administrative and Special Services, Racing, Regional Services, and Recreation Development.

#### *Ministry for the Arts*

Minister: Minister of the Arts

Permanent Head: Director, Ministry for the Arts

The Ministry for the Arts has the dual function of being the Victorian Government's arts funding body with a charter to increase the public awareness and accessibility of the arts in Victoria, and of having broad administrative responsibility for its various branches and agencies.

The Ministry performs these functions by funding some 300 arts organisations throughout the State and through the services provided by the following branches and



agencies: National Museum, National Gallery of Victoria, Science Museum, State Film Centre, State Library, Victorian Film Corporation, State Library and National Museum Building Committee, Victorian Arts Centre Trust, and the Victorian Council of the Arts.

*Ministry for Conservation*

Minister: Minister for Conservation

Permanent Head: Director of Conservation

The Ministry was established under the *Ministry for Conservation Act 1972*. The functions of the Ministry are the protection and preservation of the environment; and the proper management and utilisation of land and living aquatic resources of Victoria.

The agencies and divisions of the Ministry are: Environment Protection Authority, Fisheries and Wildlife Division, Land Conservation Council, National Parks Service, Port Phillip Authority, and Soil Conservation Authority. These agencies are supported by three Central Groups which carry out a number of specialist activities and provide services to the agencies. They are the Administration Group, Assessments Group, and the Research Group.

*Ministry for Police and Emergency Services*

Minister: Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Permanent Head: Secretary of Police and Emergency Services

This Ministry was established on 1 July 1979, following the abolition of the Chief Secretary's Department. (Further information on the Chief Secretary's Department can be found in the *Victorian Year Book 1963*, pages 100-4 and also the *Victorian Year Book 1979*, page 685.) Its major functions include the maintenance of law and order in Victoria, which involves preservation of the peace, protection of life and property, and the prevention and detection of crime; planning, organising, co-ordinating, and implementing measures to guard against or minimise the effects of emergencies harmful to life, health, or property; and the prevention and suppression of fires in the Melbourne metropolitan area and in the country area of Victoria. Other functions include co-ordinating arrangements where interaction between police, emergency, and fire-fighting services is necessary, registration of private agents, and the administration of functions arising from the *Motor Car Act 1958*, the *Motor Boating Act 1961*, the *Recreation Vehicles Act 1973*, *Road Traffic Act 1958*, and the *Motor Car (Compulsory Third Party Insurance) Act 1967*.

The major branches and agencies which comprise the Ministry include the Police Department, (including the Motor Registration Branch), the Victoria State Emergency Service, the Registry of Private Agents, the Road Safety and Traffic Authority, and Country Fire Authority, and the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board. Although the Road Safety and Traffic Authority is staffed by public servants, members of the Authority itself are appointed outside the Victorian Public Service.

The committees and boards falling within the administration of the Ministry are: Metropolitan Fire Brigades Appeals Tribunal, Metropolitan Fire Brigade Superannuation Board, Police Discipline Board, Police Medical Board, Police Service Board, and Police Superannuation Board.

*Ministry of Consumer Affairs*

Minister: Minister of Consumer Affairs

Permanent Head: Secretary for Labour and Industry

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs was established under the *Ministry of Consumer Affairs Act 1973*. The objects of the Ministry are to promote a fair market-place by the improvement of consumer-trade relations, the encouragement by education of consumer awareness and responsibility, the investigation and settling of disputes, investigation of practices which prejudice such a market, and the administration and enforcement of the Acts for which the Minister is responsible.

The Ministry, through the Consumer Affairs Bureau, advises persons in respect of matters affecting their interests as consumers, receives and investigates complaints, implements consumer education programmes, conducts research into consumer matters, and takes and initiates action for remedying breaches of the legislation.

Associated with the Ministry are the Consumer Affairs Council, Consumer Affairs Bureau, Small Claims Tribunal, and Motor Car Traders Committee.

*Ministry of Housing*

Minister: Minister of Housing

Permanent Head: Director of Housing

The Ministry of Housing was established under the *Housing Act 1958* to be responsible for implementing policies and programmes approved by the Minister of Housing. This includes an overall responsibility for the co-ordination, provision, and administration of public and private housing in Victoria to best satisfy the housing needs of the State. The Ministry is responsible for the provision and rental of houses, both high-rise and walk-up flats, and the sale of houses to eligible persons on the basis of a means test.

The Ministry is responsible for the preparation and implementation of neighbourhood redevelopment programmes and the development of land for housing, community, and urban renewal purposes, including the sale of lands where necessary. It is also responsible for the provision of community facilities, shops, and other commercial facilities in areas where land is sold for housing or houses are provided under the Housing Act.

The Ministry also has responsibility for the establishment and enforcement of adequate housing standards, the provision of finance for persons building, purchasing, or renovating houses, and also encourages the development of materials and methods to improve the quality and availability of housing in Victoria.

The various divisions of the Ministry are: Finance and Administration, Home Finance, Housing Development; Neighbourhood Redevelopment, Policy Planning, Research, and Evaluation; Property Sales and Search; and Estate Management and Teacher Housing.

The following bodies report to the Minister: Housing Commission, Teacher Housing Authority, Decentralized Industry Housing Authority, Home Finance Trust, Housing Advisory Council, and the Co-operative Societies Advisory Council.

*Ministry of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs*

Minister: Minister of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs

Permanent Head: Director, State Development, Decentralization and Tourism

The functions of the Ministry are to promote and facilitate the settlement of migrants in Victoria; to encourage migrants to accept Australian citizenship fully in the Australian community; to encourage a community awareness of the value of ethnic cultures; to promote and encourage the establishment of a community in which all ethnic groups will have full expression of identity and to take such steps as are considered necessary to prevent or remove discrimination against persons with an ethnic background; and to promote the welfare of migrants and their families within the State of Victoria.

The various divisions are: Community Relations and Liaison, Community Education and Development, Migrant Settlement Services, Immigration, and Administration.

*Ministry for Planning*

Minister: Minister for Planning

Permanent Head: Secretary for Planning

The Ministry is responsible for the co-ordination and administration of the planning functions of the Town and Country Planning Board, regional planning authorities, and all other responsible planning authorities throughout Victoria. It also provides advice and assistance to these bodies to ensure that the planning process is fully co-ordinated and consistent with Victorian Government policies.

Under the *Town and Country Planning (Amalgamation) Act 1980*, the Ministry and the Town and Country Planning Board were to be amalgamated to form a new Department of Planning. The amalgamation was expected to be completed early in 1981 when the Act was to be proclaimed.

*Ministry of Transport*

Minister: Minister of Transport

Permanent Head: Director of Transport

The Ministry is responsible for securing the improvement, development, and better co-ordination of passenger and freight transportation in Victoria. The Ministry carries out detailed investigations into all aspects of land transport and is the policy adviser to the Minister of Transport. The Minister of Transport is responsible for the transport authorities governing the operation, maintenance, and improvement of Victoria's land

transport system. (For the history of transport administration in Victoria, see the *Victorian Year Book* 1979, pages 129-30.)

*Ministry of Water Resources and Water Supply*

Minister: Minister of Water Supply

Permanent Head: Chairman, State Rivers and Water Supply Commission

The Ministry is the administrative organisation for the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission which is Victoria's statutory authority for the conservation and distribution of rural water resources and the control of water from all rivers, streams, and other natural sources in Victoria, with the exception of the Melbourne metropolitan area. Its functions also include drainage, flood protection and flood plain managements, and the control of salinity and water pollution.

The Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works is the water supply authority responsible for the conservation and distribution of water to the Melbourne metropolitan area. It is also the responsible authority for the preparation and submission for approval of any planning scheme in relation to the Melbourne metropolitan area and is responsible for Melbourne metropolitan parks.

Those aspects of the Board's activities which relate to water, sewerage, and drainage functions come within the administration of the Minister of Water Supply. For its planning function, the Board is also responsible to the Minister for Planning.

**Victorian Government statutory authorities**

In addition to ministerial departments, there is also a wide variety of Victorian Government statutory authorities, some of which are bodies corporate. Such authorities are constituted by specific Acts of Parliament, are governed by controlling Boards or Commissions, and have varying degrees of freedom from ministerial direction. Some are staffed under the Public Service Act; some employ their own staff; and in others, the authority employs its own staff under conditions approved by the Public Service Board.

The largest of the statutory authorities are engaged in public utility or developmental fields of activity, for example, the Victorian Railways Board, the State Electricity Commission, the Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board, and the Country Roads Board.

**VICTORIA — GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES**

Minister	Statutory authorities with Public Service staffs and department or ministry with which the statutory authority is associated		Statutory authorities which do not have Public Service staffs
	Department	Statutory authority	
Minister of Agriculture	Agriculture	Dairy Produce Board Filled Milk Advisory Committee Imitation Milk Advisory Committee Milk Pasteurization Committee Poultry Farmer Licensing Review Committee Stock Medicines Board Tobacco Quota Appeals Tribunal Tobacco Quota Committee Tomato Processing Industry Negotiating Committee Victorian Abattoir and Meat Inspection Authority Victorian Advisory Council on Agricultural Education Victorian Broiler Industry Negotiation Committee Victorian Wheat Advisory Committee Wine Grape Processing Industry Negotiating Committee	Australian Barley Board Country Grain Handling Improvement Authority Geelong Grain Handling Improvement Authority Grain Elevators Board Marketing Boards— Citrus Fruit Tobacco Leaf Victorian Egg Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market Trust Portland Grain Handling Improvement Authority Poultry Farmer Licensing Committee Veterinary Board of Victoria Victorian Dairy Industry Authority Victorian Dried Fruits Board Western Metropolitan Market Trust Young Farmers Finance Council
		Ministry for the Arts	Council of the Science Museum of Victoria Council of Trustees of the National Gallery Library Council of Victoria National Museum of Victoria Council State Library and National Museum Buildings Committee Victorian Film Corporation
Minister for the Arts	Ministry for the Arts	Council of the Science Museum of Victoria Council of Trustees of the National Gallery Library Council of Victoria National Museum of Victoria Council State Library and National Museum Buildings Committee Victorian Film Corporation	Exhibition Trustees Geelong and District Cultural Institute Victorian Arts Centre Trust Victorian Council of the Arts

VICTORIA — GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES—*continued*

Minister	Statutory authorities with Public Service staffs and department or ministry with which the statutory authority is associated		Statutory authorities which do not have Public Service staffs
	Department	Statutory authority	
Attorney-General	Law	Appeals Costs Board Companies Auditor's Board Discharged Servicemen's Employment Board Metropolitan Fair Rents Board Patriotic Funds Council Public Trustee Raffles and Bingo Permits Board Victorian Taxation Board of Review	Boards of Inquiry Council of Legal Education Crimes Compensation Board Estate Agents Committee Law Reform Advisory Council Law Reform Commissioner Legal Aid Commission Legal Aid Committee Legal Aid Review Committee Registry of Estate Agents State Classification of Publications Board
Minister for Police and Emergency Services	Ministry for Police and Emergency Services	Police Medical Board Police Superannuation Board Registrar of Private Agents	Country Fire Authority Metropolitan Fire Brigades Appeals Tribunal Metropolitan Fire Brigade Board Metropolitan Fire Brigade Superannuation Board Police Discipline Board Police Services Board Road Safety and Traffic Authority Safety Inspection Advisory Committee
Minister for Conservation	Conservation	Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Advisory Committee Commercial Fisheries Licensing Panel Environment Protection Appeal Board Environment Protection Council Environment Protection Authority Fisheries Management Committee Land Conservation Council Licensing Appeals Tribunal (Commercial Fisheries) National Parks Advisory Council Port Phillip Authority Port Phillip Consultative Committee Soil Conservation Authority	Victorian Conservation Trust Victorian Institute of Marine Science Zoological Board of Victoria
Minister of Consumer Affairs	Ministry of Consumer Affairs	Consumer Affairs Council Market Court Motor Car Traders Committee	Small Claims Tribunal
Minister of Education	Ministry of Education	Committee of Classifiers Council of Public Education Primary Teachers' Registration Board Secondary Teachers' Registration Board Teacher Registrations Council Teachers Tribunal Technical Teachers' Registration Board	Council of Adult Education State College of Victoria Victoria Institute of Colleges Victorian Institute of Secondary Education Victorian Post Secondary Education Commission
Assistant Minister of Education			Special Education Authority State Council for Special Education
Minister for Forests	State Forests	Baw Baw Alpine Reserve Committee Board of Forestry Education Forest Reserve Committee of Management Forests Commission Mt Buller Alpine Reserve Committee	
Minister for Health	Health Commission	Advanced Dental Technicians Licensing Committee Chiropractors and Osteopaths Registration Board Cinematograph Operations Board Dental Technicians Licensing Committee Dieticians Registration Board Food Standards Committee Foreign Practitioners Qualification Committee Health Advisory Council Hospitals Accreditations Committee Hospitals Superannuation Board Medical Board Plumbers and Gasfitters Board Poisons Advisory Committee Proprietary Medicines Advisory Committee Victorian Psychological Council	Anti-Cancer Council Cancer Institute Board Chiropodists Registration Board Dental Board of Victoria Fairfield Hospital Board Optometrists Registration Board Pharmacy Board Physiotherapists Registration Board Specialist Practitioners Qualification Committee Victorian Nursing Council

VICTORIA — GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES—*continued*

Minister	Statutory authorities with Public Service staffs and department or ministry with which the statutory authority is associated		Statutory authorities which do not have Public Service staffs
	Department	Statutory authority	
Minister of Housing	Ministry of Housing	Building Societies Advisory Committee Co-operative Housing Advisory Committee Co-operative Societies Advisory Council Credit Societies Reserve — Fund Committee Death Benefits Advisory Committee Decentralised Industry Housing Authority Home Finance Trust Housing Commission Teacher Housing Authority Urban Renewal Advisory Committee	Housing Advisory Council
Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs	Immigration and Ethnic Affairs	Victorian Ethnic Affairs Advisory Council Victorian Immigration Advisory Council	
Minister of Labour and Industry	Labour and Industry	Board of Examiners for Engine Drivers and Boiler Attendants Board of Examiners for Welders of Boilers and Pressure Vessels Board of Examiners (Under the Scaffolding Act) Building Industry Long Service Leave Board Hospitals Remuneration Tribunal Industrial Appeals Court Industrial Safety Advisory Council Industrial Training Commission Scaffolding Regulations Committee	Hairdressers Registration Board Liquor Control Commission Motor Accidents Board Wages Board Workers Compensation Board
Minister of Lands	Crown Lands and Survey	Coastal Management and Co-ordination Mt Hotham Alpine Resort Management Committee Place Names Committee Surveyor's Board Vermin and Noxious Weeds Destruction Board	Melbourne Cricket Ground Trustees Yarra Bend Park Trustees
Minister for Local Government	Local Government	Advisory Committee on Buildings in Alpine Areas Building Regulations Committee Local Authorities Superannuation Board Local Government Advisory Board Municipal Auditors Board Municipal Building Surveyors Board Municipal Clerks Board Municipal Electrical Engineers Board Municipal Engineers Board Municipal Valuation Fees Committee Valuer's Qualification Committee	Above Limits Heights Buildings Advisory Committee Fire Safety Advisory Committee Foundation and Underpinning Advisory Committee Land Valuation Boards of Review Sewerage Advisory Committee Victoria Grants Commission
Minister for Minerals and Energy	Minerals and Energy	Board of Examiners for Mine Managers (Coal Mines Act) Board of Examiners for Quarry Managers Coal Mine Workers Pensions Tribunal Driller's Licensing Board Extractive Industries Advisory Committee Gas and Fuel Corporation Groundwater Advisory Committee Sludge Abatement Board State Electricity Commission State Coal Mines Industrial Tribunal Victorian Brown Coal Council Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Board Yallourn Town Advisory Council	Board of Examiners for Engine Drivers Electrical Approvals Board Falls Creek Advisory Council
Minister for Planning	Ministry for Planning	Victorian Urban Land Council	Historic Buildings Classification Sub- Committee Historic Buildings Preservation Council Loddon-Campaspe Regional Planning Authority Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (Planning Division) Town and Country Planning Board Town Planning Appeals Tribunal Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges Planning Authority Westernport Regional Planning Authority

VICTORIA — GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES—*continued*

Minister	Statutory authorities with Public Service staffs and department or ministry with which the statutory authority is associated		Statutory authorities which do not have Public Service staffs
	Department	Statutory authority	
Premier	Department of the Premier	Equal Opportunity Board Promotions Appeals Board Public Service Board Public Works Committee State Co-ordination Council State Development Committee State Relief Committee	
Minister for Property and Services	Property and Services	Public Records Advisory Council	
Minister for Public Works	Public Works	Architects Registration Board Government Buildings Advisory Council Port Phillip Pilot Slick and Superannuation Board State Accommodation Committee Victorian Public Offices Corporation	Geelong Harbor Trust Port of Melbourne Authority Portland Harbor Trust
Minister for Community Welfare Services	Community Welfare Services	Adult Parole Board Family Welfare Advisory Council Prisons Advisory Council Social Welfare Training Council Youth Parole Board	
Minister for Soldier Settlement			Rural Finance Commission
Minister for State Development, Decentralization and Tourism	State Development, Decentralization and Tourism	Emerald Tourist Railway Board Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement Authority	Albury-Wodonga Corporation Geelong Regional Commission Settlement Authority Melbourne Tourism Authority Regional Tourist Authority Small Business Development Corporation Victorian Development Corporation Victorian Government Travel Authority
Minister of Transport	Ministry of Transport	Metropolitan Tourist Council	Country Roads Board Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board Melbourne Underground Rail Loop Authority Railway Construction Board Street Lighting Committee Transport Regulation Board Victorian Railways Appeal Board Victorian Railways Board West Gate Bridge Authority
Minister of Water Supply	Ministry for Water Resources and Water Supply	State Rivers and Water Supply Commission Water Resources Council	Ballarat Water Commissioners Dandenong Valley Authority Drainage Tribunal Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust Latrobe Valley Development Advisory Committee Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage Board Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Mildura Irrigation and Water Trusts West Moorabool Water Board
Treasurer	Treasury	Bookmakers and Bookmakers Clerks Registration Board Hardship Relief Board Investment Advisory Committee State Superannuation Board Tender Board	Premiums Committee State Savings Bank of Victoria
Minister for Youth, Sport and Recreation	Youth, Sport and Recreation	Greyhound Racing Grounds Development Board Racecourses Licences Board State Recreation Council State Sports Council State Youth Council	Greyhound Racing Council Board Totalizator Agency Board Trotting Control Board

In the following list, each statutory authority is classified under the heading which is nearest to its main function:

VICTORIA—GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES  
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO FUNCTION

1. *Legal, protective, and registry services*

Adult Parole Board  
Appeal Costs Board  
Boards of Inquiry  
Country Fire Authority  
Credit Societies Reserve Fund  
Committee  
Crimes Compensation Board  
Law Reform Advisory Council  
Law Reform Commissioner  
Legal Aid Commission  
Legal Aid Committee  
Legal Aid Review Committee  
Metropolitan Fair Rents Board  
Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board  
Office of the Ombudsman  
Raffles Board  
Youth Parole Board  
Victorian Taxation Board of Review

2. *Regulation of primary production*

Australian Barley Board  
Commercial Fisheries Licensing Panel  
Country Grain Handling Improvement  
Authority  
Citrus Fruit Marketing Board  
Dairy Produce Board  
Geelong Grain Handling Improvement  
Authority  
Licensing Appeals Tribunal  
(Commercial Fisheries)  
Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and  
Vegetable Market Trust  
Portland Grain Handling  
Improvement Authority  
Poultry Farmer Licensing Committee  
Poultry Farmer Licensing Review  
Committee  
Tobacco Leaf Marketing Board  
Tobacco Quota Appeals Tribunal  
Tobacco Quota Committee  
Tomato Processing Industry  
Negotiating Committee  
Victorian Dairy Industry  
Authority  
Victorian Dried Fruits Board  
Victorian Egg Marketing Board  
Victorian Wheat Advisory Committee  
Young Farmers Finance Council

3. *Regulation of industry and commerce*

Consumer Affairs Council  
Extractive Industries Advisory  
Committee  
Market Court  
Motor Car Traders Committee  
Premiums Committee  
Small Claims Tribunal  
Transport Regulation Board  
Victorian Broiler Industry  
Negotiating Committee  
Wine Grape Processing Industry  
Negotiating Committee

4. *Regulation of labour conditions*

Coal Mine Workers' Pensions  
Tribunal  
Hospital Remuneration Tribunal  
Hospitals Superannuation Board  
Industrial Appeals Court  
Industrial Training Commission  
Local Authorities Superannuation  
Board  
Metropolitan Fire Brigades  
Appeal Tribunal  
Metropolitan Fire Brigades  
Superannuation Board  
State Coal Mines Industry Tribunal  
Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents  
Relief Board  
Wages Board  
Workers Compensation Board

5. *Regulation of general standards*

Above Limits Heights Building  
Advisory Committee  
Advisory Committee on Building  
in Alpine Areas  
Building Regulations Committee  
Co-operative Housing Advisory  
Committee  
Co-operative Societies Advisory  
Council  
Food Standards Committee  
Fire Safety Advisory  
Committee  
Foundation and Underpinning  
Advisory Committee  
Land Valuation Boards of Review  
Liquor Control Commission  
Marine Board  
Motor Accidents Board  
Municipal Valuation Fees Committee  
Place Names Committee  
Premiums Committee  
Public Trustee  
Safety Inspection Advisory Committee  
Sewerage Advisory Committee  
Scaffolding Regulations Committee  
State Advisory Board on Publications  
Stock Medicines Board  
Street Lighting Committee  
Victorian Abattoir and Meat  
Inspection Authority

6. *Regulation of professional and occupational standards*

Advanced Dental Technicians  
Qualifications Board  
Architects Registration Board  
Board of Examiners for Engine  
Drivers  
Board of Examiners for Mine  
Managers (Coal Mines Act)  
Board of Examiners for Mine  
Managers (Mines Act)  
Board of Examiners for Quarry  
Managers

VICTORIA—GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES  
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO FUNCTION—*continued*

Board of Examiners for Steam Engine Drivers and Boiler Attendants	Decentralized Industry Housing Authority
Board of Examiners for Welders of Boilers and Pressure Vessels	Emerald Tourist Railway Board
Board of Examiners (under the Scaffolding Act)	Environment Protection Appeal Board
Board of Forestry Education	Environment Protection Authority
Chiropractors Registration Board	Environment Protection Council
Chiropractors and Osteopaths' Registration Board	Exhibition Trustees
Cinematograph Operators Board	Falls Creek Advisory Council
Committee of Classifiers	Fisheries Management Committee
Companies Auditors Board	Forest Reserve Committee of Management
Council of Legal Education	Forests Commission
Dental Board	Gas and Fuel Corporation
Dental Technicians Licensing Committee	Geelong Harbor Trust Commissioners
Dietitians Registration Board	Geelong Regional Commission Settlement Authority
Drillers' Licensing Board	Government Buildings Advisory Council
Electrical Approval Board	Grain Elevators Board
Foreign Practitioners Qualifications Committee	Ground Water Advisory Committee
Medical Board	Historic Buildings Classification Sub-Committee
Motor Car Traders Committee	Historic Buildings Preservation Committee
Municipal Auditors Board	Historic Buildings Preservation Council
Municipal Building Surveyors Board	Home Finance Trust
Municipal Clerks Board	Housing Advisory Council
Municipal Electrical Engineers Board	Housing Commission
Municipal Engineers Board	Investment Advisory Committee
Optometrists' Registration Board	Land Conservation Council
Pharmacy Board	Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage Board
Physiotherapists' Registration Board	Local Government Advisory Board
Plumbers and Gasfitters Board	Loddon-Campaspe Regional Planning Authority
Primary Teachers' Registration Board	Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works
Registry of Estate Agents	Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board
Registrar of Private Agents	Melbourne Tourist Authority
Secondary Teachers' Registration Board	Melbourne Underground Rail Loop Authority
Specialist Practitioners Qualification Committee (of the Medical Board)	Mildura Irrigation and Water Trust
Surveyors Board	Mt Buller Alpine Reserve Committee
Teacher Registration Council	Mt Hotham Alpine Resort Management Committee
Technical Teachers' Registration Board	National Parks Advisory Council
Valuers' Qualification Board	Port of Melbourne Authority,
Veterinary Board of Victoria	Port Phillip Authority
Victorian Psychological Council	Port Phillip Authority Consultative Committee
Victorian Nurses Council	Portland Harbor Trust Commissioners
<i>7. Public utility, conservation, and development</i>	Public Records Advisory Council
Albury-Wodonga Corporation (Victoria)	Public Works Committee
Ballarat Water Commissioners	Railway Construction Board
Baw Baw Alpine Reserve Committee	Regional Tourist Authority
Building Societies Advisory Committee	Road Safety and Traffic Authority
Coastal Management and Co-ordination Committee	Rural Finance and Settlement Commission
Community Advisers Panel	Sludge Abatement Board
Country Roads Board	Small Business Development Corporation
Dandenong Valley Authority	Soil Conservation Authority
	State Co-ordination Council
	State Development Committee
	State Electricity Commission



VICTORIA—GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES  
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO FUNCTION—*continued*

<p>State Rivers and Water Supply Commission State Savings Bank of Victoria Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement Authority Timber Promotion Council Town and Country Planning Board Town Planning Appeals Tribunal Trustees of various cemeteries Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges Planning Authority Urban Renewal Advisory Committee Various local water and sewerage authorities Various regional tourist authorities Various river improvement and drainage trusts Vermin and Noxious Weeds Destruction Board Victoria Promotion Committee Victoria Grants Commission Victorian Brown Coal Council Victorian Conservation Trust Victorian Development Corporation Victorian Government Travel Authority Victorian Public Offices Corporation Victorian Railways Board Victorian Urban Land Council Water Resources Council West Gate Bridge Authority West Moorabool Water Board Western Metropolitan Market Trust Westernport Regional Planning Authority Yallourn Town Advisory Council</p> <p><b>8. Social welfare</b> Crimes Compensation Board Death Benefits Advisory Committee Discharged Servicemen's Employment Board Equal Opportunities Board Family Welfare Advisory Council Hardship Relief Board Patriotic Funds Council Prisons Advisory Council Social Welfare Training Council State Relief Committee</p> <p><b>9. Education and recreation</b> Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Advisory Committee Council of Adult Education Council of Legal Education Council of Public Education Council of the Science Museum of Victoria Council of Trustees of the National Gallery Greyhound Racing Control Board Greyhound Racing Grounds Development Board Library Council of Victoria Melbourne Cricket Ground Trustees National Museum of Victoria Council</p>	<p>Post-Secondary Education Commission Racecourse Licences Board Raffles and Bingo Permits Board Special Education Authority State Classification of Publications State College of Victoria State Council for Special Education State Library and National Museum Building Committee State Recreational Council State Sports Council State Youth Council Totalizator Agency Board Trotting Control Board Victoria Institute of Colleges Victorian Advisory Council on Agricultural Education Victorian Arts Centre Trust Victorian Council for the Arts Victorian Ethnic Affairs Advisory Council Victorian Film Corporation of Victoria Victorian Immigration Advisory Council Victorian Institute of Marine Science Victorian Institute of Secondary Education Yarra Bend Park Trustees Zoological Board</p> <p><b>10. Public health</b> Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria Cancer Institute Board Fairfield Hospital Board Filled Milk Advisory Committee Geelong and District Cultural Committee Health Advisory Council Hospitals Accreditation Committee Imitation Milk Advisory Committee Medical Board of Victoria Milk Pasteurization Committee Poisons Advisory Committee Proprietary Medicines Advisory Committee</p> <p><b>11. Industrial health</b> Industrial Safety Advisory Council</p> <p><b>12. Internal administrative services</b> Office of the Building Industry Long Service Leave Board Pilots Superannuation Board Police Discipline Board Police Medical Board Police Service Board Promotion Appeals Board Public Service Board State Accommodation Committee Superannuation Board Teacher Housing Authority Teachers' Tribunal Tender Board</p>
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## Public general Acts of Victoria

The following list shows the departments or ministries responsible for the administration of the public Acts of general application in Victoria which were in effect at 11 June 1980 or which had then been passed by the Victorian Parliament to come into force at a later date.

The list does not include references to Acts that are spent or expired or to Amending Acts, Appropriation Acts, Finance Acts, or other Acts containing miscellaneous provisions.

## VICTORIA—UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958 CONSOLIDATION AND SUBSEQUENTLY, 11 JUNE 1980

Act	Administering department or ministry	Act	Administering department or ministry
<i>Abattoir and Meat Inspection Act 1973</i>	Agriculture	<i>Building Industry Long Service Leave Act 1975</i>	Labour and Industry
<i>Aboriginal Affairs (Transfer of Functions) Act 1974</i>	Premier	<i>Building Societies Act 1976</i>	Housing
<i>Aboriginal Lands Act 1970</i>	Crown Lands and Survey	<i>Business Franchise (Petroleum Products) Act 1979</i>	Treasury
<i>Acts Enumeration and Revision Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Business Franchise (Tobacco) Act 1974</i>	Treasury
<i>Acts Interpretation Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Business Investigation Act 1958</i>	Law
<i>Administration and Probate Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Business Names Act 1962</i>	Law
<i>Administrative Law Act 1978</i>	Law	<i>Cadet Surveyors Act 1964</i>	State Rivers and Water Supply Commission
<i>Adoption of Children Act 1964</i>	Community Welfare Services also Law	<i>Cancer Act 1958</i>	Health
<i>Aerial Spraying Control Act 1966</i>	Agriculture	<i>Canned Fruits Marketing Act 1979</i>	Agriculture
<i>Age of Majority Act 1977</i>	Law	<i>Carriers and Innkeepers Act 1958</i>	Labour and Industry
<i>Agent-General's Act 1958</i>	Premier	<i>Cattle Breeding Act 1958</i>	Agriculture
<i>Agricultural Colleges Act 1958</i>	Agriculture	<i>Cattle Compensation Act 1967</i>	Treasury also Agriculture
<i>Agricultural Education Cadetships Act 1969</i>	Agriculture	<i>Cemeteries Act 1958</i>	Health also Law
<i>Air Navigation Act 1958</i>	Transport	<i>Charities Act 1978</i>	Law
<i>Albury-Wodonga Agreement Act 1973</i>	State Development, Decentralization and Tourism	<i>Children's Court Act 1973</i>	Law
<i>Alcoholics and Drug-dependent Persons Act 1968</i>	Health also Law	<i>Chiropodists Act 1968</i>	Health
<i>Amendments Incorporation Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Chiropractors and Osteopaths Act 1978</i>	Health
<i>Anzac Day Act 1958</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Civil Aviation (Carriers' Liability) Act 1961</i>	Transport
<i>Appeal Costs Fund Act 1964</i>	Law	<i>Clean Air Act 1958</i>	Conservation
<i>Arbitration Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Cluster Titles Act 1974</i>	Local Government
<i>Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Preservation Act 1972</i>	Conservation	<i>Coal Mines Act 1958</i>	Minerals and Energy
<i>Architects Act 1958</i>	Public Works	<i>Collusive Practices Act 1965</i>	Law
<i>Attorney-General and Solicitor-General Act 1972</i>	Law	<i>Commercial Goods Vehicles Act 1958</i>	Transport
<i>Auction Sales Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Commonwealth Arrangements Act 1958</i>	Premier
<i>Audit Act 1958</i>	Treasury	<i>Commonwealth Places (Administration of Laws) Act 1970</i>	Law
<i>Bail Act 1977</i>	Law	<i>Community Welfare Services Act 1970</i>	Community Welfare Services
<i>Bank Holidays Act 1958</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Companies Act 1961</i>	Law
<i>Barley Marketing Act 1958</i>	Agriculture	<i>Constitution Act 1975</i>	Law also Premier
<i>Bees Act 1971</i>	Agriculture	<i>Constitution Act Amendment Act 1958</i>	Property and Services
<i>Benefit Associations Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Constitutional Convention Act 1972</i>	Law
<i>Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act 1970</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Constitutional Powers (Coastal Waters) Act 1980</i>	Law also Premier
<i>Bread Industry Act 1959</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Constitutional Powers (Request) Act 1980</i>	Law also Premier
<i>Broiler Chicken Industry Act 1978</i>	Agriculture	<i>Construction Safety Act 1979</i>	Labour and Industry
<i>Building Contracts (Deposits) Act 1962</i>	Consumer Affairs	<i>Consumer Affairs Act 1972</i>	Consumer Affairs
		<i>Co-operation Act 1958</i>	Treasury
		<i>Co-operative Housing Societies Act 1958</i>	Housing

VICTORIA—UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958  
CONSOLIDATION AND SUBSEQUENTLY, 11 JUNE 1980—*continued*

Act	Administering department or ministry	Act	Administering department or ministry
<i>Coroners Act</i> 1958	Law	<i>Equal Opportunity Act</i> 1977	Premier
<i>Council of Law Reporting in Victoria Act</i> 1967	Law	<i>Essential Services Act</i> 1958	Premier
<i>Country Fire Authority Act</i> 1958	Police and Emergency Services	<i>Estate Agents Act</i> 1958	Law
<i>Country Roads Act</i> 1958	Transport	<i>Estate Agents Act</i> 1980*	Law
<i>County Court Act</i> 1958	Law	<i>Evidence Act</i> 1958	Law
<i>Courts Administration Act</i> 1975	Law	<i>Explosives Act</i> 1960	Minerals and Energy
<i>Credit Reporting Act</i> 1978	Law	<i>Extractive Industries Act</i> 1966	Minerals and Energy
<i>Crimes Act</i> 1958	Law	<i>Farm Produce Merchants and Commission Agents Act</i> 1965	Agriculture
<i>Crimes (Offences at Sea) Act</i> 1978	Law	<i>Fences Act</i> 1968	Law also Crown Lands and Survey
<i>Criminal Injuries Compensation Act</i> 1972	Law	<i>Fertilizers Act</i> 1974	Agriculture
<i>Crown Land (Reserves) Act</i> 1978	Crown Lands and Survey	<i>Filled Milk Act</i> 1958	Agriculture
<i>Crown Proceedings Act</i> 1958	Law	<i>Films Act</i> 1971	Law
<i>Cul-de-sac Applications Act</i> 1965	Law	<i>Finance Brokers Act</i> 1969	Law
<i>Cultural and Recreational Lands Act</i> 1963	Local Government	<i>Firearms Act</i> 1958	Police and Emergency Services
<i>Dandenong Valley Authority Act</i> 1963	Water Resources and Water Supply	<i>Fisheries Act</i> 1968	Conservation
<i>Deakin University Act</i> 1974	Education	<i>Foreign Judgements Act</i> 1962	Law
<i>Decentralization Advisory Committee Act</i> 1964	State Development, Decentralization and Tourism	<i>Forests Act</i> 1958	Forests Commission
<i>Decentralization Industry (Housing) Act</i> 1973	State Development, Decentralization and Tourism	<i>Friendly Societies Act</i> 1958	Law
<i>Decentralized Industry Incentive Payments Act</i> 1972	State Development, Decentralization and Tourism	<i>Fruit and Vegetables Act</i> 1958	Agriculture
<i>Decimal Currency Act</i> 1965	Treasury	<i>Frustrated Contracts Act</i> 1959	Law
<i>Dental Technicians Act</i> 1972	Health	<i>Fuel Emergency Act</i> 1977	Premier
<i>Dentists Act</i> 1972	Health	<i>Gas Act</i> 1969	Minerals and Energy
<i>Development Areas Act</i> 1973	State Development, Decentralization and Tourism	<i>Gas and Fuel Corporation Act</i> 1958	Minerals and Energy
<i>Developmental Railways Act</i> 1958	Transport	<i>Gas Franchises Act</i> 1970	Minerals and Energy
<i>Dietitians Registration Act</i> 1958	Health	<i>Geelong Harbor Trust Act</i> 1958	Public Works
<i>Disposal of Uncollected Goods Act</i> 1961	Consumer Affairs	<i>Geelong Performing Arts Centre Trust Act</i> 1980	Arts
<i>Dog Act</i> 1970	Local Government	<i>Geelong Regional Commission Act</i> 1977	State Development, Decentralization and Tourism
<i>Domicile Act</i> 1978	Law	<i>Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Act</i> 1958	Water Resources and Water Supply
<i>Drainage Areas Act</i> 1958	Local Government	<i>Gift Duty Act</i> 1971	Treasury
<i>Drainage of Land Act</i> 1975	State Rivers and Water Supply Commission	<i>Goods Act</i> 1958	Law
<i>Dried Fruits Act</i> 1958	Agriculture	<i>Gordon Technical College Act</i> 1976	Education
<i>Education Act</i> 1958	Education	<i>Government Buildings Advisory Council Act</i> 1972	Public Works
<i>Educational Grants Act</i> 1973	Treasury	<i>Grain Elevators Act</i> 1958	Agriculture
<i>Educational Institutions (Guarantees) Act</i> 1976	Treasury	<i>Grain Handling Improvement Authorities Act</i> 1979	Agriculture
<i>Egg Industry Stabilization Act</i> 1973	Agriculture	<i>Groundwater Act</i> 1969	State Rivers and Water Supply Commission
<i>Electoral Provinces and Districts Act</i> 1974	Property and Services	<i>Hairdressers Registration Act</i> 1958	Labour and Industry
<i>Electric Light and Power Act</i> 1958	Minerals and Energy	<i>Harbor Boards Act</i> 1958	Public Works
<i>Environment Effects Act</i> 1978	Conservation	<i>Hawkers and Pedlars Act</i> 1958	Local Government
<i>Environmental Protection Act</i> 1970	Conservation	<i>Health Act</i> 1958	Health
		<i>Health Commission Act</i> 1977	Health
		<i>Health (Fluoridation) Act</i> 1973	Health
		<i>Hire-Purchase Act</i> 1959	Law
		<i>Historic Buildings Act</i> 1974	Planning
		<i>Home Finance Act</i> 1962	Treasury

\* When this Act comes into operation it will repeal the *Estate Agents Act* 1958.

VICTORIA—UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958  
CONSOLIDATION AND SUBSEQUENTLY, 11 JUNE 1980—*continued*

Act	Administering department or ministry	Act	Administering department or ministry
<i>Hospitals and Charities Act 1958</i>	Health	<i>Liquefied Petroleum Gas Subsidy Act 1980</i>	Minerals and Energy
<i>Hospitals Remuneration Tribunal Act 1978</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Liquor Control Act 1968</i>	Labour and Industry
<i>Hospitals Superannuation Act 1965</i>	Health	<i>Listening Devices Act 1969</i>	Law
<i>Housing Act 1958</i>	Housing Commission	<i>Litter Act 1964</i>	Local Government
<i>Imitation Milk Act 1969</i>	Agriculture	<i>Livery and Agistment Act 1958</i>	Law
<i>Imperial Acts Application Act 1980</i>	Law	<i>Local Authorities Superannuation Act 1958</i>	Local Government
<i>Imprisonment of Fraudulent Debtors Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Local Government Act 1958</i>	Local Government
<i>Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Local Government Department Act 1958</i>	Local Government
<i>Industrial Relations Act 1979</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Lotteries Gaming and Betting Act 1966</i>	Law
<i>Industrial Safety Advisory Council Act 1960</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Magistrates' Courts Act 1971</i>	Law
<i>Industrial Training Act 1975</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Magistrates (Summary Proceedings) Act 1975</i>	Law
<i>Inflammable Liquids Act 1966</i>	Minerals and Energy	<i>Maintenance Act 1965</i>	Law
<i>Instruments Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Margarine Act 1975</i>	Agriculture
<i>Joint Select Committee (Road Safety) Act 1979</i>	Premier	<i>Marine Act 1958</i>	Public Works
<i>Judicial Proceedings Reports Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Marine Stores and Old Metals Act 1958</i>	Law
<i>Juries Act 1967</i>	Law	<i>Market Court Act 1978</i>	Labour and Industry
<i>Labour and Industry Act 1958</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Marketable Securities Act 1970</i>	Law
<i>Land Act 1958</i>	Crown Lands and Survey	<i>Marketing of Primary Products Act 1958</i>	Agriculture
<i>Land Conservation Act 1970</i>	Crown Lands and Survey	<i>Markets Act 1958</i>	Local Government
<i>Land Conservation (Vehicle Control) Act 1972</i>	Conservation	<i>Marriage Act 1958</i>	Law
<i>Land Settlement Act 1959</i>	Rural Finance Commission	<i>Married Women's Superannuation Fund Act 1968</i>	Treasury
<i>Land Surveyors Act 1958*</i>	Crown Lands and Survey	<i>Medical Act 1958</i>	Health
<i>Land Tax Act 1958</i>	Treasury	<i>Medical Practitioners Act 1970</i>	Health
<i>Landlord and Tenant Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Act 1958</i>	Local Government
<i>Lands Compensation Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Act 1958</i>	Transport
<i>La Trobe University Act 1964</i>	Education	<i>Melbourne Underground Rail Loop Act 1970</i>	Transport
<i>Latrobe Valley Act 1958</i>	Premier also State Rivers and Water Supply Commission	<i>Melbourne University Act 1958</i>	Education
<i>Law Reform Act 1973</i>	Law	<i>Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market Trust Act 1977</i>	Local Government
<i>Legal Aid Commission Act 1978</i>	Law	<i>Members of Parliament (Register of Interests) Act 1978</i>	Premier
<i>Legal Profession Practice Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Mental Health Act 1959</i>	Health also Community Welfare Services
<i>Leo Cussen Institute for Continuing Legal Education Act 1972</i>	Law	<i>Metric Conversion Act 1973</i>	Local Government
<i>Libraries Act 1958</i>	Arts	<i>Metropolitan Fire Brigades Act 1958</i>	Police and Emergency Services
<i>Library Council of Victoria Act 1965</i>	Arts	<i>Metropolitan Fire Brigades Superannuation Act 1976</i>	Police and Emergency Services
<i>Lifts and Cranes Act 1967</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Mildura Irrigation and Water Trusts Act 1958</i>	Water Resources and Water Supply
<i>Limitation of Actions Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Milk and Dairy Supervision Act 1958</i>	Agriculture
<i>Liquefied Gases Act 1968</i>	Minerals and Energy	<i>Milk Board Act 1958</i>	Agriculture
<i>Liquefied Petroleum Gas Act 1958 †</i>	Minerals and Energy	<i>Milk Pasteurization Act 1958</i>	Agriculture
		<i>Minerals and Energy Act 1976</i>	Minerals and Energy

\* Repealed by Act No. 9180 which is not yet in operation.  
† Repealed by Act No. 7754 which is not yet in operation.

VICTORIA—UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958  
CONSOLIDATION AND SUBSEQUENTLY, 11 JUNE 1980—*continued*

Act	Administering department or ministry	Act	Administering department or ministry
<i>Mines Act 1958</i>	Minerals and Energy	<i>Petroleum Products Subsidy Act 1965</i>	Treasury
<i>Mining Development Act 1958</i>	Minerals and Energy	<i>Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1967</i>	Minerals and Energy
<i>Ministry for Conservation Act 1972</i>	Conservation	<i>Pharmacists Act 1974</i>	Health
<i>Ministry for Planning Act 1973*</i>	Planning	<i>Physiotherapists Act 1978</i>	Health
<i>Ministry for the Arts Act 1972</i>	Arts	<i>Pipelines Act 1967</i>	Minerals and Energy
<i>Ministry of Consumer Affairs Act 1973</i>	Consumer Affairs	<i>Poisons Act 1962</i>	Health
<i>Ministry of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs Act 1976</i>	Immigration and Ethnic Affairs	<i>Police Assistance Compensation Act 1968</i>	Police and Emergency Services
<i>Ministry of Transport Act 1958</i>	Transport	<i>Police Offences Act 1958</i>	Law
<i>Mint Act 1958</i>	Treasury	<i>Police Regulation Act 1958</i>	Police and Emergency Services
<i>Monash University Act 1958</i>	Education	<i>Port of Melbourne Authority Act 1958</i>	Public Works
<i>Money Lenders Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Port Phillip Authority Act 1966</i>	Port Phillip Authority
<i>Motor Accidents Act 1973</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Portland Harbor Trust Act 1958</i>	Public Works
<i>Motor Boating Act 1961</i>	Police and Emergency Services <i>also</i> Transport	<i>Post-Secondary Education Act 1978</i>	Education
<i>Motor Car Act 1958</i>	Police and Emergency Services <i>also</i> Country Roads Board <i>also</i> Transport	<i>Poultry Levy (Collection Arrangements) Act 1965</i>	Agriculture
<i>Motor Car Traders Act 1973</i>	Consumer Affairs	<i>Poultry Processing Act 1968</i>	Agriculture
<i>Mt Hotham Alpine Resort Act 1972</i>	Crown Lands and Survey	<i>Pounds Act 1958</i>	Local Government
<i>Municipalities Assistance Act 1973</i>	Local Government <i>also</i> Treasury	<i>Printers and Newspapers Act 1958</i>	Law
<i>National Gallery of Victoria Act 1966</i>	Arts	<i>Private Agents Act 1966</i>	Police and Emergency Services
<i>National Museum Council of Victoria Act 1970</i>	Arts	<i>Probate Duty Act 1962</i>	Treasury
<i>National Parks Act 1975</i>	Conservation	<i>Professional Boxing Control Act 1975</i>	Youth, Sport and Recreation
<i>Navigable Waters (Oil Pollution) Act 1960</i>	Public Works	<i>Property Law Act 1958</i>	Law
<i>Nurses Act 1958</i>	Health	<i>Protection of Animals Act 1966</i>	Conservation
<i>Ombudsman Act 1973</i>	Premier	<i>Provincial Sewerage Authorities Association of Victoria Act 1966</i>	State Rivers and Water Supply Commission
<i>Optometrists Registration Act 1958</i>	Health	<i>Psychological Practices Act 1965</i>	Health
<i>Parliamentary Committees Act 1968</i>	Premier	<i>Public Account Act 1958</i>	Treasury
<i>Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Act 1962</i>	Premier	<i>Public Authorities (Contributions) Act 1966</i>	Treasury
<i>Parliamentary Officers Act 1975</i>	Premier	<i>Public Authorities Marks Act 1958</i>	Local Government
<i>Parliamentary Salaries and Superannuation Act 1968</i>	Premier	<i>Public Contracts Act 1958</i>	Local Government
<i>Partnership Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Public Lands and Works Act 1964</i>	Public Works
<i>Patriotic Funds Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Public Records Act 1973</i>	Property and Services
<i>Pawnbrokers Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Public Safety Preservation Act 1958</i>	Premier
<i>Pay-roll Tax Act 1971</i>	Treasury	<i>Public Service Act 1974</i>	Premier
<i>Penalties Act 1958</i>	Treasury	<i>Public Trustee Act 1958</i>	Law
<i>Pensions Supplementation Act 1966</i>	Treasury	<i>Public Works Committee Act 1958</i>	Premier
<i>Perpetuities and Accumulations Act 1968</i>	Law	<i>Racing Act 1958</i>	Youth, Sport and Recreation
<i>Pesticides Act 1958 †</i>	Agriculture	<i>Railway Construction and Property Board Act 1979</i>	Transport
<i>Petrol Pumps Act 1958</i>	Local Government	<i>Railway Lands Acquisition Act 1958</i>	Transport
<i>Petroleum Act 1958</i>	Minerals and Energy	<i>Railways Act 1958</i>	Transport
		<i>Railways Standardization Agreement Act 1958</i>	Transport
		<i>Rain-making Control Act 1967</i>	Agriculture
		<i>Recreation Vehicles Act 1973</i>	Conservation
		<i>Reference Areas Act 1978</i>	Conservation

\*Repealed by Act No. 9425 which is partially in operation only.

† Re-named *Agricultural Chemicals Act 1958* by Act No. 9368 which is not yet in operation.

VICTORIA—UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958  
CONSOLIDATION AND SUBSEQUENTLY, 11 JUNE 1980—*continued*

Act	Administering department or ministry	Act	Administering department or ministry
<i>Registration of Births Deaths and Marriages Act 1959</i>	Property and Services	<i>State Rivers and Water Supply Commission (Special Projects) Act 1969</i>	Water Resources and Water Supply
<i>Religious Successory and Charitable Trusts Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>State Savings Bank Act 1958</i>	Treasury
<i>River Improvement Act 1958</i>	State Rivers and Water Supply Commission	<i>Statistics Act 1958</i>	Property and Services
<i>Road Traffic Act 1958</i>	Police and Emergency Services	<i>Status of Children Act 1974</i>	Law
<i>Rural Finance Act 1958</i>	Crown Lands and Survey	<i>Stock (Artificial Breeding) Act 1962</i>	Agriculture
<i>Rural Finance and Settlement Commission Act 1961</i>	Crown Lands and Survey	<i>Stock Diseases Act 1968</i>	Agriculture
<i>Sale of Human Blood Act 1962</i>	Health	<i>Stock Foods Act 1958</i>	Agriculture
<i>Sale of Land Act 1962</i>	Law	<i>Stock Medicines Act 1958</i>	Agriculture
<i>Scaffolding Act 1971*</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Strata Titles Act 1967</i>	Law
<i>Science Museum of Victoria Act 1970</i>	Arts	<i>Subordinate Legislation Act 1962</i>	Law
<i>Seaman's Act 1958</i>	Police and Emergency Services	<i>Summary Offences Act 1966</i>	Law
<i>Second-hand Dealers Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Summer Time Act 1972</i>	Labour and Industry
<i>Securities Industry Act 1975</i>	Law	<i>Sunday Entertainment Act 1967</i>	Labour and Industry
<i>Seeds Act 1971</i>	Agriculture	<i>Superannuation Act 1958</i>	Treasury
<i>Senate Elections Act 1958</i>	Property and Services	<i>Superannuation Benefits Act 1977</i>	Treasury
<i>Settled Land Act 1958</i>	Law	<i>Supreme Court Act 1958</i>	Law
<i>Sewerage Districts Act 1958</i>	Water Resources and Water Supply	<i>Survey Co-ordination Act 1958</i>	Crown Lands and Survey
<i>Shearers Accommodation Act 1976</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Surveyors Act 1978</i>	Crown Lands and Survey
<i>Sheep Branding Fluids Act 1963</i>	Agriculture	<i>Swine Compensation Act 1967</i>	Treasury also Agriculture
<i>Sheep Owners Protection Act 1961</i>	Police and Emergency Services	<i>Tattersall Consultations Act 1958</i>	Treasury
<i>Small Business Development Corporation Act 1976</i>	State Development, Decentralization and Tourism	<i>Taxation Appeals Act 1972</i>	Law
<i>Small Claims Tribunals Act 1973</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Teacher Housing Act 1970</i>	Housing
<i>Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation (Victoria) Act 1971</i>	Water Resources and Water Supply	<i>Teaching Service Act 1958</i>	Education
<i>Soil Conservation and Land Utilization Act 1958</i>	Soil Conservation Authority	<i>Temperance Halls Act 1958</i>	Crown Lands and Survey
<i>Soldier Settlement Act 1958</i>	Rural Finance Commission	<i>Theatres Act 1958</i>	Law
<i>Stamps Act 1958</i>	Treasury	<i>Tobacco Leaf Industry Stabilization Act 1966</i>	Agriculture
<i>State College of Victoria Act 1972 †</i>	Education	<i>Tomato Processing Industry Act 1976</i>	Agriculture
<i>State Co-ordination Council Act 1975</i>	Premier	<i>Town and Country Planning Act 1961</i>	Planning
<i>State Development Committee Act 1958</i>	Premier	<i>Town and Country Planning (Amalgamation) Act 1980</i>	Planning
<i>State Development Decentralization and Tourism Act 1978</i>	State Development, Decentralization and Tourism	<i>Trade Unions Act 1958</i>	Labour and Industry
<i>State Electricity Commission Act 1958</i>	Minerals and Energy	<i>Tramways Act 1958</i>	Local Government
<i>State Insurance Office Act 1975</i>	Treasury	<i>Transfer of Land Act 1958</i>	Law
<i>State Library National Gallery National Museum and Institute of Applied Science Act 1960</i>	Arts	<i>Transport Regulation Act 1958</i>	Transport
<i>State Relief Committee Act 1958</i>	Labour and Industry	<i>Trustee Act 1958</i>	Law
		<i>Trustee Companies Act 1958</i>	Law
		<i>Unauthorized Documents Act 1958</i>	Law
		<i>Unclaimed Moneys Act 1962</i>	Treasury
		<i>Underseas Mineral Resources Act 1963</i>	Minerals and Energy
		<i>Unlawful Assemblies and Processions Act 1958</i>	Police and Emergency Services

\*Repealed by Act No. 9271 which is not yet in operation.

†To be repealed by proclamation pursuant to Act. No. 9424.

VICTORIA—UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958  
CONSOLIDATION AND SUBSEQUENTLY, 11 JUNE 1980—*continued*

Act	Administering department or ministry	Act	Administering department or ministry
<i>Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges Authority Act 1976</i>	Planning	<i>Victorian Public Offices Corporation Act 1974</i>	Public Works
<i>Urban Land Authority Act 1979</i>	Planning	<i>Victorian Solar Energy Council Act 1980</i>	Minerals and Energy
<i>Urban Renewal Act 1970</i>	Housing	<i>Vital State Projects Act 1976</i>	Premier
<i>Vagrancy Act 1966</i>	Law	<i>Volunteer Civil Defence Workers Compensation Act 1972</i>	Police and Emergency Services
<i>Valuation of Land Act 1960</i>	Local Government	<i>Warehousemen's Liens Act 1958</i>	Law
<i>Vegetation and Vine Diseases Act 1958</i>	Agriculture	<i>Water Act 1958</i>	State Rivers and Water Supply Commission
<i>Venereal Diseases Act 1958</i>	Health	<i>Water Resources Act 1975</i>	State Rivers and Water Supply Commission
<i>Vermin and Noxious Weeds Act 1958</i>	Crown Lands and Survey	<i>Waterworks Trusts Association of Victoria Act 1966</i>	Water Resources and Water Supply
<i>Veterinary Surgeons Act 1958</i>	Agriculture	<i>Weights and Measures Act 1958</i>	Local Government
<i>Victoria Arts Centre Act 1979</i>	Arts	<i>West Moorabool Water Board Act 1968</i>	State Rivers and Water Supply Commission
<i>Victoria Conservation Trust Act 1972</i>	Conservation	<i>Wheat Marketing Act 1979</i>	Agriculture
<i>Victoria Fishing Industry Council Act 1979</i>	Conservation	<i>Wild Flowers and Native Plants Protection Act 1958</i>	Forests Commission
<i>Victoria Grants Commission Act 1976</i>	Local Government	<i>Wild Life Act 1975</i>	Conservation
<i>Victoria Institute of Colleges Act 1965*</i>	Education	<i>Wills Act 1958</i>	Law
<i>Victoria Law Foundation Act 1978</i>	Law	<i>Wine Grape Processing Industry Act 1978</i>	Agriculture
<i>Victorian Brown Coal Council Act 1978</i>	Minerals and Energy	<i>Wire Netting Act 1958</i>	Crown Lands and Survey
<i>Victorian Dairy Industry Authority Act 1977</i>	Agriculture	<i>Wodonga Area Land Acquisition Act 1973</i>	State Development, Decentralization and Tourism
<i>Victorian Development Corporation Act 1973</i>	State Development, Decentralization and Tourism	<i>Workers Compensation Act 1958</i>	Labour and Industry
<i>Victorian Film Corporation Act 1976</i>	Arts	<i>Wrongs Act 1958</i>	Law
<i>Victorian Government Travel Authority Act 1977</i>	State Development, Decentralization and Tourism	<i>Youth, Sport and Recreation Act 1972</i>	Youth, Sport and Recreation
<i>Victorian Institute of Marine Sciences Act 1974</i>	Conservation	<i>Zoological Parks and Gardens Act 1967</i>	Conservation
<i>Victorian Institute of Secondary Education Act 1976</i>	Education		

\*To be repealed by proclamation pursuant to Act No. 9424.

#### AUDITOR-GENERAL

The Auditor-General of Victoria is appointed by the Governor in Council pursuant to the *Audit Act 1958*. He is not subject to the Public Service Act nor is he subject to the direction of a Minister.

His function is to undertake an independent audit and review of the Treasurer's and departmental accounts, to verify the Treasurer's annual statement, and to submit a report on these matters to the Legislative Assembly of the Victorian Parliament. He is also required to audit the accounts of statutory authorities such as the State Electricity Commission of Victoria, the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, harbour trusts, and universities. He is a countersignatory to the Governor's Warrant, the constitutional document by which the Governor authorises the withdrawal of money from the Public Account.

To carry out his statutory responsibilities, the Audit Act gives the Auditor-General the power to address queries and observations to the Treasurer or other persons; for these purposes he may require the production of books and papers. He may also disallow expenditure and, in certain circumstances, surcharge a defaulter with the amount of any deficiency or loss.

The Auditor-General's staff is not appointed under the Audit Act but under the Public Service Act. Under the Public Service Act the Auditor-General has all the powers of, or exercisable by, a permanent head of a department.

OMBUDSMAN

The office of the Ombudsman was established in Victoria on 30 October 1973. The principal function of the Ombudsman is to investigate administrative actions taken in any government department or public statutory body, to which the Ombudsman Act applies, or by any officer or employee of a municipality.

All government departments are subject to the Ombudsman Act. There are, however, some public statutory bodies not so subject, they being those presided over by a Judge, magistrate, barrister, or solicitor, presiding as such by virtue of a statutory requirement and appointment. In practice, they are those tribunals, boards, and commissions exercising a quasi judicial function, such as the Town Planning Appeals Tribunal.

For the most part, the Ombudsman's investigations are initiated in consequence of complaints received by him from the public, but he may initiate an investigation of his own motion and without any complaint being made concerning the matter to be investigated.

The Ombudsman has been given wide powers to enable him to competently carry out investigations and there are substantial penalties for impeding him. He may summon witnesses and call for the production of documents and, in the context of an investigation by him, the Crown is not entitled to claim such privilege in respect of either the production of documents or the giving of evidence, as is allowed in legal proceedings. He may regulate his procedures on an investigation in such manner as he thinks fit.

The Ombudsman's purpose in investigating a complaint concerning a particular administrative action is to establish whether the action complained of:

- (1) Appears to have been taken contrary to law;
- (2) was unreasonable, unjust, oppressive, or improperly discriminatory;
- (3) was in accordance with a rule of law or a provision of an enactment or practice that is or may be unreasonable, unjust, oppressive, or improperly discriminatory;
- (4) was taken in the exercise of a power or discretion, and was so taken for an improper purpose or on irrelevant grounds, or on the taking into account of irrelevant considerations;
- (5) was a decision that was made in the exercise of a power or discretion and the reasons for the decision were not, but should have been given;
- (6) was based wholly or partly on a mistake of law or fact; or
- (7) was wrong.

If he comes to the conclusion that the action does fall into one or other of those categories, the Ombudsman is empowered to make such recommendation as he thinks fit. He has no power to compel compliance with his recommendation but, if no steps are taken within a reasonable time to implement it, he may send a copy of his report and recommendation to the Governor in Council and to the Victorian Parliament.

Up to August 1980, Victorian authorities have overwhelmingly seen fit to comply with his recommendations. He has made 125 and of those recommendations 119 have been complied with.

Complaints to the Ombudsman are required to be in writing, but in cases of urgency he can and will act on the strength of a telephone call.

The Ombudsman is required to report to the Victorian Parliament annually, may report at more regular intervals and, in fact, reports quarterly.

VICTORIA—OMBUDSMAN: COMPLAINTS  
RECEIVED AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Particulars	1973-1980 (a)	
Complaints —		
Received	12,973	(1,256)
Investigated (b)	3,976	(400)
Found to be made out	681	(69)



VICTORIA—OMBUDSMAN: COMPLAINTS  
RECEIVED AND RECOMMENDATIONS—*continued*

Particulars	1973-1980 (a)	
Recommendations —		
No recommendations necessary	263	(29)
No remedial action possible	293	(27)
Formal recommendation —		
Submitted	125	(12)
Complied with	119	(11)

(a) The figures in brackets form part of the larger figure against which they appear and relate to municipalities over which the Ombudsman first obtained jurisdiction in 1977.

(b) The figures exclude cases outside the jurisdiction of the Ombudsman, disposed of by preliminary inquiry, or deferred.

**Further reference: Ombudsman, First Six Years of Office, 1973-79, *Victorian Year Book*, 1980, pp. 138-40**

### PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

The *Public Records Act* 1973 created an archival establishment in line with modern developments overseas. It established a Public Record Office "for the better preservation, management, and utilisation of the public records of the State".

Public records had been deposited sporadically in the Public Library of Victoria since 1893, but the first archivist was not appointed until 1948, and an archives section was subsequently established in 1955. Since then, the deposits of public records have considerably increased and the introduction of systematic procedures for records management and for records selection and disposition brought widespread recognition among public offices of the importance of records control in current administration. The outcome was the Public Records Act of 1973 and the creation of a Public Record Office, a statutory office originally under the Chief Secretary, but now under the Minister for Property and Services.

The Act also established a Public Records Advisory Council which "in consultation with the Keeper of Public Records shall promote co-operation between the Public Record Office and public offices" and "may report and make recommendations to the Minister on any matter relating to the administration of this Act". There are seven members of the Council: four are senior departmental officers and three individually represent tertiary educational institutions, local government, and the State Library of Victoria.

Public records are those made or received by any officer in carrying out the official business of any public office or of any court of law. Public offices are defined in the Act as any department, branch, or office of the Government of Victoria; any public statutory body, corporate or incorporate; any body instituted under the Local Government Act of 1958; and any other local governing body corporate or incorporate.

The management and control of the Public Record Office and its public records are vested in the Keeper of Public Records subject to the Act and the general direction of the Minister. The Keeper is responsible for the security and orderly classification of the records held and for the provision of reasonable facilities to members of the public for inspecting and obtaining copies of them. A programme of publishing selected documents and preparing finding aids has begun.

The Act requires officers in charge of public offices to ensure that full and accurate records are made and kept and that standards are established for the selection of those worthy of preservation.

Public officers and Public Record Office staff work together to control the number of records created, to ensure that records of temporary significance are discarded as early as possible and essential records safeguarded, and to arrange regular transfers of non-current permanent material to the Public Record Office.

A task force has been established to examine and revise records management techniques in the Victorian Public Service. This included representatives of the Public Service Board of Victoria, the Treasury, the Department of Property and Services, and the Department of the Premier, and published its five volume report in 1979, concerning records management techniques, staff training, and operational guides.

In June 1975, a building was purchased at Laverton, a suburb of Melbourne, to serve the Public Record Office as a base repository. This accommodates a two-storey compactus installation comprising more than 100 kilometres of steel shelving, a substantial portion of which has been filled. Specialised storage is provided for computer tapes and microfilm; facilities for maps and plans are envisaged, and a reference and technical library is being developed for the use of staff and research workers. Regional repositories for records of local significance are planned and the first of these is to open at Ballarat in 1981.

A city reference room at 1 Little Collins Street carries microfilm copies of immigrant passenger lists to 1923 (indexed to 1875). Files from Laverton are made available for consultation there at 48 hours notice.

## VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

### Introduction

The Government Printing Office is a branch of the Department of Property and Services and is the authorised central source for the design, production, and procurement of printed matter for the Victorian Parliament, government departments, and some authorities and instrumentalities. It publishes weekly *Hansard*, *Victoria Government Gazette*, and *Victoria Police Gazette* as well as Acts, Bills, Statutes, and Determinations; it prints electoral rolls and ballot papers for State and Federal elections, Budget papers, racecourse betting tickets and tickets for VicRail, annual reports, requirements for State and Vice-Regal functions; and maps. It also prints the *Victorian Year Book*. Negotiable items on a Federal level are produced in a special security section where reports and documents of a confidential nature, including examination papers for the education system, are also handled.

Since the formation of a design section in 1979 and the acquisition of several new presses, high-quality multi-colour brochures and posters are printed for such bodies as the Travel Authority, Forests Commission, and Ministry of Transport. In his role of publisher, the Government Printer has recently entered the field of producing commercially marketable publications.

The Printing Office acts as a stationer, supplying forms, books, binders, and system requirements of its own manufacture, cut paper, and envelopes. It provides the sales distribution point for government and Parliamentary publications through its Publications Sales Branch at 7A Parliament Place, East Melbourne. This branch is also responsible for the administration of government advertising.

### History

The first Victorian Government documents were produced by a succession of commercial printers, loosely designated as Government Printers, over a period from 1843 to 1850. In 1851, the Government Printing Office was formed by Superintendent La Trobe (later to become Lieutenant-Governor) and the first Government Printer was Mr Edward Khull who ordered type and presses from England. After only a few months he was succeeded by Mr John Ferres, formerly a manager with the *Herald* newspaper. The control of the Printing Office passed to the Auditor-General on 13 September 1851 and Ferres was installed as Government Printer on 8 November 1851, to remain in that position for 36 years. He operated with a staff of six in a section of the Audit Office, Lonsdale Street West, behind the Office of the Chief Commissioner of Police. Documents were produced with the aid of two hand presses and the printers worked by candlelight. The first *Government Gazette* was published in 1852 and the first *Hansard* in 1856.

Thereafter the Printing Office moved several times as its plant and staff grew with the rapidly increasing demands of government. In 1853, large additions were made to the number of printers employed and more equipment installed, including a Napier perfecting printing machine, capable of throwing from 1,000 to 1,200 copies an hour and driven by a fly-wheel worked by two men. In 1855, two additional machines were acquired, and steam power applied to all three. The Printing Office at this time occupied a large wooden building, which was built for the staging of a ball given by the Governor in honour of Queen Victoria's birthday in 1853. This building adjoined the government offices in William Street and an adjacent section was built to house a bookbinding area. The combined buildings soon proved inadequate for the increased work-load and plans were made for a new printing office, built to suit its needs.

Building commenced in November 1856 and the Government Printer took possession at the end of May 1858. Situated in Gisborne Street (now Parliament Place) it was one of the first stone buildings commissioned by the Victorian Government for its public offices. Further floors were added in 1908 and 1916. This building is now mainly occupied by the Public Works Department but the Sales Branch of the Printing Office still occupies a portion, and the Government Printer's adjoining residence and office is occupied by Press Advertising and Subscription Offices, respectively. Control of the Printing Office had passed to Treasury by 1858.

Another perfecting printing machine was added to the existing three and all four now became driven by a four-horsepower table engine. Nine hand presses were in use and the staff had increased to 86 in the printing section and 24 in the binding section. The Government Printer was assisted by three clerks and four overseers.

On 24 May 1882, the Queen's birthday, fire destroyed part of the building and during renovations the staff and salvaged plant were moved to the Exhibition Buildings and remained until restoration was completed five years later. It was here that the printing of stamps, postal notes, etc., was first undertaken when the responsibility was transferred from the General Post Office to the Government Printing Office. Printing of these items continued in the restored building until 1910, when the Commonwealth Government set up an establishment in King's Warehouse, Flinders Street Extension, Melbourne, during January 1911.

From Federation until 1929, printing (both parliamentary and departmental) for the Commonwealth Government was the responsibility of the Victorian Government Printer. The combined State and Commonwealth Government Printer remained in office until the Canberra Office came under the control of the Commonwealth Government Printer in 1929.

In June 1927, over one hundred linotype operators, compositors, machinists, and bookbinders were transferred from the Victorian Office to Canberra to form the nucleus of staff for the Commonwealth Government Printing Office.

#### **Buildings and accommodation**

On 16 August 1957, the Victorian Government purchased a building in Macaulay Road, North Melbourne (formerly an engineering works) as alternative premises for the Printing Office, where it operates to this day, now with a staff of 550. With adjacent paper and stationery stores it extended over 1.8 hectares. In 1966, a large paper store was built in Maribyrnong to hold sufficient supplies against emergencies. Reprographic units for small printing requirements are attached to various government bodies in the Melbourne metropolitan area and others have been installed in Geelong, Mildura, and Ballarat.

#### **Recent developments**

Since the late 1970s, the printing office has experienced a number of changes in its production techniques, particularly with the installation of a heat-set web offset press, fed with large reels of paper. The production time for *Hansard* has been reduced with the aid of this press. Material is set by a combination of hot metal process and cold composition but this was due to be replaced by computer phototypesetting in 1981-82, a process which would make the production of Parliamentary printing virtually automatic. The Government Printer also investigates the small offset needs of Victorian Government departments and authorises installation of equipment where justified.

A feasibility study conducted by the Public Works Department in 1979 on behalf of the Department of Property and Services revealed that the Macaulay Road buildings have many serious inadequacies which now render the site unsuitable for housing today's more technologically advanced equipment. A new site and complex have been recommended.

#### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION**

Local government is the third tier in the tripartite structure of government in Australia (namely, Commonwealth, State, and local). Since it is closely connected with the life of communities, it can become sensitive to, and aware of, their needs. Local government in Victoria is administered by 211 municipalities operating under the oversight of the Minister for Local Government, and his Permanent Head, the Secretary for Local

Government, with a staff of some 280 officers as well as about 60 members of various boards, most of whom serve part-time.

Although the Minister and his Department administer a number of other Acts of the Victorian Parliament, as set out in detail in Chapter 6 of this *Year Book*, the majority of the powers and duties given to municipal councils are set out in the *Local Government Act 1958*. The Act which is subject to continuing review in the light of changing community needs, sets out the framework within which each Council is free to exercise control over matters of local concern. While the current role of the Department is essentially to assist councils in executing the wishes of their electors within this framework as well as providing a measure of protection to, and a point of reference for, the communities served by local government, a strengthening of this role has been foreshadowed in the Final Report of the Board of Review of the Role, Structure and Administration of Local Government in Victoria (See Chapter 6 of this *Year Book*). The Board has specifically recommended that the Department play a more active part as the normal contact at State level for individual municipalities wishing to discuss problems going beyond the boundaries of any single service.

The Department functions with an administrative core and a number of specialised sections handling a variety of matters, including the examination of legislative proposals, the preparation of legislation, statutory procedures, the making or revision of building and other regulations, the allocation of subsidies and payments to municipalities for various specific purposes, and the distribution of untied grants being a proportion of personal income tax as determined by the Victoria Grants Commission; it also advises councillors, municipal officers, and the public generally. Inspectors of municipal administration and engineers maintain field contact with municipalities and report to the Minister.

Among the Boards operating within the Department are the Local Government Advisory Board which advises the Minister on matters concerning the constitution or alteration of municipal areas, and the Municipal Officers Qualifications Boards. The latter include municipal clerks, auditors, engineers, electrical engineers, and building surveyors and inspectors, and are all concerned with the qualification of these respective officers and thus with the maintenance of standards. The power to inquire into conduct and competence is also vested in these boards.

Relationships between State and local governments are not confined to the Local Government Department and extensive direct dealings are conducted by municipalities with many State departments and instrumentalities on a wide range of topics. For example, important areas of concern for councils, such as health and various welfare functions (e.g., home help, elderly citizens, meals-on-wheels, social workers, recreation officers, etc.) are administered by the Health Commission, the Department of Community Welfare Services, and the Department of Youth, Sport and Recreation.

The Minister and his Department are entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring that councils act within their field of authority and so preserve the rights of citizens and in recommending desirable legislative changes, the Department is seeking to strengthen the powers of local government to enable it to better meet the changing needs of the local community.

More detailed information on the activities of the Local Government Department and municipalities can be found in Chapter 6 of this *Year Book*.

## PLANNING IN VICTORIA

### **Department of the Premier: State Co-ordination Council**

The State Co-ordination Council was established under the *State Co-ordination Council Act 1975*. The Council consists of the heads of 38 State Government agencies, i.e. departments, statutory authorities, and ministries, and reports directly to the Premier. The Council assists the Victorian Government to make decisions on matters of major or special significance which involve the use of the State's resources, by providing advice based on consultation between agencies.

The main activities of the Council include:

(1) *Forecasting*. The Council provides population forecasts for the State Agencies at State and Regional levels, and where required for specific projects, at smaller levels.

(2) *Information services.* Every three months the Council circulates a report of the agencies' recent activities. The Council also maintains a list of active committees operating in the State and a register of the data collection activities of State agencies.

(3) *Community development.* The Council has studied three growth areas with different problems — Broadmeadows, Knox, and Wodonga and in August 1978 produced a report on these entitled *Three Cities Study*. Part of this formed the basis of the Council's report to the Premier entitled *Planning and Co-ordination for Community Needs in the City of Broadmeadows*.

(4) *Consultative procedures.* In order to ensure that major proposals from the public and private sectors are developed to best serve the interests of the community, the Council has produced *Procedures for Consultation on Major Works Proposals*. These Procedures were put into effect in 1979.

(5) *Sectoral matters.* The Premier has requested the Council to advise on matters which, though mainly concerned with one functional sector, have implications for other sectors of government activity. Examples are the Transport Plan, Health, Welfare and Community Development, and Energy Policies.

(6) *Advice on proposed policies.* Under its Act, the Council is required to advise on Statements of Planning Policy, and has been consulted on such policies for Western Port, Coastal Environments, and the Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges. The Environment Protection Authority has sought the advice of the Council on Statements of Environment Protection Policy for Western Port Catchment, the Air Environment of Victoria, and the Waters of the Yarra River and Tributaries.

(7) *Regional matters.* The Council has examined various matters of regional interest, including: the wastewater management in the Western Port catchment and the Mornington Peninsula; the regionalisation and decentralisation of government agencies; the airports planning in the Port Phillip District; the low-level deviation of the Omeo Highway; the La Trobe Valley and Gippsland Lakes; urban development, especially the Melbourne metropolitan area; projects in Port Melbourne and South Melbourne; and tourist facilities at Lakes Entrance.

(8) *Collation of information.* The Council has set up a Statistics Co-ordinating Group which has examined statistical priorities for Victoria; co-ordinated the State agencies' submission on the 1981 Population Census; examined State agencies' data collection activities; advised the Australian Bureau of Statistics on its requirements; and developed a course of study in the use of public statistics.

A "Total Community Resources Survey" has also been initiated by the Council.

Further reference: *Victorian Year Book 1978*, pp. 155-6

### Victoria—The Garden State

Victoria developed at a time when botany and horticulture were popular in Great Britain; as settlers arrived in the State, they acquired a house, and then developed gardens. A factor which encouraged the settlers in the Melbourne area was the climate, which was mild with good rainfall in the right seasons, and virtually frost free.

In October 1976, a Garden State Committee was formed by the Victorian Government to:

- (1) promote the development of Victoria as the Garden State of Australia;
- (2) assess existing resources, such as open space, parks, and gardens, and to identify issues that are important to the future improvement, expansion, and protection of these resources;
- (3) stimulate community involvement; and
- (4) advise on training programmes and support services to develop Victoria as a Garden State.

The Committee's projects are arranged under six programmes: Urban landscape development, rural landscape enhancement and appreciation, public corridor enhancement, awards for innovative community projects, a programme of encouragement and initiative, and individual and group awareness of the Garden State.

Seminars on urban landscape designs have been held in country centres and in Melbourne. The Victorian Government's expenditure amounted to \$200,000 for the financial year 1979-80 and membership of the Royal Horticultural Society increased from 4,500 in 1978 to 23,000 in 1979.

Local government is also participating in the project and has long regarded botanical beautification of urban areas as a matter of local pride, a contribution to the quality of life of their ratepayers and important for the attraction of tourists. Council tree planting and street landscaping programmes are common, and public parks, gardens, and grassed recreation areas are maintained throughout the State.

Other highlights of the Garden State project include:

- (1) Landscape planning and conservation in north-eastern Victoria;
- (2) involvement of the Garden State Committee in the publication and distribution of promotional literature, including an Urban Landscape Guidelines Handbook and *Somewhere to go on Sunday* published by the University of Melbourne Centre for Environmental Studies;
- (3) Garden State displays organised as major exhibits during Garden Week, held in conjunction with the Nurserymen and Seedsmen's Association, at Melbourne's Royal Show and at the Garden State Festival jointly organised with the Herald and Weekly Times Limited and the Melbourne City Council;
- (4) an expenditure each month of \$5,000 on a scheme to supply Victoria's new house owners with garden trees and shrubs;
- (5) a home gardener's telephone advisory service at the Burnley Horticultural College;
- (6) landscape awards for the manufacturing industry; and
- (7) "project tree cover" aimed at afforestation of farmland north of the Great Dividing Range.

### **Department of Planning**

#### *General*

The *Town and Country Planning (Amalgamation) Act* 1980 came into effect early in 1981 and under its provisions the Department of Planning assumed the responsibilities of the former Ministry for Planning and the former Town and Country Planning Board (see *Victorian Year Book* 1980, pages 143-6). The Department administers the Town and Country Planning Act, the Development Areas Act, the Historic Buildings Act, the Upper Yarra Valley, and Dandenong Ranges Act, oversees the planning functions of regional and other responsible authorities, the Maldon Architectural Advisory Service and Restoration Fund, the Beechworth, Chiltern, and Yackandandah Advisory Service and Restoration Fund, and the Queenscliff Advisory Service and Restoration Fund.

The Town and Country Planning (Amalgamation) Act also amended the Principal Act providing for the establishment of a Planning Consultative Council. The functions of the Council are:

- (1) To advise the Minister on any matter relating to the use or development of land concerning which the Minister wishes to have the advice of Council; and
- (2) to carry out the duties imposed on the Council by section 8C in relation to Statements of Planning Policy and by section 16 of the *Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges Authority Act* 1976 in relation to Regional Strategy Plans.

The Council consists of seven members appointed by the Governor in Council of whom:

- (1) One (who shall be the Chairman) shall be a person having knowledge and experience in town and country planning and who is nominated by the Minister;
- (2) two shall be persons having experience in local government and community affairs and who are nominated by the Minister after consideration of panels of names submitted to him under this section by councils of municipalities and organisations concerned with local government and community affairs;
- (3) two shall be persons having experience in town and country planning and who are nominated by the Minister after consideration of panels of names submitted to him under this section by organisations concerned with town and country planning;
- (4) one shall be a person who is nominated by the Minister after consideration of panels of names submitted to him under this section by industrial or commercial organisations; and
- (5) one shall be a person who is concerned with the balanced development of Victoria and who has regard to the need to conserve the natural resources of the State in the light of all relevant social, economic, environmental, ecological, and scientific factors after consideration of panels of names submitted to him under this section by organisations

concerned with the balanced development of Victoria and who is nominated by the Minister.

The Amalgamation Act also enables the Minister to establish committees consisting of such number of persons as the Minister thinks fit to advise him on certain matters as he refers to such committees.

The Town and Country Planning (General Amendment) Act of 1979 came into effect late in 1980 and provided for a new procedure for public comment on proposed planning schemes.

Under the previous Act, persons or bodies had the right of objection to proposals in proposed planning schemes or amendments on exhibition. However, it was considered that a wrong perspective could be obtained when persons were able only to object. Objections did not allow for submissions to be put by persons who favoured a scheme or an amendment.

The General Amendment Act allows for written submissions to enable persons who basically agree with a proposed scheme to make suggestions on some aspects of the scheme. Those who fully support a scheme may now comment accordingly.

The same Act also provides for consideration of submissions by Responsible Authorities and others as the Minister directs. The Responsible Authority after consideration of each submission must determine to:

- (1) Uphold or adopt;
- (2) modify or alter the scheme to include all variations requested in the submission;
- (3) refer the submission to a panel appointed by the Minister.

The panels appointed by the Minister comprise three persons selected for their expertise in planning and associated areas, and who are independent of the administration itself.

A panel is required to report and recommend to the Responsible Authority after the hearing and consideration of submissions on any modifications or alterations to a planning scheme.

On adoption of the scheme, the Authority is required to submit it to the Minister for consideration, together with a copy of all written submissions and a statement of those other submissions which the Minister has directed it to consider. The Authority is also required to submit a copy of the report of the panel which considered submissions.

#### *Objectives*

The Department of Planning's responsibilities are to promote and co-ordinate regional planning throughout Victoria; prepare Statements of Planning Policy; supply planning services to Responsible Authorities at the local level; prepare planning schemes for specified areas; review and report on planning schemes; and advise the Minister on any planning matter.

As an instrument of the Minister, the Department may carry out studies of investigation areas under the provisions of the Development Areas Act, and report to the Minister. This Act empowers the Governor in Council to designate areas suitable for accelerated development or controlled development.

#### *Statements of Planning Policy*

These statements provide Regional Authorities and municipalities with firm guidelines of Victorian Government policy, and ensure that planning is co-ordinated and that planning proposals fall within overall aims.

The Department of Planning prepares Statements of Planning Policy in consultation with the State Co-ordination Council. They are referred by the Minister to the Governor in Council, and upon approval they are tabled in the Victorian Parliament for twenty-four days and may be revoked by resolution of either House within that time.

The tabling in Parliament of Statements of Planning Policy was introduced by amendment to the Town and Country Planning Act in December 1978 to enable the Victorian Parliament to monitor Government action in the planning field, and to increase public input to planning policies through local members of Parliament.

Statements of Planning Policy are binding on all Responsible Authorities including government departments. They encompass demographic, social, and economic factors and influences; conservation of natural resources for social, economic, environmental,

ecological, and scientific purposes; land characteristics and land use; amenity and environment; communications; and the development requirements of public authorities.

#### *Application of Statements*

There are Statements of Planning Policy for Western Port, Mornington Peninsula, the Dandenong Ranges, the Yarra River, Geelong, the Macedon Ranges, Central Gippsland brown coal deposits, and highway areas and land-use around aerodromes. A Statement of Planning Policy is being prepared for the whole of the Victorian coastline.

#### *Planning for specific areas*

Where a local planning authority does not have the resources, the Department of Planning prepares planning schemes for special areas or projects of State significance. The Department also assists regional authorities in the preparation of strategy plans through special task forces which comprise staff drawn from various Victorian Government agencies.

#### *Melton and Sunbury*

Under the Development Areas Act, Melton and Sunbury were the subject of studies by the former Town and Country Planning Board and the Victorian Government confirmed their future development as satellite cities.

The Melton-Sunbury Management Committee is comprised of four councillors, a nominee from the Board of Works and the Department of Planning, and an independent member representing local interests. Planning for the satellite cities has placed special emphasis on social and community needs and services and facilities required to satisfy them, as well as the more routine aspects of planning.

The Victorian Government has reiterated its continuing commitment to the project, which it sees as a co-operative venture between the two councils, the Victorian Government, and private enterprise.

#### *Commonwealth Government co-operation*

Commonwealth Government involvement with Victoria in planning began in 1972 with the establishment of the Commonwealth Department of Urban and Regional Development to enable the two Governments to work together in this area.

Commonwealth interest was directed towards the development of new metropolitan and regional growth centres, providing assistance for other urban and regional projects, and funds for land acquisition, metropolitan improvement programmes, and sewerage works.

The Department of Urban and Regional Development was subsequently incorporated into the Department of Environment, Housing and Community Development. The functions of this Department have now been redistributed to the Department of Housing and Construction, the Department of National Development, and the Department of Home Affairs.

The major planning project between the two Governments and the Government of New South Wales was the Albury-Wodonga Growth Centre (see below). The Governments were represented by the Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation. Following legislative amendments in the Victorian Parliament, planning control over a large portion of the growth centre area has been returned to the local responsible authorities. However, the Development Corporation retains planning control over land that it owns in the area and in particular over those areas where development will take place in future years.

#### *Albury-Wodonga*

In recognition of the need to encourage a more balanced development of the Australian continent and to provide an alternative to capital city living for those who seek a different life style, the Commonwealth, New South Wales, and Victorian Governments agreed on 25 January 1973 to plan and develop the twin cities of Albury-Wodonga. On 23 October 1973, the Prime Minister of Australia and the Premiers of New South Wales and Victoria confirmed this intention when they signed the Albury-Wodonga Area Development Agreement at Wodonga. The Agreement provided for the establishment of a development corporation as a statutory authority to plan and develop the areas designated for new growth.



Land acquisition and development projects are funded by interest bearing advances from the Commonwealth Government, while both the New South Wales and Victorian Governments accept responsibility for providing all their normal services and facilities at a time to meet requirements of newly developed communities.

While the initial target population for the growth centre by the turn of the century was set at 300,000 this was reduced to between 150,000 and 200,000 following a review of the Commonwealth's urban development programmes in 1976-77. Revised growth projections called for an increase in population of about 15,000 during the five year period from 1977 to 1982. This, in turn, is based on the attraction of 2,500 new basic jobs and 6,500 total new jobs in that period. These targets are based on assessment of a reasonably attainable growth of employment opportunities following examination of actual performance, current industrial negotiations, and planned industrial expansion of existing employers.

Current growth performance is ahead of target and negotiations with other new firms indicate that targets will be achieved, if not exceeded.

Albury-Wodonga's population has grown by 12,590 between 1972 and 1979. In 1972, about 10,000 persons were employed in the private sector. By 1980, this figure had increased by 16,700 and private sector employment was increasing by an annual rate of approximately 6 per cent.

The Corporation's land development programme has been concentrated at Thurgoona (a new centre almost contiguous to existing Albury) and in and around the urban centre of Wodonga. Baranduda, a proposed new development some 7 kilometres south-east of Wodonga will be commenced within the next two to three years.

On the Victorian side of the growth centre, two modern industrial parks have been developed to provide 70 hectares of fully serviced industrial sites and a number of factory units for relocating industries. In addition, a newly developed Wodonga Business Park provides 34 landscaped sites for commercial and light industrial uses.

Attractive residential estates have been developed to the west and south of Wodonga to accommodate the new population. One hundred houses have also been constructed for rental to key personnel moving to the area to service newly located manufacturing and service industries.

Further reference: *Victorian Year Book 1979*, p.134

#### *Regional authorities*

There are now regional planning authorities for Western Port, the Upper Yarra Valley, and Dandenong Ranges, and the Loddon-Campaspe region. A regional planning authority was established for Geelong, but in 1977 its planning powers were transferred to the Geelong Regional Commission which continues to act as a regional planning authority for this area.

Regional offices of the Department of Planning are established at Bendigo, Warrnambool, Traralgon, and Wodonga. Regional offices are to be established at other key locations throughout Victoria.

Further references: *Victorian Year Book 1978*, pp. 276-8, *Western Port Regional Planning Authority, 1980*, p.146

#### *Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges Authority*

In 1974, the Victorian Government decided on major changes in planning for the Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges and the Minister for Planning established an interim study group to review existing policy and zonings and make recommendations. Legislation for the Yarra Valley and Dandenong region was outlined by the Minister for Planning in a Ministerial Statement in 1976, and later that year the interim study group published its report entitled *Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges Land Management and Stream Environmental Study*.

The Act establishing the Authority was gazetted in April 1977. The Act charges the Authority with providing increased protection for the special features and character of the region; with implementing Statements of Planning Policy for the region; and with preparing a Regional Strategy Plan. The Strategy Plan was placed on public exhibition late in 1980 for a period of five months. The Authority is currently considering submissions made by interested persons and bodies. It is proposed that the Plan be finalised and approved by the Governor in Council by the end of 1981.

There are four municipalities in the region—Healesville, Lillydale, Upper Yarra, and Sherbrooke. There are fifteen members of the Authority: two councillors from each Shire appointed for a one year term; three residents representing primary production, conservation, and commercial interests who are appointed for three years, and four members representing the Ministers of Forests, Conservation, and Social Welfare, and the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works who are also appointed for three years.

#### *Geelong Regional Commission*

With a population of more than 170,000 persons, Geelong is the largest provincial city in Victoria. Given its geographic location and comprehensive road, rail, and port facilities, Geelong is the major transport and distribution centre for south-western Victoria. As a trade centre, Geelong has a wider sphere of influence, extending beyond its defined regional boundaries, and its port serves not only the Western District but also much of Victoria.

In its report entitled *Organization for Strategic Planning*, the Town and Country Planning Board pointed out that Geelong merited special investigation as a practical alternative to the future sprawling growth of Melbourne. In response to this view, the Victorian Government established the Geelong Regional Commission in August 1977. The Commission's role is to be responsible for the co-ordination, planning, and management of the future development of the Geelong region. The Commission comprises representatives of the nine municipalities of the region, as well as experts on rural matters, industry, and industrial relations.

The Geelong Regional Planning Scheme was recently completed by the Commission, and provides for the region's expansion over the next decade. Future needs to ensure that infrastructure for development is available on time and in the right locations are presently being investigated. In carrying out its charter to promote controlled industrial development of the region, the Commission has purchased a total of 51.5 hectares of land in the South Geelong, Breakwater, Cowie Street, and Furner Street areas since 1977 for development into fully serviced industrial estates. These estates are catering for several new and expanding industries in the region which are crucial to enable the region to improve its economic stability.

In conjunction with its development and promotion of Geelong as an attractive location for industry, the Commission is undertaking several studies aimed at making the region an attractive place in which to live, safeguarding living standards for future generations.

**Further reference:** Port Phillip Authority, *Victorian Year Book 1974*, pp. 273-4

#### *New role for the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works*

Provision is made in the Town and Country Planning (General Amendment) Act for the introduction of Local Development Schemes. These Schemes represent a new concept in planning. The effect of the Schemes will be to place responsibility for detailed local planning with local councils. This will enable the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works to further concentrate its expertise in devising and updating strategy for the Melbourne metropolitan area. The Board will also assist and advise local councils in the preparation of local development schemes in the framework of such strategy.

#### *Historic Buildings Preservation Council*

The *Historic Buildings Act 1974* was proclaimed in May 1974 and is administered by the Historic Buildings Preservation Council. The Council is a part-time body which consists of ten persons. They are: a person nominated by the Minister for the Arts, a town planner nominated by the Department of Planning, the Valuer-General or a person nominated by him, and seven members appointed by the Governor in Council, each of whom represents an appropriate area of professional experience. The Council meets regularly and carries out on-site inspections of buildings of historic and/or architectural importance.

The functions of the Council are:

- (1) To recommend to the Minister:
  - (i) the buildings of architectural or historic importance which it considers should be added to the register;

- (ii) the designated buildings which it considers should be removed from the register; and  
 (iii) any alteration which it considers should be made to any item in the register.
- (2) of its own motion, or at the request of the Minister for Planning, to report to the Minister on any matter relating to designated buildings or to the administration of this Act.

The Council is also required to consider and evaluate all applications for permits to remove, alter, or demolish a designated building. It may serve an Interim Preservation Order on the owner of any building which it is investigating where, in its opinion, such action is necessary or desirable for the purposes of achieving the objects of the Historic Buildings Act.

The Council may consider requests for financial assistance and to make recommendations to the Minister that special assistance be granted to the owner of a designated building which is not economically feasible and whose preservation is thereby endangered.

#### *Maldon Architectural Advisory Service and Restoration Fund*

The 1977-78 budget provided funds for the establishment of an Architectural Advisory Service and Restoration Fund to assist with the preservation and restoration of buildings of historical importance within the township of Maldon. The Architectural Advisory Service, located in the restored Tarrangower Times Office, is manned by an architect on Fridays and Saturdays and is a free service for local residents. Finance for restoration will be in the form of grants and loans on a similar basis to that provided under the Historic Buildings Act.

This scheme has been extended to cover Beechworth, Chiltern, and Yackandandah, and Queenscliff, and it is hoped that other towns of heritage importance will be covered in the near future.

Further references: State Planning Council, *Victorian Year Book* 1976, pp. 154-5; Re-structuring of old and inappropriate sub-divisions, 1978, p. 162; Town Planning Appeals Tribunal, 1978, p. 162; Urban Land Council 1979, p. 133; Town and Country Planning Board, 1980, pp. 143-4; Regional planning, 1980, pp. 145-6

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Fire authorities

#### *Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board*

Until January 1974, municipalities within the Metropolitan Fire District contributed one-third, and fire insurance companies transacting business in the same area provided two-thirds, of the amount required to maintain metropolitan fire brigades. As a result of amended legislation, operative since the beginning of 1974, contributions have subsequently been received in the proportions of one-eighth from the Victorian Government, one-eighth from municipal councils, and three-quarters from fire insurance companies. During 1979-80, contributions by municipalities were equivalent to 0.318 cents in the dollar of the annual value of property, amounting to \$1.461m, while fire insurance companies contributed at a rate of \$28.25 for every \$100 of fire insurance premiums paid on insured property. Premiums received in the Metropolitan Fire District in 1979-80 amounted to \$98.69m.

Particulars of the revenue, expenditure, and loan indebtedness of the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board for each of the years 1975-76 to 1979-80 are shown in the following table:

#### VICTORIA—METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADES BOARD: REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, ETC. (\$'000)

Particulars	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80
REVENUE					
Statutory contributions—					
Treasurer of Victoria	2,937	3,219	3,736	3,956	4,646
Municipalities	2,937	3,219	3,736	3,956	4,646
Insurance companies	17,624	19,262	22,423	23,736	27,782
Brokers and owners	299	357	525	443	530

VICTORIA—METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADES BOARD:  
REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, ETC.—*continued*  
(\$'000)

Particulars	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80
REVENUE					
Charges for services	1,992	2,309	2,428	2,670	3,480
Interest and sundries	1,046	1,440	2,062	979	929
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,835</b>	<b>29,806</b>	<b>34,910</b>	<b>35,740</b>	<b>42,013</b>
EXPENDITURE					
Salaries	16,558	20,013	22,014	25,419	29,104
Other	7,955	9,728	12,121	12,458	13,759
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,513</b>	<b>29,741</b>	<b>34,135</b>	<b>37,877</b>	<b>42,863</b>
Net surplus (+) or deficit (-)	+ 2,322	+ 65	+ 775	-2,137	-850
Loan indebtedness (at 30 June)	4,296	4,936	5,722	6,422	6,071

The following table shows particulars of the number of fire stations operated by the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board and the number of staff employed at 30 June for each of the years 1976 to 1980.

VICTORIA—METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADES BOARD: NUMBER  
OF FIRE STATIONS AND STAFF EMPLOYED AT 30 JUNE

Particulars	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Fire stations	47	48	48	48	48
Staff employed—					
Fire fighting	1,430	1,467	1,572	1,631	1,654
All other	292	292	292	323	350

*Country Fire Authority*

The headquarters of the Country Fire Authority are situated in Malvern, a suburb of Melbourne, where an operations centre is in direct radio contact with every fire control region throughout Victoria. At 30 June 1980, there were 130 permanent firefighters employed in brigades at Ballarat, Ballarat City, Belgrave, Bendigo, Boronia, Dandenong, Doveton, Frankston, Geelong, Norlane, North Geelong, Geelong West, and Springvale. In addition, 122 permanent brigade officers were employed at the stations mentioned above and at Chelsea, Mildura, Morwell, Shepparton, Traralgon, Wangaratta, Warrnambool, Wodonga, and Fiskville Training Centre.

The revenue of the Country Fire Authority consists mainly of statutory contributions, in the proportion of one-third from the Victorian Treasury's Municipalities Assistance Fund and two-thirds from insurance companies underwriting fire risks in the country area of Victoria. There were 145 insurance companies thus contributing during 1979-80.

Up to 30 June 1980, the Authority had raised 139 loans, representing a total of \$22.1m, which has been used for the provision of buildings and equipment for brigades.

Particulars of revenue, expenditure, surplus, and loan expenditure and indebtedness of the Country Fire Authority, for each of the years 1975-76 to 1979-80, are shown in the first of the following tables. The second table shows particulars of the number of fire brigades, personnel, and motor vehicles for the same years.

VICTORIA—COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY: REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, ETC.  
(\$'000)

Particulars	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80
INCOME					
Statutory contributions—					
Municipalities Assistance Fund	3,756	4,666	5,648	6,414	7,303
Insurance companies	7,512	9,311	11,295	12,828	14,606
Other	336	491	782	810	901
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,604</b>	<b>14,468</b>	<b>17,725</b>	<b>20,052</b>	<b>22,810</b>

VICTORIA—COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY: REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, ETC.—*continued*  
(\$'000)

Particulars	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80
EXPENDITURE					
Salaries and wages	5,442	6,657	7,652	8,877	9,809
Other	5,079	6,632	8,060	9,441	10,601
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,521</b>	<b>13,289</b>	<b>15,712</b>	<b>18,318</b>	<b>20,410</b>
Net surplus	1,083	1,179	2,013	1,734	2,400
Loan expenditure	1,987	1,823	3,295	2,066	2,025
Loan indebtedness (at 30 June)	7,468	9,086	10,831	13,291	16,354

VICTORIA—COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY: NUMBER OF FIRE  
BRIGADES, PERSONNEL, AND MOTOR VEHICLES AT 30 JUNE

Particulars	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Fire brigades—					
Urban	215	215	215	215	215
Rural	1,060	1,058	1,058	1,067	1,065
Personnel—					
Permanent	431	471	515	548	576
Volunteer	114,145	110,697	109,100	107,061	106,874
Vehicular fleet—					
Self-propelled	1,498	1,539	1,611	1,746	1,773
Trailer units	401	429	422	476	472

### Natural disasters and emergencies

#### *Victoria State Emergency Service and Civil Defence Organisation*

The Victoria State Emergency Service (VIC SES) is a branch of the Ministry for Police and Emergency Services. It operates under the provisions of a Victorian Government Charter which states: "The role of the Victoria State Emergency Service and Civil Defence Organisation is to plan, organise, co-ordinate and implement measures that are necessary or desirable in respect of the safety of the public and are designed to guard against, prevent, reduce or overcome the effects or possible effects, of emergencies inimical to life, health or property within the State of Victoria".

The VIC SES also administers the Volunteer Civil Defence Workers Compensation Act which empowers the Service to draw on volunteer manpower in emergencies in addition to its normal registered members.

The VIC SES has its headquarters in Melbourne with a director, deputy director, and staff, and permanent regional officers at Bairnsdale, Ballarat, Bendigo, Dandenong, Geelong, Hamilton, Moe, Shepparton, Swan Hill, and Wodonga. There are also two divisional officers for Northern and Southern divisions within the Melbourne metropolitan area. The headquarters and regional offices have trained volunteers on their establishments to support the permanent officers. The units of the VIC SES are wholly manned by volunteers although the controller, or head of each unit is a local council appointee. At 30 June 1980, there were 160 municipal VIC SES units and sub-units. The headquarters is divided functionally into operations, communications, training, equipment, and administration.

The structure of the VIC SES is similar to that of the State Emergency Services of other States and Territories, and has strong ties with the Commonwealth Natural Disasters Organisation, which is a branch of the Department of Defence.

Funding of the Service is derived from three levels. The Commonwealth, through the Natural Disasters Organisation, sponsors an equipment support programme and building subsidies for municipal units. The Victorian Government bears the administrative costs of the VIC SES, including various grants and subsidies for local councils and their units.

Local municipal councils provide for the administration of their local units. There is also voluntary fund raising at the local level.

The VIC SES is an active participant in the Victoria State Disaster Plan (DISPLAN) under the provisions of which its headquarters may be the alternative and/or supporting DISPLAN headquarters. DISPLAN provisions also make the VIC SES responsible for the integration of disaster welfare measures, and flood combating in conjunction with the appropriate authorities, municipalities, and trusts. The Service is routinely engaged in assisting other authorities, departments, and emergency services, throughout Victoria in such activities as road accident assistance, search and rescue, and wind storm damage. The extent of this activity is indicated in the following table of operations:

**VICTORIA—STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE:  
OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Type of operations	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80
Search and rescue	311	161	260
Road accident assistance	167	193	293
Aircraft incidents	2	7	9
Fire support	33	18	68
Flood	25	45	17
Wind storm	30	33	31
Welfare	9	1	5
Hazardous materials	5	3	7
Community service	10	61	81
Evacuation	3	2	—
Other	36	84	90
Total	631	608	861

*State Disaster Plan*

The State Disaster Plan codifies arrangements for co-ordinating the resources of governmental agencies in coping with natural disasters and serious emergencies in Victoria. The Plan relates to four levels of disaster/emergency situations, namely:

*Stage 1.* Localised disasters or emergencies capable of being dealt with by the resources of government and local government agencies within the particular area.

*Stage 2.* Disasters or emergencies involving a number of localities, perhaps within a region of the State, and incidents of a nature where local resources are not able to cope, for example, flooding, bushfires, multi-storey building emergencies, passenger aircraft crash, industrial explosion, or large scale gas emission.

*Stage 3.* Disasters and emergencies of considerable magnitude which are beyond the capacity of local and regional resources and which require central co-ordination at State level, for example, major floods and bushfires.

*Stage 4.* Civil defence requirements in the event of armed conflict.

The Chief Commissioner of Police acts as co-ordinator under the State Disaster Plan in situations where it is necessary to bring together the resources of a number of agencies to deal with a disaster or emergency. State organisations are allocated either combating roles, for example, the Country Fire Authority and the Forests Commission in the event of bushfires, or supporting roles, for example, the Health Commission and the State Electricity Commission. Provision is made for the obtaining of assistance from Commonwealth agencies such as Telecom Australia.

Within the broad context of the State Disaster Plan, specific plans have been developed by combating authorities to deal with particular types of disasters and emergencies.

The State Disaster Plan also establishes procedures for the provision of relief for victims of disasters and emergencies involving the assistance of State and private agencies.

When a major disaster occurs, a Natural Disaster Relief Committee is formed to conduct inspections and consider reports to assess whether the Victorian Government should declare the locality affected as a disaster area. The Committee operates under the direction of the Premier and is chaired by the Minister for Police and Emergency Services. It recommends the forms of assistance which may be required and co-ordinates the various types of government assistance which may be provided following a disaster.

Grants may be provided to repair or replace essential household items or for essential repairs to homes; to offset the cost of transporting fodder and stock; or to restore public and community assets. Loans may also be provided to primary producers at concessional rates of interest or to the proprietors of small businesses if they do not have ready access to conventional sources of finance. Primary producers may also apply to the Committee for cash grants in cases of personal hardship.

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