

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

INTRODUCTION

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

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

Since Federation, there have been considerable changes in the functions actually performed by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments, because of various constitutional amendments and inter-governmental agreements affecting functions. The main fields of activity of the Commonwealth Government today are: foreign affairs and diplomatic representation; maintenance of the Armed Forces; customs and excise; posts and telegraphs; control of broadcasting and television; control of civil aviation; repatriation of ex-servicemen; immigration; industrial arbitration for national industries; control of coinage and currency; overseas trade promotion; employment service; age, invalid, widow's and various other pensions; national health benefits; Federal territories and overseas dependencies; census and statistics; meteorological service; Federal courts and police; control of banking; collection of sales and income taxes; housing assistance and defence service homes; scientific and industrial research; management of State and national debt; lighthouses and navigation; and Australian territorial sea and seabed. A more detailed treatment of this subject can be found in the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, included on pages 2-22 of *Year Book Australia* (No.67).

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

VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

Victorian Public Service

The Victorian Public Service consists of those officers and employees who staff the ministerial administrative units and associated administrative units as distinct from those employed in the teaching service, the police force, in local government, or in those statutory authorities which do not employ staff under the Public Service Act. The role of the Victorian Public Service is to administer legislation, implement government policy, and provide policy advice to government.

There are approximately 30,000* permanent officers and their duties cover the full range of professional employment, administrative and clerical duties, most trades, and a wide variety of other miscellaneous categories.

Entry as an officer of the Public Service is determined by reference to any or all of the following:
(1) the results of examinations or tests prescribed by the Public Service Board;

*At 30 June 1984.

- (2) the results of interviews;
- (3) the attainment of minimum standards of experience and/or education; and
- (4) other criteria that may be prescribed by the Public Service Board.

The Public Service offers career employment with progression dependent on increased knowledge and experience, and subject to a satisfactory level of performance.

About 4,000* people are employed on a temporary basis while a further group of about 9,800* people are engaged in work of an intermittent or casual nature, or employed under the provisions of Commonwealth Awards, State Wages Board Determinations, or at special rates determined by the Public Service Board.

Public Service Board

Functions

Under the *Public Service Act* 1974 the Public Service Board is charged with ensuring 'that the Public Service is so organised and staffed as to be capable of performing its functions in the most efficient and economic manner...' and 'to assist in promoting the effective, efficient and economic management of operations of administrative units...'

The Board has other roles which include policy setting and consultation on personnel management matters, discipline and dispute resolution, audit and review of the Public Service and public sector agencies, the preservation of merit principles, and in the provision of assistance to organisations both within the Service and in the public sector generally in order to improve their efficiency and effectiveness.

Composition

The members of the Public Service Board are appointed under the provisions of the *Public Service Act* 1974. The Board consists of members appointed by the Governor in Council, one of whom is the Chairman. In addition to the Chairman and the government-appointed member there are two elected members. One of the elected members is an officer of the Public Service elected by the officers of the Public Service (not being Mental Health and Mental Retardation officers); and the other represents only Mental Health and Mental Retardation officers. The structure of the Board is such that when considering matters related to either general service or mental health and mental retardation matters the elected member representing the specific division of the Service acts as a member of the Board.

Structure of the Board's Office

Several senior officers support the Board directly. The Office of the Board has three major divisions, being the Service Delivery Division, Management Consultancy Division, and Policy and Tribunal Division.

Victorian Government administrative units

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

Administrative units are instruments of ministerial action, and legislative enactment is not required to establish, abolish, or reorganise an administrative unit. These amendments may be made by the Governor in Council pursuant to Division 1 of Part 3 of the *Public Service Act* 1974.

The entries for the Auditor-General and the Ombudsman have been listed separately to reflect their role and independence. Their primary function is to report to the Victorian Parliament on specific aspects of administration.

Further information concerning Victorian Government departments and ministries may be found in the *Victorian Government Directory* 1985, compiled by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

Auditor-General

The Office of the Auditor-General of Victoria is established under the *Audit Act* 1958. The function of the Auditor-General and his staff is to independently audit and review the Treasurer's and departmental accounts, and to submit a report to the Legislative Assembly of the Victorian Parliament. He also audits the accounts of such statutory authorities as the State Electricity Commission of Victoria, Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, port authorities, and universities.

To carry out his statutory responsibilities, the Act gives the Auditor-General the power to query the

*At 30 June 1984.

Treasurer and other persons, and for the purpose of his audit, he may require the production of any records he considers relevant. The Auditor-General carries out his duties independently on behalf of Parliament and of others and reports directly to Parliament.

Further information concerning the office of the Auditor-General can be found on pages 144–5 of this *Year Book*.

Ombudsman

The Office of the Ombudsman is established under the *Ombudsman Act* 1973. The function of the Ombudsman is to investigate complaints concerning administrative actions taken in government departments, statutory bodies, or by officers and employees of municipal councils.

Further information concerning the Office of the Ombudsman can be found on page 145 of this *Year Book*.

Department of Agriculture

Minister: Minister of Agriculture

Permanent Head: Director-General of Agriculture

The Department is responsible for the administration of Acts relating to the quality of agricultural products and protection from pests and disease; for the provision of extension services to the farming community; and for carrying out research into a range of agricultural problems. Divisions of the Department are District Industry Services (extension services), Animal Research and Development, Plant Research and Development, Product Standards and Quarantine, Veterinary Field Services, and the State Chemistry Laboratory. The Minister of Agriculture is also responsible for a number of statutory authorities, including the Victorian Dairy Industry Authority and the Rural Finance Commission. Officers are available to assist members of the public with inquiries relating to any aspect of agriculture, including turf, home garden pests, diseases, vegetables and ornamental plants, as well as all types of commercial agriculture. (For a history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book* 1971, pages 105–8.)

Department of Community Welfare Services

Minister: Minister for Community Welfare Services

Permanent Heads: Director-General of Community Welfare Services and Director-General of Corrections

The Department of Community Welfare Services promotes the welfare of the Victorian community by ensuring appropriate levels of social welfare services, community development, and social planning activities. These services are provided direct by the Department, by agencies in the non-government sector, and with the support of community organisations. Their organisation is on a programme basis.

The major programmes are: Corporate Management; Protective and Substitute Care; Development of a Supportive Community; and Concessions for pensioners, beneficiaries, and other low income earners.

The Divisions of the Department are: Family and Community Services Division; Policy, Planning and Resources Division; and Program Development Division.

The Office of Corrections was created during 1983–84 to strengthen the delivery and administration of adult correctional services in Victoria. The functions of the Office were previously performed by the Department of Community Welfare Services.

The Office is responsible for all adult correctional programmes and facilities, including custodial services (prisons) and a range of non-custodial services (community-based). Juvenile correctional programmes remain under the jurisdiction of the Director-General of Community Welfare Services.

The Office has four Divisions: Prisons, Community-Based Corrections, Strategic Services, and Management Services.

Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands

Minister: Minister for Conservation, Forests and Lands

Permanent Head: Director-General, Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands

The Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands was officially formed on 2 November 1983 following a widespread review of Victoria's natural resource agencies. The agencies realigned to form the Department were the Ministry for Conservation and its agencies; the Department of Crown Lands and Survey; and the Forests Commission.

The Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands seeks to manage public land for existing and

potential uses and to ensure that Victoria's land and its living terrestrial, aquatic, and marine resources are properly managed and utilised. In particular, the objectives and functions of the Department cover policy advice; land and living resource management; land protection; services to land and the living resources industry; research; investigation; and public education.

The Department is responsible for the management and protection of public land (including national parks, other parks, State forests, wildlife reserves, and other Crown land) and, in the case of soil conservation and vermin and noxious weeds control programmes, protection of private land. The Department is also responsible for living resource management on all land and in all waters.

Education Department

Minister: Minister of Education

Permanent Head: Director-General of Education

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

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

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

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

Health Commission

Minister: Minister of Health

Permanent Head: Chairman, Health Commission of Victoria

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

The Commission operates through four 'line' Divisions: Mental Health, Hospitals, Mental Retardation, and Public Health.

The Mental Health Division controls and staffs all State-run psychiatric and mental hospitals and operates specialist alcohol, drug, and forensic services, as well as a community mental health programme.

The Hospitals Division oversees the conduct and standards of public hospitals, community health centres, ambulance services, day hospitals, hospitals and homes for the aged, private hospitals, and benevolent and philanthropic organisations.

The Mental Retardation Division controls and staffs all State-run facilities for mentally retarded persons, and oversees the activities of private facilities. The Division has responsibility for developing community resources for its clients and their families.

The Public Health Division provides services through five branches: Clinical Services (TB, communicable diseases, Prison Medical Services), Inspection Services (food standards, drugs and poisons control, sanitation, district health services, environmental health, refugee screening, epidemiology, special accommodation houses, and control of radioactive substances and radiology), Dental Health (the operation of the school dental service), Pre-School Child Development (kindergartens, day care, and child-minding centres) and Family Health (infant welfare, school medical, and family planning).

The 'line' Divisions are supported by four 'service' Divisions – Finance, Planning, Personnel, and Building and Services.

Department of Industry, Commerce and Technology

Minister: Minister for Industry, Commerce and Technology

Chief Administrator: Director-General of Industry, Commerce and Technology

The Department of Industry, Commerce and Technology was established in November 1983 to:

- (1) advise the Victorian Government on objectives, plans, and strategies for Victoria's manufacturing and commercial sectors;

- (2) develop, implement, and review policies and programmes to promote the growth of Victoria's manufacturing and commercial sectors, including particular industries and regions;

- (3) co-ordinate Victorian Government policies for the development of technology in Victoria's manufacturing and commercial sectors;
- (4) act as a focal point for the Victorian Government, business, and community groups on matters concerning technology and Victoria's manufacturing and commercial sectors;
- (5) provide a referral point within government for nominated manufacturing and commercial projects, assist the Government to respond to specific proposals, and facilitate their implementation through government approval and control processes; and
- (6) provide business promotion and support services at both State and regional level in Victoria in co-operation with other agencies and Victorian Government departments.

The Department is organised into four divisions: Development, (business economics and planning, overseas offices, export, and technology); Industry, (industry assistance and policy and district offices); Major Projects, (facilitation, government purchasing, and special projects); Corporate Services; (management services, information, and corporate affairs). The Regulation Review Unit is also located within the Department and the Victorian Centre for Technology and Design is closely linked.

Other bodies, encompassed within the portfolio of the Minister for Industry, Commerce and Technology are the Victorian Economic Development Corporation; Small Business Development Corporation; Alpine Resorts Commission; Victorian Tourism Commission; Geelong Regional Commission; Latrobe Regional Commission; Albury/Wodonga (Victoria) Corporation; and Liquor Control Commission.

Department of Labour and Industry

Minister: Minister of Labour and Industry

Permanent Head: Secretary for Labour and Industry

The Department of Labour and Industry was established under the *Labour and Industry Act 1953*. The Department is currently responsible for the achievement of prescribed standards for non-physical conditions of employment, the registration of shops and the collection of all related fees, the administration of legislation in relation to the making, distribution, and retailing of bread, the administration of part of the Workers Compensation Act, and the administration of functions arising from various miscellaneous legislation. The Department provides support services for the Government of Victoria in all matters related to the International Labour Organization.

The Department consists of four major divisions: Management Services, Industrial Relations, Inspection Services, and Policy and Research; two branches – Legal and Personnel; and two offices of statutory bodies – the Construction Industry Long Service Leave Board, and the Motor Accidents Board.

The Construction Industry Long Service Leave Board administers the entitlements to long service leave for certain occupations in the building and construction industry, accrued through service within the industry rather than with an individual employer.

The Motor Accidents Board provides for a no-fault scheme of compensation for people injured in accidents involving motor vehicles. (For the history of the Department of Labour and Industry, see *Victorian Year Book 1975*, pages 140-4.)

Law Department

Minister: Attorney-General

Permanent Head: Secretary to the Law Department.

The Law Department is responsible for the provision of an effective and efficient legal system for the people of Victoria.

In the execution of its responsibilities, the Department administers the Acts within the jurisdiction of the Attorney-General and the following offices performing functions under those Acts: Crown Solicitor's Office, Chief Parliamentary Counsel's Office, Office of the Public Trustee, Corporate Affairs Office, Registrar-General's Office, and Office of Titles.

In addition, a number of statutory organisations come within the administration of the Attorney-General. These are: Appeal Costs Board, Companies Auditors and Liquidators Disciplinary Board; Crimes Compensation Tribunal, Discharged Servicemen's Employment Board, Law Reform Commissioner, Legal Aid Commission, Motor Accidents Tribunal, Patriotic Funds Council, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Estate Agents Board, State Classification of Publications Board, and Victorian Taxation Board of Review.

The Department continually reviews legislation within the Attorney-General's responsibility and where necessary initiates the development of new or amended legislation.

It is also responsible for the provision of staff, facilities, and services to the Courts, for legal assistance to the Victorian Government in the drafting and interpreting of legislation, and for the management of Royal Commissions and Boards of Inquiry.

Local Government Department

Minister: Minister for Local Government

Permanent Head: Director-General for Local Government

The Local Government Department was established under the *Local Government Department Act* 1958, for the purpose of better administration of the laws relating to local government in Victoria.

The head office of the Department has both administrative and functional responsibilities including a degree of superintendence over Victoria's 211 municipal councils in relation to the administration of the *Local Government Act* 1958 and other Acts relating to local government. The Department provides a point of reference for persons served by local government.

The Department encompasses four specialist Divisions, namely the Valuer-General's Office, Division of Building Control, Local Government Consultancy Division, and the Weights and Measures Branch. The Valuer-General is responsible under the *Valuation of Land Act* 1960 for the co-ordination and standards of valuations made for rating purposes, including those for all municipal, water, sewerage, planning, and land tax authorities. The Division of Building Control was established following the introduction of the *Building Control Act* 1981 to advise the Minister on matters relating to building control.

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

The Minister is also responsible for a number of associated statutory bodies and Committees including the Victoria Grants Commission, Local Government Commission, Land Valuation Boards of Review, Building Control Accreditation Authority, Building Control Technical Advisory Council, Building Referees Panel, Municipal Auditors Board, Building Qualifications Board, Municipal Clerks Board, Municipal Electrical Engineers Board, Municipal Engineers Board, Municipal Valuation Fees Committee, Valuers Qualification Board, and the Local Authorities Superannuation Board. (For the history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book* 1972, pages 103-5.)

Department of Minerals and Energy

Minister: Minister for Minerals and Energy

Chief Administrator: Secretary for Minerals and Energy

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

The Minister for Minerals and Energy is responsible for the operation of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria and the Gas and Fuel Corporation of Victoria, as well as two smaller statutory authorities – the Coal Corporation of Victoria and the Victorian Solar Energy Council.

The Department of Minerals and Energy is responsible for the formulation and monitoring of overall energy policies for Victoria. The Department implements energy conservation programmes and administers procedures under the Fuel Emergency Act of 1977.

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

The Department administers legislation relating to petroleum exploration and production, mining, quarrying, tunnelling and trenching, groundwater resources, and the granting of permits and licences to own and use pipelines for the conveyance of gas, oil, liquid petroleum gas, and chemicals. (For the history of the Mines Department, see *Victorian Year Book* 1975, pages 360-1.)

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Minister: The Premier

Permanent Head: Secretary, Department of the Premier and Cabinet

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet advises and supports the Premier as chief Minister of the State, as Minister of the Department, and as Chairman of Cabinet. This involves administering and advising on the implementation of Victorian Government policies; assisting in the development of policy proposals and advising on their priorities; advising the Premier and Cabinet on legislative

programme priorities; monitoring and reporting regularly on the implementation of policies; co-ordinating the activities of Victorian Government departments and agencies where necessary; acting as a focal point between the Victorian Government and the public; and overall responsibility for inter-governmental relations.

The Divisions of the Department are: Economic and Financial Division; Natural Resources Division, which has two branches – Resources and Development; Social Development Division, with a Justice Branch and a Community Services Branch; Parliamentary and Government Division, with a Parliamentary Branch, a Government Branch, an Inter-governmental Relations Branch, and a Protocol Branch; and a Services Division, which incorporates seven units.

In addition, within the Cabinet Office there are Administration, Programmes and Special Studies, and Legislation Branches. (For the history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book*, 1964, pages 81-4.)

Department of Property and Services

Minister: Minister for Property and Services

Permanent Head: Director-General of Property and Services

The Department was created by Order in Council on 16 May 1978. The functions of the Department are: to monitor and independently check all aspects of major property dealings by Victorian Government departments and government statutory authorities to ensure that each real estate transaction involving large sums of money is in the public interest; to be responsible for the functions of the Government Printing Office, the Government Computing Service, and the Public Record Office; to administer the *Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages Act* 1959; to be responsible for the conduct of the Government Information Centre and the Government Courier Service; to conduct elections of Members of the Victorian Parliament and a number of government and semi-government bodies and also to prepare and supply voters' lists for municipal council elections; to review existing Government Motor Vehicle Fleet practices and to control the use, purchase, and disposal of motor vehicles used by Victorian Government departments and instrumentalities.

The following Divisions operate within the Department: Government Computing Service; Government Printing Office; Land Purchasing and Sales Monitoring; Management Services; Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages; Public Record Office; the State Electoral Office; the Government Courier Service; the Government Information Centre; and the Government Motor Vehicle Fleet.

Public Works Department

Minister: Minister of Public Works

Permanent Head: Director-General of Public Works

The Department is Victoria's major building construction authority and provides advice to the Victorian Government in all matters relating to public works and the initiation of design, construction, management, and maintenance of works and buildings for Victorian Government departments, ministries, and agencies. It provides property management of all government buildings (excluding schools) in Victoria, and acquires property (purchase or leasing) for the State.

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

The Building Division is the largest of the three Divisions. It is the major architectural and building organisation for Victoria responsible for the design, construction, furnishing, and maintenance of buildings on behalf of client departments. Major service branches are the Principal Architect's Office, Engineering Services Office, and four Area Offices, namely, Central, Eastern, Northern, and Western.

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

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

Department of Management and Budget

Minister: The Treasurer

Permanent Head: Director-General of Management and Budget

The Department, which was created by Order in Council on 12 October 1982, has superseded the Treasury. The prime objective of the Department is to ensure that all public sector resources are utilised in the most efficient and effective manner in accordance with the Victorian Government's priorities.

The major functions of the Department are to:

- (1) manage the budgetary process;
- (2) advise the Victorian Government on revenue options and manage revenue collection;
- (3) advise the Victorian Government, through the Cabinet Economics Committee on short, medium, and long-term economic and financial objectives and priorities;
- (4) develop and promulgate accounting policies, standards, and systems and manage the operation of the Public Account; and
- (5) develop financial policies, strategies, and projects and manage the investment of short and long-term government funds.

The Head Office of the Department comprises the following areas: Asset Management and Capital Works Unit; Budget and Resources Management; Budget Development; Comptroller-General; Corporate Services; Finance; Policy and Planning; and Revenue. (For the history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book* 1966, under Treasury, pages 97-100.)

Department of Youth, Sport and Recreation

Minister: Minister for Youth, Sport and Recreation

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

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

The various divisions are: Bureau of Youth Affairs; Corporate Services; Policy Co-ordination; Racing and Gaming; Regional Services; and Sport, Recreation, and Leisure Services.

Ministry for the Arts

Minister: Minister for the Arts

Chief Administrator: Director, Ministry for the Arts

The Ministry for the Arts functions at three levels:

- (1) as the Victorian Government's arts funding body with a charter to increase the public awareness and accessibility of the arts in Victoria,
- (2) as a government department having broad administrative responsibility for its various branches and agencies, and
- (3) as an entrepreneur of a number of cultural activities.

The Ministry funds some 300 arts organisations throughout Victoria and is responsible for the following branches and agencies: National Gallery of Victoria, Museum of Victoria, State Film Centre, State Library, Film Victoria, Victorian Arts Centre Trust, the Royal Exhibition Building, Geelong Performing Arts Centre Trust, and Victoria's 150th Anniversary Celebrations.

Ministry of Consumer Affairs

Minister: Minister of Consumer Affairs

Permanent Head: Director of Consumer Affairs

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs was established under the *Ministry of Consumer Affairs Act* 1973. In order to achieve its primary aim – the strengthening of the concept of the fair market – the Ministry is implementing the following objectives:

- (1) to minimise imbalances between consumers and providers of goods and services through regulation of market practices, as well as provision of information and advice which ensures that participants in market place transactions do not suffer loss or disadvantage;
- (2) to establish and promote improved linkages between the Ministry and community groups, in order to achieve greater access to Ministry services and provide the community with new avenues through which it can influence consumer affairs policy and services; and
- (3) to promote a situation in which goods and services generally live up to consumers' reasonable

expectations, including those relating to quality and safety, and if they do not, ensure that consumers have inexpensive avenues of redress, and that where necessary regulatory measures are taken.

The Ministry advises the Victorian Government on consumer affairs issues and the need for reform of consumer legislation; promotes the role of the Ministry as a leading agency and consultant to other government agencies on matters relating to consumers and traders; provides a comprehensive inquiry and complaint handling service; conducts consumer education programmes and awareness campaigns; provides grants to non-profit consumer and community groups; investigates consumer needs across Victoria; conducts consultations with consumer, community, and industry interests; develops product information and safety standards; prevents the distribution and/or sale of hazardous or dangerous consumer products; promotes self and co-regulation of the business sector and regulates industry through licensing or other appropriate government controls; investigates alleged breaches of the Ministry's legislation and prosecutes identified breaches; maintains surveillance over prices of selected goods and services, and undertakes investigations into pricing procedures and determinations; develops and implements conciliation procedures to assist consumers, traders, tenants, and landlords resolve disputes; and provides for the adjudication of unresolved complaints and claims.

Associated with the Ministry are the Consumer Affairs Committee, Small Claims Tribunals, Motor Car Traders' Committee, Residential Tenancies Tribunal, Market Court, Office of the Prices Commissioner, and the Credit Licensing Authority.

Ministry of Employment and Training

Minister: Minister for Employment and Training

Permanent Head: Director-General of Employment and Training

The role of the Ministry is to:

- (1) encourage, stimulate, or initiate the creation of new job opportunities in Victoria;
- (2) improve existing, and develop new, training systems to ensure a skilled labour force necessary to meet the current and future demands of industry;
- (3) analyse labour market information and identify likely future skill requirements by industry and region;
- (4) investigate the impact of technological change on the labour market; and
- (5) assist disadvantaged groups to gain access to employment and training opportunities.

The Ministry has four Divisions: Employment; Training; Planning and Research; and Management, Evaluation, and Special Projects.

The three affiliated statutory bodies which all report to the Minister are the Industrial Training Commission, the Victorian Employment Committee, and the Victorian Technology Advisory Committee.

Ministry of Industrial Affairs

Minister: Minister for Industrial Affairs

Chief Administrator: Director-General of Industrial Affairs

The Ministry of Industrial Affairs was established in January 1983 as the principal body in industrial relations matters within the Victorian public sector. The main functions of the Ministry are to co-ordinate all public sector negotiations, to undertake policy development and forward planning on industrial matters, and to assist and encourage the development of good industrial practices throughout Victoria. The Ministry works in close co-operation with the other departments and instrumentalities that have administrative responsibility for developments in the public sector labour market.

The Ministry has four divisions: Corporate Services Division; Policy and Research Division; Policy Audit, Special Projects and Industrial Liaison Division; Public Employment Industrial Relations Division; as well as the Office of the Registrar of the Industrial Relations Commission of Victoria.

The Ministry provides advice to the Minister for Industrial Affairs and to the Industrial Relations Task Force, under the chairmanship of the Minister for Industrial Affairs. The Task Force is responsible to Cabinet for the formulation and implementation of the Victorian Government's industrial relations policies.

Ministry of Housing

Minister: Minister of Housing

Permanent Head: Director of Housing

Under the *Housing Act* 1983 the Ministry, through the Director of Housing, is responsible for

implementing policies and programmes approved by the Minister of Housing. The Act confers wide powers relating to housing matters and it specifies objects for which those powers may be exercised under the direction and control of the Minister. In addition to its major, traditional function of providing rental accommodation and purchase assistance to eligible persons, the Ministry administers funds made available under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement; it ensures compliance by all house owners with building standards of habitation; and it is the registry of rental housing co-operatives.

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

The Urban Land Authority is responsible for the development and marketing of residential allotments, and the disposal of surplus Victorian Government land.

The duties of the Ministry are administered through the following divisions: Housing Services; Management Services; Legal and Registry; and Development and Property.

Ministry for Ethnic Affairs

Minister: Minister of Ethnic Affairs

Permanent Head: Chairman, Ethnic Affairs Commission

The Victorian Ethnic Affairs Commission was established under the *Ethnic Affairs Commission Act* 1982 which was proclaimed by the Governor in Council on 9 November 1982. The Ministry of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, established in 1976, became the Ministry for Ethnic Affairs on 23 December 1982, and became fully operational when the Ethnic Affairs Commission commenced operations on 15 March 1983.

In December 1982, an inter-departmental committee recommended that Victoria cease its role in the processing of immigration applications, and that this function be the sole responsibility of the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs. Victoria's role in processing such applications formally ceased on 30 June 1983.

The objectives of the Ministry are:

- (1) to promote and facilitate the settlement of migrants in Victoria, and to co-ordinate measures conducive to the building of a socially cohesive society;
- (2) to promote and encourage the establishment of a community in which all ethnic groups will have full expression of identity;
- (3) to encourage a community awareness of the value of ethnic cultures;
- (4) to encourage migrants to accept Australian citizenship and to participate in the social, cultural, educational, political, and economic life of the Australian community and in such other activities as are conducive to good citizenship; and
- (5) to take such steps as are considered necessary to prevent or remove discrimination against persons because of their ethnic background or characteristics, and to promote the welfare of migrants and their families within Victoria.

In addition, its creation was to a large extent directed to removing any areas of possible misunderstanding and to rationalise as far as possible, any degree of overlapping functions by government departments and agencies involved in the sensitive area of ethnic affairs.

Ministry for Planning and Environment

Minister: Minister for Planning and Environment

Permanent Head: Secretary for Planning and Environment

The Ministry for Planning and Environment was created under an Amendment to Schedule Two of the *Public Service Act* 1974 on 1 September 1983. Under this Amendment the Department of Planning and some sections and agencies of the Ministry for Conservation and Department of Crown Lands and Survey were consolidated in one Ministry.

The Ministry is concerned with managing and controlling the use of land, safeguarding and improving the environment, and protecting the heritage of Victoria. It is responsible for developing and maintaining systems of land-use planning, assisting regional and local authorities prepare and review land-use strategies and controls, and preparing and administering land-use controls for some areas of State significance.

The Ministry is also responsible for preparing policies and strategies for protection of the environment; developing and maintaining systems for safeguarding the environment and for

controlling pollution; for developing policies, plans, and technical advice for the management of all coastal lands in Victoria and for monitoring their management; and for identifying, protecting, interpreting, and publicising prehistoric and historic sites, structures, and relics.

The Ministry also co-ordinates Victorian Government responses to private development proposals and assists private groups concerned with environmental issues.

The Ministry's activities are organised on a regional basis with offices in Melbourne, Cranbourne, Ballarat, Bendigo, Traralgon, Warrnambool, and Wodonga.

The following bodies report to the Minister: Environment Protection Authority, Environment Council, Land Conservation Council, Historic Buildings Council, Geelong Regional Commission and Latrobe Regional Commission (on planning-related matters), Loddon-Campaspe Regional Planning Authority, Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (Planning Division), Planning Appeals Board, Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges Authority, Victoria Archaeological Survey, Victoria Conservation Trust, Victoria National Estate Committee, and Western Port Committee.

Ministry for Police and Emergency Services

Minister: Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Principal Officer: Secretary to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

The Ministry for Police and Emergency Services was established by Order of the Governor in Council on 1 July 1979, following the abolition of the Chief Secretary's Department. (Information on the Chief Secretary's Department can be found in the *Victorian Year Book* 1963, pages 100-4; 1979, page 685.)

The Ministry's major functions are:

- (1) to be responsible for the maintenance of law and order in Victoria, which involves preservation of the peace, protection of life and property, and the prevention and detection of crime;
- (2) to be responsible for planning, organising, co-ordinating, and implementing measures designed to guard against or minimise the effects of emergencies harmful to life, health, or property;
- (3) to be responsible for the prevention and suppression of fires in the Melbourne Fire District and in the country area of Victoria;
- (4) to be responsible for co-ordinating arrangements where interaction between Police, emergency, and firefighting services is necessary;
- (5) to be responsible for the registration of private agents; and
- (6) to be responsible for the administration of the *Country Fire Authority Act* 1958, the *Firearms Act* 1958, the *Metropolitan Fire Brigades Act* 1958, the *Motor Boating Act* 1961, the *Police Assistance Compensation Act* 1968, the *Police Regulation Act* 1958, the *Private Agents Act* 1966, the *Seamen's Act* 1958, the *Sheep Owners Protection Act* 1981, the *State Disasters Act* 1983, the *Unlawful Assemblies and Processions Act* 1958, and the *Victoria State Emergency Service Act* 1981.

Ministry of Transport

Minister: Minister of Transport

Permanent Head: Director-General of Transport

The Ministry is responsible for securing the improvement, development, and better co-ordination of passenger and freight transportation in Victoria. The Ministry carries out detailed investigations into all aspects of transport and is the policy adviser to the Minister of Transport. The Minister of Transport is responsible for the transport authorities governing the operation, maintenance, and improvement of Victoria's transport system. (For the history of transport administration in Victoria, see the *Victorian Year Book* 1979, pages 129-30.)

Department of Water Resources

Minister: Minister for Water Resources

Chief Administrator: Director-General of Water Resources

The Department of Water Resources was created on 1 July 1984 under the *Public Service Act* 1974. The Department was established as the central agency for the portfolio, and provides advice to the Victorian Government on policy matters and issues of State wide significance. The Department does not generally deal with local operational aspects of the water industry which are the delegated responsibility of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, the Rural Water Commission, the major regional water bodies, and local water, sewerage, and drainage authorities.

The Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works is the water supply, sewerage, and drainage authority responsible for those services within the Melbourne metropolitan area. The Board is also

responsible to the Minister for Planning and Environment for the preparation and submission for approval of any planning scheme in the Melbourne metropolitan area, and is responsible for metropolitan parks. However, the Victorian Government has decided that the Board's planning functions will be transferred to the Ministry for Planning and Environment.

The Rural Water Commission was created under the *Water (Central Management Restructuring) Act 1984* and became operative on 1 July 1984. The Commission is predominantly concerned with the provision of services to irrigated agriculture.

Victorian Government statutory authorities

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

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

GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES, VICTORIA, JANUARY 1985

Minister	Statutory authorities, and department or ministry with which the statutory authorities are associated	
	Department or ministry	Statutory authority
Minister of Agriculture	Agriculture	Australian Barley Board Dairy Product Board Filled Milk Advisory Committee Imitation Milk Advisory Committee Marketing Boards — Citrus Fruit Tobacco Leaf Victorian Egg Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market Trust Milk Pasteurization Committee Poultry Farm Licensing Committee Poultry Farmer Licensing Review Committee Rural Finance Commission Stock Medicine Board Tobacco Quota Appeals Tribunal Tobacco Quota Committee Tomato Processing Industry Negotiating Committee Veterinary Board of Victoria Veterinary Specialists Qualification Committee Victorian Abattoir and Meat Inspection Authority Victorian Broiler Industry Negotiating Committee Victorian Dairy Industry Authority Victorian Wheat Advisory Committee Western Metropolitan Market Trust Wine Grape Processing Industry Negotiating Committee Young Farmers Finance Council
Minister for the Arts	The Arts	Council of the Museum of Victoria Council of Trustees of the National Gallery Exhibition Trustees Film Victoria Geelong Performing Arts Centre Trust Library Council of Victoria State Film Centre Victorian Arts Centre Trust Victorian Council of the Arts
Attorney-General	Law	Appeals Costs Board Barristers Disciplinary Tribunal Boards of Inquiry Companies Auditors and Liquidators Disciplinary Board Council of Legal Education Crimes Compensation Tribunal Discharged Servicemen's Employment Board Estate Agents Board Law Reform Commission Legal Aid Commission Motor Accident Tribunal Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions Office of the Public Trustee Patriotic Funds Council Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal State Classification of Publications Board Victorian Law Foundation Victorian Taxation Board of Review

GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES, VICTORIA, JANUARY 1985 – *continued*

Minister	Statutory authorities, and department or ministry with which the statutory authorities are associated	
	Department or ministry	Statutory authority
Minister for Community Welfare Services	Community Welfare Services and Office of Corrections	Adult Parole Board Community Welfare Training Council Fairlea Women's Prison Council Prison Industries Commission Youth Parole Board
Minister for Conservation, Forests and Lands	Conservation, Forests and Lands	Baw Baw Alpine Reserve Board of Forestry Education Commercial Fisheries Licensing Panel Forests Commission Licensing Appeals Tribunal (Commercial Fisheries) Melbourne Cricket Ground Trustees Mt Buller Alpine Reserve Committee of Management Mt Hotham Alpine Resort Management Committee National Parks Advisory Council Place Names Committee Reference Areas Advisory Committee Soil Conservation Authority Soil Conservation District Advisory Committees Surveyor's Board Timber Promotion Council Vermin and Noxious Weeds Destruction Board Victorian Fishing Industry Council Victorian Institute of Marine Sciences Yarra Bend Park Trustees Zoological Board of Victoria
Minister of Consumer Affairs	Consumer Affairs	Consumer Affairs Committee Credit Licensing Authority Market Court Motor Car Traders' Committee Office of the Prices Commissioner Residential Tenancies Tribunal Small Claims Tribunals
Minister of Education	Education	Appointments Board Council of Adult Education Institute of Educational Administration Primary Teachers' Registration Board Secondary Teachers' Registration Board State Board of Education Teacher Registration Council Technical and Further Education Board Technical Teachers' Registration Board The Registered Schools Board Victorian Institute of Secondary Education Victorian Post Secondary Education Commission Victorian Teaching Service Conciliation and Arbitration Commission
Minister for Employment and Training	Employment and Training	Hairdressers Registration Board Industrial Training Commission Victorian Employment Committee Victorian Technology Advisory Committee
Minister of Ethnic Affairs	Ethnic Affairs Commission	Ethnic Affairs Commission
Minister of Health	Health Commission of Victoria	Advanced Dental Technicians Qualifications Board Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria Cancer Institute Board Chiropodists Registration Board Chiropractors and Osteopaths Registration Board Cinematograph Operators Board Dental Board of Victoria Dental Technicians Licensing Committee Dieticians Board of Victoria Fairfield Hospital Board Food Standards Committee Hospitals Accreditation Committee Medical Board of Victoria Optometrists Registration Board Pharmacy Board of Victoria Physiotherapists Registration Board Plumbers and Gasfitters Board Poisons Advisory Committee Proprietary Medicine Advisory Committee Victorian Nursing Council Victorian Psychological Council
Minister of Housing	Housing	Building Societies Advisory Committee Co-operative Housing Advisory Committee Co-operative Societies Advisory Council Credit Societies Guarantee Fund Advisory Committee Government Employee Housing Authority Urban Land Authority
Minister for Industrial Affairs	Industrial Affairs	Conciliation and Arbitration Boards Hospital Remuneration Tribunal Industrial Relations Commission of Victoria Albury/Wodonga (Victoria) Corporation
Minister for Industry, Commerce and Technology	Industry, Commerce and Technology	Alpine Resorts Commission Geelong Regional Commission Latrobe Regional Commission Liquor Control Commission Small Business Development Corporation Victorian Economic Development Corporation Victorian Tourism Commission

GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES, VICTORIA, JANUARY 1985 – *continued*

Minister	Statutory authorities, and department or ministry with which the statutory authorities are associated	
	Department or ministry	Statutory authority
Minister of Labour and Industry	Labour and Industry	Construction Industry Long Service Leave Board Motor Accidents Board
Minister for Local Government	Local Government	Building Control Accreditation Authority Building Control Technical Advisory Council Building Qualifications Board Building Referees Panel Land Valuation Boards of Review Local Authorities Superannuation Board Local Government Commission Municipal Auditors Board Municipal Clerks Board Municipal Electrical Engineers Board Municipal Engineers Board Municipal Valuation Fees Committee Valuers Qualification Board
Minister for Minerals and Energy	Minerals and Energy	Victoria Grants Commission Board of Examiners for Engine Drivers Board of Examiners for Mine Managers Board of Examiners for Mine Managers (Coal Mines) Board of Examiners for Quarry Managers Coal Corporation of Victoria Coal Mine Workers Pensions Tribunal Driller's Licensing Board Electrical Approvals Board Extractive Industries Advisory Committee Falls Creek Advisory Council Gas and Fuel Corporation Groundwater Advisory Committee Mining Consultative Committee State Electricity Commission Victorian Solar Energy Council
Minister for Planning and Environment	Planning and Environment	Environment Protection Authority Environment Protection Council Geelong Regional Commission Historic Building Council Land Conservation Council Latrobe Regional Commission (part only) Loddon-Campaspe Regional Planning Authority Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (Planning Division) Planning Appeals Board Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges Authority Victorian Conservation Trust Western Port Committee
Minister for Police and Emergency Services	Police and Emergency Services	Country Fire Authority Country Fire Authority Appeal Tribunal Firearms Consultative Committee Metropolitan Fire Brigades Appeal Tribunal Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board Police Discipline Board Police Medical Board Police Service Board Police Superannuation Board Victorian Police Force Victorian State Emergency Service
Premier	Premier and Cabinet	Agent-General (London) Equal Opportunity Board Promotions Appeals Board Public Service Board State Relief Committee
Minister for Property and Services	Property and Services	Electoral Commission Public Record Office
Minister for Public Works	Public Works	Architects Registration Board State Accommodation Committee Victorian Public Offices Corporation
Minister of Transport	Transport	Grain Elevators Board Metropolitan Transit Authority Port of Geelong Authority Port of Melbourne Authority Port of Portland Authority Road Construction Authority Road Traffic Authority State Transport Authority
Treasurer	Management and Budget	Coal Mine Workers Pension Tribunal Hospital Superannuation Board Land Tax Hardship Relief Board Metropolitan Fire Brigades Superannuation Board Pilot Superannuation Board Premiums Committee Probate Duty Hardship Relief Board State Bank State Employees Retirement Benefits Board State Insurance Office State Superannuation Board State Tender Board Victorian Coal Miners Accident Relief Board Victorian Development Fund Victorian Public Authority Finance Agency Workers Compensation Board

GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES, VICTORIA, JANUARY 1985 – *continued*

Minister	Statutory authorities, and department or ministry with which the statutory authorities are associated	
	Department or ministry	Statutory authority
Minister for Water Resources	Water Resources	Local Water and Sewerage Authorities Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works River Improvement and Drainage Trusts Rural Water Commission Bookmakers and Bookmakers' Clerks Registration Committee Community Recreation Council Greyhound Racing Control Board Greyhound Racing Grounds Development Board Harness Racing Board Racing Appeals Tribunal Racecourse Licences Board (Racing and Harness Racing Division) Raffles and Bingo Permits Board State Sports Council Totalizator Agency Board Youth Policy Development Council
Minister for Youth, Sport and Recreation	Youth, Sport and Recreation	

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

GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES CLASSIFIED
ACCORDING TO FUNCTION, VICTORIA, JANUARY 1985

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| <p>1. <i>Legal, protective, and registry services</i>
 Adult Parole Board
 Appeal Costs Board
 Boards of Inquiry
 Country Fire Authority
 Credit Societies Reserve Fund
 Committee
 Law Reform Commissioner
 Legal Aid Commission
 Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board
 Office of Finance Brokers,
 Auctioneers and Money
 Lenders
 Office of the Ombudsman
 Office of the Public Trustee
 Raffles and Bingo Permits Board
 Residential Tenancies Bureau
 Residential Tenancies Tribunal
 Solicitor-General
 Youth Parole Board
 Victorian Taxation Board of Review</p> <p>2. <i>Regulation of primary production</i>
 Australian Barley Board
 Commercial Fisheries Licensing
 Panel
 Citrus Fruit Marketing Board
 Dairy Produce Board
 Licensing Appeals Tribunal
 (Commercial Fisheries)
 Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and
 Vegetable Market Trust
 Poultry Farmer Licensing Committee
 Poultry Farmer Licensing Review
 Committee
 Timber Promotion Council
 Tobacco Leaf Marketing Board
 Tobacco Quota Appeals Tribunal
 Tobacco Quota Committee
 Tomato Processing Industry
 Negotiating Committee
 Victorian Dairy Industry Authority
 Victorian Dried Fruits Board
 Victorian Egg Marketing Board
 Victorian Fishing Industry Council</p> | <p>Victorian Wheat Advisory
 Committee
 Young Farmers Finance Council</p> <p>3. <i>Regulation of industry and commerce</i>
 Consumer Affairs Council
 Extractive Industries Advisory
 Committee
 Market Court
 Motor Car Traders Committee
 Premiums Committee
 Small Claims Tribunal
 Victorian Broiler Industry
 Negotiating Committee
 Wine Grape Processing Industry
 Negotiating Committee</p> <p>4. <i>Regulation of labour conditions</i>
 Building Industry Long Service
 Leave Board
 Coal Mine Workers' Pensions
 Tribunal
 Conciliation and Arbitration Boards
 Hospital Remuneration Tribunal
 Hospitals Superannuation Board
 Industrial Relations Commission
 Industrial Training Commission
 Industrial Training Committees
 Local Authorities Superannuation
 Board
 Metropolitan Fire Brigades Appeal
 Tribunal
 Metropolitan Fire Brigades
 Superannuation Board
 Regional Advisory Committee
 Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents
 Relief Board
 Victorian Employment Committee
 Victorian Technology Advisory
 Committee
 Workers' Compensation Board</p> <p>5. <i>Regulation of general standards</i>
 Advisory Committee on Building
 in Alpine Areas
 Building Regulations Committee</p> |
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GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES CLASSIFIED
ACCORDING TO FUNCTION, VICTORIA, JANUARY 1985 – *continued*

Co-operative Housing Societies Advisory Committee	Hairdressers Registration Board
Co-operative Societies Advisory Council	Medical Board of Victoria
Food Standards Committee	Motor Car Traders Committee
Fire Safety Advisory Committee	Municipal Auditors Board
Foundation and Underpinning Advisory Committee	Municipal Clerks Board
Land Valuation Boards of Review	Municipal Electrical Engineers Board
Liquor Control Commission	Municipal Engineers Board
Marine Board of Victoria	Optometrists' Registration Board
Motor Accidents Board	Pharmacy Board of Victoria
Municipal Valuation Fees Committee	Physiotherapists' Registration Board
Place Names Committee	Plumbers and Gasfitters Board
Planning Consultative Council	Primary Teachers' Registration Board
Premiums Committee	Secondary Teachers' Registration Board
Public Trustee	Specialist Practitioners' Qualification Committee of the Medical Board
Scaffolding Regulations Committee	Specialist Practitioners' Qualification Committee (Dentists Act)
State Classification of Publications Board	Surveyors Board
Stock Medicines Board	Teacher Registration Council
Street Lighting Committee	Technical Teachers' Registration Board
Victorian Abattoir and Meat Inspection Authority	Valuers' Qualification Board
6. <i>Regulation of professional and occupational standards</i>	Veterinary Board of Victoria
Advanced Dental Technicians Qualifications Board	Victorian Psychological Council
Architects Registration Board	Victorian Nursing Council
Board of Examiners for Engine Drivers (Coal Mines)	7. <i>Public utility, conservation, and development</i>
Board of Examiners for Engine Drivers (Mines)	Albury-Wodonga Corporation (Victoria)
Board of Examiners for Engineers of Water Supply	Alpine Resorts Commission
Board of Examiners for Mine Managers (Coal Mines Act)	Ballarat Water Commissioners
Board of Examiners for Mine Managers (Mines Act)	Baw Baw Alpine Reserve Committee
Board of Examiners for Quarry Managers	Building Trustees, State Library, National Museum, and Science Museum
Board of Examiners for Steam Engine Drivers and Boiler Attendants	Building Societies Advisory Committee
Board of Examiners for Welders of Boilers and Pressure Vessels	Central Advisory Council to the Vermin and Noxious Weeds Destruction Board
Board of Examiners (under the Scaffolding Act)	Coastal Management and Co-ordination Committee
Board of Forestry Education	Coolart Committee of Management
Bookmakers and Bookmakers' Clerks Registration Committee	Dandenong Valley Authority
Building Qualifications Board	Emerald Tourist Railway Board
Chiropractists Registration Board	Environment Protection Authority
Chiropractors' and Osteopaths' Registration Board	Environment Protection Council
Cinematograph Operators Board	Exhibition Trustees
Committees of Classifiers – Primary, Secondary, Technical	Falls Creek Advisory Council
Companies Auditors Board	First Mildura Irrigation Trust
Dental Board of Victoria	Fisheries Management Committee (Commercial)
Dental Technicians Licensing Committee	Forest Reserve Committee of Management
Dietitians Registration Board	Forests Commission
Drillers' Licensing Board	Gas and Fuel Corporation
Electrical Approval Board	Geelong Regional Commission
Estate Agents Board	Geelong Water Works and Sewerage Trust
Foreign Practitioners Qualifications Committee of the Medical Board	Government Buildings Advisory Council

GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES CLASSIFIED
ACCORDING TO FUNCTION, VICTORIA, JANUARY 1985 - *continued*

Government Employee
Housing Authority
Grain Elevators Board
Ground Water Advisory Committee
Historic Buildings Council
Home Finance Trust
Housing Advisory Council
Land Conservation Council
Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage
Board
Local Government Advisory Board
Loddon-Campaspe Regional
Planning Authority
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of
Works
Metropolitan Transit Authority
Mildura Urban Water Trust
Mt Buller Alpine Reserve Committee
of Management
Mt Hotham Alpine Resort
Management Committee
National Parks Advisory
Council
National Parks Service
Planning Appeals Board
Port of Geelong Authority
Port of Melbourne Authority
Port of Portland Authority
Port Phillip Authority
Port Phillip Authority
Consultative Committee
Public Record Office
Public Records Advisory
Council
Railway Construction and Property
Board
River Improvement and
Drainage Trusts
Road Construction Authority
Road Safety and Traffic
Authority
Rural Finance Commission
Rural Water Commission of
Victoria
Shrine of Remembrance
Trustees
Sludge Abatement Board
Small Business Development
Corporation
Soil Conservation Authority
State Bank
Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement
Authority
Timber Promotion Council
Trustees of various cemeteries
Upper Yarra Valley
and Dandenong Ranges
Authority
Urban Land Authority
Urban Renewal Advisory Committee
Various local water and
sewerage authorities
Various regional tourist authorities
Various river improvement and
drainage trusts
Vermin and Noxious Weeds
Destruction Board
Victoria Grants Commission

Victorian Coal Corporation
Victorian Conservation Trust
Victorian Economic Development
Corporation
Victorian Government Travel
Authority
Victorian Public Offices Corporation
Victorian Railways Board
Victorian Solar Energy Council
Victorian State Emergency Service
Water Resources Council
West Moorabool Water Board
Western Metropolitan Market Trust
Western Port Committee
8. *Social welfare*
Child Development and Family
Services Council
Community Welfare Training
Council
Correctional Services Council
Crimes Compensation Tribunal
Death Benefits Advisory Committee
Discharged Servicemen's
Employment Board
Equal Opportunity Board
Land Tax Hardship Relief Board
Patriotic Funds Council
Probate Duty Hardship Relief Board
Seaman's Welfare Advisory Council
Seaman's Welfare Trust Committee
State Relief Committee
9. *Education and recreation*
Council of Adult Education
Council of Public Education
Council of the Science Museum of
Victoria
Council of Trustees of the National
Gallery
Deakin University
Film Victoria
Geelong Performing Arts Centre
Trust
Greyhound Racing Control Board
Greyhound Racing Grounds
Development Board
Harness Racing Board
La Trobe University
Library Council of Victoria
Monash University
National Museum of Victoria
Council
Racecourse Licences Board
State College of Victoria
State Council for Special Education
State Library and National Museum
Building Committee
State Recreational Council
State Sports Council
State Youth Council
Totalizator Agency Board
University of Melbourne
Victorian Advisory Council on
Agricultural Education
Victorian Arts Centre Trust
Victorian College of the Arts
Victorian Council for the Arts
Victorian Ethnic Affairs Advisory
Council

GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES CLASSIFIED
ACCORDING TO FUNCTION, VICTORIA, JANUARY 1985 – *continued*

<p>Victorian Immigration Advisory Council</p> <p>Victorian Institute of Marine Sciences Council</p> <p>Victorian Institute of Secondary Education</p> <p>Zoological Board of Victoria</p> <p>10. <i>Public health</i></p> <p>Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria</p> <p>Cancer Institute Board</p> <p>Fairfield Hospital Board</p> <p>Filled Milk Advisory Committee</p> <p>Food Standards Committee</p> <p>Health Advisory Council</p> <p>Hospitals Accreditation Committee</p> <p>Imitation Milk Advisory Committee</p> <p>Medical Board of Victoria</p> <p>Milk Pasteurization Committee</p> <p>Poisons Advisory Committee</p> <p>Proprietary Medicines Advisory Committee</p> <p>11. <i>Industrial health</i></p> <p>Industrial Safety, Health and Welfare Advisory Council</p>	<p>12. <i>Internal administrative services</i></p> <p>Groundwater Appeals Board</p> <p>Institute of Educational Administration</p> <p>Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramway Appeals Board</p> <p>Motor Accidents Tribunal</p> <p>Office of the Building Industry</p> <p>Long Service Leave Board</p> <p>Pilot Superannuation Board</p> <p>Police Discipline Board</p> <p>Police Medical Board</p> <p>Police Service Board</p> <p>Police Superannuation Board</p> <p>Promotions Appeal Board</p> <p>Public Service Board</p> <p>State Accommodation Committee</p> <p>State Insurance Office</p> <p>State Superannuation Board</p> <p>State Tender Board</p> <p>Teachers Tribunal</p> <p>Victorian Grants Commission</p> <p>Victorian Post-Secondary Education Commission</p>
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Public general Acts of Victoria

The following list shows the departments or ministries responsible for the administration of the public Acts of general application in Victoria which were in effect at 31 December 1984 or which had then been passed by the Victorian Parliament to come into force at a later date.

The list does not include references to Acts that are spent or expired or to Amending Acts, Appropriation Acts, Acts that form part of the Second Schedule, Finance Acts, or other Acts containing miscellaneous provisions.

UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958 CONSOLIDATION AND
SUBSEQUENTLY, VICTORIA, 31 DECEMBER 1984

<p>1. Minister of Agriculture</p> <p><i>Abattoir and Meat Inspection Act</i> 1973</p> <p><i>Aerial Spraying Control Act</i> 1966</p> <p><i>Agricultural Chemicals Act</i> 1958</p> <p><i>Agricultural Education Cadetships Act</i> 1969</p> <p><i>Australian Tractor Testing Station Act</i> 1976</p> <p><i>Barley Marketing Act</i> 1958</p> <p><i>Bees Act</i> 1971</p> <p><i>Broiler Chicken Industry Act</i> 1978</p> <p><i>Canned Fruits Marketing Act</i> 1979</p> <p><i>Cattle Compensation Act</i> 1967</p> <p><i>Dairy Industry Act</i> 1984</p> <p><i>Dried Fruits Act</i> 1958</p> <p><i>Egg Industry Stabilization Act</i> 1983</p> <p><i>Farm Produce Merchants and Commission Agents Act</i> 1965</p> <p><i>Fertilizers Act</i> 1974</p> <p><i>Filled Milk Act</i> 1958</p> <p><i>Fruit and Vegetables Act</i> 1958</p> <p><i>Imitation Milk Act</i> 1969</p> <p><i>Land Settlement Act</i> 1959</p>	<p><i>Livery and Agistment Act</i> 1958</p> <p><i>Margarine Act</i> 1975</p> <p><i>Marketing of Primary Products Act</i> 1958</p> <p><i>Meat Inspection Services Act</i> 1974</p> <p><i>Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market Trust Act</i> 1977</p> <p><i>Milk and Dairy Supervision Act</i> 1958</p> <p><i>Milk Board Act</i> 1958</p> <p><i>Milk Pasteurization Act</i> 1958</p> <p><i>Poultry Levy (Collection Arrangement) Act</i> 1965</p> <p><i>Poultry Processing Act</i> 1968</p> <p><i>Protection of Animals Act</i> 1966</p> <p><i>Rain-making Control Act</i> 1967</p> <p><i>Rural Finance Act</i> 1958</p> <p><i>Rural Finance and Settlement Commission Act</i> 1961</p> <p><i>Seeds Act</i> 1982</p> <p><i>Sheep Branding Fluids Act</i> 1963</p> <p><i>Soldier Settlement Act</i> 1958</p> <p><i>Stock (Artificial Breeding) Act</i> 1962</p> <p><i>Stock Diseases Act</i> 1968</p> <p><i>Stock Foods Act</i> 1958</p> <p><i>Stock Medicines Act</i> 1958</p> <p><i>Swine Compensation Act</i> 1967</p>
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UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958 CONSOLIDATION AND
SUBSEQUENTLY, VICTORIA, 31 DECEMBER 1984 – *continued*

<p><i>Tobacco Leaf Industry Stabilization Act 1966</i> <i>Tomato Processing Industry Act 1976</i> <i>Vegetation and Vine Diseases Act 1958</i> <i>Veterinary Research Institute Act 1972</i> <i>Veterinary Surgeons Act 1958</i> <i>Victorian Dairy Industry Authority Act 1977</i> <i>Wheat Marketing Act 1984</i> <i>Wine Grape Processing Industry Act 1978</i></p> <p>2. <i>Minister for the Arts</i> <i>Film Victoria Act 1981</i> <i>Geelong Performing Arts Centre Trust Act 1980</i> <i>Libraries Act 1958</i> <i>Library Council of Victoria Act 1965</i> <i>Ministry for the Arts Act 1972</i> <i>Museums Act 1983</i> <i>National Gallery of Victoria Act 1966</i> <i>State Film Centre of Victoria Council Act 1983</i> <i>Victorian Arts Centre Act 1979</i></p> <p>3. <i>Attorney-General</i> <i>Acts Enumeration and Revision Act 1958</i> <i>Administration and Probate Act 1958</i> <i>Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1984</i> <i>Administrative Law Act 1978</i> <i>Adoption of Children Act 1964</i> <i>Age of Majority Act 1977</i> <i>Alcoholics and Drug-dependent Persons Act 1968</i> <i>Amendments Incorporation Act 1958</i> <i>Appeal Costs Fund Act 1964</i> <i>Arbitration Act 1958</i> <i>Associations Incorporation Act 1981</i> <i>Attorney-General and Solicitor-General Act 1972</i> <i>Auction Sales Act 1958</i> <i>Bail Act 1977</i> <i>Business Investigations Act 1958</i> <i>Business Names Act 1962</i> <i>Charities Act 1978</i> <i>Children (Guardianship and Custody Act) 1984</i> <i>Children's Court Act 1973</i> <i>Collusive Practices Act 1965</i> <i>Commercial Arbitration Act 1984</i> <i>Commonwealth Places (Administration of Laws) Act 1970</i> <i>Companies Act 1961</i> <i>Companies (Acquisition of Shares) (Application of Laws) Act 1981</i> <i>Companies (Administration) Act 1981</i> <i>Companies (Application of Laws) Act 1981</i> <i>Companies and Securities (Interpretation and Miscellaneous Provisions) (Application of Laws) Act 1981</i> <i>Constitution Act 1975</i> <i>Constitutional Convention Act 1972</i> <i>Constitutional Powers (Coastal Waters) Act 1980</i></p>	<p><i>Constitutional Powers (Requests) Act 1980</i> <i>Coroners Act 1958</i> <i>Council of Law Reporting in Victoria Act 1967</i> <i>County Court Act 1958</i> <i>Court Security Act 1980</i> <i>Courts Administration Act 1975</i> <i>Crimes Act 1958</i> <i>Crimes (Offences at Sea) Act 1978</i> <i>Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 1983</i> <i>Crown Proceedings Act 1958</i> <i>Cul-de-sac Applications Act 1965</i> <i>Director of Public Prosecutions Act 1982</i> <i>Discharged Servicemen's Preference Act 1943</i> <i>Domicile Act 1978</i> <i>Equal Opportunity Act 1984</i> <i>Estate Agents Act 1980</i> <i>Evidence Act 1958</i> <i>Evidence (Commissions) Act 1982</i> <i>Fences Act 1968</i> <i>Films Act 1971</i> <i>Films (Classification) Act 1984</i> <i>Foreign Judgments Act 1962</i> <i>Freedom of Information Act 1982</i> <i>Frustrated Contracts Act 1959</i> <i>Fuel Emergency Act 1977</i> <i>Fund Raising Appeals Act 1984</i> <i>Goods Act 1958</i> <i>Hire-Purchase Act 1959</i> <i>Imperial Acts Application Act 1980</i> <i>Imprisonment of Fraudulent Debtors Act 1958</i> <i>Instruments Act 1958</i> <i>Interpretation of Legislation Act 1984</i> <i>Judgment Debt Recovery Act 1984</i> <i>Judges Salaries Act 1982</i> <i>Judicial Proceedings Reports Act 1958</i> <i>Juries Act 1967</i> <i>Land Act 1958</i> <i>Landlord and Tenant Act 1958</i> <i>Lands Compensation Act 1958</i> <i>Law Reform Commission Act 1984</i> <i>Legal Aid Commission Act 1978</i> <i>Legal Profession Practice Act 1958</i> <i>Leo Cussen Institute for Continuing Legal Education Act 1972</i> <i>Limitation of Actions Act 1958</i> <i>Listening Devices Act 1969</i> <i>Magistrates' Courts Act 1971</i> <i>Magistrates (Summary Proceedings) Act 1975</i> <i>Maintenance Act 1965</i> <i>Marine Stores and Old Metals Act 1958</i> <i>Marketable Securities Act 1970</i> <i>Marriage Act 1958</i> <i>Money Lenders Act 1958</i> <i>National Companies and Securities Commission (State Provisions) Act 1981</i> <i>National Crime Authority (State Provisions) Act 1984</i> <i>Partnership Act 1958</i> <i>Patriotic Funds Act 1958</i> <i>Pawnbrokers Act 1958</i> <i>Penalties and Sentences Act 1981</i></p>
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UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958 CONSOLIDATION AND
SUBSEQUENTLY, VICTORIA, 31 DECEMBER 1984 - *continued*

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| <p><i>Perpetuities and Accumulations Act 1968</i>
 <i>Police Offences Act 1958</i>
 <i>Printers and Newspapers Act 1958</i>
 <i>Prisoners (Interstate Transfer) Act 1983</i>
 <i>Property Law Act 1958</i>
 <i>Public Trustee Act 1958</i>
 <i>Religious Successory and Charitable Trusts Act 1958</i>
 <i>Sale of Land Act 1962</i>
 <i>Second-hand Dealers Act 1958</i>
 <i>Securities Industry Act 1975</i>
 <i>Securities Industry (Application of Laws) Act 1981</i>
 <i>Settled Land Act 1958</i>
 <i>Status of Children Act 1974</i>
 <i>Strata Titles Act 1967</i>
 <i>Subordinate Legislation Act 1962</i>
 <i>Summary Offences Act 1966</i>
 <i>Supreme Court Act 1958</i>
 <i>Taxation Appeals Act 1972</i>
 <i>Theatres Act 1958</i>
 <i>Transfer of Land 1958</i>
 <i>Trustees Act 1958</i>
 <i>Trustee Companies Act 1984</i>
 <i>Unauthorized Documents Act 1984</i>
 <i>Vagrancy Act 1966</i>
 <i>Victoria Law Foundation Act 1978</i>
 <i>Vital State Projects Act 1976</i>
 <i>War Expenditure and Overdrafts Act 1914</i>
 <i>Warehousemen's Liens Act 1958</i>
 <i>Wills Act 1958</i>
 <i>Wrongs Act 1958</i></p> <p>4. Minister for Community Welfare Services
 <i>Adoption of Children Act 1964</i>
 <i>Adoption Act 1984</i>
 <i>Children's Court Act 1973</i>
 <i>Community Welfare Services Act 1970</i>
 <i>Mental Health Act 1959</i>
 <i>Parole Orders (Transfer) Act 1983</i>
 <i>Penalties and Sentences Act 1981</i>
 <i>Pre-school Teachers and Assistants (Portability of Long Service Leave) Act 1984</i>
 <i>Prisoners (Interstate Transfer) Act 1983</i>
 <i>Victorian Prison Industries Commission Act 1983</i></p> <p>5. Minister for Conservation, Forests and Lands
 <i>Aboriginal Lands Act 1970</i>
 <i>Cadet Surveyors Act 1964</i>
 <i>Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978</i>
 <i>Director-General of Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1983</i>
 <i>Fences Act 1968</i>
 <i>Fisheries Act 1968</i>
 <i>Forests Act 1958</i>
 <i>Land Act 1958</i>
 <i>Land Conservation (Vehicle Control) Act 1972</i>
 <i>Mt. Hotham Alpine Resort Act 1972</i>
 <i>Ministry for Conservation Act 1972</i>
 <i>National Parks Act 1975</i>
 <i>Reference Areas Act 1978</i>
 <i>Soil Conservation and Land Utilization Act 1958</i>
 <i>Survey Co-ordination Act 1958</i>
 <i>Surveyors Act 1978</i>
 <i>Temperance Halls Act 1958</i></p> | <p><i>Vermin and Noxious Weeds Act 1958</i>
 <i>Victorian Fishing Industry Council Act 1979</i>
 <i>Victorian Institute of Marine Sciences Act 1974</i>
 <i>Wild Flowers and Native Plants Protection Act 1958</i>
 <i>Wildlife Act 1975</i>
 <i>Wire Netting Act 1958</i>
 <i>Zoological Parks and Gardens Act 1967</i></p> <p>6. Minister of Consumer Affairs
 <i>Building Contracts (Deposits) Act 1962</i>
 <i>Chattel Securities Act 1981</i>
 <i>Consumer Affairs Act 1972</i>
 <i>Credit Act 1981</i>
 <i>Credit Act 1984</i>
 <i>Credit (Administration) Act 1984</i>
 <i>Credit Reporting Act 1978</i>
 <i>Disposal of Uncollected Goods Act 1961</i>
 <i>Employment Agents Act 1983</i>
 <i>Finance Brokers Act 1969</i>
 <i>Fuel Prices Regulation Act 1981</i>
 <i>Market Court Act 1978</i>
 <i>Ministry of Consumer Affairs Act 1973</i>
 <i>Motor Car Traders Act 1973</i>
 <i>Petroleum Retail Selling Sites Act 1981</i>
 <i>Residential Tenancies Act 1980</i>
 <i>Small Claims Tribunals Act 1973</i>
 <i>Weights and Measures Act 1958</i></p> <p>7. Minister of Education
 <i>Council of Adult Education Act 1981</i>
 <i>Deakin University Act 1974</i>
 <i>Education Act 1958</i>
 <i>Education (Special Developmental Schools) Act 1976</i>
 <i>Educational Grants Act 1973</i>
 <i>Institute of Educational Administration Act 1980</i>
 <i>La Trobe University Act 1964</i>
 <i>Melbourne University Act 1958</i>
 <i>Monash University Act 1958</i>
 <i>Post-Secondary Education Act 1978</i>
 <i>Post-Secondary Education Remuneration Tribunal Act 1980</i>
 <i>State Board of Education Act 1983</i>
 <i>Teaching Service Act 1981</i>
 <i>Victorian College of Agriculture and Horticulture Act 1982</i>
 <i>Victorian College of the Arts Act 1981</i>
 <i>Victorian Institute of Secondary Education Act 1976</i></p> <p>8. Minister for Employment and Training
 <i>Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act 1970</i>
 <i>Construction Safety Act 1979</i>
 <i>Dangerous Goods (Road Transport) Act 1984</i>
 <i>Employment and Training Act 1981</i>
 <i>Explosives Act 1960</i>
 <i>Hairdressers Registration Act 1958</i>
 <i>Health Act 1958</i>
 <i>Industrial Safety, Health and Welfare Act 1981</i>
 <i>Industrial Training Act 1975</i>
 <i>Inflammable Liquids Act 1966</i>
 <i>Labour and Industry Act 1958</i>
 <i>Lifts and Cranes Act 1967</i>
 <i>Liquefied Gases Act 1968</i>
 <i>Liquefied Petroleum Gas Act 1958</i>
 <i>Scaffolding Act 1971</i></p> |
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UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958 CONSOLIDATION AND
SUBSEQUENTLY, VICTORIA, 31 DECEMBER 1984 - *continued*

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| <p>9. Minister of Ethnic Affairs
<i>Ethnic Affairs Commission Act 1982</i></p> <p>10. Minister of Health
<i>Alcoholics and Drug-dependent Persons Act 1968</i>
<i>Cancer Act 1958</i>
<i>Cemeteries Act 1958</i>
<i>Chiropodists Act 1968</i>
<i>Chiropactors and Osteopaths Act 1978</i>
<i>Dental Technicians Act 1972</i>
<i>Dentists Act 1972</i>
<i>Dietitians Act 1981</i>
<i>Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981</i>
<i>Food Act 1984</i>
<i>Health Act 1958</i>
<i>Health Commission Act 1977</i>
<i>Health (Fluoridation) Act 1973</i>
<i>Hospitals and Charities Act 1958</i>
<i>Human Tissue Act 1982</i>
<i>Infertility (Medical Procedures) Act 1984</i>
<i>Medical Practitioners Act 1970</i>
<i>Mental Health Act 1959</i>
<i>Nurses Act 1958</i>
<i>Optometrists Registration Act 1958</i>
<i>Pathology Services Accreditation Act 1984</i>
<i>Pharmacists Act 1974</i>
<i>Physiotherapists Act 1978</i>
<i>Psychological Practices Act 1965</i>
<i>Venereal Diseases Act 1958</i></p> <p>11. Ministry of Housing
<i>Building Societies Act 1976</i>
<i>Co-operation Act 1981</i>
<i>Co-operative Housing Societies Act 1958</i>
<i>Decentralized Industry (Housing) Act 1973</i>
<i>Government Employee Housing Authority Act 1981</i>
<i>Housing Act 1983</i>
<i>Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1958</i>
<i>Urban Land Authority Act 1979</i>
<i>Urban Renewal Act 1970</i></p> <p>12. Minister for Industrial Affairs
<i>Anzac Day Act 1958</i>
<i>Bank Holidays Act 1958</i>
<i>Hospitals Remuneration Tribunal Act 1978</i>
<i>Industrial Relations Act 1979</i>
<i>Public Service Act 1974</i></p> <p>13. Minister for Industry, Commerce and Technology
<i>Albury-Wodonga Agreement Act 1973</i>
<i>Alpine Resorts Act 1983</i>
<i>Coal Creek Historical Park Act 1975</i>
<i>Decentralized Industry Incentive Payments Act 1972</i>
<i>Economic Development Act 1981</i>
<i>Geelong Regional Commission Act 1977</i>
<i>Latrobe Regional Commission Act 1983</i>
<i>Liquor Control Act 1968</i></p> | <p><i>Small Business Development Corporation Act 1976</i>
<i>The Decentralization Advisory Committee Act 1964</i>
<i>Victorian Economic Development Corporation Act 1981</i>
<i>Victorian Tourism Commission Act 1982</i>
<i>Wodonga Area Land Acquisition Act 1973</i></p> <p>14. Minister of Labour and Industry
<i>Anzac Day Act 1958</i>
<i>Bread Industry Act 1959</i>
<i>Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1983</i>
<i>Carriers and Innkeepers Act 1958</i>
<i>Industrial Relations Act 1979</i>
<i>Labour and Industry Act 1958</i>
<i>Motor Accidents Act 1973</i>
<i>Returned Servicemen's Badges Act 1956</i>
<i>Shearers Accommodation Act 1976</i>
<i>Summer Time Act 1972</i>
<i>Sunday Entertainment Act 1967</i>
<i>Trade Unions Act 1958</i>
<i>Workers Compensation Act 1958</i></p> <p>15. Minister for Local Government
<i>Building Control Act 1981</i>
<i>Cluster Titles Act 1974</i>
<i>Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963</i>
<i>Dog Act 1970</i>
<i>Drainage Areas Act 1958</i>
<i>Hawkers and Peddlers Act 1958</i>
<i>Litter Act 1964</i>
<i>Local Authorities Superannuation Act 1958</i>
<i>Local Government Act 1958</i>
<i>Local Government Department Act 1958</i>
<i>Markets Act 1958</i>
<i>Municipalities Assistance Act 1973</i>
<i>Nudity (Prescribed Areas) Act 1983</i>
<i>Petrol Pumps Act 1958</i>
<i>Pounds Act 1958</i>
<i>Public Authorities Marks Act 1958</i>
<i>Valuation of Land Act 1960</i>
<i>Victoria Grants Commission Act 1976</i>
<i>Weights and Measures Act 1958</i></p> <p>16. Minister for Minerals and Energy
<i>Coal Mines Act 1958</i>
<i>Electric Light and Power Act 1958</i>
<i>Extractive Industries Act 1966</i>
<i>Gas Act 1969</i>
<i>Gas and Fuel Corporation Act 1958</i>
<i>Gas Franchises Act 1970</i>
<i>Groundwater Act 1969</i>
<i>Liquified Petroleum Gas Subsidy Act 1980</i>
<i>Minerals and Energy Act 1976</i>
<i>Mines Act 1958</i>
<i>Mining Development Act 1958</i></p> |
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UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958 CONSOLIDATION AND
SUBSEQUENTLY, VICTORIA, 31 DECEMBER 1984 – *continued*

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| <p><i>Nuclear Activities (Prohibitions) Act</i>
1983
<i>Petroleum Act</i> 1958
<i>Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act</i> 1982
<i>Pipelines Act</i> 1967
<i>State Coal Mine Industrial Tribunal Act</i>
1932
<i>State Coal Mines (Winding Up) Act</i>
1968
<i>State Electricity Commission Act</i> 1958
<i>Underseas Mineral Resources Act</i> 1963
<i>Victorian Brown Coal Council Act</i> 1978
<i>Victorian Solar Energy Council Act</i>
1980</p> <p>17. Minister for Planning and
Environment
<i>Albury-Wodonga Agreement Act</i>
1973
<i>Alpine Resorts Act</i> 1983
<i>Archaeological and Aboriginal
Relics Preservation Act</i> 1972
<i>Crown Land (Reserves) Act</i> 1978
<i>Development Areas Act</i> 1973
<i>Environment Effects Act</i> 1978
<i>Environment Protection Act</i> 1970
<i>Geelong Regional Commission Act</i>
1977
<i>Historic Buildings Act</i> 1981
<i>Historic Shipwrecks Act</i> 1981
<i>Land Conservation Act</i> 1970
<i>Latrobe Regional Commission Act</i>
1983
<i>Ministry for Conservation Act</i> 1972
<i>Planning Appeals Board Act</i> 1980
<i>Port Phillip Coastal Planning and
Management Act</i> 1966
<i>Town and Country Planning Act</i>
1961
<i>Town and Country Planning
(Amalgamation) Act</i> 1980
<i>Town and Country Planning
(Western Port) Act</i> 1981
<i>Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong
Ranges Authority Act</i> 1976
<i>Victoria Conservation Trust Act</i>
1972</p> <p>18. Minister for Police and Emergency
Services
<i>Country Fire Authority Act</i> 1958
<i>Firearms Act</i> 1958
<i>Metropolitan Fire Brigades
Act</i> 1958
<i>Metropolitan Fire Brigades
Superannuation Act</i> 1976
<i>Motor Boating Act</i> 1961
<i>Police Assistance Compensation Act</i>
1968
<i>Police Regulation Act</i> 1958
<i>Private Agents Act</i> 1966
<i>Seamen's Act</i> 1958
<i>State Disasters Act</i> 1983
<i>Sheep Owners Protection Act</i> 1961
<i>Unlawful Assemblies and Processions
Act</i> 1958
<i>Victoria State Emergency Service Act</i>
1981</p> | <p>19. Premier
<i>Aboriginal Affairs (Transfer of
Functions) Act</i> 1974
<i>Administrative Arrangements Act</i> 1983
<i>Agent-General's Act</i> 1958
<i>Audit Act</i> 1958
<i>Commonwealth Arrangements Act</i> 1958
<i>Constitution Act</i> 1975
<i>The Constitution Act Amendment Act</i>
1958
<i>Essential Services Act</i> 1958
<i>Fuel Emergency Act</i> 1977
<i>Members of Parliament (Register of
Interests) Act</i> 1978
<i>Ombudsman Act</i> 1973
<i>Parliamentary Committees Act</i> 1968
<i>Parliamentary Officers Act</i> 1975
<i>Electoral Provinces and Districts Act</i>
1974
<i>Parliamentary Salaries and
Superannuation Act</i> 1968
<i>Public Safety Preservation Act</i> 1958
<i>Public Service Act</i> 1974
<i>State Relief Committee Act</i> 1958
<i>Vital State Projects Act</i> 1976
<i>Wrongs (Public Contracts) Act</i> 1981</p> <p>20. Minister for Property and Services
<i>Electoral Commission Act</i> 1982
<i>Electoral Provinces and Districts
Act</i> 1974
<i>Public Records Act</i> 1973
<i>Registration of Births, Deaths and
Marriages Act</i> 1959
<i>Senate Elections Act</i> 1958
<i>The Constitution Act Amendment Act</i>
1958</p> <p>21. Minister of Public Works
<i>Architects Act</i> 1958
<i>Public Lands and Works Act</i> 1964
<i>Victorian Public Offices Corporation
Act</i> 1974</p> <p>22. Minister of Transport
<i>Air Navigation Act</i> 1958
<i>Chattel Securities Act</i> 1981
<i>Civil Aviation (Carriers' Liability) Act</i>
1961
<i>Grain Elevators Act</i> 1958
<i>Harbor Boards Act</i> 1958
<i>Marine Act</i> 1958
<i>Motor Car Act</i> 1958
<i>Navigable Waters (Oil Pollution) Act</i>
1960
<i>Port of Geelong Authority Act</i> 1958
<i>Port of Melbourne Authority Act</i> 1958
<i>Port of Portland Authority Act</i> 1958
<i>Railways (Standardization Agreement)
Act</i> 1958
<i>Transport Act</i> 1983
<i>Westernport Development Act</i> 1967
<i>Westernport (Oil Refinery) Act</i> 1963
<i>Western Port (Steel Works) Act</i> 1970
<i>Western Port Steel Works
(Development Control) Act</i> 1970</p> <p>23. Treasurer
<i>Annual Reporting Act</i> 1983
<i>Audit Act</i> 1958
<i>Benefit Associations Act</i> 1958</p> |
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UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958 CONSOLIDATION AND
SUBSEQUENTLY, VICTORIA, 31 DECEMBER 1984 – *continued*

<i>Business Franchise (Petroleum Products) Act 1979</i> <i>Business Franchise (Tobacco) Act 1974</i> <i>Coal Mines Act 1958</i> <i>Crown Intellectual Property (Assignment) Act 1983</i> <i>Educational Institutions (Guarantees) Act 1976</i> <i>Energy Consumption Levy Act 1982</i> <i>Financial Institutions Duty Act 1982</i> <i>Friendly Societies Act 1958</i> <i>Gift Duty Act 1971</i> <i>Hospital Benefits (Levy) Act 1982</i> <i>Hospitals Superannuation Act 1965</i> <i>Land Tax Act 1958</i> <i>Management and Budget Act 1983</i> <i>Marine Act 1958</i> <i>Mercy Private Hospital (Guarantee) Act 1971</i> <i>Mint Act 1958</i> <i>Motor Car Act 1958</i> <i>Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Act 1962</i> <i>Parliamentary Salaries and Superannuation Act 1968</i> <i>Pay-roll Tax Act 1971</i> <i>Pensions Supplementation Act 1966</i> <i>Petroleum Products Subsidy Act 1965</i> <i>Probate Duty Act 1962</i> <i>Public Account Act 1958</i> <i>Public Account (Trust Funds) Act 1982</i> <i>Public Authorities (Contributions) Act 1966</i> <i>Public Authorities (Dividends) Act 1983</i> <i>Public Authorities (Sinking Funds) Act 1982</i> <i>Stamps Act 1958</i> <i>State Bank Act 1958</i> <i>State Employees Retirement Benefits Act 1979</i> <i>State Insurance Office Act 1984</i> <i>Statistics Act 1958</i>	<i>Superannuation Act 1958</i> <i>Superannuation Benefits Act 1977</i> <i>Superannuation (Lump Sum Benefits) Act 1981</i> <i>Tattersall Consultations Act 1958</i> <i>Unclaimed Moneys Act 1962</i> <i>Victorian Public Authorities Finance Act 1984</i> <i>Workers' Compensation Act 1958</i> 24. <i>Minister for Water Resources</i> <i>Cadet Surveyors Act 1964</i> <i>Dandenong Valley Authority Act 1963</i> <i>Drainage of Land Act 1975</i> <i>Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Act 1958</i> <i>Groundwater Act 1969</i> <i>Latrobe Valley Act 1958</i> <i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Act 1958</i> <i>Mildura Irrigation and Water Trusts Act 1958</i> <i>Public Contracts Act 1958</i> <i>River Improvement Act 1958</i> <i>River Murray Waters Act 1982</i> <i>Sewerage Districts Act 1958</i> <i>Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation (Victoria) Act 1971</i> <i>State Rivers and Water Supply Commission (Special Projects) Act 1969</i> <i>Victorian Water and Sewerage Authorities Association Act 1981</i> <i>Water Act 1958</i> <i>Water and Sewerage Authorities (Restructuring) Act 1983</i> <i>West Moorabool Water Board Act 1968</i> 25. <i>Minister for Youth, Sport and Recreation</i> <i>Anzac Day Act 1958</i> <i>Lotteries Gaming and Betting Act 1966</i> <i>Professional Boxing Control Act 1975</i> <i>Racing Act 1958</i> <i>Youth, Sport and Recreation Act 1972</i>
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AUDITOR-GENERAL

The Auditor-General of Victoria is appointed by the Governor in Council pursuant to the *Audit Act 1958* which also defines the duties, responsibilities, and powers of the position. The appointee is not subject to the *Public Service Act 1974* nor to the direction of any Minister.

In Victoria, as in other places operating under the Westminster system of government, the Auditor-General is responsible for the external audit of the financial affairs and activities of government agencies, i.e. departments and most public bodies. The Auditor-General reports independently to the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament on the results of those audits with the objective of providing Parliament with the information it requires to exercise oversight of the financial operations of government departments and statutory bodies.

Broadly speaking, the Auditor-General has all the responsibilities of external auditors of commercial organisations in relation to the conduct of a financial audit. In addition, there are the special responsibilities which are associated with government auditing to ensure that the decisions of Parliament in relation to financial matters are properly observed and to draw attention to departures from statutory provisions covering these matters.

The Auditor-General has no executive power to enforce improvements in financial management and procedures. It is the responsibility of Parliament and of the Government to act on the Auditor-General's reports as they think fit.

The Auditor-General is an office-holder under the Crown and is subject to removal only by resolution of both Houses of Parliament. Like members of the judiciary, the Auditor-General is not subject to control either by Parliament or by the Executive in the exercise of his functions. His independence is assured by very wide powers granted by statute. Although undertaking duties on behalf of the Parliament, the Auditor-General is not a servant of the Parliament. The staff of the Office of the Auditor-General, however, are employed under the provisions of the *Public Service Act* 1974.

OMBUDSMAN

The Office of the Victorian Ombudsman was created after the passing of the Ombudsman Act in 1973. The basic function of the Ombudsman's office is to receive complaints from citizens who feel aggrieved by the administrative actions of government departments, statutory bodies, or staff of municipal councils. The Ombudsman's responsibility is to investigate such complaints to determine the facts and express an opinion where the actions complained of are contrary to law, unjust, unfair, or unreasonable.

The Ombudsman does not have jurisdiction to investigate the decisions of courts or of some tribunals and a few other specific authorities. He is empowered to make recommendations and to report the results of his investigations, comments, and recommendations to Parliament. He, like most Ombudsmen, has no power to direct the rectification of a wrong but if the recommendation is not implemented, the Ombudsman may refer the matter to the Executive Council and then to Parliament.

Freedom of information

The Ombudsman may also be involved with freedom of information matters. He has four major areas of responsibility under the Act and these are as follows:

- (1) where an agency or a minister believes a document to which access is sought, does not exist or cannot be located after a thorough and diligent search it must inform the applicant(s) of their right to complain to the Ombudsman (section 27(1)(e));
- (2) a right of appeal to the County Court by an applicant for a review of a charge levied by an agency for access to a document whether or not that charge has been paid, provided that the Ombudsman certifies that the matter is one of sufficient importance for the court to consider (section 50(2)(e));
- (3) where an agency fails to make a decision on an application for access within a reasonable time or if the applicant has complained to the Ombudsman pursuant to the provisions of the Ombudsman Act concerning that delay, the applicant cannot appeal to the County Court until the Ombudsman has informed him of the result of his investigation and issued him with a certificate enabling him to appeal to the Court (section 53(2)); and
- (4) an applicant who appeals to the County Court may apply to the Ombudsman to intervene before the court in his appeal (section 57).

Review of Police files

The Ombudsman's other responsibility concerns the review of Internal Investigation Bureau files. These files are created as a result of complaints which are made to the Chief Commissioner of Police concerning the actions or inactions of a member of the Police Force and records the complaints, the investigation, and the subsequent conclusions or actions taken.

Further references: Ombudsman, *First Six Years of Office, 1973-79*, *Victorian Year Book*, 1980, pp. 138-40, 1984, pp. 88-9; Public Record Office, 1981, pp. 128-9; Victorian Government Printing Office, 1981, pp. 129-30; Public Bodies Review Committee, 1982, pp. 125-7; Freedom of Information Legislation, 1983, pp. 128-9

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

General

Local government is the third sphere in the tripartite structure of government in Australia (namely, Commonwealth, State, and local). Since it is closely connected with the life of communities, it can become sensitive to, and aware of, their needs. Local government in Victoria is administered by 211 municipalities operating under the oversight of the Minister for Local Government, and his Permanent Head, the Director-General for Local Government, with a staff of some 250 officers as well as about 66 members of statutory boards and committees, most of whom serve in a part-time capacity.

Although the Minister and his department administer a number of other Acts of the Victorian Parliament, as set out in detail in Chapter 6 of this *Year Book*, the majority of the powers and duties given to municipal councils are set out in the *Local Government Act* 1958 and other Acts of the Victorian Parliament. The *Local Government Act* which is subject to continuing review in the light of changing community needs, essentially sets out the framework within which each council is free to exercise control over matters of local concern.

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

The Minister and his Department are entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring that councils act within their field of authority and so preserve the rights of citizens. In recommending desirable legislative changes, the Department is implementing government policy aimed at improving the democratic and representative nature of local government and strengthening the powers and autonomy enjoyed by local government, better enabling it to meet the changing needs and requirements of the local community.

Further references: *Victorian Year Book* 1981, p.131; 1982, p.129

PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire authorities

Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board

The Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board (MFBB) is constituted under the *Metropolitan Fire Brigades Act* 1958, and administration is centred at East Melbourne.

Members of the MFBB comprise the President and Deputy President, representatives of insurance companies, the Melbourne City Council, municipalities south and north of the Yarra River, and officers and employees of the MFBB.

Ordinary meetings of the MFBB are held every third Wednesday and at the discretion of the President.

The MFBB is responsible for the protection of life and property and the suppression of fire within the Metropolitan Fire District.

Until January 1974, municipalities within the Metropolitan Fire District contributed one-third and fire insurance companies transacting business in the same area provided two-thirds of the amount required to maintain Metropolitan Fire Brigades. As a result of amended legislation, operative since the beginning of 1974, contributions have subsequently been received in the proportions of one-eighth from the Victorian Government, one-eighth from municipal councils, and three-quarters from fire insurance companies.

During 1982–83, contributions by municipalities were equivalent to 0.390 cents in the dollar of the annual value of property, amounting to \$2.23m, while fire insurance companies contributed at a rate of \$44.61 for every \$100 of fire insurance premiums paid on insured property. Premiums received in the Metropolitan Fire District in 1982–83 amounted to \$117.02m.

During 1983–84, contributions by municipalities were equivalent to 0.346 cents in the dollar of the annual value of property, amounting to \$2.26m, while fire insurance companies contributed at a rate of \$33.34 for every \$100 of fire insurance premiums paid on insured property. Premiums received by insurance companies applicable to the Metropolitan Fire District in 1983–84 amounted to \$141.02m.

Metropolitan Fire District

The Metropolitan Fire District embraces an area within the various municipalities named below, having a radius of sixteen kilometres from the General Post Office, Melbourne, with extensions therefrom. The following municipalities are wholly within the Metropolitan Fire District: the Cities of Melbourne, Altona, Box Hill, Brighton, Broadmeadows, Brunswick, Camberwell, Caulfield, Coburg, Collingwood, Essendon, Fitzroy, Footscray, Hawthorn, Heidelberg, Kew, Malvern, Moorabbin, Mordialloc, Northcote, Nunawading, Oakleigh, Port Melbourne, Prahran, Preston,

Richmond, Ringwood, St Kilda, Sandringham, South Melbourne, Sunshine, Waverley, and Williamstown.

The following municipalities are partly within the Metropolitan Fire District: the Cities of Croydon, Doncaster and Templestowe, Keilor, and Springvale, and the Shires of Bulla, Diamond Valley, Eltham, Lillydale, and Werribee.

Particulars of the revenue, expenditure, and loan indebtedness of the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board for each of the years 1978-79 to 1983-84 are shown in the following table:

**METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADES BOARD:
REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, AND LOAN INDEBTEDNESS, VICTORIA
(\$'000)**

Particulars	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84
REVENUE						
Statutory contributions—						
Treasurer of Victoria	3,956	4,646	5,510	5,990	8,701	7,836
Municipalities	3,956	4,646	5,510	5,990	8,701	7,836
Insurance companies	23,736	27,782	33,061	35,941	52,206	47,043
Brokers and owners	443	530	533	539	706	791
Charges for services	2,670	3,480	4,385	4,676	4,597	5,369
Interest and sundries	979	929	1,172	2,127	2,876	4,171
Total	35,740	42,013	50,171	55,263	77,787	73,046
EXPENDITURE						
Salaries	25,419	29,104	33,138	39,571	45,469	49,353
Other	12,458	13,759	15,555	19,337	19,844	25,844
Total	37,877	42,863	48,693	58,908	65,313	75,197
Net surplus (+) or deficit (—)	—2,137	—850	+1,478	—3,645	+12,474	—2,151
Loan indebtedness (at 30 June)	6,422	6,071	5,664	5,217	4,727	4,190

The following table shows particulars of the number of fire stations operated by the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board and the number of staff employed at 30 June for each of the years 1979 to 1984:

**METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADES BOARD, NUMBER OF
FIRE STATIONS AND STAFF EMPLOYED (a) AT 30 JUNE, VICTORIA**

Particulars	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
Fire stations	48	48	48	48	47	47
Staff employed—						
Fire fighting	1,631	1,654	1,683	1,696	1,679	1,701
Special service					116	125
Support staff	{ 323	{ 350	{ 365	{ 374	262	302

(a) Prior to 1983, Special service and Support staff were grouped together as 'All other'.

Country Fire Authority

The headquarters of the Country Fire Authority are situated in Malvern, a suburb of Melbourne, where an operations centre is in direct radio contact with every fire control region throughout Victoria. At 30 June 1984, there were 142 permanent firefighters employed in brigades at Ballarat, Bendigo, Boronia, Dandenong, Doveton, Frankston, Geelong, Norlane, North Geelong, Geelong West, and Springvale, with a total of 185 permanent brigade officers at these stations and at Belgrave, Chelsea, Mildura, Morwell, Shepparton, Traralgon, Wangaratta, Warrnambool, Wodonga, and Fiskville Training Centre. This compares with 143 permanent firefighters and 187 brigade officers at 30 June 1983.

The revenue of the Country Fire Authority consists mainly of statutory contributions, in the proportion of one-third from the Victorian Treasury's Municipalities Assistance Fund and two-thirds from insurance companies underwriting fire risks in the country area of Victoria. There were 136 insurance companies thus contributing during 1983-84, compared with 128 companies for 1982-83.

Up to 30 June 1984, the Authority had raised 184 loans, representing a total of \$39.2m, which has been used for the provision of buildings and equipment for brigades. This compares with 181 loans and \$34.6m, respectively at 30 June 1983.

Particulars of revenue, expenditure, surplus, and loan expenditure and indebtedness of the Country Fire Authority, for each of the years 1978-79 to 1983-84, are shown in the first of the following tables. The second table shows particulars of the number of fire brigades, personnel, and motor vehicles for the same years.

**COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY: REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, AND LOAN INDEBTEDNESS,
VICTORIA
(\$'000)**

Particulars	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84
INCOME						
Statutory contributions —						
Municipalities Assistance Fund	6,414	7,303	8,417	9,600	11,860	13,378
Insurance companies	12,828	14,606	16,834	19,201	23,719	26,373
Other	810	901	1,100	1,913	3,196	2,619
Total	20,052	22,810	26,351	30,714	38,775	42,370
EXPENDITURE						
Salaries and wages	8,877	9,809	11,456	13,650	16,131	17,876
Other	9,441	10,601	13,168	15,136	19,152	20,131
Total	18,318	20,410	24,624	28,786	35,283	38,007
Net surplus	1,734	2,400	1,727	1,928	3,492	4,363
Loan expenditure	2,066	2,025	3,104	3,833	3,111	6,455
Loan indebtedness (at 30 June)	13,291	16,354	19,515	22,690	25,891	29,391

**COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY: NUMBER OF FIRE BRIGADES, PERSONNEL(a), AND
MOTOR VEHICLES, VICTORIA**

Particulars	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84
Fire brigades—						
Urban	215	215	215	216	216	218
Rural	1,067	1,065	1,066	1,069	1,072	1,072
Personnel—						
Permanent	548	576	590	600	626	710
Volunteer	107,061	106,874	107,699	106,937	106,086	108,346
Vehicle fleet —						
Self-propelled	1,746	1,773	1,876	2,020	2,076	2,060
Trailer units	476	472	486	490	476	446

(a) Includes clerical and administrative staff.

Natural disasters and emergencies

Victoria State Emergency Service

The Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) is a branch of the Ministry for Police and Emergency Services. It operates under the provisions of the *Victoria State Emergency Service Act* 1981. Under this Act an 'emergency' means an emergency due to the actual or imminent occurrence of any event including an earthquake, flood, windstorm, or other natural event; fire; explosion; road accident; plague or epidemic; or a warlike act, whether directed at Victoria or any other State or Territory of the Commonwealth.

The functions of VICSES are to:

- (1) Assist the Chief Commissioner of Police to plan and organise measures to deal with emergencies and their effects;
- (2) assist the bodies and organisations responsible for dealing with emergencies and their effects to discharge their responsibilities;
- (3) deal with floods and windstorms and their effects;
- (4) provide a rescue service for persons involved in road accidents; and
- (5) co-ordinate and assist bodies and organisations providing welfare services to persons affected by emergencies.

The Act also provides compensation protection and indemnity for registered members of VICSES in performing their duties. It also empowers VICSES to draw upon volunteer manpower during emergencies in addition to its registered members. The headquarters of VICSES is located in Melbourne, with a Regional Director for each of the North and South Regions of the Melbourne metropolitan area. There are ten permanently manned Regional Headquarters located at Bairnsdale, Ballarat, Bendigo, Dandenong, Geelong, Hamilton, Moe, Shepparton, Swan Hill, and Wodonga. The units of VICSES, of which there were 147 municipal units and sub-units at 30 April 1985, are wholly manned by volunteer members of VICSES, although the Controller, or head, of each unit is a council nominee. The State and Regional Headquarters also have trained volunteers on their establishments. The functional divisions of these Headquarters are operations, communications, training, equipment, and administration.

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

Funding of VICSES is derived from three levels. The Commonwealth Government, through the Natural Disasters Organisation sponsors an equipment support programme and building subsidies for municipal units. The Victorian Government bears the administrative costs of VICSES, including various grants and subsidies for local councils and their units, but excludes salaries of Regional Directors which the Commonwealth provides. Local municipal councils provide some funding for the administration of their local units. There is also voluntary fund raising at the local level.

VICSES is also responsible for the operation of the 'Logistics' sub-plan of DISPLAN (the State Disaster Plan) which together with the 'Community Support' sub-plan (to be co-ordinated in conjunction with the Department of Community Services) addresses the welfare aspects of disasters.

The extent of the operational involvement of the Service in emergencies is indicated in the following table of operations:

STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE, OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES, VICTORIA

Type of operation	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84
Search and rescue	161	260	214	204	266	297
Road accident assistance	193	293	387	421	482	411
Aircraft accidents	7	9	7	12	4	7
Fire support	18	68	78	49	145	56
Flood	45	17	22	65	18	127
Wind storm	33	31	150	159	331	316
Welfare	1	5	23	9	50	9
Hazardous materials	3	7	10	12	13	10
Community service	61	81	52	7	n.a.	n.a.
Evacuation	2	—	4	3	8	7
Marine incidents	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	16	79	30
Rail incidents	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	3	5	10
Miscellaneous	84	90	95	102	92	106
Total (a)	608	861	1,042	1,062	1,393	1,368

(a) An incident irrespective of magnitude, duration, or units deployed is recorded as one operation.

State Disaster Plan

The State Disaster Plan (DISPLAN) codifies arrangements for co-ordinating the resources of governmental agencies in coping with natural disasters and serious emergencies in Victoria.

The DISPLAN concept provides the mechanism for the build up of appropriate resources to cope with emergencies throughout the State. It also provides for requests for physical assistance from the Commonwealth when State resources have been exhausted.

Most incidents are of local concern and can be co-ordinated from local municipal resources. However, when local resources are exhausted, DISPLAN provides for further resources to be made available, first from neighbouring municipalities (on a regional basis) and second on a State wide basis.

Activation

The first stage of any operation will be the activation of the organisation or sections concerned. Such activation may fall into three phases:

- (1) *Alert*. Upon receipt of warning or information that a disaster may occur or affect the relevant area of responsibility, the organisation must be alerted to ensure its readiness to act if called upon.
- (2) *Stand-by*. As threat or the effects of a disaster become imminent, members of the relevant organisation or sections are placed on stand-by, thus being ready to move immediately they are called out.
- (3) *Action*. Upon decision to mount an operation, all required members are called to their posts – such posts may be pre-planned or as dictated by the disaster situation.

The Alert and Stand-by phases may not be possible if the disaster strikes without warning. Also, the situation may dictate that while some members are called out others will remain on stand-by. This will ensure back-up and continuity of staffing if the operations are prolonged.

The Plan will be activated by the Co-ordinator after consultation with the combating authority. It will be the responsibility of the relevant combating authority to notify the Police Co-ordinator at a local, regional, or State level when that combating authority considers the prevailing conditions justify a condition of Alert, Stand-by, or Action.

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

Within the broad context of DISPLAN, specific plans have been developed by the operating authorities to deal with particular types of disasters and emergencies.

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

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

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