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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

ADMINISTRATION

Local Government Department

The *Local Government Department Act* 1958 constituted a department called the Local Government Department "for the better administration of the laws relating to local government in Victoria". The legislation was brought into operation on 23 December 1958 by a proclamation of the Governor in Council published in the *Government Gazette* on that date. Officers and employees of the Local Government Branch of the Public Works Department were, as a result, transferred and attached to the new Department.

The following Acts of Parliament come within the ambit of the responsibilities of the Minister for Local Government :

Local Government Act

Acts relating to local government in the Cities of Melbourne and Geelong

Cultural and Recreational Lands Act

Dog Act

Drainage Areas Act

Hawkers and Pedlars Act

Litter Act

Local Authorities Superannuation Act

Markets Act

Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Act

Newmarket Sheep Sales Act

Petrol Pumps Act

Pounds Act

Public Authorities Marks Act

Public Contracts Act

Town and Country Planning Act

Tramways Act

Valuation of Land Act

Weights and Measures Act

Constituting and altering the constitution of municipalities

The *Local Government Act* 1958 provides machinery for the creation of new municipalities and for alterations to the boundaries of existing

ones. The power to make Orders on this subject is conferred on the Governor in Council, who acts on the recommendation of the Minister for Local Government. All such Orders are published in the *Government Gazette*. The powers conferred on the Governor in Council include authority to do the following :

1. To constitute new shires. Practically the whole of Victoria is included in municipal districts, and therefore any new municipalities will almost inevitably be created from the territories of existing ones. Before any area of land in Victoria may be constituted a shire it must contain rateable property having a net annual value of not less than \$400,000 which yielded not less than \$60,000 in general and extra rates for the last completed municipal year.

2. To constitute new boroughs, towns, or cities. Any area of land in Victoria may be constituted a borough provided such area :

- (i) is substantially urban in character ;
- (ii) has a population of at least 4,000 inhabitants ;
- (iii) contains rateable property having a net annual value of at least \$400,000 ; and
- (iv) contains rateable property which yielded a revenue of at least \$60,000 from general and extra rates for the last completed municipal year.

To be constituted a town or city the area must meet the appropriate requirements set out in (6) below.

3. To unite two or more municipalities whose municipal districts form one continuous area.

4. To sever part of one municipality and annex such part to another municipality.

5. To subdivide or re-subdivide any municipality or to alter the boundaries of or abolish the subdivisions of any municipal district. (The subdivisions of a city, town, or borough are called "wards" and those of a shire "ridings". The maximum number of subdivisions permitted in any municipality except the City of Melbourne, is eight. Melbourne has eleven wards. Most Victorian municipalities are subdivided.)

6. To proclaim municipalities which are substantially urban in character to be boroughs, towns, or cities. Any such shire which satisfies the requirements set out in (2) above may be proclaimed a borough. Any such municipality which has a population of at least 5,000 inhabitants and yielded a revenue of at least \$80,000 from general and extra rates in the last completed municipal year may be proclaimed a town. Any such municipality which has a population of at least 10,000 inhabitants and yielded a revenue from general and extra rates of not less than \$160,000 in the last completed municipal year may be proclaimed a city.

Action on these matters can be initiated locally, in some instances, by a request addressed to the Governor in Council and signed by a prescribed number of persons enrolled on the municipal voters' roll. The proposal set out in the request must be submitted to a poll held in conjunction with the next annual election of councillors. In other instances a petition under the seal of the council suffices. There is an Advisory Board of three persons, constituted under the Local Government Act, which investigates these matters and advises the Minister on them.

During the period 1 July 1969 to 30 June 1970 no new municipalities were created, but the Shire of Knox was proclaimed a City from 4 July 1969.

Valuer-General and Valuers' Qualification Board

A Valuer-General was first appointed in Victoria under the *Valuation of Land Act* 1960. The purpose of this legislation is the co-ordination of rating valuations for municipalities and other rating authorities and the improvement of the standard of valuations in Victoria. Municipalities are now the only rating authorities making valuations in the State, and each attends to the special rating valuation requirements of other authorities in its municipal district.

The Valuer-General's Office confers with the valuers appointed to make the valuation and with councils on the general levels of values to be used, and is available to give advice during the valuation or subsequently. The Valuer-General is empowered to make valuations on request for all Government Departments and public authorities, for probate duty and stamp duty and, by agreement, for settling disputes as to the value of property.

The Valuers' Qualification Board may either conduct examinations of persons desiring to qualify as valuers or prescribe examinations or qualifications which it is prepared to accept for the purpose. A two year (four year part-time) diploma course is conducted by the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. Successful candidates must also have four years practical work within six years prior to their application in order to obtain a certificate.

Land Valuation Boards of Review

Land Valuation Boards of Review were provided for by the *Valuation of Land (Valuations) Act* 1964. The purpose of the legislation was the provision of an informal and inexpensive means of determining disputes as to the valuation of real property whether for rating or taxing purposes or in respect of compulsory acquisitions.

In rating and taxing matters appeals are heard by a Board except where the appeal is against a capital improved value of \$10,000 or more, a net annual valuation of \$500 or more, or an unimproved capital value of \$2,000. In those cases the appellant may have the appeal heard by a Board or the Supreme Court, at his option.

In disputes on land acquisition the hearing is before a Board when the claim does not exceed \$10,000 unless the Supreme Court decides on application by either party that the issues involved warrant a Court hearing. When the claim exceeds \$10,000 the hearing may be before either the Court or a Board at the option of the claimant.

Each Board of Review is composed of a chairman and two valuers. The latter are selected from a panel having regard to the location and use of the land.

Weights and measures

The administration of the Victorian Weights and Measures Act is divided into central and local administration. The Weights and Measures Branch under the Superintendent of Weights and Measures is responsible for central administration. Local administration is carried out by municipal

councils or groups of councils known as Weights and Measures Unions. The *Commonwealth (Weights and Measures) National Standards Act 1960* also affects administration in Victoria. That Act established a National Standards Commission which is responsible for national standards and also examines and approves patterns of weighing and measuring instruments proposed to be used for trade.

Inspection of scaffolding

The Local Government Act makes municipal councils responsible for the inspection of scaffolding erected to support workmen engaged in the construction of buildings or in carrying out other works. Councils administer the Scaffolding Regulations made by the Governor in Council. Draft regulations are prepared by a Scaffolding Regulations Committee comprising representatives from Government Departments, the Municipal Association, the Master Builders' Association, the Trades Hall Council, and the Australian Institute of Building Surveyors. The work of councils in this field is supervised by a Supervisor of Scaffolding Inspection and Assistant Supervisors who are officers of the Local Government Department. There is a Municipal Scaffolding Inspectors Board which examines and issues certificates of qualification to municipal scaffolding inspectors. The Board is also empowered to issue certificates of competency to scaffolders. Since January 1971 it has been necessary for every person who erects, alters, or demolishes certain types of scaffolding, to hold either a certificate of competency or a permit to work under the supervision of a qualified scaffolder. The scaffolding concerned is cantilever scaffolding, suspended scaffolding, bracket scaffolding from which a person could fall a greater distance than 14 ft, or any other scaffolding (not being a ladder) the working platform of which has a height greater than 14 ft above the supporting surface. Legislation is referred to on page 224 of the *Victorian Year Book 1968*.

Municipalities

At 30 June 1970 Victoria was divided, for local government purposes, into 210 municipal districts and the Yallourn Works Area. This latter was severed from the municipal districts of which it then formed part by the *State Electricity Commission (Yallourn Area) Act 1947*. For certain purposes, it is deemed to be a borough, and municipal administration is the responsibility of the Commission, assisted by an Advisory Council. The 210 municipalities comprised :

Cities	61
Towns	5
Boroughs	8
Shires	136
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	210

The only unincorporated areas of the State are French Island (65 sq miles) in Western Port, Lady Julia Percy Island (1.02 sq miles) off Port Fairy, Bass Strait Islands (1.51 sq miles), Gippsland Lakes (Part) (128 sq miles), and Tower Hill Lake Reserve (2.28 sq miles) adjacent to the Borough of Koroit.

Municipal councils

The powers vested in municipal corporations are exercised by councils elected by persons who are enrolled on the municipal voters' rolls. The number of councillors for each municipality must be some multiple of three, not less than six, nor more than twenty-four (except the City of Melbourne, which has thirty-three councillors). Subdivided municipalities have three councillors for each subdivision.

Any person who is the owner or occupier of property of a rateable annual value of at least \$40, is eligible to stand for election as a councillor of the municipality in which the property is situated. Councillors serve in an honorary capacity. They must elect one of their number to be chairman. In a city, town, or borough, the chairman is known as the Mayor (the Lord Mayor in the case of the City of Melbourne) and in a shire, the President. Councillors hold office for three years, and each year one third of the total number allotted to each municipality retires in rotation.

A councillor who has any direct or indirect pecuniary interest in any contract or proposed contract with the municipality or in any other matter in which the municipality is concerned, and is present at any meeting of the council at which the contract or other matter is being considered must disclose his interest and is not permitted to remain in the room where the meeting is being held during discussion of or voting on the contract or other matter. Councillors are liable for heavy penalties if moneys are wrongfully borrowed or expended, and may have to repay the moneys so borrowed or expended.

Elections

Municipal elections are held annually in August. Extraordinary elections may be held to fill vacancies occurring between annual elections. A person is entitled to be enrolled on the voters' roll of any municipality if he or she is a natural born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty and has attained the age of 18 years (an amendment of the Local Government Act in April 1970 reduced the age provision from 21 to 18 years) and :

(a) is liable to be rated in respect of property within a municipal district ;

(b) is the spouse of a person entitled to be enrolled in respect of property within a municipal district upon which that person and his or her spouse reside if the said spouse is not liable to be rated in respect of such property ; and provided that the spouse shall make written application for enrolment to the council ;

(c) is the owner of any rateable property in respect of which some other person is liable to be rated as occupier.

If a corporation owns or occupies rateable property it must appoint some person to be enrolled in its place. In the case of public statutory corporations, however, this is optional. No person is entitled to be enrolled for property which has a net annual value of less than \$25, unless there is a house on such property and the person resides there.

Plural voting was abolished by legislation enacted in 1969. Each person enrolled on the municipal roll now receives only one vote. A person may, however, be enrolled in more than one subdivision of a

municipality and may vote once at any election of councillors for each such subdivision. In the case of polls under Part II of the Local Government Act (i.e., on severances, re-subdivisions, and the constitution of new municipalities, etc.), polls on changes in the basis of rating, and polls on proposed borrowings, each voter has only one vote whether enrolled in more than one subdivision or not.

Voting is compulsory in 71 municipalities.

Officers

Each council must appoint a municipal clerk (he is known as the town clerk in a city, town, or borough, and the shire secretary in a shire), an engineer, and such other officers as may be necessary. The other officers usually include a building surveyor, a valuer, a rate collector, a medical officer of health, and a health inspector. The Local Government Act requires that certain officers must obtain special qualifications from examining boards constituted under the Act. The officers who must hold these special qualifications before appointment are municipal clerks, engineers, electrical engineers, and building surveyors. The Health Act requires that medical officers of health shall be duly qualified medical practitioners, and that every health inspector shall hold a prescribed certificate of competency. In the terms of the Valuation of Land Act an appropriate certificate must also be held by municipal valuers.

Powers and duties of municipalities

The Local Government Act and other Acts of Parliament confer powers and impose duties on municipal councils. Some of these are as follows:

By-laws

Councils may make by-laws on a number of subjects specified in the Local Government Act and other Acts. The power to make laws of local application is delegated by Parliament, and councils must be careful not to exceed the authority conferred upon them.

Roads and bridges

The construction and maintenance of roads and bridges has always been one of the principal functions of municipalities. With the exception of those roads which are the responsibility of the Country Roads Board or the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, councils have the care and management of all public highways (i.e., streets and roads which the public have a right to use) in the municipal district, and have a duty to keep them open for public use and free from obstruction. The Country Roads Board is wholly responsible for the cost of maintaining proclaimed State highways, freeways, tourists' roads, and forest roads, and shares with local councils the cost of maintaining main roads. Subsidies are also granted to councils from the funds administered by the Board for works on unclassified roads. In the Melbourne metropolitan area, the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works is wholly responsible for any roads or bridges declared to be metropolitan main highways or metropolitan bridges.

Private streets

A "private street" as defined in Division 10 of Part XIX of the Local Government Act is, broadly speaking, a street set out on privately owned land, as opposed to a street set out on land of the Crown or of a

public authority. Under certain circumstances, councils may construct such private streets and charge the cost, or part of the cost, to the owners of the land abutting on the street.

After construction, the maintenance of a private street becomes the responsibility of the council. When a council constructs a street which is not a private street as defined above, it may charge abutting owners half the cost of making the footpath and kerb (or the kerb and channel if these are cast in one piece).

Sewers, drains, and watercourses

With certain exceptions, every council has vested in it responsibility for all public sewers and drains within its municipal district, or, of which it has the management and control, and all sewers and drains, whether public or not, in and under the streets of such municipal district. The exceptions to this rule are sewers and drains vested in any other municipality, the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, the Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust, the Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage Board, and any sewerage authority under the Sewerage Districts Act. Councils may enlarge or otherwise improve any sewers or drains vested in them and may also scour, cleanse, and keep open all ditches, creeks, gutters, drains, or watercourses within or adjoining their municipal districts. When a drainage area is constituted in any municipal district under the Drainage Areas Act, additional drainage powers are conferred on the council. Drainage areas may be constituted by the Governor in Council on the petition of the council or of land owners in the area. Both the Local Government Act and the Health Act confer powers on councils to provide for the proper drainage of houses, buildings, or land, and, in some instances, the owners of land benefiting as a result of this may be required to meet the cost.

Water supply and sewerage

In the Melbourne metropolitan area, the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works is responsible for water supply and sewerage (see pages 252–7). The members of the Board are municipal councillors nominated by the councils in the metropolitan area. Outside the metropolitan area, the special water and sewerage needs of the Geelong district and the Latrobe Valley are served by the Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust and the Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage Board, respectively. Elsewhere outside the metropolitan area, the Governor in Council may constitute waterworks trusts and sewerage authorities, under the provisions of the Water Act and the Sewerage Districts Act, respectively (see pages 248–9). Members of a municipal council may, together with Government nominees, be the members of the sewerage authority or waterworks trust. Alternatively, some members of these bodies may be elected by councillors or ratepayers. In many instances, municipal officers also carry out duties for waterworks trusts and sewerage authorities. The Water and Sewerage Districts Acts are administered by the Minister of Water Supply. Seventeen councils operate waterworks under powers provided in the Local Government Act and, in addition, thirteen municipalities have been constituted local governing bodies, under the provisions of the *Water Act* 1958, with defined water supply districts.

Building control

Since 1945 building in most municipalities in Victoria has been subject to a building code, known as the Uniform Building Regulations, which is administered by municipal councils. These regulations apply in cities and towns and may be applied in the whole or any part of any borough or shire, if the council concerned so desires. At 30 June 1969 only nine shires had not adopted the regulations.

Municipalities have power to make by-laws regulating buildings, but the Uniform Building Regulations, in the municipalities where they apply, would override any provisions of such by-laws. The regulations leave certain matters to be determined by councils which are empowered to make by-laws for the purpose. These by-laws are subject to approval by the Governor in Council. The Uniform Building Regulations are made on the recommendation of the Building Regulations Committee. The members of this body are appointed by the Governor in Council and include representatives of Government departments, the municipalities, the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects, the Institution of Engineers (Australia), and the Master Builders' Association of Victoria. In addition to its function of preparing draft regulations, the Committee acts as a referee to determine disputes arising out of the regulations and may also, on the application of any party concerned, modify or vary the regulations in special cases.

Town and country planning

Councils have power under the Local Government Act to make by-laws prescribing areas as residential or business areas, and, by this means, may achieve a degree of town planning. Since 1944, however, councils have had power to prepare planning schemes to regulate the use of land in the whole or any part of their municipal districts. When a council has commenced preparation of a planning scheme, it may make an Interim Development Order to control use of land in the planning area until a scheme is in force. Both the Interim Development Order and the planning scheme are subject to the approval of the Governor in Council. The Town and Country Planning Board, constituted under the Town and Country Planning Act, makes reports and recommendations to the Minister on planning schemes and town planning matters generally. The Board may itself prepare a planning scheme for a particular area at the direction of the Minister. By legislation enacted in 1949 the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works was charged with the duty of preparing a planning scheme for the Melbourne metropolitan area. This scheme—the Melbourne Metropolitan Planning Scheme—was approved on 30 April 1968 and came into operation on 22 May 1968. Subsequent to approval of the scheme the Board delegated to municipal councils in the planning area certain of its powers, authorities, and responsibilities in relation to the administration, enforcement, and carrying out of the scheme.

Local planning schemes and interim development orders were continued in operation to permit any desirable features of the local schemes to be incorporated in the metropolitan scheme by way of amendment. This is now being done and local schemes and interim development orders have been or will in due course be revoked.

Legislation enacted in 1969 to amend the Town and Country Planning Act provided for a State Planning Council and for the establishment of regional planning authorities. The State Planning Council will co-ordinate planning by State instrumentalities and semi-government authorities for future works and development and will act as a consultant and advisor to the Town and Country Planning Board on planning at the State level. Regional planning authorities may be constituted for the purpose of preparing planning schemes for areas extending beyond the boundary of one municipal district and may also subsequently administer such schemes. The same legislation also made substantial additions to the Melbourne metropolitan area to enable the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works to prepare a planning scheme for the extended area.

Town Planning Appeals Tribunal

This body was initially provided for by the *Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act 1968*. It currently consists of six persons and sits in divisions each of which is composed of a chairman, who is required to be a barrister and solicitor, and two members being, respectively, persons with a knowledge of town planning and of public administration, commerce, or industry.

The Tribunal hears and determines appeals by applicants for a permit under interim development orders and planning schemes against the refusal or failure of the responsible authority to grant a permit or against any unacceptable condition in a permit; also appeals by objectors against the determination of the responsible authority to grant a permit. The members of the Tribunal are not officers of the Department. Appeals must be lodged with the Registrar of Town Planning Appeals. He and his staff are officers of the Department.

Other powers and duties

Councils are empowered to deal with slum reclamation and to provide dwellings for persons of small means. Some councils have entered this field in conjunction with the Housing Commission.

Under financial agreements between certain councils and the Housing Commission for the purpose of slum reclamation, the following amounts have been provided by councils up to 30 June 1969: City of Melbourne \$1,224,000, City of Port Melbourne \$39,600, City of Prahran \$280,000, City of Richmond \$15,850, City of South Melbourne \$75,800, City of St Kilda \$20,000, and City of Williamstown \$70,400.

To enable the erection of dwellings for elderly persons with limited means, many councils in various parts of the State have acquired land and donated it to the Housing Commission.

Some of the powers available to municipal councils have rarely been used or are now falling into disuse. They may operate gasworks or generate electricity, but there are now no municipalities operating gasworks and only the City of Melbourne generates electricity. However, a number still purchase electricity in bulk and retail it. Some of the other more usual functions of municipalities are:

1. supervision of land subdivision and the laying out of streets on private property;
2. removal and disposal of household and trade waste;

3. sweeping, cleansing, and watering of streets ;
4. supervision of boarding houses, lodging houses, eating houses, and food premises, including inspection of foodstuffs in shops ;
5. provision and maintenance of parks, gardens, recreation reserves, swimming pools, libraries, and museums ;
6. registration of dogs ;
7. establishment of infant and pre-school welfare centres ;
8. establishment of emergency home-help services ;
9. appointment of street parking areas and off-street parking areas for motor cars, and the collection of parking fees ;
10. supervision of weights and measures ; and
11. traffic engineering.

Revenue

The works and services provided by Victorian municipalities are financed largely from local taxes (rates) which are levied on the owners or occupiers of rateable property in each municipal district.

Other sources of revenue include income from public works and services, Government grants, licence fees, and miscellaneous income.

Revenue from public works and services comprises charges for garbage disposal, sanitary and other health services, contributions to road and pavement works, and sundry income from the hire of council properties.

Some municipalities also operate business undertakings, such as electric supply, abattoirs, pipe works, quarries, and waterworks, and for the 1968 municipal year the combined turnover of these undertakings was approximately \$55m.

Rating of land and property

All land (including houses and buildings) in a municipal district is rateable, unless specifically exempted by the Local Government Act.

Non-rateable land is defined fully in the Act, but, in general, it consists of land owned or used by the Government, by certain public bodies, churches, and charitable organisations.

The council of every municipality is required, from time to time, to have a valuation made of all rateable property within the municipal district.

Metropolitan municipalities which have at least one whole subdivision subject to any rate made by the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works must have valuations at not more than four year intervals. In other municipalities valuations must be made at not more than six year intervals. These provisions are aimed at ensuring a uniformity of municipal valuations used by large rating authorities covering more than one municipality.

In Victoria, a municipality is required to rate on the net annual value of rateable property unless, at the instance of the council, or as the result of a poll of its ratepayers, it has decided to rate on unimproved capital value, or (since 1 June 1968), partly on net annual value and partly on unimproved capital value. Under the latter system a proportion of the required revenue is obtained by levying an appropriate rate on the net annual value of rateable property and the balance from an appropriate rate on the unimproved capital value of the rateable property. The proportions are fixed when the system is adopted.

The amending legislation which provides for a combination rate also provides for the gradual replacement of unimproved capital value as a basis of rating by a modified form of unimproved capital value known as site value. Replacement will be effected gradually as valuations are made on the new bases throughout the State.

The net annual value of a property is the rental it might be expected to earn from year to year if let, after deducting expenses such as rates, taxes, and insurances, but shall not be less than 5 per cent of the capital value.

The unimproved capital value, however, is the amount a property might be expected to realise if sold in an unimproved state. It is the amount a purchaser might reasonably expect to pay for land, assuming that no improvements had been effected to it.

Site value differs from unimproved capital value in that the valuer is not required to notionally restore the land to its primitive condition. Instead, the improvements which are to be imagined as not existing are those which can be seen, i.e., buildings, fences, sown pastures, etc., and including works undertaken on the land such as the removal of timber or stone, draining or filling of the land, erosion works, etc., which have been made within the 15 years last preceding the valuation.

Of the 210 municipalities in Victoria at 30 September 1969, 153 were rating on net annual value and 57 on unimproved capital value.

The principal rate levied by a municipality is the general rate. This is made for the purpose of defraying the ordinary expenditure of the council, and is paid into the general fund of the municipality known as the Municipal Fund.

The general rate must be made at least once in each municipal year, and in any one year shall not exceed 20c in the \$1 or be less than 3c in the \$1 of the net annual value of the rateable property. For certain special purposes, however, a municipality may raise its general rate above the limitation imposed by the Local Government Act.

Before making a general rate, a municipality must prepare an estimate of the amount required to defray the expenditure of the council for the period to be covered by the rate, and then to strike a rate that will be sufficient to raise the money so required. In a subdivided municipality, an extra rate may be made by the Council, in any subdivision or any part of it, on the request of not less than two thirds of the councillors of the subdivision in which it is to be raised. In certain circumstances, an extra rate may also be made and levied in a municipality which is not subdivided.

Except for the special purposes mentioned above, the aggregate amount of general and extra rates levied in any subdivision is not to exceed 20c in the \$1 of the net annual value of the rateable property. An extra rate may be made for a period not exceeding one year or less than three months, as the council thinks fit.

A ratepayer may elect to pay any general or extra rate made for a period of one year in four equal instalments on or before the last day of December, February, May, and August, respectively. If the rate notice is posted on or after 18 December, the first instalment may be paid within fourteen days of the date of posting of the rate notice.

Apart from general and extra rates, a municipality, in certain circumstances, may levy a separate rate (or make a special improvement charge) on a section of the municipality, for the purpose of defraying the cost of special works or undertakings which benefit the ratepayers in that particular area.

Other types of rates, which may be levied by municipalities, include a sanitary rate (or sanitary charge) under the provisions of the Health Act, for the purpose of providing for the disposal of refuse or nightsoil, and a rate under the provisions of the Country Roads Act for the purpose of raising certain moneys payable by the council to the Country Roads Board.

Government grants

Although Government grants (apart from those allocated through the Country Roads Board) form only a small part of municipal revenue, the special purposes for which they may be obtained have tended to increase. These purposes include pre-natal and infant welfare centres, crèches and pre-school centres, elderly citizens centres, immunisation, home help service, libraries, public halls, recreation areas and swimming pools, vermin destruction bonuses, main drains in country centres, and drainage works in drainage areas. Municipal endowment for the more needy municipalities was paid almost from the inception of local government in Victoria until the onset of the depression. Subsequently, unemployment relief grants were made annually for a number of years for various municipal works, and, since the Second World War, an amount (currently \$500,000) is provided annually towards the cost of works of municipalities and other public bodies. In 1950, the Municipalities and Other Authorities Finances Act put this arrangement on a permanent basis.

Municipalities Assistance Fund

The *Municipalities and Other Authorities Finances Act* 1950 provided that one half of the revenue received from motor drivers' licence fees, less the cost of collection, was to be paid into a Fund to be known as the Municipalities Assistance Fund. The Fund was established on 1 January 1951.

From 1 January 1965 the fee for a motor driver's licence was increased from \$3 to \$6 (licence current for a three-year period) by the *Motor Car (Fines and Drivers' Licence Fees) Act* 1964 and, as the whole of this increase was payable to Consolidated Revenue, the Act provided that henceforth one quarter of the amount collected from such licences, less the cost of collection, was to be paid to the Municipalities Assistance Fund. One half of the amount of all motor driving instructors' licence fees, less the cost of collection, paid under the *Motor Car Act* 1958 is also credited to the Fund.

Payments are made from the Fund, first, towards the cost of works of municipalities and other public bodies, and second, towards the annual cost of the Country Fire Authority, in order to relieve country municipalities of the contributions to that body which they were formerly required to make. The municipal works, usually subsidised from the Fund, are the establishment and improvement of recreation reserves (including toilet blocks, dressing sheds, and fencing), children's playgrounds, and public comfort stations.

The amount which may be allocated by the Minister from the Fund, in any one financial year, for subsidies towards the cost of works of municipalities and other public bodies was originally fixed at \$200,000. Subsequent legislation increased this amount in 1959 to \$300,000, in 1961 to \$400,000, and in 1967 to \$500,000.

For the year ended 30 June 1969 subsidies for works paid to various municipalities from the Municipalities Assistance Fund amounted to \$356,806, while, for the same period, the amount contributed to the Country Fire Authority was \$1,037,630.

Country Roads Board recoups and grants

Municipalities throughout Victoria undertake construction and maintenance work on main roads within their boundaries, on behalf of the Country Roads Board, under the provisions of the Country Roads Act. Expenditure on this work is incurred in the first instance by the municipalities, but, subject to adherence to prescribed conditions and satisfactory performance of the work, this expenditure is refunded to the municipalities by the Board. Each municipality undertaking main road maintenance work is required, however, to make an annual contribution to its cost and this is calculated by the Board as a proportion of the total maintenance expenditure on each road for the particular year. The proportion payable varies according to the capacity of the municipality to pay, and the extent to which it has benefited from the work done.

For the purpose of making and maintaining certain rural roads (known as unclassified roads), municipalities also receive grants from the Country Roads Board from funds provided by the Commonwealth Government under the provisions of the Commonwealth Aid Roads Acts. (See page 247.)

Expenditure

The ordinary revenue of a municipality is applied to providing works and services for its ratepayers. These works and services comprise construction and maintenance of roads, streets, and bridges, provision of sanitary, garbage, and other health services, provision and maintenance of parks, gardens, and other council properties, repayment of moneys borrowed for permanent works and undertakings, and other sundry works and services.

Borrowing powers

Extensive borrowing powers are conferred on municipalities by the Local Government Act to enable them to undertake large scale works, or purchase expensive equipment in circumstances where it is advisable, on economic grounds, for the costs to be spread over a number of years. In practice, municipalities seldom borrow to the limit of their powers, and their capacity to borrow is limited by the general allocation of loan funds and the state of the loan market.

Money may be borrowed for permanent works and undertakings (as defined in the Local Government Act), or to liquidate the principal moneys owing by the municipality on account of any previous loan. Under a municipality's ordinary borrowing powers, the amount borrowed shall not exceed the net annual valuation of all rateable property in the municipal district, as shown by the municipality's last audited financial statement ;

provided that, where money is borrowed for gas or electric supply, water, quarrying, or abattoirs, an additional amount may be borrowed, not exceeding one half of the net annual value of all rateable property in the municipal district, as shown by the last audited financial statement.

Under extended borrowing powers, a municipality may borrow additionally, on the security of its income, an amount not exceeding five times the average amount of such income for the preceding three years. Income for this purpose excludes rates and licence fees.

Moneys borrowed under the ordinary or extended borrowing powers may be raised by the sale of debentures or by mortgage agreement. Repayment of any such loan may be made by periodical instalments of principal and interest, or by the creation of a sinking fund for the purpose of liquidation of the loan at the end of its term.

Before proceeding to borrow money for permanent works and undertakings, a municipality is required to prepare plans and specifications and an estimate of the cost of the works and undertakings to be carried out, together with a statement showing the proposed expenditure of the amount to be borrowed. This information is to be available for a specified period for inspection by any ratepayer. The Local Government Act provides that notice of intention to borrow shall be advertised, and also contains provisions under which a number of ratepayers may oppose the proposal to borrow and demand that it be submitted to a poll of ratepayers. Should a poll be held and a majority of ratepayers vote against the proposal, the loan is forbidden.

Subject to the approval of the Governor in Council, a municipality may also borrow, to a limited extent, from an adjoining municipality, by a mortgage or first charge over a proportion of its income, for the purpose of making or repairing roads leading into the district of the municipality which lends the money.

A municipality may also borrow by mortgage agreement or by the issue of debentures, on the security of a separate rate or special improvement charge, for the purpose of carrying out the works for which the rate was levied or the charge made.

In addition to the powers mentioned above, a municipality may borrow, by means of overdraft from its bankers, for the following purposes :

1. temporary accommodation on current account ;
2. private street construction ;
3. works carried out under the Country Roads and Commonwealth Aid Roads Acts ; or
4. purchase and acquisition of land, or the payment of compensation in connection with certain specified schemes.

Investment of municipal funds in the short-term money market

Since June 1962 it has been lawful for any municipality to invest by deposit part of its municipal fund, or other moneys belonging to it, in the short-term money market.

The councils, however, may invest only with authorised dealers who have been so declared for the purpose under the provisions of Section 38 of the *Companies Act* 1961. Through these dealers (at present nine in

number) municipalities may invest at call, or for short-term, minimum amounts of \$50,000. (See also pages 689 to 691.)

Loans to this market are fully secured by Australian Government securities equal in market value to the amounts deposited. The Reserve Bank stands behind the dealers as a lender of last resort. Authorised dealers are thus at all times in a position to meet their obligations.

Investment in the short-term money market can be a useful source of additional revenue for councils. Frequently, municipalities have substantial loan funds idle for short periods, and at certain times of the year may accumulate substantial revenue credits on current account. These are likely sources of municipal investment in the short-term market.

Accounts

Every municipality is required to keep proper books of account in the form prescribed for use by all municipalities in Victoria, and these must be balanced to 30 September in each year. The accounts must be audited by an auditor qualified in terms of the Local Government Act and appointed by the Governor in Council.

Municipal Association of Victoria

All municipalities in Victoria are members of the Municipal Association which was founded in 1879 and given statutory recognition by the *Municipal Association Act 1907*. The Association was established, to quote the preamble to that Act, "for the purpose of promoting the efficient carrying out of municipal government throughout the State of Victoria and of watching over and protecting the interests, rights, and privileges of Municipal Corporations". The State Government has also found the Association a valuable organisation, because it simplifies its task of dealing with the municipalities. The Association operates the Municipal Officers' Fidelity Guarantee Fund and under the *Municipal Association (Accident Insurance) Act 1964* was empowered to issue accident insurance policies insuring councillors of any municipality against accidents arising in the course of their municipal duties.

Local Authorities Superannuation Board

The Local Authorities Superannuation Act provides for a compulsory superannuation scheme for permanent employees of municipal councils, water and sewerage authorities, weights and measures unions, cemetery trusts, the Portland Harbor Trust, and the First Mildura Irrigation Trust.

The scheme is administered by a Local Authorities Superannuation Board and provides benefits for employees on retirement at the age of 65 years, or for their dependants should the employees die before reaching that age.

Important changes in the scheme, however, were provided for by the *Local Authorities Superannuation (Amendment) Act 1960*. Before this amending legislation, the scheme had been operated by the Board in conjunction with several approved life insurance organisations. Most permanent employees were required to effect, with an approved insurer, policies of endowment insurance maturing on retirement at 65 years of age. Those who became permanent employees when over 55 years of age, however, were required to contribute to a provident fund which was

invested for their benefit by the Board. Benefits, in each case, took the form of lump sum payments on retirement at 65 years of age, or on prior death.

The amending Act reconstituted the Board by providing for the addition of two new members, increasing its membership from three to five. Provision was also made, as from the commencement of the amending Act, for the discontinuance of policies of insurance, and for the Board to take over and administer the insurance section of the scheme. It provided for the Board to "enter into contracts to provide benefits by way of superannuation, annuities, retiring allowances or payments on death, in respect of permanent employees".

Two important advantages seen in the new provisions are :

1. substantially increased benefits to contributors, payable on death before the age of 65 years, and expected increased benefits on retirement at the age of 65 ; and
2. an important new source of loan funds for local authorities.

Contributions to the scheme are based on a percentage of the salaries and wages of employees, and are met in equal proportions by employees and employers.

Before 1962 the accounting period of the Board ended at 30 June whereas the premium and contribution year closed at the end of February. Since 1962 the Board has adopted the year ending February as its accounting period.

Under the new scheme a Local Authorities Benefit Contracts Account was established by the Board in 1961. Transactions for the years 1964-65 to 1968-69 are given in the following table :

**VICTORIA—LOCAL AUTHORITIES SUPERANNUATION BOARD:
BENEFIT CONTRACTS ACCOUNT
(\$'000)**

Particulars	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
INCOME					
Premium income	1,906	2,094	2,502	2,807	2,998
Interest, dividends and rents	610	712	828	955	1,106
Total	2,516	2,806	3,329	3,761	4,104
EXPENDITURE					
Contributions, refunds, death and withdrawal benefits	688	736	1,168	1,318	1,423
Contributions to management	145	168	198	210	246
Total	833	904	1,366	1,528	1,669
Operating surplus for year	1,683	1,902	1,963	2,234	2,434
Accumulated funds at end of year	10,785	12,686	14,649	16,883	19,317

The accumulated funds at 28 February 1969 consisted of investments in semi-governmental and local government loans and cash deposits.

History of Local Government Administration, 1961

Melbourne City Council

Organisation and functions

Melbourne has the distinction of being the oldest municipality in Victoria. Incorporated as a town by Act of the New South Wales Governor and Legislative Council in 1842, it was raised to the status of city by Letters Patent of Queen Victoria dated 25 June 1847.

The City of Melbourne still operates under sections of the 1842 Act and its amendments. All other municipalities (with the exception of Geelong which was given local government in 1849 by an extension of the 1842 Act) receive their enabling powers from the Local Government Act of Victoria. Parts only of this general Act apply to Melbourne. As regards other Acts of Parliament, there is no such nice distinction, and in common with other municipalities, Melbourne derives powers from or administers such Acts as Health, Pounds, Dog, Country Roads, Road Traffic, Weights and Measures, Town and Country Planning, Summary Offences, Petrol Pumps, Motor Car, Electric Light and Power, and Markets.

With a net annual value (for the year 1968-69) of \$50.4m, rate income of \$7.1m, other revenue of \$24.7m, and a work force of approximately 2,800 employees, it is the foremost municipality in the State. Though its daily influx of population is high, its resident population of 76,500 at 30 June 1969 ranked only eighth among metropolitan municipalities. For electoral purposes, it is divided into eleven wards, and each ward returns three members, giving a full council of thirty-three members. Elections are held annually and one member from each ward retires in rotation, a member thus holding office for three years.

Melbourne is distinctively a garden city. Of its total area of 7,765 acres no less than 2,079 acres are parklands and reserves. On those parklands and reserves under its control, the City Corporation annually expends more than \$1m.

The Corporation both generates and reticulates electricity. In this respect, it is completely integrated into the State electricity grid. In its power station at Lonsdale Street, it is able to generate, at a maximum, 108,000kW. It is expected, as the generating capacity of the State Electricity Commission increases, that the Council's power generation will decrease until the power station is closed down and held as reserve capacity.

The detailed work of the Council at councillor level is achieved by the division of its powers and responsibilities among a number of committees. The permanent or standing committees number nine, while special committees are constituted from time to time for specific purposes. No councillor may be chairman of more than one permanent committee or serve on more than three committees. The committees are the workshops of the Council, but the Local Government Act does not allow even partial delegation of authority, and all the work of the committees must be reported back to the Council and all decisions approved. Despite this, the organisation is effective and achieves all the desirable advantages which spring from the division of labour.

Of the nine permanent committees, two, Finance and General Purposes, are primarily co-ordinating, while the others are functional in their purpose.

The authorities delegated to committees are made mutually exclusive and cover the full field of the Council's activities.

Administrative organisation

The work force is organised on a departmental basis, but no precise pattern of organisation has emerged. Broadly, the departments are either organised by major process or by purpose, but, in some cases, a hybrid of these two forms has been brought about. There are eleven departments comprised of the Town Clerk's, Electric Supply, City Engineer's, Parks, Gardens and Recreations, City Treasurer's, City Architect's, Building Surveyor's, City Valuer's, Abattoirs and Cattle Markets, Markets (fruit, vegetable, and fish), and Health. The Town Clerk's Department handles liaison work which achieves the necessary co-ordination and integration both of the deliberative body as organised by committees and the administrative staff as organised by departments, and of the departments themselves. For the effective functioning of the committees and for purposes of staff review and control, departments are married to committees, but this does not mean the committee has exclusive access to the activities of that particular department. Obviously departments, particularly when organised by major activity, are there to provide service to any committee requiring it. This underlines the need for a general co-ordinating staff as exemplified by the Town Clerk's Department. At present the dovetailing of committees and departments is as follows :

Public Works and Traffic Committee	City Engineer's Department City Architect's Department
Health Committee	Health Department
Finance Committee	City Treasurer's Department City Valuer's Department
Electric Supply Committee	Electric Supply Department
General Purposes Committee	Town Clerk's Department
Abattoirs and Markets Committee	Abattoirs (a) and Cattle Markets Department Markets Department (fruit, vegetables, and fish)
Parks, Gardens, and Recreations Committee	Parks, Gardens and Recreations Department
Building and Town Planning Committee	Building Surveyor's Department
Town Hall and Properties Committee	No specific links. Departmental services available as required.

(a) Abattoirs leased to private enterprise in 1969.

Further references, 1961 to 1969

Financing of major works

Since 1954 the Melbourne City Council has undertaken capital works for the community to the extent of \$56.7m. This commitment has extended the resources of the Council. New loan money has been about \$2m per annum, so that other internal funds have had to be fully utilised. Loan monies are obtained by private treaty rather than by public subscription and are repayable over thirty years, usually by means of a 1.5 per cent cumulative sinking fund. At 30 September 1969 the Council's

loan indebtedness amounted to \$49.4m offset by a sinking fund of \$8.2m.

In essence, the Australian Loan Council, through the State Treasury, exercises control over the extent of the Council's loan raising and, therefore, controls the rate of growth of the municipality. This is done by yearly allocation. In an endeavour to bring the concept of long term planning into the capital works programme, the Council's works schedule is prepared on a three year basis, necessitating the preparation of a capital budget for the period. This involves assessment of proposed projects, the allocation of priorities to them, and a determination of financial resources, i.e., what funds will be available from what sources. Control over the programme is exercised by the Council's Finance Committee, which places a limit over each Committee's loan expenditure for each year of the three year period, such limit being reviewed annually in the light of changing circumstances, particularly the amount of the allocation by Loan Council. The Council's capital works programme for the year 1969-70 covered an expenditure of \$6m in addition to the above total figures.

Among the major works undertaken by the Council in recent years was the new Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market. Standing on a 54 acre site in Footscray Road, West Melbourne, the market replaces the present 16.5 acre Victoria Market site in North Melbourne. When officially opened on 1 December 1969, the new market had cost \$11m. A further project of major dimensions is the development of the civic square on the block bounded by Swanston Street, Collins Street, Regent Place, and Flinders Lane, to provide an uninterrupted vista between the Town Hall and St Paul's Cathedral as well as a "breathing space" in the heart of the City. This will have cost over \$8.3m when all properties have been purchased.

The problems of traffic have also involved the Council in heavy expenditure. Since 1954 a sum of \$16m has been spent on roads, bridges, and traffic control devices. The Dynon Bridge, adjacent to the North Melbourne Railway Station, was completed in 1968 at a cost of approximately \$2m. Off-street car parking has also been a major item of investment. With a total expenditure to date of approximately \$4m on the purchase of suitable sites, the Council has provided, in association with private enterprise, off-street parking space for nearly 13,000 vehicles in the central city area alone. Several sites on the fringe of this area have been reserved for future development.

A town planning project currently being undertaken is the widening of Flinders Lane between Spencer and William Streets. Following the construction of the Flinders Street overpass, which reduced Flinders Street, for the length of the overpass, to the status of a rear access lane, the Council resolved to redevelop the area bounded by Spencer, Flinders, William, and Collins Streets, by constructing an alternative thoroughfare of such width as would provide an attractive frontage for development. The estimated cost of this project is \$1.8m. Altogether some \$6.5m has been expended on town planning.

For health, social services, and recreational needs, approximately \$4m has been spent. This covers establishment of baby health centres, crèches, kindergartens, playgrounds, elderly citizen's clubs, libraries, community

recreation centres, and playing arenas for almost all types of organised sport.

Improvements and developments in the supply and reticulation of electrical power has cost about \$22.6m since 1954.

STATISTICS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

General

Municipal finance statistics are compiled from statements of accounts and returns furnished by the local councils.

In tables for the year 1967-68 which follow, municipalities have been divided into City of Melbourne, other municipalities in Melbourne Statistical Division, and municipalities outside Melbourne Statistical Division.

The municipal areas which comprise the Melbourne Statistical Division are set out on pages 127-8 of this *Year Book*. Three of these areas are parts only of the Shires of Berwick, Cranbourne, and Healesville, but because it is not practicable to dissect the finances of municipalities for statistical purposes, the whole of each of these shires has been treated in the tables which follow as being within the Melbourne Statistical Division.

At 30 September 1968, in municipalities throughout the State, there were 2,322 councillors, namely, 33 in the City of Melbourne, 645 in 54 other municipalities in the Melbourne Statistical Division, and 1,644 in 155 municipalities in the remaining Statistical Divisions.

Properties rated, loans outstanding, etc.

In the following table, the number of properties rated, the value of rateable property, receipts and expenditure of all funds, and the amount of loans outstanding, are shown for each of the years 1963-64 to 1967-68. The large increase in the value of rateable properties in the year 1964-65 was due to the implementation of the *Valuation of Land (Amendment) Act 1961* which required all metropolitan municipalities and certain major country cities and towns to arrange a valuation to be returned by 30 September 1964 and assessed at the general value current at 31 December 1961.

VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES: PROPERTIES RATED, LOANS OUTSTANDING, ETC.

Year ended 30 September—	Number of properties rated	Value of rateable property		Receipts all funds	Expenditure all funds	Loans out- standing
		Net annual value	Estimated capital improved value			
	'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
1964	1,252	393,462	7,786,666	201,416	200,919	140,357
1965	1,290	559,247	10,995,815	227,146	225,849	156,012
1966	1,306	593,250	11,716,929	235,206	240,932	169,060
1967	1,344	634,352	12,373,547	262,161	256,839	189,147
1968	1,383	673,662	13,141,234	278,893	274,182	206,080

Municipal revenue and expenditure

The following table shows for each of the years ended 30 September 1964 to 1968 the general revenue and expenditure of municipalities in Victoria on account of ordinary services, together with similar details for the business undertakings under municipal control.

VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES : ORDINARY SERVICES
AND BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS : REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE
(\$'000)

Year ended 30 September—	Ordinary services		Business undertakings	
	Revenue	Expenditure	Revenue	Expenditure
1964	92,008	92,925	40,067	39,883
1965	102,995	103,187	45,352	45,117
1966	110,726	112,661	47,604	47,962
1967	124,354	124,307	50,884	50,963
1968	137,922	135,645	55,251	54,739

General account

The ordinary revenue of a municipality, consisting of rates, Government grants, etc., is payable into the General Account, and this account is applied toward the payment of all expenses incurred in respect of administration, debt services, ordinary municipal services, etc.

Details of the principal items of revenue received during the year ended 30 September 1968 are given below :

VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES :
ORDINARY SERVICES : REVENUE, 1967-68
(\$'000)

Particulars	Municipalities in Melbourne Statistical Division ^(a)		Municipali- ties outside Melbourne Statistical Division	Total
	City of Melbourne	Other		
Taxation—				
Rates (net)	6,173	52,377	28,621	87,171
Penalties	7	261	90	359
Licences—				
Dog	4	246	126	376
Other	24	141	55	220
Total taxation	6,208	53,025	28,893	88,126
Public works and services—				
Roads, streets, bridges, drains	104	2,549	2,463	5,116
Council properties—				
Parks, gardens, baths, and other recreational facilities	178	1,244	1,035	2,458
Markets	1,130	359	523	2,012
Halls	60	370	329	760
Libraries	6	49	49	104
Sale of materials	2	191	800	994
Plant hire	..	2,229	5,603	7,832
Rents, n.e.i.	665	252	318	1,235
Other	25	1,187	443	1,655

(a) See definition on page 232.

VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES :
 ORDINARY SERVICES : REVENUE, 1967-68—*continued*
 (\$'000)

Particulars	Municipalities in Melbourne Statistical Division ^(a)		Municipalities outside Melbourne Statistical Division	Total
	City of Melbourne	Other		
Health—				
Sanitary and garbage	153	2,478	1,184	3,815
Other	38	805	308	1,151
Other works and services—				
Car parking	748	221	631	1,601
Building fees	94	910	187	1,191
Supervision of private streets	..	1,209	161	1,370
Other	22	587	317	926
Total public works and services	3,225	14,643	14,351	32,219
Government grants—				
Roads, etc.	12	299	658	969
Drought relief works	..	..	3,039	3,039
Parks, gardens, etc.	..	186	918	1,104
Infant welfare	25	498	249	771
Pre-school	56	209	160	425
Home help	28	537	142	706
Libraries	30	661	404	1,095
Other	34	328	635	997
Total government grants	185	2,718	6,203	9,106
Transfers from business undertakings	90	609	46	745
Transfers from other council funds	1,315	2,120	1,366	4,801
Interest on investments, etc.	282	364	111	756
Fines (traffic, etc.)	819	470	79	1,368
Other revenue	182	380	238	800
Total revenue	12,306	74,328	51,288	137,922

(a) See definition on page 232.

After exclusion of \$4,801,000 transferred from other funds, the net General Account income during 1967-68 was \$133,121,000. Of this total 66.2 per cent was derived from taxation (65.8 per cent from rates and penalties, and 0.4 per cent from licences); 24.2 per cent from public works and services; 0.6 per cent from transfers from business undertakings; 6.8 per cent from Government grants; and 2.2 per cent from other sources. The total amount collected from taxation (\$88,126,000) was equivalent to \$26.59 per head of population.

Excluding \$4,766,000 transferred to other funds, the net General Account expenditure during 1967-68 was \$130,879,000. Of this total 13.4 per cent was for administration; 13.4 per cent for debt charges; 10.3 per cent for health services; 17.9 per cent for parks, gardens and other council properties; 33.5 per cent for roads, streets, etc.; 4.1 per cent of other public works and services; 4.7 per cent for grants and contributions; and 2.7 per cent for miscellaneous items.

Details of the principal items of expenditure from the General Account during the year ended 30 September 1968 follow:

VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES :
ORDINARY SERVICES : EXPENDITURE, 1967-68
(\$'000)

Particulars	Municipalities in Melbourne Statistical Division ^(a)		Municipalities outside Melbourne Statistical Division	Total
	City of Melbourne	Other		
General administration	1,744	9,205	6,531	17,481
Debt charges (excluding business undertakings)—				
Interest—				
Loans	2,166	3,727	1,868	7,761
Overdraft	..	296	253	549
Redemption	271	4,704	3,256	8,231
Sinking fund	427	388	89	904
Other	3	43	9	54
Total debt charges	2,867	9,156	5,475	17,499
Public works and services—				
Roads, streets, bridges, drains—				
Construction, maintenance, plant, etc.	861	15,199	20,204	36,263
Cleaning and watering	526	2,346	494	3,366
Street lighting	(b)	2,124	545	2,669
Other	171	1,214	210	1,595
Council properties—				
Parks, gardens, baths, and other recreational facilities	1,300	5,831	3,692	10,824
Markets	467	170	362	999
Halls	272	1,621	927	2,819
Libraries	120	2,052	896	3,068
Land, property purchases, n.e.i.	..	713	206	919
Materials	..	13	108	121
Plant (excluding road plant)	205	1,212	292	1,709
Elderly citizens centres	11	335	117	462
Other	242	1,200	1,082	2,525
Health—				
Sanitary and garbage services	522	5,082	1,592	7,195
Infant welfare	92	1,208	622	1,921
Pre-school	140	451	237	829
Home help	46	1,207	282	1,534
Other	105	1,394	549	2,048
Other works and services—				
Car parking	519	1,485	290	2,294
Building inspection	26	637	100	763
Other	8	1,725	555	2,287
Total public works and services	5,632	47,218	33,362	86,212
Grants—				
Country Roads Board	..	686	1,072	1,758
Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board	231	1,802	..	2,032
Hospitals and other charities	64	179	153	396
Superannuation	113	788	543	1,444
Other	256	136	86	478
Total grants	663	3,591	1,853	6,108

(a) See definition on page 232.

(b) Cost of street lighting is charged to electricity undertaking.

VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES :
ORDINARY SERVICES : EXPENDITURE, 1967-68—*continued*
(\$'000)

Particulars	Municipalities in Melbourne Statistical Division(a)		Municipalities outside Melbourne Statistical Division	Total
	City of Melbourne	Other		
Transfers to other council funds	979	2,019	1,767	4,766
Pay-roll tax	128	622	435	1,186
Insurances	201	911	830	1,943
Miscellaneous	..	286	165	451
Total expenditure	12,216	73,010	50,419	135,645

(a) See definition on page 232.

Municipal administrative costs

Particulars of the principal items of expenditure during each of the years ended 30 September 1964 to 1968, in respect of general municipal administration, are given in the following table :

VICTORIA—COST OF MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION
(\$'000)

Particulars	Year ended 30 September—				
	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Salaries(a)	9,324	10,021	11,773	12,747	13,319
Mayoral and presidential allowances	257	271	289	317	341
Audit expenses	92	111	120	129	153
Dog registration expenses	167	190	195	210	228
Election expenses	92	113	107	112	127
Legal expenses	264	311	316	356	426
Printing, advertising, postage, telephone, etc.	1,375	1,539	1,772	1,837	2,070
Other	228	346	509	632	815
Total	11,800	12,900	15,079	16,340	17,481

(a) Including cost of valuations and travelling expenses, but excluding health officers' salaries which are included under "Health—other" on previous page.

Municipal business undertakings

In Victoria during 1967-68 fourteen municipal councils conducted electricity supply undertakings. These constituted the principal trading activities of municipalities. Other trading activities included water supply, abattoirs, hydraulic power, quarries, iceworks, and reinforced concrete pipe and culvert works, but, relatively, these were not extensive. A list of the principal local authorities which have assumed responsibility for water supply is to be found on page 249.

The tables which follow show, for the year ended 30 September 1968, revenue and expenditure of the various types of local authority business undertakings :

VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES :
BUSINESS UNDERTAKINGS, 1967-68
(\$'000)

Particulars	Municipalities in Melbourne Statistical Division(a)		Municipalities outside Melbourne Statistical Division	Total
	City of Melbourne	Other		
REVENUE				
Water supply—				
Rates, sale of water, etc.	..	97	622	719
Electricity—				
Charges for services and sales of products, etc.	16,578	34,993	549	52,119
Abattoirs—				
Charges for services and sales of products, etc.	651	224	502	1,377
Other(b)—				
Charges for services and sales of products, etc.	9	470	556	1,035
Total revenue	17,237	35,785	2,229	55,251
EXPENDITURE				
Water supply—				
Working expenses	..	57	412	469
Depreciation	..	1	58	60
Debt charges	..	14	139	153
Other expenditure	..	4	1	4
Total water supply	..	76	610	686
Electricity—				
Working expenses	15,163	32,152	422	47,737
Depreciation	672	640	4	1,315
Debt charges	461	1,283	51	1,795
Other expenditure	90	472	24	586
Total electricity	16,385	34,547	502	51,434
Abattoirs—				
Working expenses	637	136	453	1,226
Depreciation	31	24	153	209
Debt charges	86	..	42	128
Other expenditure	37	91	41	169
Total abattoirs	791	251	690	1,733
Other(b)—				
Working expenses	12	316	404	732
Depreciation	..	10	35	45
Debt charges	..	..	28	28
Other expenditure	..	64	18	82
Total other	12	390	484	887
Total expenditure	17,188	35,264	2,286	54,739

(a) See definition on page 232.

(b) Includes hydraulic power, quarries, iceworks, and reinforced concrete pipe and culvert works.

Municipal loan finance*Municipal loan receipts and expenditure*

The following tables show loan receipts and expenditure of municipalities exclusive of redemption loans and loans raised for works on private streets.

The first table shows total loan receipts and expenditure for each of the years 1963-64 to 1967-68, the second table details the loan raisings for ordinary services and business undertakings during the year ended 30 September 1968, and the third table details the principal items of expenditure from loan funds during the year.

**VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES: LOAN RECEIPTS,
LOAN EXPENDITURE**

(Excluding redemption loans and private street loans)
(\$'000)

Year ended 30 September—	Receipts				Expenditure			
	Loans for—		Other	Total	Ordinary services	Business under- takings	Other (non- works)	Total
	Ordinary services	Business under- takings						
1964	15,196	2,516	1,716	19,428	15,944	3,513	(a)	19,457
1965	19,521	2,851	2,105	24,477	19,151	3,508	(a)	22,659
1966	18,879	1,842	2,352	23,073	21,468	3,570	199	25,237
1967	23,136	3,032	2,318	28,486	19,855	4,013	192	24,060
1968	20,405	2,691	1,792	24,887	21,158	3,940	217	25,315

(a) Included with ordinary services.

At 30 September 1968 there were unexpended balances in loan accounts amounting to \$18.7m.

**VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES:
LOAN RECEIPTS, 1967-68**

(Excluding redemption loans and private street loans)
(\$'000)

Particulars	Municipalities in Melbourne Statistical Division (a)		Municipali- ties outside Melbourne Statistical Division	Total
	City of Melbourne	Other		
Loan raisings for—				
Ordinary services	2,150	11,678	6,577	20,405
Business undertakings—				
Water supply	..	..	132	132
Electricity	..	1,275	..	1,275
Abattoirs	..	..	1,284	1,284
Other receipts (Government grants, recoups, etc., to loan fund)	1,151	346	295	1,792
Total receipts	3,301	13,299	8,287	24,887

(a) See definition on page 232.

VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES:
LOAN EXPENDITURE, 1967-68
(\$'000)

Particulars	Municipalities in Melbourne Statistical Division (a)		Municipalities outside Melbourne Statistical Division	Total
	City of Melbourne	Other		
Ordinary services—				
Roads, streets, bridges, and drains	1,460	4,240	3,488	9,188
Council properties—				
Parks, gardens, baths, and other recreational facilities	268	1,825	982	3,075
Halls	..	1,304	1,250	2,554
Plant(b)	64	121	69	254
Markets	2,068	1	148	2,216
Libraries	26	560	70	655
Land, property purchase, n.e.i.	..	558	95	653
Other	76	690	457	1,223
Infant welfare, pre-school	..	372	70	442
Off-street parking	(c)	786	20	806
Other	..	48	44	92
Total ordinary services	3,961	10,504	6,693	21,158
Business undertakings—				
Water supply	..	2	77	78
Electricity	1,128	1,470	12	2,610
Abattoirs	..	..	1,251	1,251
Pipe works	..	..	1	1
Total business undertakings	1,128	1,472	1,340	3,940
Other (non-works)	..	130	86	217
Total expenditure	5,089	12,106	8,120	25,315

(a) See definition on page 232.

(b) Excluding road plant, which is included with "Roads, streets, bridges, and drains".

(c) Under \$500.

Municipal loan liability

The loan liability of the municipalities in Victoria at the end of each of the five years 1963-64 to 1967-68 is given below. Liability of municipalities for private street construction is included, but liability to the Country Roads Board is excluded.

VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES: LOAN LIABILITY

At 30 September—	Due to—		Gross loan liability	Accumulated sinking funds	Net loan liability	
	Government	Public			Amount	Per head of population
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$
1964	5,404	134,952	140,357	7,854	132,503	42.49
1965	5,601	150,412	156,012	8,765	147,247	46.34
1966	5,644	163,416	169,060	10,207	158,853	49.15
1967	5,705	183,442	189,147	11,836	177,311	53.94
1968	5,785	200,295	206,080	13,720	192,360	57.87

Construction of private streets

The council of any municipality may construct roads or streets on private property, and may also construct, on land of the Crown or of any public body, means of back access to, or drainage from, property adjacent to such land. The cost of this work is recoverable from the owners of adjoining or neighbouring properties where, in the opinion of the council, the work performed accrues to the benefit of those properties. At the request of any owner, the amount apportioned as his total liability may be made payable by forty or, if the council so directs, sixty quarterly instalments, bearing interest on the portion that, from time to time, remains unpaid.

For the purpose of defraying the costs and expenses of work for which any person is liable to pay by instalments, the council may, on the credit of the municipality obtain advances from a bank by overdraft on current account, or borrow money by the issue of debentures, but such borrowings shall not exceed the total amount of instalments payable.

The following table details the receipts and expenditure, etc., for the year ended 30 September 1968, of the Private Street Account for areas outside that controlled by the Melbourne City Council (which has no such account) :

**VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES: PRIVATE STREET
ACCOUNT: RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURE, ETC., 1967-68
(\$'000)**

Particulars	Municipalities in Melbourne Statistical Division (a)	Municipalities outside Melbourne Statistical Division	Total
Receipts—			
Loans	5,138	495	5,633
Bank overdraft (increase)	1,268	240	1,508
Owners' contributions	16,662	1,790	18,452
Other	731	96	827
Total	23,799	2,621	26,420
Expenditure—			
Works	13,502	1,687	15,189
Bank overdraft (decrease)	2,071	194	2,265
Debt charges—			
Interest—			
Loans	1,214	124	1,339
Overdraft	629	33	662
Redemption	2,537	268	2,805
Sinking fund	232	18	249
Other	1,405	153	1,558
Total	21,590	2,476	24,066
Cash in hand or in bank at 30 September 1968	7,409	696	8,105
Bank overdraft at 30 September 1968	10,213	1,650	11,863
Loan liability at 30 September 1968	24,281	2,316	26,597

(a) See definition on page 232.

Details of receipts and expenditure of the Private Street Account including the net increase or decrease in bank overdraft, during each of the years 1963-64 to 1967-68 are shown in the following table :

**VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES: PRIVATE STREET
ACCOUNT: RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURE, ETC.
(\$'000)**

Particulars	Year ended 30 September—				
	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Receipts—					
Loans	5,111	2,901	2,812	5,562	5,633
Bank overdraft (increase)	15	2,371	2,130	624	..
Owners' contributions	14,066	16,025	17,235	17,237	18,452
Other	388	514	652	664	827
Total	19,580	21,811	22,829	24,087	24,913
Expenditure—					
Works	14,159	17,935	19,514	17,370	15,189
Bank overdraft (decrease)	..	..	..	..	758
Debt charges—					
Interest—					
Loans	1,086	1,112	1,207	1,182	1,339
Overdraft	154	125	365	618	662
Redemption	1,624	1,894	2,123	2,426	2,805
Sinking fund	121	166	138	180	249
Other	1,176	1,144	749	1,383	1,558
Total	18,320	22,377	24,097	23,159	22,559
Loan liability at 30 September	18,970	19,950	20,626	23,762	26,597

Country Roads Board Account

Works on main roads and unclassified roads carried out by municipalities on behalf of the Country Roads Board are financed by means of a Country Roads Board bank account. Expenditure is made initially from overdraft, claims subsequently being made on the Board for recovery of funds expended. With the exception of any disallowances by the Board, the full amount expended on main roads is recoverable from the Board and credited to the Country Roads Board Account, with the council later making an annual payment from General Revenue to the Country Roads Board for the council's share of the cost. The Country Roads Board assists municipal councils financially to carry out construction and maintenance works on approximately 20,000 miles of unclassified roads each year. Funds expended by councils on these roads, after deduction of councils' proportion of the cost (which is charged to General Account), are also recoverable from the Country Roads Board. Direct payments by the Country Roads Board itself on works, or for supply of materials, etc., for works, are included on both sides of the Country Roads Board Account so that the full amount of the expenditure on relevant roads may be shown in the Account for the year concerned. Any expenditure by a council on State highways, freeways, tourists' roads, and forest roads, is charged to the Country Roads Board Account and is fully recoverable from the Country Roads Board.

The following table summarises the receipts and expenditure of the Country Roads Board Account of Victorian municipalities for the year ended 30 September 1968 :

VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES: COUNTRY ROADS
BOARD ACCOUNT, 1967-68
(\$'000)

Particulars	Municipalities in Melbourne Statistical Division (a)	Municipalities outside Melbourne Statistical Division	Total
Receipts—			
Refunds from Country Roads Board	8,448	14,657	23,105
Direct payment by Country Roads Board	1,359	5,196	6,556
Council's proportion of works on unclassified roads	1,679	2,249	3,928
Bank overdraft (increase)	455	300	755
Other	53	18	71
Total	11,993	22,420	34,413
Expenditure—			
Main roads	6,561	9,537	16,098
Unclassified roads	4,985	11,853	16,837
Other roads (State highways, etc.)	112	517	629
Bank overdraft (decrease)	302	491	793
Other	34	22	56
Total	11,993	22,420	34,413
Bank overdraft at 30 September 1968	954	1,390	2,344

(a) See definition on page 232.

Length of roads and streets

The following table shows the estimated length of all roads and streets open for general traffic in the State in 1969. The mileages of State highways, freeways, main roads, tourists' roads, and forest roads, were supplied by the Country Roads Board, and the mileage of other roads and streets has been compiled from information furnished by municipal and other authorities.

VICTORIA—LENGTH OF ALL ROADS AND STREETS OPEN FOR
GENERAL TRAFFIC AT 30 JUNE 1969
(Miles)

Type of road or street	State highways, freeways	Main roads	Tourists' roads, forest roads	Other roads and streets	Total
Portland cement, concrete, etc.	3	2	..	208	213
Bituminous seal	4,300	8,171	526	17,116	30,113
Water-bound macadam, gravel, sand, and hard loam pavements	201	887	418	27,652	29,158
Formed, but not otherwise paved	..	22	..	20,770	20,792
Not formed but open for general traffic	..	5	..	20,427	20,432
Total	4,504	9,087	944	86,173	100,708

SEMI-GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES *

Country Roads Board*Introduction*

The Country Roads Board was constituted under the *Country Roads Act* 1912 and commenced operations in 1913. Under the Country Roads Act, any road in Victoria may, with the confirmation of the Governor in Council, be declared or proclaimed by the Country Roads Board to be a State highway, a freeway, a tourists' road, a forest road, or a main road. Of the 100,000 miles of public roads in Victoria, some 14,500 miles comprise the State's principal system of Country Roads Board declared roads.

State highways, freeways, tourists' roads, and forest roads are wholly financed from funds available to the Board. State highways and freeways, while serving the immediate district through which they pass as arterial routes, also carry much long distance traffic. Tourists' roads and forest roads generally pass through areas where little or no rate revenue is available to the local municipality. Main roads, the construction and maintenance costs of which are partly borne by local municipal councils, form what may be described as the secondary system of important roads in the State. In addition, there is a vast network of unclassified roads, many of which carry considerable traffic and which, within the limits of available finance, are subsidised by the Board as needs and priorities warrant.

The Board's system of classified or declared roads as at 30 June 1969 comprised 4,460 miles of State highways, 44 miles of freeways, 483 miles of tourists' roads, 461 miles of forest roads, and 9,087 miles of main roads.

Roads (Special Projects) Act 1965

The *Roads (Special Projects) Act* 1965 has been in operation since 1 July 1965. Its prime purpose was to provide funds to enable the appropriate authorities to carry out an accelerated programme of major road and bridge works. The Act increased motor registration fees for private, business, and commercial vehicles and provided for the additional revenue to be paid into a new Treasury trust fund entitled the "Roads (Special Projects) Fund". Motor registration fees were further increased on 1 March 1968. Approximately one third of the total amount of registration fees is paid into the Fund.

Each financial year the Board submits recommendations through the Minister of Public Works to the Treasurer of Victoria for Special Projects to be financed from the Roads (Special Projects) Fund during the year. The Fund has enabled the Board to provide substantial increases in the mileage of dual carriageways on the heavily trafficked State highways radiating from Melbourne in addition to the Board's own major works programme, and the extension of the mileage of roads of tourist interest throughout the State.

Victorian highways

The word "highway" is synonymous with road. Under legislation dating from 1924, however, a "State highway" in Victoria has a specific meaning. It is a road declared as such by the Board with the confirmation of the Governor in Council. State highways are developed to cater for road traffic

* This section includes only those semi-governmental authorities having close associations with local government.

between capital cities and provincial centres of importance. At 30 June 1969 the 4,460 miles of State highways consisted of 4,259 miles of sealed surface and 201 miles of gravel or improved wearing surface.

The Princes Highway, National Route 1, runs from the South Australian border to New South Wales, passing through Warrnambool, Geelong, Melbourne, Warragul, Sale, Bairnsdale, and Orbost. Other State highways include the Calder Highway, named after the first Chairman of the Country Roads Board, which joins Melbourne and Mildura passing through Bendigo, Charlton, and Ouyen. The Western Highway provides another route between Melbourne and Adelaide and passes through Ballarat, Horsham, and Nhill, while the Sturt Highway crosses the north-west corner of Victoria on the direct route from Sydney to Adelaide through Mildura.

The fertile Murray Valley settlements are joined by the Murray Valley Highway which runs from Corryong in north-eastern Victoria to Hattah in the north-west, while the Omeo Highway passes through the mountainous country from Tallangatta in the north-east to Bairnsdale in the south-east.

Freeways

Freeways provide safe direct routes for heavy volumes of traffic, their distinguishing feature being that access is controlled. Traffic is permitted entry to and exit from a fully developed freeway only at planned interchanges. Traffic crossing a freeway at other points is taken directly over or under the through carriageways.

An example of a planned freeway route is on the Princes Highway between Melbourne and Geelong. At present the Maltby Freeway of 6½ miles has been fully developed to by-pass the township of Werribee, while the 8 mile section from Kororoit Creek, 8½ miles from Melbourne to the start of the Maltby Freeway, has been declared as the Princes Freeway. Other freeways declared by the Board include the Hume Freeway (Craigieburn Section), the Hume Freeway (Chiltern-Barnawartha Section), the Princes Freeway (Morwell Section), the Princes Freeway (Moe Section), the Frankston Freeway, and the Western Freeway at Pykes Creek Reservoir.

Tourists' roads

As a result of the *Tourists' Roads Act* 1936, the Board has been empowered to carry out permanent works on and maintain tourists' roads which are proclaimed as such by the Governor in Council. Of the 483 miles of tourists' roads, the best known is the Ocean Road between Torquay and Peterborough. The Ocean Road is believed to be the only memorial road in Australia. It was built by the Board for the Great Ocean Road Trust to give employment to returned soldiers and sailors and as a memorial to their fallen comrades. It was proclaimed a tourists' road in 1936. Other tourists' roads have been built to open up places of interest such as the Grampians and the alpine ski resorts.

Forest roads

Forest roads are proclaimed or constructed in those areas of the State within or adjacent to any State forest area or those the Board considers to be timbered, mountainous, or undeveloped areas. Under the *Forest Roads*

and *Stock Routes Act* 1943, municipalities are relieved of all costs of construction and maintenance of such roads of which there are now 461 miles.

Main roads

The *Country Roads Act* empowers the Board to declare as main roads any road which in the opinion of the Board is of sufficient importance. Main roads are generally roads linking a centre of population with other centres or with areas of settlement. There are 610 miles of main roads within the Melbourne Metropolitan Planning Area of 1,942 sq miles and 8,477 miles over the rest of the State.

At 30 June 1969 the mileage of declared roads in each classification and the mileage with bituminous surface were as follows:

VICTORIA—MILEAGE OF DECLARED ROADS AT
30 JUNE 1969

Classification	Mileage	Mileage scaled
State highways	4,460	4,259
Freeways	44	44
Tourists' roads	483	297
Forest roads	461	229
Main roads	9,087	8,173
Total	14,535	13,002

Road design

In carrying out its task of developing the State's principal road system, the Board pays strict attention to the standards to which roads and bridges must be constructed. A road which carries a large volume of fast moving heavy traffic must be constructed to higher standards than one which carries mainly light tourist traffic. It is necessary, therefore, for the Board to be aware of the volume and nature of the traffic using its roads. In addition to a programme of regular traffic counts taken throughout the year, the Board conducts a 24 hour State-wide census of traffic in March each year. This practice was begun in 1928 on State highways and was subsequently extended to other categories of roads.

Construction methods and materials research

Besides determining standards of construction, the Board continually carries out research to decide which materials and methods are the most effective and economical. In 1923 the Board established a laboratory in conjunction with the engineering school at the University of Melbourne. As its activities increased the Board founded its own laboratory, and today materials research is one of the most important of its many tasks.

Bridges

In 1913 most of the 14,000 bridges in Victoria were of timber construction and many of these were in poor condition. It was obvious that they should quickly be replaced with bridges of more durable materials such as reinforced concrete. Between the two wars many reinforced concrete bridges were constructed, although, because of limited funds, it was still necessary to construct some timber bridges. In recent years, considerable progress has

been made with the production of pre-cast reinforced concrete components and this, together with standardisation of design, enables the Board to make good the deficiencies as quickly as its finances permit.

Plant

Fifty years ago, there was very little mechanical road construction plant in Victoria and most of the work of construction was carried out by horse drawn equipment and pick and shovel labour. Today, pneumatic drills, front-end loaders, mechanical excavators, and the bulldozer with its variations are used. Many other types of plant have also been designed for special purposes.

Maintenance

A road must be properly maintained if the asset provided by its construction is not to be lost. In the early days maintenance was carried out by patrolmen equipped with horses and drays, each patrolman looking after a length of about 5 to 10 miles. Where the pavement was of gravel, the patrolman was also provided with a drag to assist him in maintaining a good riding surface. With the increase in the length of bituminous roads the necessary work can be carried out more economically by truck patrols generally responsible for lengths of up to 40 or 50 miles of road. As a result of economies obtained, this form of patrol was extended in the 1930s to unsealed roads by providing the patrols with small graders which can be towed behind the truck. On roads carrying particularly heavy traffic, the assistance of a heavy power grader is often provided.

Roadside development

Roads are among the most permanent of structures, and once built they cannot be considered apart from their surroundings. Roadside development has always been an important consideration and has been actively pursued within the limits of available funds, but it has been possible only in recent years to intensify activities towards the development of what is termed the complete highway to provide a balanced combination of safety, utility, economy, and beauty.

Such factors as the preservation of flora, conservation of landscape features, rehabilitation of cleared areas, and erosion control are important aspects of the Board's road design practices. Some 50,000 trees and shrubs are planted annually on declared road reserves.

Motorists can now travel several hundred miles in a single day. This has produced a demand for frequent wayside stops where motorists can relax, enjoy a meal, or view the surroundings from a safe position clear of the road pavement. The Board is developing roadside stopping places at various locations adjacent to those declared roads of the State which carry heavy traffic. Such stopping places include rest areas with water and toilet facilities, wayside stops, scenic view points, and parking bays.

Finance

To enable the Board to carry out its responsibilities, two main sources of finance are available, namely, State and Commonwealth funds. Funds derived from State sources are listed.

1. Motor registration fees less cost of collection. (Metropolitan bus registration fees and the specified proportion of registration fees paid to the Roads [Special Projects] Fund of which the Board derives a share are not included here—see item 9 following.)

2. Two thirds of additional motor registration fees levied on first registration and subsequent change of ownership, less cost of collection.
3. Trailer registration fees less cost of collection other than the amount paid to the Roads (Special Projects) Fund.
4. One quarter of drivers' licence fees, less one quarter cost of collection.
5. Drivers' licence testing fees, less cost of collection.
6. One half of driving instructors' licence fees, less one half cost of collection.
7. Examiners' licence fees—motor car roadworthiness examinations.
8. All fees from the issue of authorised log books, less cost of collection.
9. Receipts from the Roads (Special Projects) Fund.
10. All moneys received under Part II of the Commercial Goods Vehicles Act (ton mile tax).
11. Municipal contributions on account of main road works.
12. State Loan Fund money.

From Commonwealth sources, money is provided to the State under the Commonwealth Aid Roads Act. The Board's share of this money amounted to \$32.7m in 1968–69. Total funds from all sources available to the Board in 1968–69 amounted to \$79m.

Receipts and expenditure

Receipts and expenditure covering the operations of the Board for each of the years 1964–65 to 1968–69 are as follows:

VICTORIA—COUNTRY ROADS BOARD : RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE (\$'000)

Particulars	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
RECEIPTS					
Fees—Motor Car Act (less cost of collection)	23,378	24,690	25,871	26,805	28,888
Municipalities contributions—Permanent works and maintenance—Main roads	1,690	1,691	1,824	1,845	1,931
Commonwealth Aid Roads Acts	25,182	27,175	29,050	30,895	32,723
Roads (Special Projects) Fund	..	1,654	3,311	2,652	3,055
Proceeds from Commercial Goods Vehicles Act	5,926	6,379	6,732	7,248	7,842
State loan funds	762	1,020	834	987	3,389
Grants under Public Works Loan Application Act	700	768	715	700	784
Other receipts	889	971	459	380	520
Total	58,527	64,348	68,796	71,513	79,132
EXPENDITURE					
Construction and maintenance of roads and bridges	50,556	53,076	57,503	61,078	64,776
Traffic line marking and traffic lights	196	238	252	240	270
Plant purchases	697	1,149	1,388	1,234	1,583
Interest and sinking fund payments	1,988	2,056	2,140	2,190	2,306
Payment to Tourist Fund	469	468	494	517	536
Payment to Transport Regulation Board	..	178	383	404	435
Payment to Traffic Commission Fund	..	..	..	30	271
General expenditure	4,619	6,113	5,416	6,750	7,275
Total	58,525	63,278	67,575	72,443	77,452

Expenditure on roads and bridges

The following is a summary of the total expenditure by the Country Roads Board on roads and bridges during each of the five years 1964-65 to 1968-69:

VICTORIA—COUNTRY ROADS BOARD : EXPENDITURE ON
ROADS AND BRIDGES

(\$'000)

Particulars	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
State highways—					
Construction	13,000	13,408	14,984	13,654	12,714
Maintenance	4,080	4,296	4,689	5,349	5,635
Freeways—					
Construction	4,805	3,690	5,059	7,840	11,570
Maintenance	48	55	112	129	113
Main roads—					
Construction	11,490	12,301	12,416	12,303	12,198
Maintenance	3,699	4,268	4,350	4,466	4,742
Unclassified roads—					
Construction	9,366	10,654	10,892	11,550	12,001
Maintenance	1,764	2,055	1,907	2,189	2,247
Tourists' roads—					
Construction	959	911	1,753	2,430	2,229
Maintenance	463	599	559	427	564
Forest roads—					
Construction	486	408	442	424	423
Maintenance	227	291	295	234	255
River Murray bridges and punts—					
Maintenance	167	140	45	82	86
Total construction	40,107	41,372	45,547	48,202	51,134
Total maintenance	10,449	11,704	11,956	12,876	13,642
Total expenditure	50,556	53,076	57,503	61,078	64,776

Further references, 1962 to 1970

Water supply authorities

The principal authorities controlling water supply for domestic purposes in Victoria at 30 June 1969 are listed on page 249.

The West Moorabool Water Board was constituted in May 1968 for the purpose of constructing and operating water storage works on the West Moorabool River. Its general expenses are reimbursed by the Ballarat Water Commissioners and the Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust in the proportions of one third from the former and two thirds from the latter.

Information about the activities of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission will be found on pages 283 to 291. The finances of the Commission (which form part of the Public Account and are subject to annual budget review) are included in the tables on pages 625, 626, and 644 in Part 9 of the *Year Book*.

VICTORIA—WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITIES

Authorities	Administered under the provisions of—
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Act
State Rivers and Water Supply Commission	} Water Act
Waterworks Trusts (178)	
Local governing bodies—	
Ballarat Water Commissioners	
Municipal councils—	
Ararat City	
Bacchus Marsh Shire	
Beechworth Shire	
Bet Bet Shire	
Camperdown Town	
Creswick Shire	
Korong Shire	
Kyabram Borough	
Stawell Town	
Talbot and Clunes Shire	
Walpeup Shire	
Warrnambool City	
Werribee Shire	
Sale City	} Local Government Act
Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust	} Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Act
Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage Board	} Latrobe Valley Act
First Mildura Irrigation Trust	} Mildura Irrigation and Water
Mildura Urban Water Trust	} Trusts Act
West Moorabool Water Board	} West Moorabool Water Board Act

Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works*Introduction*

The Board was constituted by Act of Parliament in 1890 and commenced operations on 18 March 1891. The original functions of the Board were to take over, control, and manage the existing metropolitan water supply system and to provide the metropolis with an efficient sewerage system. In 1922 responsibility for the disposal of nightsoil from unsewered properties within the same area was transferred from metropolitan municipalities to the Board.

In 1923 the Board was empowered to deal with main drains and main drainage works and to control and manage the rivers, creeks, and watercourses within the metropolis; in 1949 it was entrusted with the task of preparing a planning scheme for the Melbourne metropolitan area for the approval of the Governor in Council and, by legislation passed in 1954, it became a permanent planning authority.

In 1956 the Board was made responsible for metropolitan highways, bridges, parks, and foreshores, while under the *Road Traffic Act* 1956 it was required to appoint to the Traffic Commission an officer experienced in traffic engineering.

The Board consists of a chairman and fifty-two commissioners. Each commissioner is appointed by, and must be a member of, one of the municipal councils entitled to representation. Members cannot sit longer than three years without reappointment. The chairman, however, is appointed for a

four-year term. This appointment, formerly made by the Board, is now made (under an amendment of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Act dated December 1968) by the Governor in Council after consultation between the Minister and a committee appointed by the Board.

Area under the control of the Board

The area under the Board's control has been expanded in stages. The areas over which the Board exercises its several functions are now: water supply, 681 sq miles ; sewerage, 463 sq miles ; drainage and river improvements, 437 sq miles. Its town planning commitment extends over 1,942 sq miles.

Works programme

Water

The current programme of large-scale works being undertaken by the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works involves the augmentation of the water supply, new water storages, amplification of the sewerage system, and freeways.

The major project to increase the metropolitan water supply is the 12 mile long tunnel through the Thomson-Yarra Divide. It is the first stage of the Thomson River development scheme and when completed in July 1973 will divert 20,000 mill. gals of water a year from the Thomson River into the Upper Yarra catchment. The Board commissioned the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Authority to prepare designs for the new 63,500 mill. gals Cardinia Creek Dam, about 25 miles east of Melbourne. Construction of the major conduit between the Silvan Reservoir and this new dam, which is required to transfer water from the Thomson River scheme for storage in the new dam, is continuing. The dam is to begin storing water in 1972 and be completed in 1973.

Construction of the new 6,000 mill. gals Greenvale Reservoir at Bulla to serve the rapidly developing northern and western suburbs is scheduled for completion late in 1971. The reservoir, an "offstream" type of storage with virtually no catchment of its own, will be supplied by pipeline from either the Yan Yean or Silvan reservoir systems. It will comprise an earth and rockfill embankment 165 ft high, with a water depth of 150 ft and a full supply level of 550 ft above sea level. The horseshoe shaped main embankment has a crest length of 8,150 ft. Greenvale is the first large dam to be constructed by the Board of Works since the Upper Yarra dam was completed in 1957.

Sewerage

The first stage in the replacing and lowering of the Hobsons Bay main sewer under the River Yarra, necessitated by the Melbourne Harbor Trust's decision to deepen and widen the river to accommodate larger ships, has been completed. The new sewer, of reinforced concrete with a 7 ft internal diameter, with an invert about 62 ft below sea level, was constructed on a new alignment from the east bank, terminating in a connecting sewer to the Brooklyn trunk sewer. (The Hobsons Bay main sewer is one of the two major collecting sewers in the Board's system which together convey about 97 per cent of the wastewater from the Melbourne metropolitan area to the Board's Farm at Werribee.)

Work continued on construction of the 5 mile long Caulfield Intercepting Sewer, and on the new North Road pumping station, as part of the South-eastern Sewerage System. The intercepting sewer will take the flow from Hobsons Bay main sewer into the South-eastern Trunk Sewer and, when completed in 1973, will serve Sandringham, Brighton, parts of Moorabbin, and Caulfield.

Work also continued on construction of the South-eastern Trunk Sewer with special tunnelling machines being used to drive the sewer tunnel through the 10½ mile rock section between Kew and Clarinda, and the four mile soft ground section between Braeside and Clarinda. The six mile long concrete conduit between Braeside treatment plant and the new purification complex to be built at Carrum Downs is being constructed in stages by open cut.

Roads

The following projects have been undertaken by the Board with the assistance of allocations by the Treasurer of Victoria from the Roads (Special Projects) Fund.

Tullamarine Freeway. The 3.6 mile long section of Tullamarine Freeway constructed by the Board from Flemington Road to an interchange at Bell Street, Coburg, constructed by the Country Roads Board, is part of a freeway from the city to the Melbourne Airport. The project has been designed to full freeway standard, and is planned for incorporation into a metropolitan freeway system. Connections to the local street system are by means of diamond interchanges at Ormond Road and Moreland Road, providing for traffic movements to and from the north and south, respectively. The route is in the valley of Moonee Ponds Creek, which was diverted to minimise meanders across the path of the freeway. There are seventeen structures in the project. In addition to those at the interchanges, pre-stressed concrete overpasses provide grade separation for local cross traffic at Dean, Victoria, Albion, and Reynard Streets, and concrete pedestrian overpasses are provided at Evans and McColl Streets and Brentwood Avenue, together with an underpass at Wheeler Street. Six reinforced concrete bridges carry the freeway across the creek. Cost of the project was \$17m and it has been designed for traffic moving at speeds of up to 70 mph.

South-eastern Freeway, Section 2. Construction of this extension of the existing freeway, from Burnley Street, Richmond, to Toorak Road, Malvern, with a temporary extension to Tooronga Road, was opened in May 1970. The four-lane freeway has been designed to carry a peak hour traffic volume of 3,500 vehicles per hour at a design speed of 60 mph.

Special features of the project included the diversion of the River Yarra at Heyington, and construction of a new railway bridge to span the diverted river, the freeway, and the Boulevard; construction of an elevated structure to carry the freeway over the river at Heyington, over Gardiners Creek and over Glenferrie Road into the H. A. Smith Reserve at Kooyong; diversion of Gardiners Creek in Kooyong Park; diversion of the Boulevard in Survey Park with the Boulevard passing over the Freeway on a new bridge near Loyola Grove, and extension of MacRobertson Bridge to enable the freeway to pass beneath, together with a flood protection wall along the river. The cost of the project was \$15m.

One of the next major projects of the Board is the construction of the Eastern Freeway from Alexandra Parade and Hoddle Street, Collingwood,

to Thompsons Road, North Balwyn, to serve the rapidly developing eastern suburbs. The 5.4 mile long freeway will have six lanes as far as the Chandler Highway and four lanes to Thompsons Road. These will be expanded to eight lanes throughout as traffic demand increases. The freeway is estimated to cost \$24m. Provision has been made for a railway to be built in the freeway's central median.

Melbourne's water supply

At 30 June 1969 Melbourne's water supply system consisted of six storage reservoirs (Yan Yean, Toorourrong, Maroondah, O'Shannassy, Silvan, and Upper Yarra), with an available storage capacity of 65,452 mill. gals, forty-nine service reservoirs and elevated tanks with a total capacity of 373 mill. gals, and 7,034 miles of aqueducts, mains, and reticulation.

The water from the storage reservoirs flows by gravitation in aqueducts and pipelines to distributing reservoirs near the perimeter of the metropolitan area, thence by large mains to service reservoirs located at elevated positions within the metropolis from which the distribution mains radiate. The function of the service reservoirs is to regulate the pressure in their various zones of supply, to meet the daily peak demand, and to provide a reserve against failure of the main supply lines.

The distribution mains from the service reservoirs feed the reticulation system from which private service pipes are laid onto properties. As well as supplying metropolitan consumers, Melbourne's water supply has been extended to certain mountain districts in the Dandenong Ranges.

Further reference, 1964

Cost of water supply system

The cost of capital works in respect of the water supply system under the control of the Board is shown in the following table for each of the years 1964-65 to 1968-69, together with the total expenditure (less depreciation) to 30 June 1969:

**VICTORIA—MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS:
CAPITAL OUTLAY ON WATERWORKS
(\$'000)**

Particulars	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	Total cost to 30 June 1969
Yan Yean System (including Greenvale)	6	69	288	432	2,618	5,156
Maroondah System	19	120	946	263	833	5,753
O'Shannassy, Upper Yarra and Silvan Systems	1,146	146	117	2,868	3,385	54,880
Service reservoirs	220	202	75	232	940	6,033
Large mains	2,669	3,689	2,309	1,438	1,332	53,019
Reticulation	4,130	3,562	3,683	3,977	4,146	50,729
Afforestation	4	2	2	10	4	669
Investigations, future works	32	42	22	161	993	1,373
Total outlay	8,226	7,832	7,442	9,380	14,250	177,613

Output of water

Output of water from the Board's storages rose gradually from 44,000 mill. gals in 1956-57 to 69,000 mill. gals in 1966-67. There was a substantial fall in output in 1967-68 due to extreme drought conditions experienced during that year and consequent restrictions on consumption by all users.

The total output of water from the various sources of supply for each of the years 1964-65 to 1968-69 was as follows:

VICTORIA—MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS:
OUTPUT OF WATER
(Million gallons)

Particulars	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
Yan Yean Reservoir	2,786	4,130	5,650	2,461	4,477
Maroondah Reservoir	15,496	12,953	13,245	9,788	15,961
O'Shannassy River, Upper Yarra, and Silvan Reservoirs	43,150	48,117	49,929	38,628	42,856
Total output	61,432	65,200	68,824	50,877	63,293

Consumption of water

During the year ended 30 June 1969 the maximum consumption of water in Melbourne and suburbs on any one day was 386.0 mill. gals on 30 January 1969, and the minimum consumption was 100.0 mill. gals on 21 July 1968.

The following table shows, for each of the years 1964-65 to 1968-69, the number of properties supplied with water and sewers, the quantity of water consumed, the daily average consumption, and the daily average consumption per head of population served:

VICTORIA—MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS:
WATER CONSUMPTION AND SEWERAGE CONNECTIONS

Year	Properties supplied with water at 30 June	Properties for which sewers were provided at 30 June	Total annual consumption of water	Daily average of annual consumption of water	Daily consumption of water per head of population served
	number	number	million gallons	million gallons	gallons
1964-65	595,727	453,078	61,409	168.24	80.93
1965-66	612,844	467,705	65,218	178.68	84.28
1966-67	626,690	484,798	68,815	188.53	87.98
1967-68	642,039	509,185	50,876	139.00	64.06
1968-69	658,944	528,983	63,288	173.39	77.86

Sewerage system

There are now one major and five minor systems collecting, purifying, and disposing of wastewater from the metropolis. These are the Farm System (major) and Braeside, Kew, Watsonia, Maribyrnong, and Laverton Systems (minor).

The Farm System serves approximately 98 per cent of the sewered areas of the metropolis. Except for wastes from the greater part of the municipality of Sunshine, which are discharged directly into the Main Outfall Sewer, and from Williamstown, which enter the main system at Spotswood, all wastes collected by the Farm System flow by gravity through two main sewers—the North Yarra and the Hobsons Bay Main Sewers—which unite at Spotswood. The combined flow then continues for 2.25 miles through a 9 ft 3 inch diameter trunk sewer which terminates at the Brooklyn Pumping Station.

At the Pumping Station, the wastewater is screened and then electrically driven pumps lift it 140 ft to the head of the 11 ft diameter Main Outfall Sewer, along which it gravitates 16 miles to the Board's Farm just beyond Werribee, where it is purified by either land filtration, grass filtration, or ponding.

The effluents resulting from these methods of purification comply with the prescribed standards set out in the Stream Pollution Regulations of the Department of Health and are finally discharged into Port Phillip Bay.

The Braeside System disposes of the wastewater from Mordialloc, Mentone, Parkdale, Cheltenham, and parts of Moorabbin and Oakleigh which, for economic reasons, could not be brought into the Farm System. The Braeside System came into operation on 22 May 1940, and has been extended north to include Monash University and adjacent areas. The treatment process includes sedimentation of the wastewater and subsequent biological purification by trickling filters and oxidation ponds.

The Kew, Watsonia, Maribyrnong, and Laverton Systems serve small areas that could not be connected economically with the Farm System. Purification is biological as at Braeside.

Cost of the sewerage system

The cost of sewerage works during each of the years 1964–65 to 1968–69, and the total cost (less depreciation) to 30 June 1969 are shown in the following table:

VICTORIA—MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS: CAPITAL OUTLAY ON SEWERAGE SYSTEM (\$'000)

Particulars	1964–65	1965–66	1966–67	1967–68	1968–69	Total cost to 30 June 1969
Farm purchase and preparation	457	388	416	464	526	11,302
Treatment works	291	909	1,829	1,667	2,182	7,920
Outfall sewer and rising mains	101	158	185	164	61	3,949
Pumping stations, buildings, and plant	406	1,297	686	184	521	15,010
Main and branch sewers	10,950	9,643	10,533	12,584	10,853	91,157
Reticulation sewers	4,672	6,418	5,306	7,828	6,187	89,719
Cost of house connections chargeable to capital	..	..	..	..	..	794
Sanitary depots	14	6	..	Cr. 24	Cr. 18	748
Investigations	51	72	71	137	244	903
Total outlay	16,941	18,893	19,026	23,004	20,557	221,502

Board of Works farm at Werribee

Ideally, the minerals and organic matter contained in a city's domestic and industrial wastewaters should be returned to the land from which they were originally derived. The Board's farm at Werribee is an example of profitable use of sewerage wastes. The once barren plain is enriched by treatment with these wastes to the extent that intensive grazing of sheep and cattle is possible, at the same time saving ratepayers up to \$500,000 a year. The revenue from the sale of livestock is set off against the cost of wastewater purification and results in the imposition of a lower sewerage rate than would otherwise be necessary.

Statistical data for the year ended 30 June 1969 are as follows:

Total area of farm	26,809 acres
Area used for wastewater disposal	17,093 acres
Average rainfall over 76 years	18.93 inches
Net cost of wastewater purification per head of population served	62c
Profit on cattle and sheep	\$573,097

Further reference, 1965

Disposal of nightsoil from unsewered premises

The responsibility for the collection, removal, and disposal of nightsoil from unsewered premises within the metropolis was transferred from the individual municipal councils to the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works by legislation in 1922. By agreement, each council pays to the Board a prescribed amount per annum to offset the cost of the service, etc. For the year 1968-69 working expenses were \$119,455 and interest \$38,927, making a total of \$158,382. Revenue was \$201,342, giving a surplus of \$42,960.

Stormwater drainage and river improvements

In 1923 the Board was made responsible, by Act of Parliament, for the drainage of surface and storm water that flowed through two or more municipalities. Subsequent legislation gave the Board power to control the principal stormwater drainage throughout the metropolis irrespective of municipal boundaries and to construct such drainage and river improvement works as it deemed necessary.

Finance for carrying out drainage works is provided mainly by Loan Funds, but a small proportion of capital works has been financed from the revenue derived from the Metropolitan Drainage and River Improvement Rate payable in respect of all rateable property in the metropolis since 1 July 1927. The costs of maintenance and operation, as well as interest charges, are also met from this annual rate.

Besides being responsible for underground main drains and many hundreds of miles of creeks and watercourses, the Board is responsible for metropolitan rivers, except in a limited area under the control of the Melbourne Harbor Trust. It keeps these rivers dredged for flood control and for the safe passage of small boats and pleasure craft; maintains the banks to prevent erosion; exercises control over trade discharges into the streams in the metropolis; and administers the by-law relating to the use of the rivers, thus ensuring that they will continue to be a source of pleasure to the people of Melbourne.

The total cost of drainage and river improvement works (less depreciation) to 30 June 1969 was \$36m. The length of main drains under the control of the Board at 30 June 1969 was 250 miles.

Metropolitan Rivers and Streams, 1969

Assessed value of property

The net annual value of property in 1968–69 for the purpose of the Board's rating was as follows:

	\$m
Water rate	393.6
Metropolitan general rate (for sewerage services)	331.1
Metropolitan drainage and river improvement rate	367.5
Metropolitan improvement rate	404.1

Finance for capital works

Capital works are financed mainly from moneys which the Board is given approval to borrow after the annual meeting of the Australian Loan Council has considered the projected loan programmes of semi-governmental authorities throughout Australia.

Board's borrowing powers and loan liability

The amount that the Board is empowered to borrow was increased from \$400m to \$500m on 7 May 1968 and is exclusive of loans amounting to \$4.8m originally raised by the Government for the construction of waterworks for the supply of Melbourne and suburbs. These works were vested in and taken over by the Board on 1 July 1891. The Board's total loan liability at 30 June 1969 was \$417m. All money borrowed is charged and secured upon the Board's revenues.

Revenue, expenditure, etc.

The following is a table of the revenue, expenditure, surplus or deficit and capital outlay of the Board in respect of its water supply, sewerage, and drainage functions during each of the years 1964–65 to 1968–69. The Board keeps a separate account of its financial activities as Metropolitan Planning Authority. These activities are summarised in the table on page 258.

**VICTORIA—MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS:
REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, ETC.
(\$'000)**

Particulars	1964–65	1965–66	1966–67	1967–68	1968–69
REVENUE					
Water supply—					
Water rates and charges (including revenue from water supplied by measure)	12,160	13,701	14,559	14,957	16,007
Sewerage—					
Sewerage rates	10,160	12,736	13,378	15,167	18,541
Trade waste charges	554	789	1,212	1,170	2,013
Sanitary charges	212	232	241	253	367
Metropolitan farm—					
Grazing fees, rents, pastures, etc.	10	9	8	7	9
Balance, live stock account	468	569	526	416	573
Metropolitan drainage and rivers—					
Drainage and river improvement rate	1,729	2,112	2,170	3,600	4,450
River water charges	14	14	17	17	21
Total	25,307	30,165	32,111	35,588	41,981

VICTORIA—MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS : REVENUE,
EXPENDITURE, ETC.—*continued*
(\$'000)

Particulars	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
EXPENDITURE					
Water supply—					
Management	1,540	1,790	1,830	2,096	2,438
Maintenance	2,384	2,682	2,829	3,409	3,793
Water supply works	..	..	..	1,421	200
Sewerage—					
Management	1,186	1,451	1,532	1,780	2,069
Maintenance	1,480	1,792	2,051	2,217	2,638
Sewerage works	..	..	..	..	1,200
Metropolitan Farm—					
Management	84	93	99	110	132
Maintenance	760	831	845	882	951
Metropolitan drainage and rivers—					
Management	210	270	275	318	381
Maintenance	178	267	365	507	589
Drainage works	..	..	..	355	934
Pensions and allowances	313	264	297	267	436
Loan flotation expenses	263	303	457	333	589
Interest (including exchange)	14,856	16,526	17,835	19,258	21,184
Contributions to—					
Sinking fund	971	1,046	1,131	1,206	1,315
Loans redeemed reserve	988	1,228	1,420	1,479	1,921
Renewals fund	610	663	968	749	774
Depreciation	82	77	352	59	53
Superannuation account	152	201	285	336	441
Municipalities—					
For road maintenance	34	34	..	..	49
Valuations	33	44	96	101	97
Rates equalisation reserve	Cr. 817	600	Cr. 609	Cr. 1,278	Cr. 202
Other	..	..	50	50	..
Total	25,307	30,162	32,111	35,655	41,981
Net surplus (+) or deficit (—)	..	+ 3	..	— 67	..
Capital outlay at 30 June—					
Water supply	138,708	146,540	153,983	163,363	177,613
Sewerage	140,023	158,915	177,941	200,945	221,502
Drainage and river improvement works	24,983	27,964	31,436	33,149	35,654

Town planning

Like most cities, Melbourne has suffered from unco-ordinated and uncontrolled development. As a remedial step, the Government in 1949 requested the Board to prepare a planning scheme for the whole area of the metropolis.

Accordingly, the Board made a survey that provided data for detailed basic plans showing the state of the metropolis in 1949, and these plans were used as a framework for the Master Plan which was made public in 1954. Shortly after this the Board was made the permanent metropolitan planning authority.

Between 1 March 1955 and 22 May 1968 the development of the Melbourne metropolitan area was controlled by the Board under an Interim Development Order, and on the latter date the Planning Scheme, as finally approved by the Governor in Council, became operative.

The advantages of an overall metropolitan development policy, as expressed by the Scheme, are now evident—particularly in the more orderly development of the newer suburbs. The proposals for public development

in the form of roads, schools, hospitals, and parks act as a framework or guide to private development which is continuously taking place within the various land-use zones.

Further reference, 1966

Highways, bridges, and freeways

A complete network of highways and freeways designed to meet the needs of the Melbourne metropolitan area for the next twenty to thirty years is one of the major provisions of the Planning Scheme. The Board was made a responsible authority for metropolitan highways and bridges because Parliament recognised the vital importance of integrating such construction works with planning.

The most costly traffic delays occur within the central area, and new freeways and the major reconstruction of some existing roads, together with new overpasses and bridges, constitute the most pressing need. Comprehensive studies to determine construction priorities have been made and a programme, which forms the first and urgent part of the new network, has been drawn up. This programme is in progress, and projects have been completed at High Street, Kew; Hanna and Roy Streets (re-named Kings Way), South Melbourne; the first section of the South-Eastern Freeway from Batman Avenue to Grange Road Bridge; St Kilda Junction improvements; the Tullamarine Freeway; and the second section of the South-Eastern Freeway extending from Burnley to Toorak Road, Malvern.

Further references, 1967 to 1969

Revenue, expenditure, etc.

The following table summarises the revenue, expenditure, and capital outlay of the Board in connection with its functions as Metropolitan Planning Authority during the period 1964-65 to 1968-69:

VICTORIA—MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS:
PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS ACCOUNT, ETC.
(\$'000)

Particulars	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
REVENUE					
Metropolitan improvement rate and sundry income	3,909	4,914	5,136	6,022	6,223
EXPENDITURE					
Management	553	623	633	721	904
Maintenance	60	66	67	108	140
Interest	50	51	51	52	54
Contributions to sinking fund	24	24	24	24	24
Transfer to planning and highways reserve	3,188	4,114	4,311	5,064	5,032
Other	34	36	51	53	70
Total	3,909	4,914	5,136	6,022	6,223
Capital outlay at 30 June (a)	15,131	19,598	26,724	38,152	54,172

(a) Includes expenditure of the following amounts paid from the Roads (Special Projects) Fund; 1965-66, \$1,346,000; 1966-67, \$3,630,000; 1967-68, \$7,098,000; 1968-69, \$9,387,000.

Foreshores

The Board is responsible for the protection and improvement of 49 miles of the foreshore of Port Phillip Bay, from near the Point Cook aerodrome on the western side of the Bay to Canadian Bay in the east.

Works have been carried out at a number of places to arrest erosion, and other protective works are undertaken from time to time as the need arises.

Parklands

In addition to the parklands existing at the time of the preparation of the Planning Scheme, further lands in the metropolitan area have been reserved for public open space. The Board may acquire and develop such lands as parklands, gardens, or playing fields or transfer them to the relevant municipal councils to develop.

Water supply and sewerage in country towns

Introduction

Constituted under the *Water Act* 1905, the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission commenced operations in 1906. In that year it took over from the Victorian Water Supply Department the general control of water supply to 111 towns, comprising a total population of 261,000. The Commission assumed direct responsibility for supplying 75,000 persons in fifteen centres. These centres included the mining towns of Bendigo and Castlemaine and the sea port of Geelong (now served by the Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust System).

The other ninety-six centres which had operated through local authorities now came under general supervision of the Commission. Of these local authorities, one quarter were within the Wimmera-Mallee Waterworks Districts, a similar number along the route from Melbourne to Wodonga, and the rest concentrated in the Ballarat area and the old mining towns to the north and north-west of that city, towns in the Sunbury-Kyneton-Lancefield area, and the northern irrigation areas.

During 1968-69 the Commission directly administered the water supply to 148 towns with a population of 235,000. The major urban systems directly involving the Commission are the Mornington Peninsula, Bellarine Peninsula, Otway, and Coliban systems. The Mornington Peninsula System dates back to 1916 when the Flinders Naval Base was supplied. Water is derived from the Bunyip and Tarago Rivers and travels over 100 miles to Point Nepean on the tip of the Mornington Peninsula. The Bellarine System serves all the major coastal towns to the east and south of Geelong on the Bellarine Peninsula from Portarlington to Anglesea. The Otway System, with headworks located in the Otway Ranges, supplies the major towns from Camperdown to Warrnambool. The Coliban System serves the Bendigo-Castlemaine area and also supplies limited irrigation water which is delivered under a permit system on a volume basis.

Other important groups include nearly forty small towns in the Wimmera-Mallee and twenty-two centres in the irrigation areas, but most of the urban population in the latter areas is served by local authorities taking bulk supply from the Commission.

At 30 June 1969 local authorities constituted for the administration of town water supplies numbered 198, of which 191 had works in operation serving 256 towns. The remaining authorities had works under construction. In all, about 680,000 persons in 265 towns will be served when these are completed. The predominance of local control is indicated by these figures which show that the population served from locally controlled schemes is nearly treble the population supplied from schemes directly managed by the Commission. In addition to their function as water supply authorities three local authorities are also responsible for sewerage systems. A brief description of the activities of these authorities follows.

Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust

The Trust was constituted as the Geelong Municipal Waterworks Trust on 25 January 1908. It was reconstituted as a Water and Sewerage Authority under the *Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Act* 1909, and further reconstituted in September 1950 to include a Government nominee as chairman. An amendment in December 1966 provided that there shall be six commissioners comprising the chairman and a representative from each of five electoral districts.

The amount of loans which may be raised is limited to \$30m for water supply, \$20m for sewerage works, and \$1.32m for sewerage installations to properties under deferred payments conditions. The expenditure on these services to 30 June 1969 was: water supply \$18.85m; sewerage \$13.52m; and sewerage installation \$1.23m, of which \$0.16m was outstanding. The revenue for the year ended 30 June 1969 was \$1.76m on account of waterworks and \$1.16m on account of sewerage. Since 1913 the Trust has appropriated and set apart sums out of revenues for the creation of a sinking fund to redeem loans. To 30 June 1969 the amount so appropriated was \$2.01m and of this sum \$1.05m had been used to redeem maturing loans.

At 30 June 1969 the population served was estimated by the Trust at 117,191, the number of buildings within the drainage area was 32,558, and the number of buildings within sewered areas was 29,357.

Water supply

The water supply systems of the Trust are the Moorabool System and the Barwon System.

Moorabool System. The catchment of the watersheds is about 38,000 acres. There are six storage reservoirs and five service basins. The total storage capacity of the reservoirs and service basins of the Moorabool System is 4,318 mill. gals.

Barwon System. This was acquired from the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission in 1955.

The catchment area of the watersheds is about 17,000 acres and comprises the head waters of the Barwon River and its tributaries. There are two storage reservoirs and six service basins. The total storage of the reservoirs and service basins of the Barwon System is 8,974 mill. gals. The Trust is required to supply up to 700 mill. gals per year to the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission's Bellarine Peninsula System.

Sewerage

The sewerage area, which is 21,220 acres, includes the Cities of Geelong,

Geelong West, and Newtown and Chilwell, and suburban areas in the Shires of Corio, South Barwon, and Bellarine. At 30 June 1969 the sewerage system consisted of 352·2 miles of reticulation sewers and two main sewers extending from Geelong for six miles to join a single main outfall sewer seven miles in length reaching the ocean at Black Rock.

Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage Board

The Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage Board was constituted on 1 July 1954. The Board consists of seven members: the manager, who is *ex officio* chairman, appointed by the Governor in Council ; three members being elected by water supply, sewerage, and river improvement authorities within the Latrobe Valley ; one member representing the State Electricity Commission of Victoria ; one member representing private industry in the Latrobe Valley ; and one member appointed by the Governor in Council as a Government nominee. Further information about the Latrobe Valley will be found on pages 791-7 of the *Victorian Year Book* 1965.

Water supply

The Board is empowered to construct water supply works within the area of the Latrobe Valley, but at present is confining its main construction activities to the central and industrialised area, particularly around the towns of Morwell, Traralgon, and Churchill.

The Board has constructed a storage of 7,000 mill. gals capacity on the Upper Tyers River. From this storage water is conveyed a distance of approximately 10 miles through a 60 inch diameter pipeline.

The capital cost of construction of waterworks was \$11·58m to 30 June 1969. Liabilities amounted to \$12·26m at 30 June 1969, including loans due to the Government totalling \$11·19m. The income for the year 1968-69 was \$0·74m and expenditure during the year amounted to \$0·58m, including interest on loans \$0·34m. Redemption payments made during the year absorbed \$0·20m. The Board does not strike a rate, but charges consumers, including local water supply authorities, by measure. Water supplied during the year ended 30 June 1969 totalled 13,425 mill. gals.

Sewerage

The Board has constructed an outfall sewer some 52 miles in length to convey wastes to an area where they are disposed of on agricultural land. Wastes conveyed by the outfall sewer consist mainly of industrial wastes such as paper wastes, together with small quantities of domestic sewage.

During 1968-69 sewerage works were confined mainly to investigations and design of a sewer to convey salt water effluent from Hazelwood Power Station to the Board's outfall sewer. The total capital cost of sewerage construction works to 30 June 1969 was \$6·93m.

The scheme is financed by Government loan, the liabilities on account of loans at 30 June 1969 totalling \$6·04m. Income during 1968-69 was \$0·33m and expenditure, which included interest on loans of \$0·11m, was \$0·53m. Redemption payments made during the year amounted to \$0·11m.

The Board does not strike a sewerage rate, but charges by measure for the receipt of wastes, both from industries and public authorities, such as sewerage authorities, in the area.

The Ballarat Water Commissioners

The local governing body by the name of "The Ballarat Water Commissioners" was constituted on 1 July 1880 by the Waterworks Act of that year.

The water supply district of The Ballarat Water Commissioners covers an area of approximately 65 sq miles, including the City of Ballarat, the Borough of Sebastopol, and portions of the Shires of Ballarat, Buninyong, Bungaree, and Grenville. Water is also supplied in bulk to the Buninyong Waterworks Trust, the Miners Rest Waterworks Trust, the Smythesdale-Scarsdale Waterworks Trust, and to the Bungaree-Wallace Waterworks Trust. The total estimated population supplied is 65,800. The works comprise seven reservoirs, which have a total storage capacity of 5,435 mill. gals. The catchment area is 24,182 acres. The Commissioners supply water to 21,416 tenements.

The total consumption of water for the year 1969 was 2,047 mill. gals, and the average per capita consumption was 82 gal per day. Approximately 85 per cent of the properties supplied are metered.

To 31 December 1969 the capital cost of construction was \$6.28m, and loans outstanding (including private loans) were \$3.93m. During 1969 revenue amounted to \$0.52m and expenditure to \$0.52m.

Further reference, 1961

Ballarat Sewerage Authority

The Ballarat Sewerage Authority was constituted under the provisions of the *Sewerage Districts Act 1915* by Order in Council dated 30 November 1920, which provides that the members of the Water Commissioners shall be the Sewerage Authority.

The Ballarat Sewerage District covers the City of Ballarat, the Borough of Sebastopol, and portions of the Shires of Ballarat, Bungaree, and Grenville.

At 31 December 1969 there were 20,590 assessments in the sewerage districts and 19,100 in declared sewerage areas, where 16,419 tenements were connected.

The capital cost of sewerage construction works to 31 December 1969 was \$5.83m. Construction is financed by debenture issue loans from various financial institutions. The liabilities on account of loans secured for construction at 31 December 1969 amounted to \$4.92m; redemption payments at that date totalled \$0.98m. Revenue during 1969 amounted to \$0.54m, and expenditure, which included \$0.35m on interest and redemption, was \$0.54m. During 1969, 109 contracts were completed under the deferred payments system, the amount outstanding at 31 December being \$0.18m.

Further reference, 1961

Country sewerage authorities

With the exception of sewerage systems operated by the State Electricity Commission and the Eildon Sewerage District (under the direct administration of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission), country sewerage works are controlled by local authorities. These local sewerage authorities operate under the direct supervision of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission in a similar manner to the local water supply authorities. Of the ninety-eight local sewerage authorities constituted at 30 June 1969

(including the Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust, the Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage Board, and the Ballarat Sewerage Authority), seventy-one authorities had systems in operation. A further twelve authorities had systems under construction.

The following table shows particulars of all country sewerage systems which were in operation, or in course of construction (with the exception of those controlled by the State Electricity Commission), for each of the years 1964 to 1968:

**VICTORIA—COUNTRY SEWERAGE AUTHORITIES:
POPULATION SERVED, PROPERTIES CONNECTED,
INCOME, EXPENDITURE, ETC.**

Particulars	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Number of systems in operation	56	57	61	63	67
Number of systems under construction	2	6	6	5	11
Estimated population served (at end of year)	495,785	522,885	544,248	572,001	612,633
Number of properties connected to sewers (at end of year)	138,654	147,537	156,863	167,071	176,964
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Income—					
Rates	3,392	3,666	4,061	4,556	5,221
Other	1,568	1,810	1,923	1,963	2,362
Total	4,960	5,476	5,984	6,519	7,583
Expenditure—					
Working expenses	1,593	1,841	2,077	2,192	2,587
Other	3,356	3,516	3,844	4,290	4,811
Total	4,949	5,357	5,922	6,482	7,397
Loan account—					
Receipts	4,902	4,818	7,165	10,783	12,254
Expenditure	4,362	4,989	7,038	12,631	11,157
Loan liability (at end of year)	47,990	51,677	56,844	65,612	75,880

Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board

Municipalities within the Metropolitan Fire District contribute one third and fire insurance companies transacting business in the same area provide two thirds of the amount required to maintain metropolitan fire brigades. During 1968–69 contributions by municipalities were equivalent to 0.55 cents in the dollar of the annual value of property amounting to \$375m, while fire insurance companies contributed at a rate of \$16.25 for every \$100 of fire insurance premiums paid on insured property. Premiums received in the Metropolitan Fire District in 1967 amounted to \$25.6m.

Particulars of revenue, expenditure, and loan indebtedness of the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board for each of the five years 1964–65 to 1968–69 are as follows:

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

Particulars	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
REVENUE					
Statutory contributions—					
Municipalities	1,421	1,569	1,734	2,026	2,065
Insurance companies	2,843	3,139	3,468	4,027	4,156
Charges for services	487	510	515	527	688
Interest and sundries	300	301	350	324	376
Total	5,051	5,519	6,066	6,904	7,285
EXPENDITURE					
Salaries	3,261	3,710	4,117	4,345	5,082
Administrative charges, etc.	509	612	704	646	759
Partially-paid firemen and special service staff allowances	268	294	306	313	388
Plant, purchase and repairs	349	330	416	532	568
Interest	37	36	35	34	33
Repayment of loans	22	23	24	25	21
Superannuation fund	196	213	229	243	287
Motor replacement reserve	86	91	96	103	120
Pay-roll tax	93	105	115	122	143
Miscellaneous	66	320	111	98	446
Total	4,887	5,734	6,153	6,461	7,847
Net surplus (+) or deficit (—)	+ 164	— 215	— 87	+ 443	— 561
Loan indebtedness (at 30 June)	669	646	622	597	576

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 in each of the years 1965 to 1969:

**VICTORIA—METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADES BOARD:
NUMBER OF FIRE STATIONS AND STAFF EMPLOYED**

Particulars	At 30 June—				
	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Fire stations	45	44	45	45	45
Staff employed (a)—					
Fire fighting	1,051	1,088	1,124	1,153	1,175
Partially-paid firemen and special service staff	114	113	104	105	112

(a) Excluding clerical staff.

Further reference, 1961

Country Fire Authority

The headquarters of the Authority are situated in Malvern where an operations centre is in direct radio contact with every fire control region throughout the State. At 30 June 1969 there were sixty-eight permanent

firemen employed in brigades at Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and Dandenong, with a total of fifty-three permanent brigade officers at these stations and one each at Chelsea, Doveton, Frankston, North Geelong, Geelong West, Mildura, Morwell, Norlane, Shepparton, Springvale, Traralgon, Wangaratta, and Warrnambool.

With the establishment of a Training Wing in 1967, increased emphasis on training is now placed on study periods attended by selected officers who in their turn pass on the experience gained to other brigade members at regional schools of instruction. Study periods are held for officers of urban brigades, officers of rural brigades, and for group communications officers. Permanent officers of the Authority are given courses in teacher training.

The revenue of the Country Fire Authority consists mainly of statutory contributions, in the proportion of one third from the Victorian Treasury and two thirds from insurance companies underwriting fire risks in the country area of the State. There were 192 insurance companies so contributing during 1968-69.

Up to 30 June 1969 the Authority had raised seventy-three loans, representing a total of \$4.89m, which had 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 1964-65 to 1968-69, are shown in the first of the following tables. The second table gives details of the number of fire brigades, personnel, and motor vehicles for the same years.

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

Particulars	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
REVENUE					
Statutory contributions—					
Municipalities assistance fund	568	691	835	953	1,038
Insurance companies	1,136	1,382	1,669	1,907	2,075
Other	69	67	77	93	101
Total	1,773	2,140	2,581	2,953	3,213
EXPENDITURE					
Salaries and wages	658	823	995	1,101	1,300
Depreciation	78	85	102	115	130
Insurance	73	92	99	108	113
Interest	87	94	116	136	161
Maintenance	247	408	482	640	567
Motor replacement fund	168	184	208	229	257
Other	293	272	342	435	526
Total	1,604	1,958	2,344	2,764	3,054
Net surplus	169	182	236	189	159
Loan expenditure	243	431	433	554	606
Loan indebtedness (at 30 June)	1,719	1,870	2,286	2,630	3,034

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

Particulars	At 30 June—				
	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Fire brigades—					
Urban	205	206	208	208	209
Rural	1,043	1,048	1,051	1,048	1,050
Personnel—					
Professional	147	162	169	180	185
Volunteer	111,599	112,984	114,730	117,333	118,530
Motor vehicles—					
Transport	59	63	67	70	75
Fire service	958	996	1,036	1,079	1,134

Further reference, 1969

Local government and semi-governmental bodies : new money loan raisings

In the following statement particulars are given of the new money loan raisings for capital works, during each of the years 1965–66 to 1968–69, by local government, semi-governmental, and other public bodies in Victoria:

VICTORIA—LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SEMI-GOVERNMENTAL, AND
OTHER PUBLIC BODIES: NEW MONEY LOAN RAISINGS
(\$'000)

Particulars	At 30 June—			
	1966	1967	1968	1969
LOCAL GOVERNMENT				
Due to government	261	279	396	340
Due to public creditor	23,207	28,926	31,995	28,515
Total local government	23,467	29,205	32,391	28,855
SEMI-GOVERNMENTAL, ETC.				
Due to government (a)	45,614	43,763	53,425	55,236
Due to public creditor	93,793	101,210	102,617	124,269
Total semi-governmental, etc.	139,408	144,973	156,042	179,505
ALL AUTHORITIES				
Due to government (a)	45,874	44,042	53,822	55,576
Due to public creditor	117,000	130,135	134,611	152,784
Total	162,875	174,178	188,433	208,359

(a) Including the following advances by the Commonwealth Government under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement : \$24,229,000 in 1965–66, \$23,354,000 in 1966–67, \$23,866,000 in 1967–68, and \$25,688,000 in 1968–69.

Port Phillip Authority

The Authority was constituted under the *Port Phillip Authority Act 1966* and commenced operation on 7 September 1967. Its responsibilities are to advise the Minister of Lands, under whose jurisdiction the Act is administered, on methods of:

1. co-ordinating development in the Port Phillip area ;
2. preserving the existing beaches and natural beauty of the Port Phillip area and preventing deterioration of the foreshore ; and
3. improving facilities in the Port Phillip area to enable the full enjoyment of the area by the people.

The Authority's policy is directed primarily towards co-ordination in respect to correct land use, planned conservation, the identification and the preservation of the natural beauty and existing beaches of the Port Phillip area consistent with the needs of development.

Port Phillip Bay covers an area of about 735 sq miles and is the most important body of sheltered water in southern Australia. It provides the two main harbours for the ports of Melbourne and Geelong, through which most of the State's sea trade is conducted. Around and close to its coastline reside two thirds of the population of the State. Its total coastline measures approximately 164 miles.

The bed of Port Phillip below high water mark is unreserved Crown land and most of the foreshore area above high water mark is Crown land which was reserved for public purposes in 1872-73. Where not used for port or defence purposes, most of the foreshore areas have been placed under the control of local committees of management appointed under the Land Act. In general terms the Port Phillip area is that area of Crown land and land vested, occupied, or controlled by the Crown or by any public authority and the inshore waters which fall within the boundaries of an imaginary line ten chains to landward of low water mark and thirty chains to seaward from high water mark around Port Phillip ; it also embraces the inshore waters and foreshores of Bass Strait from the Barwon River to Cape Schanck, a distance of some 40 miles.

The Authority consists of a chairman, independently appointed by the Government, and four members nominated by the government departments which have an interest in and responsibility for the control, condition, or development of Port Phillip. These departments comprise the Crown Lands and Survey Department, Public Works Department, Soil Conservation Authority, and Town and Country Planning Board.

In addition to the Authority, the Act provides for a consultative committee to comprise members of the Authority together with representatives of other government and semi-government bodies, municipal councils, and other organisations having an interest in the area.

In its early years the Authority is seeking to establish information and data of the condition of the Port Phillip foreshores and of the present and future recreational needs of the public. Such information is a necessary prerequisite to any real assessment of the present capacity and ability of the area to meet the needs of a large and growing population. The following investigations are currently being carried out by the Authority:

1. a survey into the occupancy of, and buildings on, the foreshore;
2. a survey into the car parking space available on and within one mile of the foreshore ;
3. a survey into the existing condition of the foreshore beaches and inshore waters ; and
4. a beach usage and economic survey.

In addition the Authority is participating with the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, the Fisheries and Wildlife Department, and the Health Department in the Joint Environmental Study of Port Phillip Bay.

In 1968 the Government approved new legislation for the promotion and co-ordination of urban and regional planning at the State level and provided for the creation of regional planning authorities. The impact of the functions of these bodies will be significant to the Authority's role. Since that time a Geelong Regional Planning Authority and Western Port Regional Planning Authority have been established. The jurisdiction of these bodies, together with the planning responsibilities of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, now embraces the whole of the foreshores on the Port Phillip area.

Western Port Regional Planning Authority

The Mornington Peninsula and Western Port Regional Planning Authority was established in 1969 as the first Regional Planning Authority formed under the provisions of the 1968 Amendment of the Town and Country Planning Act. The name of the Authority changed to Western Port Regional Planning Authority in August 1970.

The area covered by the Authority is 648 sq miles, embracing all of the Shires of Mornington, Flinders, Hastings, Phillip Island, and part of the Shires of Cranbourne and Bass.

The Authority was established to prepare and submit for approval a planning scheme for the region and for the carrying out of the approved scheme in that area. The Authority consists of twelve members, with two representatives from each of the six municipalities within the region and has formed technical advisory committees studying conservation, pollution, tourism and recreation, and industrial development to assist in the initial work of preparing a planning scheme for the region.