

## GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

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

### COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

Since Federation, there have been considerable changes in the functions actually performed by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments, because of various constitutional amendments and inter-governmental agreements affecting functions. The main fields of activity of the Commonwealth Government today are: foreign affairs and diplomatic 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, widows, and various other pensions; national health benefits; Federal territories and overseas dependencies; census and statistics; meteorological service; Federal courts and police; control of banking; collection of sales and income taxes; housing assistance and defence service homes; scientific and industrial research; management of State and national debt; lighthouses and navigation; and Australian territorial sea and seabed. A more detailed treatment of this subject can be found in the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, included on pages 7-24 of *Year Book Australia* (No. 62).

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

### VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

#### Victorian Public Service

The Victorian Public Service consists of those officers and employees who staff the ministerial departments as distinct from those employed in the teaching service, the police force, or in local government or in those statutory authorities which do not have staff employed under the Public Service Act. Its duty is to administer legislation, implement government policy, and provide policy advice to government. There are about 26,500\* permanent officers who are grouped in three Divisions: the First Division comprising officers exercising the more important administrative or professional functions, the Second

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\* At 30 June 1979.

Division comprising other officers performing duties of an administrative or professional nature, and the Third Division comprising a wide range of positions, including clerical assistants, stenographers and typists, chauffeurs, tradesmen, and various inspectors.

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

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

About 5,600\* persons are employed on a temporary basis and recruitment for permanent positions often comes from this group. While legislation limits their employment to a maximum period of two years, the Public Service Board may renew these engagements in special circumstances. A further group of about 7,300\* persons known as "exempt employees" are not subject to the provisions of the Public Service Act and are engaged in intermittent or casual work or are employed under the provisions of Commonwealth Awards, State Wages Board determinations, or at special rates determined by the Public Service Board.

### **Public Service Board**

#### *Functions of the Board*

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

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

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

#### *Composition of the Board*

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

- (1) Elected by officers of the Public Service generally; or
- (2) elected by officers of the Third Division of the Mental Health Division of the Health Commission of Victoria.

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

The two senior officers of the Board are the Chief Public Service Inspector and the Secretary. The Board's Office is divided into seven divisions, each of which is administered by a Director. The divisions are as follows: Administration Division, Claims and Industrial Divisions, Conditions of Employment Division, Management Systems Division, Recruitment and Staff Development Division, Research and Special Projects Division, and Staffing and Classification Division.

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\* At 30 June 1979.

### Victorian Government Departments and Ministries

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

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

#### *Department of Agriculture*

Minister: Minister of Agriculture

Permanent Head: Director-General of Agriculture

The Department of Agriculture provides a range of services to ensure an adequate supply of high quality agricultural products, while contributing to the protection of public health and the improvement of the environment.

Having proper regard to social and economic factors in the community, this role is achieved through the following functions: developing and reviewing Victorian Government policies, Acts, and Regulations, and attending to their administration; contributing to the development of national rural policies and participating in national programmes; protecting and improving the health of livestock, crops, and persons; improving the skills, competence, and knowledge of persons involved or interested in agriculture; assisting the rural community to adjust to changing circumstances; developing more efficient farming practices; the development of sound and stable marketing practices; and assisting in the planning, development, and use of natural resources, and in the improvement of the environment in urban and rural Victoria.

The various branches and agencies are: Animal Health Services: Veterinary Field Services, Veterinary Laboratories, Veterinary Public Health; Animal Services: Animal Industries, Animal Research, Dairying; Plant Services: Plant Industries, Plant Research, Plant Standards; Education, Extension, and Economic Services; and Agricultural Chemical Services. A number of statutory bodies also come under the jurisdiction of the Minister. (For the history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book 1971*, pages 105-8.)

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

Minister: Minister of Lands

Permanent Head: Secretary for Lands

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

#### *Education Department*

Ministers: Minister of Education

Assistant Minister of Education

Permanent Head: Director-General of Education

The function of the Education Department is to ensure that all children between the ages of 6 and 15 years receive efficient and regular instruction in general subjects and to provide more specialised higher education for older students. Courses are, as far as possible, flexible, appropriate to the needs of the individual school and local community, and adaptable to the changing needs of society. Much of the administration of the Department is now decentralised, each of the eleven educational regions in Victoria being controlled by a Regional Director of Education. The Department's policy is to give more decision-making authority to individual schools and principals and to encourage community involvement in school affairs. The teaching service provides the teachers for all State schools, the Department being responsible for general administration; provision,

maintenance, and equipment of school buildings; salaries for teachers; school transport for children in country areas; and in-service education.

The five operating divisions each administered by a director are: Primary Education, Secondary Education, Technical Education, Special Services, and Teacher Education. Currently there are four service divisions each administered by a director. These are: Planning Services, Building Operations, Personnel, and Administrative Services. Details of all aspects of education within Victoria are covered in Chapter 25 of this *Year Book*.

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

#### *Health Commission*

Ministers: Minister of Health

Assistant Minister of Health

Permanent Head: Chairman of the Health Commission

The Health Commission comprises three line divisions — Hospitals, Mental Health, and Public Health, and five service divisions: Building and Services, Finance, Personnel, Planning and Research, and Management Services. A further line division, the Division of Mental Retardation, is expected to be established in the near future.

The Health Commission is concerned with the provision of the best possible health services for the people of Victoria. This involves the co-ordination of existing facilities and their renovation or updating as necessary. It also necessitates research into possible areas of need and the implementation of the resultant reports. (Further information on the history of the Department of Health can be found on pages 109-11 of the *Victorian Year Book* 1974.)

#### *Department of Labour and Industry*

Minister: Minister of Labour and Industry

Permanent Head: Secretary for Labour and Industry

The Department is concerned with the administration and enforcement of legislation relating to conditions of employment, Wages Board Determinations, and with the registration and inspections of factories and shops, boilers and pressure vessels, lifts and cranes, and scaffolding. Its main functions involve industrial relations, the control and regulation of matters affecting safety, health, and welfare in industry, and training within industry.

These functions are performed by the Industrial Relations Division, the Wages Board Secretariat, the Industrial Training Commission, the Office of the Building Industry Long Service Leave Board, and the following Inspectorates: Factories and Shops, Boilers and Pressure Vessels, Lifts and Cranes, and Scaffolding.

In addition, the Department is responsible for administration of the legislation relating to workers compensation, compensation for motor accidents, hairdressers registration, and liquor control. (For the history of the Department, see *Victorian Year Book* 1975, pages 140-4.)

#### *Law Department*

Minister: Attorney-General

Permanent Head: Secretary to the Law Department

The Law Department is primarily responsible for the administration of the legal system in Victoria. Its principal function is to provide administrative services to the Supreme, County, Magistrates', Children's, and Coroner's Courts in Victoria. Other functions include giving legal advice and assistance to the Victorian Government, registration of transfers of land, drafting of statutes, the administration of estates, maintaining a register of companies and businesses, registration of various individuals and organisations, and the management of Royal Commissions and Boards of Inquiry. Broadly, its role is to provide the means whereby an individual may protect his rights.

The various branches are: Courts, Crown Solicitor's Office, Parliamentary Counsel's Office, Public Solicitor's Office, Public Trust Office, Corporate Affairs Office, Office of Titles, and Registrar-General's Office.

In addition, a number of Committees and Boards come within the administration of the Attorney-General. These are: Appeal Costs Board, Companies Auditors Board, Crimes

Compensation Tribunal, Discharged Servicemen's Employment Board, Government Shorthand Writers Office, Law Reform Commissioner, Legal Aid Committee, Metropolitan Fair Rents Board, Motor Accidents Tribunal, the Patriotic Funds Council, Raffles and Bingo Permits Board, Registry of Estate Agents, Registry of Friendly Societies, State Classification of Publications Board, and Victorian Taxation Board of Review. (For the history of the Department, see pages 100-4 of the *Victorian Year Book* 1965.)

*Local Government Department*

Minister: Minister for Local Government

Permanent Head: Secretary for Local Government

This Department supervises administration by municipalities of the Local Government Act and related Acts. It functions with an administrative core and a number of specialised sections handling a variety of matters including the examination of legislative proposals, the preparation of legislation, statutory procedures, the making or revision of building and other regulations, the allocation of subsidies and payments to municipalities for various specific purposes, the distribution of untied grants being a proportion of personal income tax as recommended by the Victoria Grants Commission, and the giving of advice to councillors, municipal officers, and the public generally.

In addition to these functions, the Department encompasses the Valuer-General's Office, whose major function is to co-ordinate valuations made for councils and other rating authorities, and the Weights and Measures Branch, headed by the Superintendent of Weights and Measures, who administers weights and measures legislation and generally supervises the operations of local weights and measures authorities. (For the history of the Department, see pages 103-5 of the *Victorian Year Book* 1972.)

*Department of Community Welfare Services*

Minister: Minister for Community Welfare Services

Permanent Head: Director-General of Community Welfare Services

This Department provides welfare services for families, children, and the community; deals with the problems of young persons and promotes youth welfare; controls all correctional establishments; supervises persons on probation, under detention, and when released on parole; and provides training courses in matters pertaining to welfare services.

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

*Department of Minerals and Energy*

Minister: Minister for Minerals and Energy

Permanent Head: Secretary for Minerals and Energy

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

The Minister for Minerals and Energy is responsible for the operation of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria and the Gas and Fuel Corporation of Victoria. The Department's activities relate mainly to administering the *Fuel and Power Act* 1965 and parts of the *Pipelines Act* 1967. It is responsible for the development and co-ordination of energy policies for Victoria and for granting permits to own and use pipelines conveying crude oil, natural gas, refined petroleum products, liquified petroleum gas, and ethane gas.

A committee known as the Victorian Brown Coal Research and Development Committee, established in 1975, is operating within the Department for the purpose of studying all aspects of the development of Victoria's brown coal resources other than for the generation of electricity and with particular emphasis on the production of liquid hydrocarbons. (See also Chapter 12 of the *Victorian Year Book* 1978 for a more detailed description of the functions and operations of the Department.)

The Department also administers legislation relating to petroleum exploration and production, mining, quarrying, groundwater resources, gas regulation, explosives, liquefied gases, and inflammable liquids. It is responsible for the survey and assessment of Victoria's mineral resources including groundwater and for mapping Victoria's geological

structure. It provides technical services, information, and financial assistance to the mining industry. (For the history of the Department, see pages 105-8 of the *Victorian Year Book 1970*.)

*Department of the Premier*

Minister: The Premier

Permanent Head: Secretary, Department of the Premier

The functions of the Department are administrative, regulatory, planning, developmental, and educational in character, and include co-ordination and implementation of government policy. It acts as a channel of communication with other governments and it is responsible for administering and maintaining governmental contact with the Office of the Agent-General in London. Also within its organisation is the office of the Governor and the Executive Council.

In 1976, the Victorian Government established the State Co-ordination Council within the Department's administration to evaluate and advise on the formulation and evaluation of policies and programmes and their likely effect on the physical, economic, social, and environmental conditions of Victoria.

The various branches are: Audit Office, Office of the Agent-General, Office of the Executive Council and Office of the Governor, Office of the Public Service Board (for the history of the Board see *Victorian Year Book 1976*, pages 146-9), the Ministry for Federal Affairs and the Community Services Centre incorporating Migrant Advisory, Women's Advisory, Anti-Discrimination and Interpreter Services Bureau, and the Government Information Office. (For the history of the Department, see pages 81-4 of the *Victorian Year Book 1964*.)

*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 objects of the Department are: to monitor and independently check all aspects of property dealings by government departments and statutory authorities; to be responsible for the functions of the Government Printing Office, the Government Computing Service, and the Public Record Office; to collect and register statistical information; and to conduct elections to members of the Victorian Parliament and a number of government and semi-government bodies.

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

*Public Works Department*

Minister: Minister of Public Works

Permanent Head: Director-General of Public Works

The Department is Victoria's major building construction authority; responsibilities also include the control of port navigation, port development, maintenance of shipping channels, foreshore protection works along the Victorian coastline, and the purchase, leasing, and rental of properties for Government Departments.

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

As Victoria's building construction authority, the Building Division is responsible for the design, construction, engineering, furnishing, maintenance, and consultant services for departments, government agencies, schools, and institutions.

The Ports and Harbors Division advises government on port and marine matters, develops, operates, and manages Victorian ports (except Melbourne, Geelong, and Portland); and controls coastal waters, foreshore protection, beach renourishment, dredging of shipping channels, navigation aids, and prevention of oil pollution of navigable waters. The Marine Board, which is a corporate board of twelve members appointed by the Victorian Government representing both industry and government, is responsible for regulating pilotage in all ports subject to compulsory pilotage in Victoria.

It is also the ship survey authority for all Victorian intra-state commercial vessels including fishing vessels, and issues licences and certificates for crew manning. When necessary, the Board convenes the Court of Marine Inquiry to undertake formal investigation of shipping casualties in Victoria.

The Property and Services Division is responsible for the purchase, rental, allocation of accommodation, and security of property for governmental purposes, canteen, janitorial services, and the State garage and petrol centre.

The Administration Division is responsible for the following functions: legal services; E.D.P. financial planning and control; accounting; procurement and supply; personnel; manpower planning; industrial relations and staff development; client/public relations; methods; and registry activities. (For the history of the Department, see pages 98–100 of the *Victorian Year Book* 1967.)

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

Minister: Minister for State Development, Decentralization and Tourism

Permanent Head: Director of State Development, Decentralization and Tourism

Activities of the Department are directed towards the balanced development of population and industry throughout Victoria through the encouragement and promotion of industry and commerce and the development and promotion of tourist attractions and facilities throughout Victoria, the encouragement of overseas investment in Victoria, and the development of overseas markets for goods manufactured in Victoria.

The various branches are: Decentralization, Research, Policy and Development, Tourism, and Administration.

#### *State Forests Department*

Minister: Minister of Forests

Permanent Head: Chairman, Forests Commission

This Department controls and manages State forests, including the establishment, maintenance, protection, preservation, and renewal of hardwood and softwood varieties. It also regulates harvesting and marketing of forest produce, trains foresters, and supervises forest areas allotted for public recreation and water catchment.

The various divisions are: Administration, Economics and Marketing, Forest Protection, Forest Education and Research, Forest Management (including Forest Environment and Recreation), Forest Operations, and seven Field Divisions. (For the history of the Department, see pages 152–4 of the *Victorian Year Book* 1978.)

#### *Treasury*

Minister: The Treasurer

Permanent Head: Director of Finance

The Treasury exercises overall control of financial administration. Its prime functions and responsibilities relate to the raising of revenue, control over governmental expenditure within the ambit of Parliamentary authority, and the financial aspects of Government policy. (For the history of the Department, see pages 97–100 of the *Victorian Year Book* 1966.)

The various branches are: State Taxation Office, Stamp Duties Office, State Tender Board, State Superannuation Board, and State Insurance Office.

#### *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; and to improve facilities in Victoria for leisure-time pursuits. This involves regular consultation with public and private youth, sporting, and recreational organisations or bodies, and administering the *Racing Act* 1958, the *Professional Boxing Control Act* 1975, and the *Youth, Sport and Recreation Act* 1972.

*Ministry for the Arts*

Minister: Minister of the Arts

Permanent Head: Director, Ministry for the Arts

While the enabling Act was passed in 1972, this Ministry was not established as a separate Department until 1 August 1975. Its aims are to develop and improve the knowledge, understanding, appreciation, and practice of the arts in Victoria through increased availability and accessibility; assistance in providing facilities for performance and display; and by continual assessment and encouragement.

The various branches are: National Museum, National Gallery of Victoria, Science Museum, State Film Centre, State Library, Victorian Film Corporation, and State Library and National Museum Building Committee.

*Ministry for Conservation*

Minister: Minister for Conservation

Permanent Head: Director of Conservation

This Ministry consists of a number of organisations dealing with conservation and management of Victoria's natural resources. It is concerned with management of the State's fish and wildlife resources; management of national parks and other parks; protection of the environment and the minimising of pollution through waste management; the reduction of adverse environment effects associated with major works and projects; an overall responsibility for the effective management of the foreshore around Port Phillip Bay; appropriate future uses of Victoria's Crown land in the interests of the community; the conservation of Victoria's soil resources, and, where necessary, the restoration of damaged areas; archaeological research and protection of archaeological and Aboriginal relics; co-ordination of Victoria's national estate programme; administration of Victoria's animal welfare legislation; and, in general, the co-ordination of activities directed towards effective management of natural resources.

The agencies and divisions of the Ministry are: Environment Protection Authority, Fisheries and Wildlife Division, Land Conservation Council, National Parks Service, Port Phillip Authority, Soil Conservation Authority, and the Divisions of Environment Assessment, Environment Studies, and Administration.

*Ministry for Police and Emergency Services*

Minister: Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Permanent Head: Secretary

This Ministry was established on 1 July 1979, following the abolition of the Chief Secretary's Department. (Further information on the Chief Secretary's Department can be found on pages 100-4 of the *Victorian Year Book* 1963 and also page 685 of the *Victorian Year Book* 1979.) Its major functions include the maintenance of law and order in Victoria, which involves preservation of the peace, protection of life and property, and the prevention and detection of crime; planning, organising, co-ordinating, and implementing measures to guard against or minimise the effects of emergencies harmful to life, health, or property; and the prevention and suppression of fires in the Melbourne metropolitan area and in the country area of Victoria.

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

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

*Ministry of Consumer Affairs*

Minister: Minister of Consumer Affairs

Permanent Head: Secretary for Labour and Industry

The Ministry was created by legislation in 1973. Its objectives are generally to protect and promote the interests of consumers through investigations and recommendations on



matters affecting their interests as consumers and through programmes designed to fully inform them of goods and services offered to consumers.

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

#### *Ministry of Federal Affairs*

Minister: Minister for Federal Affairs

Permanent Head: Secretary Department of the Premier

The Ministry of Federal Affairs established in February 1975, functions administratively as a branch of the Department of the Premier.

The Ministry disseminates information from Commonwealth Services to Victorian Departments and Agencies: examines Commonwealth legislation for its relevance to and implication for State functions and responsibilities, and co-ordinates Victorian Government submissions to the Commonwealth and other States; and undertakes specialised analysis and policy evaluation.

#### *Ministry of Housing*

Minister: Minister of Housing

Permanent Head: Secretary of Housing

The function of the Ministry is to encourage the provision of housing of suitable type, in suitable locations, and at a suitable price to best satisfy the needs of the people of Victoria. Through the Housing Commission, the Ministry is responsible for the provision of adequate and suitable housing for lease or sale to persons of limited means. The Ministry's functions also include the improvement and renewal of existing housing, the provision of housing finance for purchase, and construction and the provision of housing for decentralised industry employees and the teaching service.

Activities of the Ministry include the planning and development of land for housing, the construction of houses, provision of community facilities, regulation of co-operative societies, and the provision of movable dwelling units.

The following bodies report to the Minister: Housing Commission, Registry of Co-operative Housing Societies and Co-operative Societies, Registry of Permanent Building Societies, Home Finance Trust, Teacher Housing Authority, Decentralised Industry Housing Authority, Urban Renewal Technical Advisory Panel, and the Housing Advisory Council.

#### *Ministry of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs*

Minister: Minister of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs

Permanent Head: Director, State Development, Decentralization and Tourism

Activities of the Ministry are directed towards the promotion and the provision of facilities for the settlement of migrants in Victoria; the processing of sponsorship applications lodged by residents of Victoria on behalf of United Kingdom citizens seeking permanent residence in Australia; and the promotion of the welfare and interests of migrants and their families within the State of Victoria. It also aims at the promotion and encouragement of the establishment of a community in which all ethnic groups will have expression of identity and the co-ordination of measures conducive to the building of a socially cohesive society.

The various divisions are: Ethnic Affairs, Community Relations and Liaison, Ethnic Affairs Research Unit, and Immigration.

#### *Ministry for Planning*

Minister: Minister for Planning

Permanent Head: Secretary for Planning

This Ministry was established under the *Ministry for Planning Act 1973* to be responsible for the administration of the Town and Country Planning, Development Areas, Historic Buildings, and the Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges Authority Acts. It ensures that government planning policies are implemented by co-ordination and assisting with the functions of the Town and Country Planning Board, Regional Planning Authorities, and all other Responsible Authorities in Victoria.

*Ministry of Transport*

Minister: Minister of Transport

Permanent Head: Director of Transport

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

*Ministry of Water Resources and Water Supply*

Minister: Minister of Water Supply

Permanent Head: Chairman, State Rivers and Water Supply Commission

This Ministry is the administrative organisation for the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission which is Victoria's statutory authority for:

- (1) The conservation and distribution of rural water resources for irrigation, industrial, and urban purposes, and the control of water from all rivers, streams, and other natural sources in Victoria;
- (2) the provision of drainage and flood protection works in constituted districts; and
- (3) the investigation, evaluation, implementation, and co-ordination of drainage, flood mitigation, and river management proposals.

The Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, which is the water supply authority responsible for the conservation and distribution of water to the Melbourne metropolitan area, is also under the administration of the Minister of Water Supply.

**Victorian Government statutory authorities**

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

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

**VICTORIA—GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES**

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

VICTORIA—GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES—*continued*

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

VICTORIA—GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES—*continued*

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

VICTORIA—GOVERNMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITIES—*continued*

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

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

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

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- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1. <i>Legal, protective, registry services</i><br/>           Adult Parole Board<br/>           Appeal Costs Board<br/>           Country Fire Authority<br/>           Credit Societies Reserve Fund Committee<br/>           Crimes Compensation Board<br/>           Law Reform Commissioner<br/>           Legal Aid Committee<br/>           Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board<br/>           Office of the Ombudsman<br/>           Raffles Board<br/>           Youth Parole Board<br/>           Victorian Taxation Board of Review</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>5. <i>Regulation of general standards</i><br/>           Building Regulations Committee<br/>           Co-operative Societies Advisory Council<br/>           Food Standards Committee<br/>           Land Valuation Boards of Review<br/>           Liquor Control Commission<br/>           Marine Board<br/>           Motor Accidents Board<br/>           Municipal Valuation Fees Committee<br/>           Place Names Committee<br/>           Premiums Committee<br/>           Public Trustee<br/>           Scaffolding Regulations Committee<br/>           State Advisory Board on Publications<br/>           Stock Medicines Board<br/>           Victorian Abattoir and Meat Inspection Authority</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <p>2. <i>Regulation of primary production</i><br/>           Australian Barley Board<br/>           Commercial Fisheries Licensing Panel<br/>           Citrus Fruit Marketing Board<br/>           Dairy Produce Board<br/>           Licensing Appeals Tribunal (Commercial Fisheries)<br/>           Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market Trust<br/>           Poultry Farmer Licensing Committee<br/>           Poultry Farmer Licensing Review Committee<br/>           Tobacco Leaf Marketing Board<br/>           Tobacco Quota Appeals Tribunal<br/>           Tobacco Quota Committee<br/>           Tomato Processing Industry Negotiating Committee<br/>           Victorian Dairy Industry Authority<br/>           Victorian Dairy Products Board<br/>           Victorian Dried Fruits Board<br/>           Victorian Egg Marketing Board</p> | <p>6. <i>Regulation of professional and occupational standards</i><br/>           Advanced Dental Technicians Qualifications Board<br/>           Architects Registration Board<br/>           Board of Examiners for Engine Drivers<br/>           Board of Examiners for Mine Managers (Coal Mines Act)<br/>           Board of Examiners for Mine Managers (Mines Act)<br/>           Board of Examiners for Quarry Managers<br/>           Board of Examiners for Steam Engine Drivers and Boiler Attendants<br/>           Board of Examiners for Welders of Boilers and Pressure Vessels<br/>           Board of Examiners (under the Scaffolding Act)<br/>           Board of Forestry Education<br/>           Chiropodists Registration Board<br/>           Chiropractors and Osteopaths' Registration Board<br/>           Cinematograph Operators Board<br/>           Committee of Classifiers<br/>           Companies Auditors Board<br/>           Council of Legal Education<br/>           Dental Board<br/>           Dental Technicians Licensing Committee<br/>           Dietitians Registration Board<br/>           Drillers' Licensing Board<br/>           Electricals Approval Board<br/>           Foreign Practitioners Qualifications Committee<br/>           Medical Board<br/>           Motor Car Traders Committee<br/>           Municipal Auditors Board<br/>           Municipal Building Surveyors Board<br/>           Municipal Clerks Board<br/>           Municipal Electrical Engineers Board<br/>           Municipal Engineers Board<br/>           Optometrists' Registration Board<br/>           Pharmacy Board</p> |
| <p>3. <i>Regulation of industry and commerce</i><br/>           Consumer Affairs Council<br/>           Extractive Industries Advisory Committee<br/>           Market Court<br/>           Motor Car Traders Committee<br/>           Premiums Committee<br/>           Small Claims Tribunal<br/>           Transport Regulation Board</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p>4. <i>Regulation of labour conditions</i><br/>           Coal Mine Workers' Pensions Tribunal<br/>           Hospitals Superannuation Board<br/>           Industrial Appeals Court<br/>           Industrial Training Commission<br/>           Local Authorities Superannuation Board<br/>           Metropolitan Fire Brigades Appeal Tribunal<br/>           Metropolitan Fire Brigades Superannuation Board<br/>           Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Board<br/>           Wages Board<br/>           Workers Compensation Board</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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

- Physiotherapists' Registration Board  
 Plumbers and Gasfitters Board  
 Primary Teachers' Registration Board  
 Registry of Estate Agents  
 Registrar of Private Agents  
 Secondary Teachers' Registration Board  
 Specialist Practitioners Qualification Committee (of the Dental Board)  
 Specialist Practitioners Qualification Committee (of the Medical Board)  
 Surveyors Board  
 Teacher Registration Council  
 Technical Teachers' Registration Board  
 Valuers' Qualification Board  
 Veterinary Board of Victoria  
 Victorian Psychological Council  
 Victorian Nurses Council
- 7. Public utility, conservation, and development**  
 Albury-Wodonga Corporation (Victoria)  
 Ballarat Water Commissioners  
 Building Societies Advisory Committee  
 Coastal Management and Co-ordination Committee  
 Community Advisers Panel  
 Country Roads Board  
 Dandenong Valley Authority  
 Decentralized Industry Housing Authority  
 Emerald Tourist Railway Board  
 Environment Protection Appeal Board  
 Environment Protection Authority  
 Environment Protection Council  
 Exhibition Trustees  
 Fisheries Management Committee  
 Forests Commission  
 Gas and Fuel Corporation  
 Geelong Harbor Trust Commissioner  
 Geelong Regional Commission Settlement Authority  
 Government Buildings Advisory Council  
 Grain Elevators Board  
 Ground Water Advisory Committee  
 Historic Buildings Preservation Council  
 Home Finance Trust  
 Housing Advisory Council  
 Housing Commission  
 Land Conservation Council  
 Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage Board  
 Local Government Advisory Board  
 Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works  
 Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board  
 Melbourne Harbor Trust Commissioners  
 Melbourne Tourist Authority  
 Melbourne Underground Rail Loop Authority
- Mildura Irrigation and Water Trust  
 Mt Hotham Alpine Resort  
 National Parks Advisory Council  
 Portland Harbor Trust Commissioners  
 Port Phillip Authority  
 Port Phillip Authority Consultative Committee  
 Public Records Advisory Council  
 Public Works Committee  
 Railway Construction Board  
 Regional Tourist Authority  
 Road Safety and Traffic Authority  
 Rural Finance and Settlement Commission  
 Sludge Abatement Board  
 Small Business Development Corporation  
 Soil Conservation Authority  
 State Co-ordination Council  
 State Development Committee  
 State Electricity Commission  
 State Rivers and Water Supply Commission  
 State Savings Bank of Victoria  
 Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement Authority  
 Timber Promotion Council  
 Town and Country Planning Board  
 Town Planning Appeals Tribunal  
 Trustees of various cemeteries  
 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  
 Victorian Conservation Trust  
 Victoria Promotion Committee  
 Victorian Broiler Industry Negotiation Committee  
 Victorian Brown Coal Council  
 Victorian Development Corporation  
 Victoria Grants Committee  
 Victorian Public Offices Corporation  
 Victorian Railways Board  
 Victorian Travel Authority  
 Victorian Urban Land Council  
 Water Resources Council  
 West Gate Bridge Authority  
 West Moorabool Water Board  
 Western Metropolitan Market Trust  
 Yallourn Town Advisory Council
- 8. Social welfare**  
 Crimes Compensation Board  
 Death Benefits Advisory Committee  
 Discharged Servicemen's Employment Board  
 Equal Opportunities Board  
 Family Welfare Advisory Council  
 Hardship Relief Board  
 Patriotic Funds Council  
 Prisons Advisory Council  
 Social Welfare Training Council  
 State Relief Committee
- 9. Education and recreation**  
 Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Advisory Committee

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

|                                                      |                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Council of Adult Education                           | 10. <i>Public health</i>                      |
| Council of Legal Education                           | Advisory Committee to Mental Health Authority |
| Council of Public Education                          | Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria               |
| Council of the Science Museum of Victoria            | Cancer Institute Board                        |
| Council of Trustees of the National Gallery          | Fairfield Hospital Board                      |
| Greyhound Racing Control Board                       | Filled Milk Advisory Committee                |
| Greyhound Racing Grounds Development Board           | Hospitals Accreditation Committee             |
| Library Council of Victoria                          | Hospitals and Charities Commission            |
| National Museum of Victoria Council                  | Hospitals Remuneration Tribunal               |
| Post-Secondary Education Commission                  | Imitation Milk Advisory Committee             |
| Racecourse Licences Board                            | Medical Board of Victoria                     |
| Raffles and Bingo Permits Board                      | Mental Health Authority                       |
| Special Education Authority                          | Milk Pasteurization Committee                 |
| State Recreational Council                           | Mt Hotham Alpine Resort, Management Committee |
| State Sports Council                                 | Poisons Advisory Committee                    |
| State College of Victoria                            | Proprietary Medicines Advisory Committee      |
| State Classification of Publications                 | 11. <i>Industrial health</i>                  |
| State Youth Council                                  | Industrial Safety Advisory Council            |
| Totalizer Agency Board                               | 12. <i>Internal administrative services</i>   |
| Trotting Control Board                               | Office of the Building Industry               |
| Victoria Institute of Colleges                       | Long Service Leave Board                      |
| Victorian Advisory Council on Agricultural Education | Pilots Superannuation Board                   |
| Victorian Arts Centre Building Committee             | Police Discipline Board                       |
| Victorian Council for the Arts                       | Police Medical Board                          |
| Victorian Institute of Marine Science                | Police Service Board                          |
| Victorian Institute of Secondary Education           | Promotion Appeals Board                       |
| Victorian Film Corporation of Victoria               | Public Service Board                          |
| Zoological Board                                     | State Accommodation Committee                 |
|                                                      | Superannuation Board                          |
|                                                      | Teacher Housing Authority                     |
|                                                      | Teachers' Tribunal                            |
|                                                      | Tender Board                                  |

**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 15 June 1979 or which had then been passed by the Victorian Parliament to come into force at a later date.

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

VICTORIA—UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE  
1958 CONSOLIDATION AND SUBSEQUENTLY, 15 JUNE 1979

| Act                                                        | Administering department or ministry | Act                                               | Administering department or ministry |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Abattoir and Meat Inspection Act</i> 1973               | Agriculture                          | <i>Adoption of Children Act</i> 1964              | Community Welfare Services also Law  |
| <i>Aboriginal Affairs (Transfer of Functions) Act</i> 1974 | Premier                              | <i>Aerial Spraying Control Act</i> 1966           | Agriculture                          |
| <i>Aboriginal Lands Act</i> 1970                           | Crown Lands and Survey               | <i>Agent-General's Act</i> 1958                   | Premier Law                          |
| <i>Acts Enumeration and Revision Act</i> 1958              | Law                                  | <i>Age of Majority Act</i> 1977                   |                                      |
| <i>Acts Interpretation Act</i> 1958                        | Law                                  | <i>Agricultural Colleges Act</i> 1958             | Agriculture                          |
| <i>Administration and Probate Act</i> 1958                 | Law                                  | <i>Agricultural Education Cadetships Act</i> 1969 | Agriculture                          |



VICTORIA—UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958  
CONSOLIDATION AND SUBSEQUENTLY, 15 JUNE 1979—*continued*

| Act                                                               | Administering<br>department or ministry               | Act                                                          | Administering<br>department or ministry               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Administrative Law Act 1978</i>                                | Law                                                   | <i>Commonwealth Places (Administration of Laws) Act 1970</i> | Law                                                   |
| <i>Air Navigation Act 1958</i>                                    | Transport                                             | <i>Community Welfare Services Act 1970</i>                   | Community Welfare Services                            |
| <i>Albury-Wodonga Agreement Act 1973</i>                          | State Development,<br>Decentralization and<br>Tourism | <i>Companies Act 1961</i>                                    | Law                                                   |
| <i>Alcoholics and Drug-dependent Persons Act 1968</i>             | Health                                                | <i>Constitution Act 1975</i>                                 | Law                                                   |
| <i>Amendments Incorporation Act 1958</i>                          | Law                                                   | <i>Constitution Act Amendment Act 1958</i>                   | Property and Services                                 |
| <i>Anzac Day Act 1958</i>                                         | Labour and Industry                                   | <i>Constitutional Convention Act 1972</i>                    | Law                                                   |
| <i>Appeal Costs Fund Act 1964</i>                                 | Law                                                   | <i>Construction Safety Act 1979</i>                          | Labour and Industry                                   |
| <i>Arbitration Act 1958</i>                                       | Law                                                   | <i>Consumer Affairs Act 1972</i>                             | Labour and Industry                                   |
| <i>Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Preservation Act 1972</i> | Conservation                                          | <i>Co-operation Act 1958</i>                                 | Treasury                                              |
| <i>Architects Act 1958</i>                                        | Public Works                                          | <i>Co-operative Housing Societies Act 1958</i>               | Housing                                               |
| <i>Attorney-General and Solicitor-General Act 1972</i>            | Law                                                   | <i>Coroners Act 1958</i>                                     | Law                                                   |
| <i>Auction Sales Act 1958</i>                                     | Law                                                   | <i>Council of Law Reporting in Victoria Act 1967</i>         | Law                                                   |
| <i>Audit Act 1958</i>                                             | Treasury                                              | <i>Country Fire Authority Act 1958</i>                       | Police and Emergency Services                         |
| <i>Bail Act 1977</i>                                              | Law                                                   | <i>Country Roads Act 1958</i>                                | Transport                                             |
| <i>Bank Holidays Act 1958</i>                                     | Labour and Industry                                   | <i>County Court Act 1958</i>                                 | Law                                                   |
| <i>Barley Marketing Act 1958</i>                                  | Agriculture                                           | <i>Courts Administration Act 1975</i>                        | Law                                                   |
| <i>Bees Act 1971</i>                                              | Agriculture                                           | <i>Credit Reporting Act 1978</i>                             | Law                                                   |
| <i>Benefit Associations Act 1958</i>                              | Law                                                   | <i>Crimes Act 1958</i>                                       | Law                                                   |
| <i>Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act 1970</i>                      | Labour and Industry                                   | <i>Crimes (Offences at Sea) Act 1978</i>                     | Law                                                   |
| <i>Bread Industry Act 1959</i>                                    | Labour and Industry                                   | <i>Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 1972</i>               | Crimes Compensation Tribunal                          |
| <i>Broiler Chicken Industry Act 1978</i>                          | Agriculture                                           | <i>Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978</i>                        | Crown Lands and Survey                                |
| <i>Building Contracts (Deposits) Act 1962</i>                     | Consumer Affairs                                      | <i>Crown Proceedings Act 1958</i>                            | Law                                                   |
| <i>Building Industry Long Service Leave Act 1975</i>              | Labour and Industry                                   | <i>Cul-de-sac Applications Act 1965</i>                      | Law                                                   |
| <i>Building Societies Act 1976</i>                                | Housing                                               | <i>Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963</i>              | Local Government                                      |
| <i>Business Franchise (Petroleum Products) Act 1979</i>           | Treasury                                              | <i>Dandenong Valley Authority Act 1963</i>                   | Water Resources and Water Supply                      |
| <i>Business Franchise (Tobacco) Act 1974</i>                      | Treasury                                              | <i>Deakin University Act 1974</i>                            | Education                                             |
| <i>Business Investigation Act 1958</i>                            | Law                                                   | <i>Decentralization Advisory Committee Act 1964</i>          | State Development,<br>Decentralization and<br>Tourism |
| <i>Business Names Act 1962</i>                                    | Law                                                   | <i>Decentralized Industry (Housing) Act 1973</i>             | State Development,<br>Decentralization and<br>Tourism |
| <i>Cadet Surveyors Act 1964</i>                                   | State Rivers and Water Supply Commission              | <i>Decentralized Industry Incentive Payments Act 1972</i>    | State Development,<br>Decentralization and<br>Tourism |
| <i>Cancer Act 1958</i>                                            | Health                                                | <i>Decimal Currency Act 1965</i>                             | Treasury                                              |
| <i>Carriers and Innkeepers Act 1958</i>                           | Labour and Industry                                   | <i>Dental Technicians Act 1972</i>                           | Health                                                |
| <i>Cattle Breeding Act 1958</i>                                   | Agriculture                                           | <i>Dentists Act 1972</i>                                     | Health                                                |
| <i>Cattle Compensation Act 1967</i>                               | Treasury <i>also</i> Agriculture                      | <i>Development Areas Act 1973</i>                            | State Development,<br>Decentralization and<br>Tourism |
| <i>Cemeteries Act 1958</i>                                        | Health <i>also</i> Law                                | <i>Developmental Railways Act 1958</i>                       | Victorian Railways                                    |
| <i>Charities Act 1978</i>                                         | Law                                                   | <i>Dietitians Registration Act 1958</i>                      | Health                                                |
| <i>Children's Court Act 1973</i>                                  | Law                                                   | <i>Discharged Servicemen's Preference Act 1943</i>           | Law                                                   |
| <i>Chiropodists Act 1968</i>                                      | Health                                                | <i>Disposal of Uncollected Goods Act 1961</i>                | Labour and Industry                                   |
| <i>Chiropractors and Osteopaths Act 1978</i>                      | Health                                                | <i>Dog Act 1970</i>                                          | Local Government                                      |
| <i>Civil Aviation (Carriers' Liability) Act 1961</i>              | Transport                                             | <i>Domicile Act 1978</i>                                     | Law                                                   |
| <i>Clean Air Act 1958</i>                                         | Conservation                                          | <i>Drainage Areas Act 1958</i>                               | Local Government                                      |
| <i>Cluster Titles Act 1974</i>                                    | Local Government                                      | <i>Drainage of Land Act 1975</i>                             | State Rivers and Water Supply Commission              |
| <i>Coal Mines Act 1958</i>                                        | Minerals and Energy                                   | <i>Dried Fruits Act 1958</i>                                 | Agriculture                                           |
| <i>Collusive Practices Act 1965</i>                               | Law                                                   |                                                              |                                                       |
| <i>Commercial Goods Vehicles Act 1958</i>                         | Transport                                             |                                                              |                                                       |
| <i>Commonwealth Arrangements Act 1958</i>                         | Premier                                               |                                                              |                                                       |

VICTORIA—UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958  
CONSOLIDATION AND SUBSEQUENTLY, 15 JUNE 1979—*continued*

| Act                                                          | Administering<br>department or ministry               | Act                                                                 | Administering<br>department or ministry                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Education Act 1958</i>                                    | Education                                             | <i>Health (Fluoridation) Act 1973</i>                               | Health                                                             |
| <i>Educational Grants Act 1973</i>                           | Treasury                                              | <i>Hire-Purchase Act 1959</i>                                       | Law                                                                |
| <i>Educational Institutions (Guarantees) Act 1976</i>        | Treasury                                              | <i>Historic Buildings Act 1974</i>                                  | Planning                                                           |
| <i>Egg Industry Stabilization Act 1973</i>                   | Agriculture                                           | <i>Home Finance Act 1962</i>                                        | Treasury                                                           |
| <i>Electoral Provinces and Districts Act 1974</i>            | Property and Services                                 | <i>Hospitals and Charities Act 1958</i>                             | Health                                                             |
| <i>Electric Light and Power Act 1958</i>                     | Minerals and Energy                                   | <i>Hospitals Remuneration Tribunal Act 1978</i>                     | Labour and Industry                                                |
| <i>Environment Effects Act 1978</i>                          | Conservation                                          | <i>Hospitals Superannuation Act 1965</i>                            | Health                                                             |
| <i>Environment Protection Act 1970</i>                       | Conservation                                          | <i>Housing Act 1958</i>                                             | Housing Commission<br><i>also Treasury</i>                         |
| <i>Equal Opportunity Act 1977</i>                            | Premier                                               | <i>Imitation Milk Act 1969</i>                                      | Agriculture                                                        |
| <i>Essential Services Act 1958</i>                           | Premier                                               | <i>Imprisonment of Fraudulent Debtors Act 1958</i>                  | Law                                                                |
| <i>Estate Agents Act 1958</i>                                | Law                                                   | <i>Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1958</i>                  | Law                                                                |
| <i>Evidence Act 1958</i>                                     | Law                                                   | <i>Industrial Safety Advisory Council Act 1960</i>                  | Labour and Industry                                                |
| <i>Explosives Act 1960</i>                                   | Minerals and Energy                                   | <i>Industrial Training Act 1975</i>                                 | Labour and Industry                                                |
| <i>Extractive Industries Act 1966</i>                        | Minerals and Energy                                   | <i>Inflammable Liquids Act 1966</i>                                 | Minerals and Energy                                                |
| <i>Farm Produce Merchants and Commission Agents Act 1965</i> | Agriculture                                           | <i>Instruments Act 1958</i>                                         | Law                                                                |
| <i>Fences Act 1968</i>                                       | Law <i>also</i> Crown Lands<br>and Survey             | <i>Joint Select Committee (Road Safety) Act 1979</i>                | Premier                                                            |
| <i>Fertilizers Act 1974</i>                                  | Agriculture                                           | <i>Judicial Proceedings Reports Act 1958</i>                        | Law                                                                |
| <i>Filled Milk Act 1958</i>                                  | Agriculture                                           | <i>Juries Act 1967</i>                                              | Law                                                                |
| <i>Films Act 1971</i>                                        | Law                                                   | <i>Labour and Industry Act 1958</i>                                 | Labour and Industry                                                |
| <i>Finance Brokers Act 1969</i>                              | Law                                                   | <i>Land Act 1958</i>                                                | Crown Lands and Survey                                             |
| <i>Firearms Act 1958</i>                                     | Police and Emergency<br>Services                      | <i>Land Conservation Act 1970</i>                                   | Crown Lands and<br>Survey                                          |
| <i>Fisheries Act 1968</i>                                    | Conservation                                          | <i>Land Conservation (Vehicle Control) Act 1972</i>                 | Conservation                                                       |
| <i>Foreign Judgements Act 1962</i>                           | Law                                                   | <i>Land Settlement Act 1959</i>                                     | Rural Finance<br>Commission                                        |
| <i>Forests Act 1958</i>                                      | Forests Commission                                    | <i>Land Surveyors Act 1958</i>                                      | Crown Lands and<br>Survey                                          |
| <i>Friendly Societies Act 1958</i>                           | Law                                                   | <i>Land Tax Act 1958</i>                                            | Treasury                                                           |
| <i>Fruit and Vegetables Act 1958</i>                         | Agriculture                                           | <i>Landlord and Tenant Act 1958</i>                                 | Law                                                                |
| <i>Frustrated Contracts Act 1959</i>                         | Law                                                   | <i>Lands Compensation Act 1958</i>                                  | Law                                                                |
| <i>Fuel Emergency Act 1977</i>                               | Premier                                               | <i>La Trobe University Act 1964</i>                                 | Education                                                          |
| <i>Game Act 1958</i>                                         | Conservation                                          | <i>Latrobe Valley Act 1958</i>                                      | Premier <i>also</i> State<br>Rivers and Water<br>Supply Commission |
| <i>Gas Act 1969</i>                                          | Minerals and Energy                                   | <i>Law Reform Act 1973</i>                                          | Law                                                                |
| <i>Gas and Fuel Corporation Act 1958</i>                     | Minerals and Energy                                   | <i>Legal Aid Act 1969</i>                                           | Law                                                                |
| <i>Gas Franchises Act 1970</i>                               | Minerals and Energy                                   | <i>Legal Aid Commission Act 1978</i>                                | Law                                                                |
| <i>Geelong Harbor Trust Act 1958</i>                         | Public Works                                          | <i>Legal Profession Practice Act 1958</i>                           | Law                                                                |
| <i>Geelong Regional Commission Act 1977</i>                  | State Development,<br>Decentralization and<br>Tourism | <i>Leo Cussen Institute for Continuing Legal Education Act 1972</i> | Law                                                                |
| <i>Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Act 1958</i>              | Water Resources and<br>Water Supply                   | <i>Libraries Act 1958</i>                                           | Arts                                                               |
| <i>Gift Duty Act 1971</i>                                    | Treasury                                              | <i>Library Council of Victoria Act 1965</i>                         | Arts                                                               |
| <i>Goods Act 1958</i>                                        | Law                                                   | <i>Lifts and Cranes Act 1967</i>                                    | Labour and Industry                                                |
| <i>Gordon Technical College Act 1976</i>                     | Education                                             | <i>Limitation of Actions Act 1958</i>                               | Law                                                                |
| <i>Government Buildings Advisory Council Act 1972</i>        | Public Works                                          | <i>Liquefied Gases Act 1968</i>                                     | Minerals and Energy                                                |
| <i>Grain Elevators Act 1958</i>                              | Agriculture                                           | <i>Liquor Control Act 1968</i>                                      | Labour and Industry                                                |
| <i>Groundwater Act 1969</i>                                  | State Rivers and Water<br>Supply Commission           | <i>Listening Devices Act 1969</i>                                   | Law                                                                |
| <i>Hairdressers Registration Act 1958</i>                    | Health                                                | <i>Litter Act 1964</i>                                              | Local Government                                                   |
| <i>Harbour Boards Act 1958</i>                               | Public Works                                          | <i>Livery and Agistment Act 1958</i>                                | Law                                                                |
| <i>Hawkers and Pedlars Act 1958</i>                          | Local Government                                      |                                                                     |                                                                    |
| <i>Health Act 1958</i>                                       | Health                                                |                                                                     |                                                                    |
| <i>Health Commission Act 1977</i>                            | Health                                                |                                                                     |                                                                    |

VICTORIA—UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958  
CONSOLIDATION AND SUBSEQUENTLY, 15 JUNE 1979—*continued*

| Act                                                                  | Administering department or ministry          | Act                                                       | Administering department or ministry                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Local Authorities Superannuation Act</i> 1958                     | Local Government                              | <i>Ministry for Planning Act</i> 1973                     | Planning                                                                            |
| <i>Local Government Act</i> 1958                                     | Local Government                              | <i>Ministry for the Arts Act</i> 1972                     | Arts                                                                                |
| <i>Local Government Department Act</i> 1958                          | Local Government                              | <i>Ministry of Transport Act</i> 1958                     | Transport                                                                           |
| <i>Lotteries Gaming and Betting Act</i> 1966                         | Law                                           | <i>Mint Act</i> 1958                                      | Treasury                                                                            |
|                                                                      |                                               | <i>Monash University Act</i> 1958                         | Education                                                                           |
| <i>Magistrates' Courts Act</i> 1971                                  | Law                                           | <i>Money Lenders Act</i> 1958                             | Law                                                                                 |
| <i>Magistrates (Summary Proceedings) Act</i> 1975                    | Law                                           | <i>Motor Accidents Act</i> 1973                           | Labour and Industry                                                                 |
| <i>Maintenance Act</i> 1965                                          | Law                                           | <i>Motor Boating Act</i> 1961                             | Police and Emergency Services <i>also</i> Transport                                 |
| <i>Margarine Act</i> 1975                                            | Agriculture                                   | <i>Motor Car Act</i> 1958                                 | Police and Emergency Services <i>also</i> Country Roads Board <i>also</i> Transport |
| <i>Marketable Securities Act</i> 1970                                | Law                                           | <i>Motor Car Traders Act</i> 1973                         | Consumer Affairs                                                                    |
| <i>Marine Act</i> 1958                                               | Public Works                                  | <i>Mt Hotham Alpine Resort Act</i> 1972                   | Crown Lands and Survey                                                              |
| <i>Marine Stores and Old Metals Act</i> 1958                         | Law                                           | <i>Municipalities Assistance Act</i> 1973                 | Local Government <i>also</i> Treasury                                               |
| <i>Market Court Act</i> 1978                                         | Labour and Industry                           | <i>National Gallery of Victoria Act</i> 1966              | Arts                                                                                |
| <i>Marketing of Primary Products Act</i> 1958                        | Agriculture                                   | <i>National Museum Council of Victoria Act</i> 1970       | Arts                                                                                |
| <i>Markets Act</i> 1958                                              | Local Government                              | <i>National Parks Act</i> 1975                            | Conservation                                                                        |
| <i>Marriage Act</i> 1958                                             | Law                                           | <i>Navigable Waters (Oil Pollution) Act</i> 1960          | Public Works                                                                        |
| <i>Married Women's Superannuation Fund Act</i> 1968                  | Treasury                                      | <i>Nurses Act</i> 1958                                    | Health                                                                              |
| <i>Medical Act</i> 1958                                              | Health                                        | <i>Ombudsman Act</i> 1973                                 | Premier                                                                             |
| <i>Medical Practitioners Act</i> 1970                                | Health                                        | <i>Optometrists Registration Act</i> 1958                 | Health                                                                              |
| <i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Act</i> 1958            | Local Government                              | <i>Parliamentary Committees Act</i> 1968                  | Premier                                                                             |
| <i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Act</i> 1958                  | Transport                                     | <i>Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Act</i> 1962 | Premier                                                                             |
| <i>Melbourne Harbor Trust Act</i> 1958                               | Public Works                                  | <i>Parliamentary Officers Act</i> 1975                    | Premier                                                                             |
| <i>Melbourne Underground Rail Loop Act</i> 1970                      | Transport                                     | <i>Parliamentary Salaries and Superannuation Act</i> 1968 | Premier                                                                             |
| <i>Melbourne University Act</i> 1958                                 | Education                                     | <i>Partnership Act</i> 1958                               | Law                                                                                 |
| <i>Melbourne Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market Trust Act</i> 1977 | Local Government                              | <i>Patriotic Funds Act</i> 1958                           | Law                                                                                 |
| <i>Members of Parliament (Register of Interests) Act</i> 1978        | Premier                                       | <i>Pawnbrokers Act</i> 1958                               | Law                                                                                 |
| <i>Mental Health Act</i> 1959                                        | Health <i>also</i> Community Welfare Services | <i>Pay-roll Tax Act</i> 1971                              | Treasury                                                                            |
| <i>Metric Conversion Act</i> 1973                                    | Local Government                              | <i>Penalties Act</i> 1958                                 | Law                                                                                 |
| <i>Metropolitan Fire Brigades Act</i> 1958                           | Police and Emergency Services                 | <i>Pensions Supplementation Act</i> 1966                  | Treasury                                                                            |
| <i>Metropolitan Fire Brigades Superannuation Act</i> 1976            | Police and Emergency Services                 | <i>Perpetuities and Accumulations Act</i> 1968            | Law                                                                                 |
| <i>Mildura Irrigation and Water Trusts Act</i> 1958                  | Water Resources and Water Supply              | <i>Pesticides Act</i> 1958                                | Agriculture                                                                         |
| <i>Milk and Dairy Supervision Act</i> 1958                           | Agriculture                                   | <i>Petroleum Act</i> 1958                                 | Minerals and Energy                                                                 |
| <i>Milk Board Act</i> 1958                                           | Agriculture                                   | <i>Petroleum Products Subsidy Act</i> 1965                | Treasury                                                                            |
| <i>Milk Pasteurization Act</i> 1958                                  | Agriculture                                   | <i>Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act</i> 1967               | Minerals and Energy                                                                 |
| <i>Minerals and Energy Act</i> 1976                                  | Minerals and Energy                           | <i>Petrol Pumps Act</i> 1958                              | Local Government                                                                    |
| <i>Mines Act</i> 1958                                                | Minerals and Energy                           | <i>Pharmacists Act</i> 1974                               | Health                                                                              |
| <i>Mining Development Act</i> 1958                                   | Minerals and Energy                           | <i>Physiotherapists Act</i> 1978                          | Health                                                                              |
| <i>Ministry for Conservation Act</i> 1972                            | Conservation                                  | <i>Pipelines Act</i> 1967                                 | Minerals and Energy                                                                 |
| <i>Ministry of Consumer Affairs Act</i> 1973                         | Labour and Industry                           | <i>Poisons Act</i> 1962                                   | Health                                                                              |
| <i>Ministry of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs Act</i> 1976           | Immigration and Ethnic Affairs                | <i>Police Assistance Compensation Act</i> 1968            | Police and Emergency Services                                                       |
|                                                                      |                                               | <i>Police Offences Act</i> 1958                           | Law                                                                                 |
|                                                                      |                                               | <i>Police Regulation Act</i> 1958                         | Police and Emergency Services                                                       |
|                                                                      |                                               | <i>Port Phillip Authority Act</i> 1966                    | Port Phillip Authority                                                              |
|                                                                      |                                               | <i>Portland Harbor Trust Act</i> 1958                     | Public Works                                                                        |

VICTORIA—UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958  
CONSOLIDATION AND SUBSEQUENTLY, 15 JUNE 1979—*continued*

| Act                                                                     | Administering<br>department or ministry  | Act                                                                                             | Administering<br>department or ministry         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Post-Secondary Education Act 1978</i>                                | Education                                | <i>Second-hand Dealers Act 1958</i>                                                             | Law                                             |
| <i>Poultry Levy (Collection Arrangement) Act 1965</i>                   | Agriculture                              | <i>Securities Industry Act 1975</i>                                                             | Law                                             |
| <i>Poultry Processing Act 1968</i>                                      | Agriculture                              | <i>Seeds Act 1971</i>                                                                           | Agriculture                                     |
| <i>Pounds Act 1958</i>                                                  | Local Government                         | <i>Senate Elections Act 1958</i>                                                                | Property and Services                           |
| <i>Printers and Newspapers Act 1958</i>                                 | Law                                      | <i>Settled Land Act 1958</i>                                                                    | Law                                             |
| <i>Private Agents Act 1966</i>                                          | Police and Emergency Services            | <i>Sewerage Districts Act 1958</i>                                                              | Water Resources and Water Supply                |
| <i>Probate Duty Act 1962</i>                                            | Treasury                                 | <i>Shearers Accommodation Act 1976</i>                                                          | Labour and Industry                             |
| <i>Professional Boxing Control Act 1975</i>                             | Youth, Sport and Recreation              | <i>Sheep Branding Fluids Act 1963</i>                                                           | Agriculture                                     |
| <i>Property Law Act 1958</i>                                            | Law                                      | <i>Sheep Owners Protection Act 1961</i>                                                         | Police and Emergency Services                   |
| <i>Protection of Animals Act 1966</i>                                   | Conservation                             | <i>Small Business Development Corporation Act 1976</i>                                          | State Development, Decentralization and Tourism |
| <i>Provincial Sewerage Authorities Association of Victoria Act 1966</i> | State Rivers and Water Supply Commission | <i>Small Claims Tribunals Act 1973</i>                                                          | Labour and Industry                             |
| <i>Psychological Practices Act 1965</i>                                 | Health                                   | <i>Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation (Victoria) Act 1971</i>                              | Water Resources and Water Supply                |
| <i>Public Account Act 1958</i>                                          | Treasury                                 | <i>Soil Conservation and Land Utilization Act 1958</i>                                          | Soil Conservation Authority                     |
| <i>Public Authorities (Contributions) Act 1966</i>                      | Treasury                                 | <i>Soldier Settlement Act 1958</i>                                                              | Rural Finance Commission                        |
| <i>Public Authorities Marks Act 1958</i>                                | Local Government                         | <i>Stamps Act 1958</i>                                                                          | Treasury                                        |
| <i>Public Contracts Act 1958</i>                                        | Local Government                         | <i>State College of Victoria Act 1972</i>                                                       | Education                                       |
| <i>Public Lands and Works Act 1964</i>                                  | Public Works                             | <i>State Co-ordination Council Act 1975</i>                                                     | Premier                                         |
| <i>Public Records Act 1973</i>                                          | Property and Services                    | <i>State Development Committee Act 1958</i>                                                     | Premier                                         |
| <i>Public Safety Preservation Act 1958</i>                              | Premier                                  | <i>State Development Decentralization and Tourism Act 1978</i>                                  | State Development, Decentralization and Tourism |
| <i>Public Service Act 1974</i>                                          | Premier                                  | <i>State Electricity Commission Act 1958</i>                                                    | Minerals and Energy                             |
| <i>Public Trustee Act 1958</i>                                          | Premier                                  | <i>State Insurance Office Act 1975</i>                                                          | Treasury                                        |
| <i>Public Works Committee Act 1958</i>                                  | Premier                                  | <i>State Library National Gallery National Museum and Institute of Applied Science Act 1960</i> | Arts                                            |
| <i>Racing Act 1958</i>                                                  | Youth, Sport and Recreation              | <i>State Relief Committee Act 1958</i>                                                          | Labour and Industry                             |
| <i>Railway Lands Acquisition Act 1958</i>                               | Victorian Railways                       | <i>State Rivers and Water Supply Commission (Special Projects) Act 1969</i>                     | Water Resources and Water Supply                |
| <i>Railways Act 1958</i>                                                | Victorian Railways                       | <i>State Savings Bank Act 1958</i>                                                              | Treasury                                        |
| <i>Railways Standardization Agreement Act 1958</i>                      | Victorian Railways                       | <i>Statistics Act 1958</i>                                                                      | Property and Services                           |
| <i>Rain-making Control Act 1967</i>                                     | Agriculture                              | <i>Status of Children Act 1974</i>                                                              | Law                                             |
| <i>Recreation Vehicles Act 1973</i>                                     | Conservation                             | <i>Stock (Artificial Breeding) Act 1962</i>                                                     | Agriculture                                     |
| <i>Reference Areas Act 1978</i>                                         | Conservation                             | <i>Stock Diseases Act 1968</i>                                                                  | Agriculture                                     |
| <i>Registration of Births Deaths and Marriages Act 1959</i>             | Property and Services                    | <i>Stock Foods Act 1958</i>                                                                     | Agriculture                                     |
| <i>Religious Successory and Charitable Trusts Act 1958</i>              | Law                                      | <i>Stock Medicines Act 1958</i>                                                                 | Agriculture                                     |
| <i>River Improvement Act 1958</i>                                       | State Rivers and Water Supply Commission | <i>Strata Titles Act 1967</i>                                                                   | Law                                             |
| <i>Road Traffic Act 1958</i>                                            | Police and Emergency Services            | <i>Subordinate Legislation Act 1962</i>                                                         | Law                                             |
| <i>Rural Finance Act 1958</i>                                           | Crown Lands and Survey                   | <i>Summary Offences Act 1966</i>                                                                | Law                                             |
| <i>Rural Finance and Settlement Commission Act 1961</i>                 | Crown Lands and Survey                   | <i>Summer Time Act 1972</i>                                                                     | Labour and Industry                             |
| <i>Sale of Human Blood Act 1962</i>                                     | Health                                   | <i>Sunday Entertainment Act 1967</i>                                                            | Labour and Industry                             |
| <i>Sale of Land Act 1962</i>                                            | Law                                      | <i>Superannuation Act 1958</i>                                                                  | Treasury                                        |
| <i>Scaffolding Act 1971</i>                                             | Labour and Industry                      | <i>Superannuation Benefits Act 1977</i>                                                         | Treasury                                        |
| <i>Science Museum of Victoria Act 1970</i>                              | Arts                                     |                                                                                                 |                                                 |
| <i>Seamen's Act 1958</i>                                                | Police and Emergency Services            |                                                                                                 |                                                 |

VICTORIA—UNREPEALED PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS ENACTED IN THE 1958  
CONSOLIDATION AND SUBSEQUENTLY, 15 JUNE 1979—*continued*

| Act                                                               | Administering<br>department or ministry | Act                                                          | Administering<br>department or ministry         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Supreme Court Act 1958</i>                                     | Law                                     | <i>Victoria Law Foundation Act 1978</i>                      | Law                                             |
| <i>Survey Co-ordination Act 1958</i>                              | Crown Lands and Survey                  | <i>Victorian Brown Coal Council Act 1978</i>                 | Minerals and Energy                             |
| <i>Surveyors Act 1978</i>                                         | Crown Lands and Survey                  | <i>Victorian Dairy Industry Authority Act 1977</i>           | Agriculture                                     |
| <i>Swine Compensation Act 1967</i>                                | Treasury also Agriculture               | <i>Victorian Development Corporation Act 1973</i>            | State Development, Decentralization and Tourism |
| <i>Tattersall Consultations Act 1958</i>                          | Treasury                                | <i>Victorian Film Corporation Act 1976</i>                   | Arts                                            |
| <i>Taxation Appeals Act 1972</i>                                  | Treasury                                | <i>Victorian Government Travel Authority Act 1977</i>        | State Development, Decentralization and Tourism |
| <i>Teacher Housing Act 1970</i>                                   | Housing                                 | <i>Victorian Institute of Marine Sciences Act 1974</i>       | Conservation                                    |
| <i>Teaching Service Act 1958</i>                                  | Education                               | <i>Victorian Institute of Secondary Education Act 1976</i>   | Education                                       |
| <i>Temperance Halls Act 1958</i>                                  | Crown Lands and Survey                  | <i>Victorian Public Offices Corporation Act 1974</i>         | Public Works                                    |
| <i>Theatres Act 1958</i>                                          | Law                                     | <i>Vital State Projects Act 1976</i>                         | Premier                                         |
| <i>Tobacco Leaf Industry Stabilization Act 1966</i>               | Agriculture                             | <i>Volunteer Civil Defence Workers Compensation Act 1972</i> | Police and Emergency Services                   |
| <i>Tomato Processing Industry Act 1976</i>                        | Agriculture                             | <i>Warehousemen's Liens Act 1958</i>                         | Law                                             |
| <i>Town and Country Planning Act 1961</i>                         | Local Government                        | <i>Water Act 1958</i>                                        | State Rivers and Water Supply Commission        |
| <i>Trade Unions Act 1958</i>                                      | Labour and Industry                     | <i>Water Resources Act 1975</i>                              | State Rivers and Water Supply Commission        |
| <i>Tramways Act 1958</i>                                          | Local Government                        | <i>Waterworks Trusts Association of Victoria Act 1966</i>    | Water Resources and Water Supply                |
| <i>Transfer of Land Act 1958</i>                                  | Law                                     | <i>Weights and Measures Act 1958</i>                         | Local Government                                |
| <i>Transport Regulation Act 1958</i>                              | Transport                               | <i>West Moorabool Water Board Act 1968</i>                   | State Rivers and Water Supply Commission        |
| <i>Trustee Act 1958</i>                                           | Law                                     | <i>Wheat Industry Stabilization Act 1974</i>                 | Agriculture                                     |
| <i>Trustee Companies Act 1958</i>                                 | Law                                     | <i>Wild Flowers and Native Plants Protection Act 1958</i>    | Forests Commission                              |
| <i>Unauthorized Documents Act 1958</i>                            | Law                                     | <i>Wild Life Act 1975</i>                                    | Conservation                                    |
| <i>Unclaimed Moneys Act 1962</i>                                  | Treasury                                | <i>Wills Act 1958</i>                                        | Law                                             |
| <i>Underseas Mineral Resources Act 1963</i>                       | Minerals and Energy                     | <i>Wine Grape Processing Industry Act 1978</i>               | Agriculture                                     |
| <i>Unlawful Assemblies and Processions Act 1958</i>               | Police and Emergency Services           | <i>Wire Netting Act 1958</i>                                 | Crown Lands and Survey                          |
| <i>Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges Authority Act 1976</i> | Planning                                | <i>Wodonga Area Land Acquisition Act 1973</i>                | State Development, Decentralization and Tourism |
| <i>Urban Renewal Act 1970</i>                                     | Housing                                 | <i>Workers Compensation Act 1958</i>                         | Labour and Industry                             |
| <i>Vagrancy Act 1966</i>                                          | Law                                     | <i>Wrongs Act 1958</i>                                       | Law                                             |
| <i>Valuation of Land Act 1960</i>                                 | Local Government                        | <i>Youth, Sport and Recreation Act 1972</i>                  | Youth, Sport and Recreation                     |
| <i>Vegetation and Vine Diseases Act 1958</i>                      | Agriculture                             | <i>Zoological Parks and Gardens Act 1967</i>                 | Conservation                                    |
| <i>Veneral Diseases Act 1958</i>                                  | Health                                  |                                                              |                                                 |
| <i>Vermin and Noxious Weeds Act 1958</i>                          | Crown Lands and Survey                  |                                                              |                                                 |
| <i>Veterinary Surgeons Act 1958</i>                               | Agriculture                             |                                                              |                                                 |
| <i>Victoria Conservation Trust Act 1972</i>                       | Conservation                            |                                                              |                                                 |
| <i>Victoria Grants Commission Act 1976</i>                        | Local Government                        |                                                              |                                                 |
| <i>Victoria Institute of Colleges Act 1965</i>                    | Education                               |                                                              |                                                 |

## AUDITOR-GENERAL

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

His function is to undertake an independent audit and review of the Treasurer's and departmental accounts, to verify the Treasurer's annual statement, and to submit a report

on these matters to the Legislative Assembly of the Victorian Parliament. He is also required to audit the accounts of statutory authorities such as the State Electricity Commission of Victoria, the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, harbour trusts, and universities. He is a countersignatory to the Governor's Warrant, the constitutional document by which the Governor authorises the withdrawal of moneys from the Public Account.

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

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

## OMBUDSMAN

### First Six Years of Office, 1973-79

#### *Introduction*

The office of Ombudsman was created in 1973, and in view of its far reaching association with the processes of government, a conspectus of the first six years of operation is presented as an historical record.

Between 1973 and 1979, the office received approximately 12,000 written complaints and 19,000 personal and telephone complaints, requests for assistance, and advice. Every citizen has direct access to the Ombudsman, who is an independent official responsible only to the Victorian Parliament and who can impartially investigate complaints, ascertain the facts, and, where appropriate, recommend rectification. Even in those cases where the Ombudsman lacks jurisdiction, he can lend a sympathetic ear and give assistance to the complainant.

Experience during this period has demonstrated the effectiveness of the office in:

- (1) The redressing of grievances;
- (2) the removal of misunderstandings and a sense of grievance felt by complainants not in possession of the full facts; and
- (3) improved departmental administration, practices, and procedures.

At the time of the Ombudsman's appointment, it was hoped that the office would be accepted by both public and government departments. To this end it was essential that the office should not be identified with any party as having either bias or prejudice.

#### *Recommendations*

The Ombudsman has power only to recommend the rectification of a wrong and if recommendations are to be implemented, then the respondent to the complaint must see him as an independent and impartial official. The Ombudsman Act provides that where a recommendation is made and is not implemented, the Ombudsman may make a special report to the Governor in Council and to the Victorian Parliament. Between 1973 and 1979, he had to make only one such special report. In that case, however, the respondent concerned was *functus officio* and incapable of rectifying the wrong. In many cases, however, complaints have been rectified without a formal recommendation being necessary. Of 107 formal recommendations which have been made, 105 being capable of implementation have been implemented. Of the two cases not rectified, one was the matter referred to above and the other raised doubts that the action of rectification might itself cause more anomalies than if it remained uncorrected.

#### *Modus operandi*

In Victoria approximately 34 per cent of the population resides outside the Melbourne metropolitan area and, while it is true that personal and telephone inquiries mainly emanate from the city, over 40 per cent of written complaints, the basis of any investigation, comes from areas outside Melbourne. The Ombudsman has all the powers

of a Board of Inquiry and can summon witnesses and files. In no instance has this been necessary. He has only to ask for a file or witness to attend and the request is acceded to.

It is desirable that the Ombudsman should deal personally with every complaint. The organisation of the office is such that every written complaint received, and the written record of every personal interview and telephone complaint or inquiry, is read personally. He signs every letter which leaves the office. Through regular discussions with his officers, he is aware of the continuing nature of their investigations and, when their investigations are complete, he reads their reports and files before amending or confirming the reports or letters relating to each complaint.

#### *Challenges to jurisdiction*

In the first three years of the appointment, several challenges in the Supreme Court to the Ombudsman's jurisdiction were made by departments but no such challenge has been made for the past three years. The area of jurisdiction is now well defined and departments are less prone to make such challenges. Indeed from time to time where the Ombudsman believes he has jurisdiction and commences an investigation, a Principal Officer will reply expressing doubts as to the jurisdiction but indicate that he does not wish to raise the issue and in fact will extend the fullest co-operation to him.

#### *Preliminary inquiries and investigations*

It has been often preferable to dispose of a complaint by means of a preliminary inquiry which can be made by telephone or letter and which brings about a quick result.

Each year, of the complaints which are received, approximately one-third are outside the Ombudsman's jurisdiction, one-third are disposed of by preliminary inquiry, and one-third are investigated after serving formal notice on the Minister and the Principal Officer.

In all cases where this jurisdiction is in doubt, the Ombudsman commences a preliminary inquiry. Where a question of the jurisdiction arises, e.g., where the complainant is in the service of an authority and his complaint relates to his conditions of employment, he cannot investigate his complaint unless he is satisfied that it merits investigation in order to avoid injustice. If a complainant has or had a legal remedy the jurisdiction is similarly restricted.

Frequently, a preliminary inquiry of this nature is more time consuming than some formal investigation and it would be wrong to assume that a preliminary inquiry into a complaint is superficial and of short duration.

#### *Reports*

The Ombudsman has continued to publish to the Victorian Parliament, in addition to an Annual Report, his quarterly reports in which are summarised, in the form of case notes, many of the complaints dealt with as well as complete reports on some of the complaints investigated.

The Ombudsman has decreed it important that the Victorian Parliament and the public be regularly informed of the nature of the complaints investigated and the results of those investigations. Their publication is considered vital because they provide:

- (1) All the facts ascertained by him in the course of investigations;
- (2) the conclusions formed and the basis for those conclusions. (The reader is in possession of the same facts as the Ombudsman and is free to form his own independent conclusion on those facts and so test the conclusion expressed by the Ombudsman.); and
- (3) facts and details of aspects of departmental administration.

#### *Secrecy*

The Ombudsman Act provides that investigations are conducted in private and thus the facts and conclusions drawn concerning the administrative actions complained of are regularly published for the Victorian Parliament and the public, and, as far as practicable, in full.

Because of the provisions of the Ombudsman Act, investigations are closed from public scrutiny. Ombudsmen the world over preserve the anonymity of complainants when they publish reports. By virtue of the provisions of the Ombudsman Act, the Ombudsman may not publish any facts received by him in the course of his investigation except for the purpose of the investigation itself and of any report or recommendation made by him.

The frequent publication of full reports to the Victorian Parliament brings to notice the administrative practices of government departments, public statutory bodies, and municipalities which have been the subject of complaint.

#### *Complaints received through members of Parliament*

The Ombudsman Act requires that complaints be made in writing by the person affected by the complaint, but a member of the Victorian Parliament may make complaints on behalf of an aggrieved person. In the first three years of office, very few complaints were received from members of Parliament, but in 1978-79 there was an increasing number of complaints made by members on behalf of complainants.

One member stated that he was dissatisfied with the nature of the reply he received from a department concerning a complaint he had raised on behalf of a constituent. The reply was somewhat cryptic and gave no reasons for the decision reached. The Ombudsman investigated the matter, and, although the result of the investigation was to support the decision reached by the department, he set out all the facts which he had ascertained in the course of the investigation and which explained the decision. The member expressed his satisfaction as his constituent now had the opinion of an independent official and now knew the reasons for the department's action.

#### *Solicitors*

Members of the legal profession are making increasing use of the Ombudsman's office by referring to it clients who feel aggrieved as the result of their dealings with a government department, public statutory body, or municipality.

It is often necessary for the Ombudsman to apply the provisions of section 13(4) of the Ombudsman Act which denies him jurisdiction where the complainant has a legal remedy, unless he considers it would be unreasonable to expect the complainant to exercise such remedy or that the matter merits investigation in order to avoid injustice. He has discussed the effects of this subsection of the Act many times in his Reports.

Many solicitors are also, in their own right, complainants.

#### *Prisoners*

Reports continue to demonstrate the demands made upon the Ombudsman's office by persons in custody. Between 1973 and 1979, the most significant changes in administrative practices and procedures mainly brought about by the office have been in the Correctional Services Division of the Department of Community Welfare Services.

#### *Mental patients*

The number of complaints received from mental patients has been considerably less than those received from prisoners. Since the Ombudsman's appointment, he has received approximately 100 complaints. They have related mainly to illegal detention, treatment, and quality of food. As a result of criticism of the delay in obtaining Ministerial approval for the transfer of patients from "J" ward (after they have been certified as being no longer in need of treatment in the institution), the procedure has been improved and delay minimised.

#### *Disposition of complaints*

The disposition of the complaints received in respect of each of the years he has been in office is shown in the following table, which shows that the number disposed of each year continues to increase. While the number of complaints investigated has substantially increased, the percentage found to be sustained has decreased.

#### VICTORIA — OFFICE OF OMBUDSMAN: DETAILS OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

| Year        | No jurisdiction | Trivial | Preliminary inquiry | Investigated | Sustained | Percentage of those sustained | Under investigation | Total |
|-------------|-----------------|---------|---------------------|--------------|-----------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-------|
|             |                 |         |                     |              |           | per cent                      |                     |       |
| 1973-74 (a) | 408             | 23      | 222                 | 397          | 78        | 19.6                          | 313                 | 1,363 |
| 1974-75     | 637             | 20      | 653                 | 642          | 110       | 17.1                          | 242                 | 2,194 |
| 1975-76     | 581             | 27      | 584                 | 446          | 101       | 22.6                          | 159                 | 1,797 |
| 1976-77     | 654             | 11      | 725                 | 410          | 62        | 15.1                          | 175                 | 1,975 |
| 1977-78     | 682             | 20      | 717                 | 577          | 95        | 16.5                          | 343                 | 2,339 |
| 1978-79     | 770             | 23      | 853                 | 730          | 107       | 14.7                          | 247                 | 2,623 |

(a) 8 months.



## PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

The *Public Records Act 1973* marked a new era in Victoria by creating an archival establishment in line with western developments overseas. It established a Public Record Office "for the better preservation, management, and utilisation of the public records of the State".

Public records had been deposited sporadically in the Public Library of Victoria from 1893, but the first Archivist was only appointed in 1948, and an Archives Section of the State Library was established in 1955. Thereafter, deposits of public records increased considerably; and the introduction of systematic procedures for records management and, in particular, records selection and disposal, brought widespread recognition among public offices of the importance of records control in current administration. The outcome was the Public Records Act and the creation of the Public Record Office, originally under the control of the Chief Secretary, but now under the Ministry for Property and Services.

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

Public records are those made or received by any officer in carrying out the official business of any public office or of any court. Public offices are defined as:

- (1) Departments, branches, or offices of the Government of Victoria;
- (2) public statutory bodies corporate or incorporate;
- (3) bodies constituted by or under the *Local Government Act 1958*; and
- (4) any other local governing body corporate or incorporate.

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

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

In June 1975, a new building was purchased at Laverton to serve the Public Record Office as a base repository. This will accommodate a two storey compactus installation comprising more than 100 kilometres of steel shelving, a substantial portion of which is completed and occupied. Specialised storage for computer tapes and microfilm is also available, specialised facilities for maps and plans are also envisaged, and a reference and technical library is being developed for the use of staff and researchers. The development of regional branches and repository storage for the Public Record Office is under consideration and provision is made in the Public Record Act for the establishment of regional "places of deposit".

A city reference room at 1 Little Collins St, Melbourne carries microfilm copies of immigrant passenger lists to 1923 (indexed to 1872). Files from Laverton are made available there at 24 to 48 hours notice.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

Local government is the third tier in the tripartite structure of government in Australia (namely, Commonwealth, State, and local). Since it is closely connected with the life of communities, it can become sensitive to, and aware of, their needs. Local government in Victoria is administered by 211 municipalities operating under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1958* and under the oversight of the Minister for Local Government, and his Permanent Head, the Secretary for Local Government, with a staff of some 280 officers as well as about 60 members of various boards, most of whom serve part-time.

The Minister and his Department also administer a number of other Acts of the Victorian Parliament, as set out in detail in Chapter 6 of this *Year Book*, but the majority

of the powers and duties given to municipal councils are set out in the Local Government Act. There are several amendments to this Act each year, as a result of changing community circumstances which affect most citizens. The Act sets out the framework within which each council is free to exercise control over matters of local concern, and the role of the Department is essentially to assist councils in executing the wishes of their electors within this framework of statutory powers as well as to provide a measure of protection to, and a point of reference for, the communities served by local government.

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

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

Relationships between the Victorian Government and local government are not confined to the Local Government Department. Indeed, municipalities have extensive direct dealings 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, 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 have to ensure that councils act within their field of authority and so preserve the rights of citizens. The Department also makes recommendations about desirable legislative changes in order to improve the lives of citizens. The basic aim is not to reduce the autonomy of councils, but to help them match local government to local needs, while co-ordinating their activities for the benefit of all.

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

## PLANNING IN VICTORIA

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

The State Co-ordination Council was established under the *State Co-ordination Council Act 1975*. The Council comprises 38 members, including the permanent heads of all government departments and the senior executives of the major statutory authorities.

At the request of the Premier, the Council reports on the effects of adopting major proposals or objectives as policies of government, priorities to be established both within a policy and between competing policies; specific plans and projects both in the public and private sectors; and any other matters referred to it. The Council also considers and advises on Statements of Planning Policy; matters of State interest in relation to preparation of regional plans; the effective co-ordination of the activities of all agencies participating in the achievement of the policies of the Government; the effect of changing circumstances on priorities and particular policies and programmes which an agency should develop. In addition, the Council reviews progress and performance in the achievement of policies.

To assist it in carrying out its functions, the Council has established regional co-ordinating groups and special task groups. Wide ranging issues such as liquid waste disposal, demographic forecasting, health, welfare and community development matters, and airport planning are being considered by these groups.

In addition, advice to the groups of the Council has been provided by the Economics Section, which was set up in the Research and Policy Division to develop data sources and undertake economic research and to analyse and evaluate economic issues to be considered by the Victorian Government.

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

### Ministry for Planning\*

#### *General*

The Ministry for Planning is a co-ordinating Ministry established by Act of Parliament in 1973. The Ministry for Planning Act was proclaimed on 2 December 1974. The Ministry administers: the Town and Country Planning Act, the Development Areas Act, the Historic Buildings Act, the Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges Act, the planning functions of the Town and Country Planning Board, the planning functions of Regional and other Responsible Authorities, and the Maldon Architectural Advisory Service and Restoration Fund.

#### *Objectives*

The Ministry assists the various authorities and groups involved in land-use in the preparation and administration of planning controls, the co-ordination of the planning processes and the achievements of common aims according to established guidelines and government policy. The Act empowers the Ministry to use the staff of any government agency to help carry out its duties, which include planning assistance to all Responsible Authorities, local councils, and Regional Planning Authorities.

#### *Town and Country Planning Board*

##### *Introduction*

The Town and Country Planning Board was constituted under the *Town and Country Planning Act* 1944 and commenced operation in February 1946. The Act allows the implementation of statutory Planning Schemes by Responsible Authorities. The Board has been the Minister's adviser on planning matters and, working in liaison with him and the Ministry, the Board has prepared Planning Schemes for specified areas as directed by the Minister. The establishment of the Board marked the beginning of statutory planning in Victoria.

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

As an instrument of the Minister, the Board has carried out studies of investigation areas under the provisions of the Development Areas Act and has reported to the Minister. This Act empowers the Governor in Council to designate areas suitable for accelerated development or controlled development.

##### *History*

One of the major tasks of the Board in its first decade was the examination of the Melbourne Metropolitan Planning Scheme (1954) and the objections lodged. At the same time it continued its function of reporting to the Minister on local Planning Schemes, and assisting and advising councils on planning. In 1967, in response to a request from the Minister, the Board and the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works prepared comprehensive reports and recommendations on planning for the disciplined growth of metropolitan Melbourne to the year 2000 to accommodate a projected population of 5 million persons. As a result of this study, the Town and Country Planning Act was amended in 1968 to establish a three-tier system of administration:

- (1) The Town and Country Planning Board assisted by a State Planning Council;
- (2) the Board of Works and Regional Planning Authorities; and
- (3) the municipalities within the Board of Works area.

The functions of tier (1) were to promote and co-ordinate planning throughout Victoria and advise the Government on State-wide planning policy. Tier (2) called for the

\* As at April 1980, planning law and administration in Victoria were undergoing a major revision, the most important part of which was to be the amalgamation of the Ministry for Planning and the Town and Country Planning Board into a new Department of Planning. Further information can be found on page 148 of this *Year Book*.

establishment of Regional Planning Authorities within the State-wide framework to operate with the Board of Works, as the Metropolitan Regional Authority, tripling the area previously covered by the Board. Tier (3) delegated responsibility for local planning to municipalities within this expanded Board of Works area and within the regional framework of tier (2).

#### *Decline in population growth*

The decline in the birthrate and in immigration has reduced the originally accepted projection for Melbourne of about 5 million persons to between 3.2 million and 3.4 million persons by the turn of the century. The two Boards, the Town and Country Planning Board, and the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, carried out a series of studies on how best the projected population increase could be accommodated. The State Planning Council was disbanded and replaced by the State Co-ordination Council comprising the heads of all government departments and authorities, and the Town and Country Planning Board assumed the responsibilities listed earlier.

#### *Statements of Planning Policy*

These provide the Regional Authorities and the municipalities with firm guidelines of government policy and ensure that planning is co-ordinated and that planning proposals fall within overall aims. The Town and Country Planning Board has prepared them in consultation with the State Co-ordination Council. They are referred by the Minister to the Governor in Council. Upon approval by the Governor in Council they are tabled in Parliament for twenty-four days and may be revoked by resolution of either House within that time. The tabling in Parliament of Statements of Planning Policy was introduced by amendment to the Town and Country Planning Act in December 1978 to give members of Parliament the means of monitoring government action in the planning field, and to increase public input to planning policies through local members of Parliament.

Statements of Planning Policy are binding on all Responsible Authorities, including government departments. They encompass demographic, social, and economic factors and influences; conservation of natural resources for social, economic, environmental, ecological, and scientific purposes; land characteristics and land-use; amenity and environment; communications; and the development requirements of public authorities.

#### *Application of Statements*

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

#### *Planning for specified areas*

Where a Local Authority does not have the resources, and a Regional Authority is not appropriate to the task, the Town and Country Planning Board has prepared Planning Schemes for special areas or projects of State significance. These include coastal areas, inland lake areas (including the man-made lakes of the water conservation schemes), valuable national resources, and areas of special significance such as the historic gold mining town of Maldon. The Board has also assisted regional authorities in the preparation of strategy plans through special task forces which comprise staff drawn from various state agencies.

#### *Melton and Sunbury*

Under the Development Areas Act, Melton and Sunbury were the subject of studies by the Board and the Victorian Government confirmed their future development as satellite cities. An Interim Co-ordinating Committee was set up to study the development potential and supervise planning control under the Board's chairman, with Board staff seconded to the project.

The Interim Committee has since become the Melton-Sunbury Management Committee, electing its own chairman. It has a membership of four councillors, a nominee from the Board of Works and the Ministry for Planning, and an independent member representing local interests. Planning for the satellite cities has placed special emphasis on social and

community needs and the services and facilities required to satisfy them, as well as the more routine aspects of planning. The Victorian Government has reiterated its continuing commitment to the project, which it sees as a co-operative venture between the two councils, the Victorian Government, and private enterprise.

#### *Commonwealth Government co-operation*

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

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

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

The major planning project between the two Governments and the Government of New South Wales was the Albury-Wodonga Growth Centre (see below). The Governments were represented by the Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation. Legislation before the Victorian Parliament will return control over the use of private land to the local Responsible Authorities, the rural City of Wodonga, and the Shires of Yackandandah, Tallangatta, Beechworth, and Chiltern. The Corporation will retain planning control over land that it owns in the area.

#### *Albury-Wodonga*

The population of the Albury-Wodonga region grew by 3.21 per cent in 1977-78. At that date, the population was 69,420 persons. The population of the local government areas of Albury and Wodonga grew by 11,140 persons between 1971 and 1978. The five-year target (1977 to 1982) provides for a population increase of about 15,000 persons based on the creation of some 6,500 new jobs in that period. Over 2,000 of these new jobs have already been secured in the first two years of this period.

More than 40 basic industries, large and small, have been established in Albury-Wodonga since 1973. Manufacturing employment rose by 1.5 per cent in 1977-78 compared with an Australia-wide fall of 2.8 per cent during the same period.

Private and public sector investment into the region includes a \$165m newsprint mill now under construction on the outskirts of Albury, a \$10m shopping town in north-east Albury, a new \$4m business stationery plant at Wodonga, and a \$29.5m expansion of Army facilities at Bandida. Office blocks costing some \$15m have been completed in the growth centre during the past three years.

Keen interest is being maintained in the Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation's initial residential estates adjacent to the existing cities of Albury and Wodonga and the broad planning for the new towns of Baranduda and Thurgoona has been completed. The Corporation has already started to build at Thurgoona and the first residential estate comprising 260 fully-serviced allotments, was released onto the market in July 1978. By July 1979, 75 per cent of this initial release had been sold or allocated and all projected targets for private home ownership had been achieved. Further development is being undertaken at Thurgoona and adjacent to the proposed new city of Baranduda in line with the five-year development plan agreed to by the three partner governments.

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

#### *Regional planning*

Regional planning began in Victoria in 1944 after the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments agreed to plan post-war development and decentralisation on a regional basis. The Victorian Government appointed a State Regional Boundaries Committee to inquire into physical, economic, and human resources on a State-wide basis. The regions recommended were Barwon, Central Highlands, Corangamite, East Gippsland, West Gippsland, Glenelg, Goulburn, Loddon, Mallee, Port Phillip, Upper Goulburn, Upper Murray, and the Wimmera.

In 1946, a Central Planning Authority was set up to arrange conventions of councils within each region to constitute regional committees; to advise and assist them in surveys of regional resources; to co-ordinate their work; to disseminate planning information; and to report to the Victorian Government on their recommendations. The Authority's secretariat was originally within the Premier's Department, but was subsequently transferred to the Department of State Development, Decentralization and Tourism.

Regional committees were established for all regions, except Port Phillip. They advised on development of resources, problems such as soil deficiencies, transport difficulties, housing shortages, and provided a forum for discussion between local administration and interested parties on the co-ordination of public services.

In 1968, the Town and Country Planning Act was amended to provide the three-tier system of planning administration referred to earlier.

#### *Regional authorities*

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

Regional offices of the Town and Country Planning Board are established at Bendigo, Warrnambool, Traralgon, and Wodonga.

#### *Western Port Regional Planning Authority*

The Authority was constituted under the Town and Country Planning Act in 1969. The Western Port region embraces six municipalities, Flinders, Hastings, Mornington, Phillip Island, and parts of the Shires of Cranbourne and Bass. French Island is in the region, but is not incorporated in any municipality. Western Port Bay is the hub of the region as a recreational facility for the people of Melbourne, the habitat of a variety of native flora and fauna, and a vital national economic resource because of its sheltered deep port facilities. More than 50 per cent of the region is given to agriculture, and its topography ranges from the undulating hill country of the Mornington Peninsula to the foothills of the Strzelecki Ranges to the former swampland that forms the coastal flats of the Bay.

The Authority consists of two members from each of the six councils. It elects its own chairman and has a small professional staff headed by a director. The Victorian Government pays two-thirds of the running costs and the member councils the remainder.

**Further reference:** *Victorian Year Book 1978*, pp. 276-8

#### *Planning on the Peninsula*

In 1970, Statement of Planning Policy No. 1 (Western Port) was brought down. It laid down guidelines for the regional planning for the port facilities and industrial development on the mainland and on French Island, but this was varied in 1976 to exclude the Island and areas north of Watsons Inlet. The Statement limited urban development, set high environmental standards, and laid down that land-use policies be integrated with those of adjacent regions and resources. This resulted in an Interim Development Order over the region. Issues raised by Statement of Planning Policy No. 1 gave rise to a comprehensive study of the Western Port Bay environment and the possible impact of development upon it, and a moratorium on development was imposed from 1973 to 1976.

On completion of the study, the Western Port Regional Planning Authority laid down a number of policies to ensure long-term availability of land for industry associated with the deep water port. These are being incorporated in the Authority's industrial plan. Under Statement of Planning Policy No. 2, also gazetted in 1970, the Authority prepared the Southern Mornington Peninsula Conservation Plan for the area south and south-west of the line between Hastings and Mornington. The Plan followed extensive investigation of physical, ecological, cultural, and sociological aspects, and was gazetted in September 1978 as an amendment to the Interim Development Order for the region. It imposes detailed controls to protect and preserve the scenic and environment value of the area. Administration of the Plan has now been handed back to local municipalities which are

required to refer development proposals which are likely to have a regional impact to the Authority. The Authority has exhibited a plan covering the specialised port area at Hastings, in accordance with Statement 7 Planning Policy MDI (Western Port).

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

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

The Act establishing the Authority was gazetted in April 1977, thus revoking Board of Works control over the Shires of Lillydale and Sherbrooke. The Act charges the Authority with providing "increased protection for the special features and character of the region", with implementing Statements of Planning Policy for the region, and with preparing a regional strategy plan. The draft strategy plan was released in December 1979.

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

#### *Geelong Regional Commission*

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

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

The Geelong Regional Planning Scheme was recently completed by the Commission, and provides for the region's expansion over the next decade. Future needs to ensure that infrastructure for development is available on time and in the right locations are presently being investigated. In carrying out its charter to promote controlled industrial development of the region, the Commission has purchased a total of 51.5 hectares of land in the South Geelong, Breakwater, Cowie Street, and Furner Street areas since 1977 for development into fully serviced industrial estates. The Cowie Street estate was the first to be completed and was released for sale in April 1979 with encouraging results.

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

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

#### *Historic Buildings Preservation Council*

The Historic Buildings Act was proclaimed in 1974 and is administered by the Ministry for Planning through the Historic Buildings Preservation Council. The Council has a part-time membership of ten. They are a nominee of the Minister for the Arts, a town planner nominated by the Town and Country Planning Board, the Valuer-General, or his nominee, and seven members appointed by the Governor in Council, each representing an appropriate profession.

The Council recommends to the Minister buildings of architectural or historic importance for inclusion in the State's Register of Historic Buildings; it recommends buildings for removal from the Register, in whole or in part; and on its own motion or at the request of the Minister it reports on any matter relating to designated buildings or the administration of the Act.

The Council evaluates applications for permits to remove, alter, or demolish any designated building, and may serve an Interim Preservation Order on the owner of any building under investigation for a period of six months or until the investigation is complete, whichever is the sooner.

The Council may consider requests for financial assistance from the owners of designated buildings for their preservation, restoration, or maintenance, and make a recommendation to the Minister.

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

Maldon is a unique example of a nineteenth century gold mining town nestling among the hills and mullock heaps near Castlemaine. Because it is virtually intact since the days of the gold rushes, it occupies an important place in the history of Victoria, and is the subject of a special Planning Scheme, the first of its kind in Victoria, to protect and preserve it. The first recognition of the town's significance was in 1960, when the National Trust declared it "a notable town".

Since the 1977-78 budget, funds have been provided for the establishment of an Architectural Advisory Service and Restoration Fund to help with the preservation and restoration of buildings and streetscapes of importance. An architect is resident in Maldon at least two days a week to provide free advice to residents. Finance for restoration is in the form of grants or loans on a basis similar to those provided under the Historic Buildings Act.

#### *Beechworth, Chiltern, and Yackandandah Restoration Fund*

The north eastern towns of Beechworth, Chiltern, and Yackandandah share with Maldon the distinction of being intact examples of the gold rush era of the nineteenth century.

A grant of \$25,000 was allocated in the 1979-80 budget to establish an architectural advisory service similar to the Maldon Architectural Advisory Service. An adviser was appointed early in 1980, along with a committee, comprised predominately of local persons, to administer the restoration fund. The advisory service and the restoration fund is a self-help system. Similar services are planned for Ballarat and Queenscliff and later for St Arnaud, Warrnambool, Port Fairy, Portland, and Koroit.

#### *Historic building legislation*

In March 1980, the Premier of Victoria announced legislation to strengthen the Historic Buildings Act and to give owners more incentive to conserve and recycle their buildings. The legislation will give the Minister for Planning the authority to raise up to \$1.2m a year to finance a range of incentives. They will include interest free or low interest loans; the freezing of valuations for rate purposes; a special heritage valuation to become the basis for land tax and local government rate assessment; and interest-free loans equivalent to land tax and rates during redevelopment and recycling.

#### *State Department of Planning*

As at April 1980, work was advanced on the amalgamation of the Ministry for Planning and the Town and Country Planning Board as a new Department of Planning. Also, work had begun on the updating and streamlining of the Town and Country Planning Act. The amalgamation and the rewriting of the Act were among the major recommendations of the Building and Development Approvals Committee (BADAC) Report implemented through the Town and Country Planning (General Amendment) Act passed by the Victorian Parliament in December 1979.

Another important BADAC recommendation will be implemented by the Planning Appeals Board Bill, introduced in the 1979 spring session of Parliament and allowed to lie over. Under the Bill, all land-use appeals, planning, Environment Protection Authority, and Local Government Arbitration, will be brought under a single, new appeals tribunal.



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

Provision is made in the Town and Country Planning (General Amendment) Act for the introduction of Local Development Schemes, but the relevant clauses have not been proclaimed at this time because they represent a new concept in planning for which ground rules and regulations are being drafted. The effect of the Schemes will be to divest the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works of responsibility for detailed local planning and place it with local councils. This will enable the Board to further concentrate its expertise in devising and updating strategy for the Melbourne metropolitan area. The Board will also assist and advise local councils in the preparation of Local Development Schemes within the framework of such strategy.

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

**Report of the Committee of Inquiry into Town Planning Compensation**

This report was presented to the Premier of Victoria in March 1978. It was placed before Parliament on 16 May 1978 by the Minister for Planning.

*Appointment*

The Government of the State of Victoria, through the Premier's Department, appointed a Committee of Inquiry\* to report to the Premier.

*Terms of Reference*

These concerned:

- (1) Whether there should be any and what extension or clarification of entitlement to compensation in respect of decisions or proposals of a planning nature; and
- (2) the measures which should be adopted to avoid or mitigate hardship and inequity consequent upon such decisions and proposals, and planning policies and procedures generally.

*Recommendations*

The recommendations are set out in summary form on pages 10-17 of the report. The main recommendations were as follows:

*(1) Planning blight*

That the Minister for Planning have power, on the request of an owner and where the land is the subject of an announcement of a project by an authority or possible project resulting in the saleability of the land being adversely affected, to declare that a particular piece of land is affected by a reservation for the purpose of sections 41 and 42, such being deemed to have been requested by that authority, thus enabling an owner to have the rights to compensation given by those sections.

*(2) Conservation and like zones and controls*

(These zones and controls represent the attempt to preserve buildings — either individually or as a group — that are of historical or architectural importance. The controls are also directed to conservation of areas of landscape and natural beauty.)

When the zone or control, insofar as it affects any land, is designed to secure the preservation of a feature of that land for the community at large and the land, because of such zoning or control, is incapable of being put to any reasonably beneficial use in all the circumstances, then compensation should be payable for the loss and damage caused by the planning restrictions in question.

The same principle should apply to controls directed to the preservation or conservation of buildings, whether these are designated as historically or architecturally important under the Historic Buildings Act or, pursuant to Town and Country Planning Act powers, are to be conserved by being retained as free standing buildings or as part of a streetscape.

*(3) Zoning changes*

No compensation should be paid for loss following zoning changes, beyond that already provided and that recommended in respect of certain preservation or conservation controls.

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\* The following persons were appointed: Mr J. A. Gobbo, Q.C. (Chairman), Mr David Hains, Mr L. M. Perrott, O.B.E.

No changes in zoning that may have adverse effects on owners should occur without notice to such owners and a proper opportunity to object to an independent tribunal.

*(4) Injurious affection: public works where land is not acquired but is injuriously affected*

Compensation should be payable for reduction in value caused by reason of injurious affection to property due to noise emanating from the use of a freeway or railway or any road widening. This would include the addition of a carriageway within an existing road reserve.

The entitlement should arise where the noise measured at the face of any building closest to the freeway or road widening exceeds a particular level calculated on the basis of an average over 18 hours a day. Consideration should be given to adopting the English provision which is 68db (A) L10.

*(5) Planning procedures*

The main recommendation made here was that objections to the content of planning schemes or interim development orders should be considered and heard by an independent tribunal. At or before hearings of objections, the planning authority should provide full reasons for zoning or other planning proposals.

*(6) Old and inappropriate subdivisions*

The Committee recommended that there be an assessment made of those allotments that are capable of being consolidated and developed, and that funds be provided to enable the purchase of allotments from individuals in necessitous circumstances. It was further recommended that there be power to the Minister for Planning and to responsible authorities undertaking a consolidation scheme to exercise powers of compulsory acquisition where a majority of owners of vacant allotments in a subdivision are in favour of consolidation and redevelopment.

### **Statistical divisions in Victoria**

#### *Origins of statistical division concept*

Statistical divisions have traditionally been used as a geographic base for the presentation of the principal series of official economic, social, and demographic statistics of the State. The groupings of local government areas making up statistical divisions in Victoria have been altered since 1974 to reflect associations of the areas in terms of socio-economic links rather than the purely topographic and land-use associations which applied previously.

Geographic sub-divisions of Victoria for presentation of official statistics were first used in 1896. In that year, the Statistical Register of Victoria included a table of agricultural statistics which grouped counties into eight "statistical districts". Counties were groupings of parishes; these units were the original land survey units in the State.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics publication *Population and Vital Statistics* and later its publication *Demography* applied "divisions" of Victoria to the same groupings of counties as for agricultural statistics in publishing figures of births and deaths early this century. The same names of "divisions" appeared again, with the addition of a "metropolitan division".

The arrangement of local government areas into "statistical districts" is noted in the Population Census, Victoria, 1901. This Census volume included a table showing figures for 1891 and 1901, using district names identical with those in the tabulations of agricultural statistics of 1896. A metropolitan area was also shown within the Central District.

In 1929, in accordance with a resolution at a Conference of the Federal Health Council and the Statisticians of the Commonwealth and States, held in Melbourne on 19 and 20 March 1928, these "divisions" were reconstituted for the purpose of presenting vital statistics, from groupings of counties to groupings of local government areas. This divisional grouping was subsequently applied to other statistical series and continued unchanged until 1966, although with adjustment in the intervening years of the statistical division boundaries for changes in local government area boundaries and for the metropolitan development of Melbourne.

The Twenty-seventh Conference of Statisticians in 1965 adopted the substance of the report prepared by Dr G. J. R. Linge entitled *The Delimitation of Urban Areas for Statistical Purposes*. In accordance with resolutions of this Conference an urban definition of 500 persons to 2.5 square kilometres was adopted and the Melbourne Statistical Division was delimited to set an outer boundary around Melbourne so as to contain the anticipated urban growth for a period of between twenty and twenty-five years. The Melbourne Statistical Division was first applied to the 1966 Census of Population and Housing. The introduction of this Division affected the boundaries of surrounding divisions but did not alter the criteria for accepting those of other divisions in the State.

It is apparent that while no precise criteria for grouping counties or local government areas into "districts" or "divisions", respectively, can be discovered, the groupings were made on the basis of geographic, topographic, and land-use features, with the exception of the Melbourne metropolitan area where urban characteristics and the potential for them were considered, especially in later years.

This concept of statistical divisions did not positively allow for groupings of areas associated by a marked degree of demographic significance arising from social or economic intercourse. Consequently they had become increasingly unsuited for the presentation of a wide range of sophisticated statistics which had become available or were planned for in the near future.

As a consequence the policy of the Australian Bureau of Statistics on statistical divisions was reviewed at a conference of State Deputy Commonwealth Statisticians in June 1973. Among other things this Conference resolved that:

- (1) Statistical divisions should ideally be delimited in all States on the basis of socio-economic criteria and should where possible embrace contiguous local government areas; and
- (2) the boundaries of the statistical divisions so delimited should be changed only at intervals, for example, at periods of fifteen to twenty years.

#### *Development of new statistical divisions*

#### *State Planning Regions*

At the time of the 1973 Conference, Victorian Government bodies, through the State Planning Council, were examining the re-grouping of local government areas into State Planning Regions as a basis for encouraging regional development and decentralising government departments.

This examination was prompted by a growing interest in regional development which was recognised in an amendment to the Town and Country Planning Act in 1968. Among other things this amendment provided legislative machinery for the formation of regional planning authorities to be composed primarily of representatives of local government authorities in each region. These authorities are by this amendment to have specific powers to direct planning programmes and hence are potentially more effective than the earlier Regional Planning Committees established under the Central Planning Authority, which could only recommend development programmes for those regions delineated in 1944 by that Authority.

Three constraints in delineating new State Planning Regions were established. First, for administrative convenience whole local government areas were to be used in all but exceptional circumstances; second, because different sized units were required for various purposes, there should be a three-tier system of dividing the State into regions and sub-regions based on local government areas; and third, the sub-regions, once identified, would not be severed in delineating regions.

The criteria used in defining State Planning Regions were as follows:

- (1) The economic, social, administrative, and physical attributes of a region should be as uniform as possible;
- (2) a region should embrace the full extent of known planning problems or resources of planning significance; and
- (3) a region should be large enough in population and resources to support a regional planning programme and yet small enough for the community to be able to identify with it and for all members of a regional authority to acquire a sound knowledge of, and interest in, the whole region.

Factors taken into account in delineating regional and sub-regional boundaries were:

- (1) Comparisons with other ways of dividing the State, including the then current Central Planning Authority regions, and various areas used for presenting statistics;
- (2) physical factors including river basins and tablelands, climate, geology, and soils, all of which influence economic activity, particularly primary production;
- (3) communication, that is, the concept of a region as a hierarchy of towns joined by a coherent system of lines of communication; and
- (4) areas of influence of towns described by studies and researches within the Town and Country Planning Board and the University of Melbourne on the socio-economic areas of influence of Victorian towns and cities. The Board's studies used a system of weighting elements of association according to their apparent significance. Elements considered included the patterns of a community's frequent (at least once a month) travel to a retail shopping centre, newspaper circulation, distribution or marketing areas for major consumer items, regional zoning of sporting, social, and community and welfare organisations, the composition of municipal associations (made by local selection), and library and hospital service regions.

It should be noted that the socio-economic areas of influence of towns and cities of various sizes intersect and overlap in ways which prevent a quantifiable decision on the association of one area with another. In drawing boundaries to areas of influence, subjective judgement has of necessity been used in these cases. In other cases, for example, a well defined river basin, the region based on physical factors will be very similar to the socio-economic region, but where physical features do not provide strong barriers to communication, socio-economic boundaries may not align with whatever physical features do exist. Where there is a lack of congruence, the system adopted followed socio-economic rather than physical boundaries. Further, the use of whole local government areas often results in only an approximation to the real socio-economic unit.

State Planning Regions delimited on the criteria outlined were, after consultation with Commonwealth and local government authorities and other interested bodies, adopted by the Victorian Government in May 1974.

#### *Adoption of new statistical divisions*

The Victorian Office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics had regard to the criteria used in delimiting the regions and to the involvement of bodies interested in the delimitation. As these factors were in accord with the content and the spirit of the resolution of the 1973 Conference, State Planning Regions were adopted as statistical divisions for Victoria. In addition, by this adoption the Victorian Office had introduced a device for conveniently summarising official statistics into geographic areas which have a real and growing significance for most users of those statistics.

Consequently the boundaries of Victorian statistical divisions, with the exception of the Melbourne Statistical Division, have been re-drawn to accord with State Planning Regions. The combination of the Melbourne Statistical Division and the East Central Statistical Division is equivalent to the Port Phillip Planning Region adopted by the Victorian Government. In all other cases both the boundaries and names applied to the new statistical divisions are the same as for State Planning Regions.

New statistical division boundaries were applied to all relevant annual statistics, other than those from the Agricultural and Pastoral Census, for their respective years ending in 1974. Agricultural and Pastoral Census statistics were converted to the new boundaries from the year ending March 1975. Monthly and quarterly statistical series were published for the new boundaries from June 1974.

The boundaries of the new statistical divisions will be retained for so long as they are considered relevant by interested bodies. However, they will be altered to account for minor changes in local government area boundaries.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Fire authorities

#### *Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board*

Until January 1974, municipalities within the Metropolitan Fire District contributed one-third, and fire insurance companies transacting business in the same area provided two-

thirds, of the amount required to maintain metropolitan fire brigades. As a result of amended legislation, operative since the beginning of 1974, contributions have subsequently been received in the proportions of one-eighth from the Victorian Government, one-eighth from municipal councils, and three-quarters from fire insurance companies. During 1978-79, contributions by municipalities were equivalent to 0.275 cents in the dollar of the annual value of property, amounting to \$1.436m, while fire insurance companies contributed at a rate of \$22.94 for every \$100 of fire insurance premiums paid on insured property. Premiums received in the Metropolitan Fire District in 1978-79 amounted to \$103.49m.

Particulars of the revenue, expenditure, and loan indebtedness of the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board for each of the years 1974-75 to 1978-79 are shown in the following table:

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

| Particulars                     | 1974-75       | 1975-76       | 1976-77       | 1977-78       | 1978-79       |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>REVENUE</b>                  |               |               |               |               |               |
| <b>Statutory contributions—</b> |               |               |               |               |               |
| Treasurer of Victoria           | 2,376         | 2,937         | 3,219         | 3,736         | 3,956         |
| Municipalities                  | 2,372         | 2,937         | 3,219         | 3,736         | 3,956         |
| Insurance companies             | 14,254        | 17,624        | 19,262        | 22,423        | 23,736        |
| Brokers and owners              | 194           | 299           | 357           | 525           | 443           |
| Charges for services            | 1,623         | 1,992         | 2,309         | 2,428         | 2,670         |
| Interest and sundries           | 808           | 1,046         | 1,440         | 2,062         | 979           |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>21,627</b> | <b>26,835</b> | <b>29,806</b> | <b>34,910</b> | <b>35,740</b> |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>              |               |               |               |               |               |
| Salaries                        | 14,587        | 16,558        | 20,013        | 22,014        | 25,419        |
| Other                           | 6,712         | 7,955         | 9,728         | 12,121        | 12,458        |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>21,299</b> | <b>24,513</b> | <b>29,741</b> | <b>34,135</b> | <b>37,877</b> |
| Net surplus (+) or deficit (-)  | + 328         | + 2,322       | + 65          | + 775         | - 2,137       |
| Loan indebtedness (at 30 June)  | 3,683         | 4,296         | 4,936         | 5,722         | 6,422         |

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 1975 to 1979:

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

| Particulars     | 1975  | 1976  | 1977  | 1978  | 1979  |
|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Fire stations   | 47    | 47    | 48    | 48    | 48    |
| Staff employed— |       |       |       |       |       |
| Fire fighting   | 1,396 | 1,430 | 1,467 | 1,572 | 1,631 |
| All other       | 282   | 292   | 292   | 292   | 323   |

*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 1979, there were 118 permanent firemen employed in brigades at Ballarat, Ballarat City, Belgrave, Bendigo, Boronia, Dandenong, Doveton, Frankston, Geelong, Norlane, North Geelong, Geelong West, and Springvale, with a total of 118 permanent brigade officers at these stations and at Belgrave, Chelsea, Mildura, Morwell, Shepparton, Traralgon, Wangaratta, Warrnambool, and Wodonga.

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 144 insurance companies thus contributing during 1977-78.

Up to 30 June 1979, the Authority had raised 119 loans, representing a total of \$18.5m, which has been used for the provision of buildings and equipment for brigades.

Particulars of revenue, expenditure, surplus, and loan expenditure and indebtedness of the Country Fire Authority, for each of the years 1974-75 to 1978-79, are shown in the first of the following tables. The second table shows particulars of the number of fire brigades, personnel, and motor vehicles for the same years.

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

| Particulars                    | 1974-75      | 1975-76       | 1976-77       | 1977-78       | 1978-79       |
|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| REVENUE                        |              |               |               |               |               |
| Statutory contributions—       |              |               |               |               |               |
| Municipalities Assistance Fund | 2,883        | 3,756         | 4,666         | 5,648         | 6,414         |
| Insurance companies            | 5,766        | 7,512         | 9,311         | 11,295        | 12,828        |
| Other                          | 326          | 336           | 491           | 782           | 810           |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>8,975</b> | <b>11,604</b> | <b>14,468</b> | <b>17,725</b> | <b>20,052</b> |
| EXPENDITURE                    |              |               |               |               |               |
| Salaries and wages             | 4,662        | 5,442         | 6,657         | 7,652         | 8,877         |
| Other                          | 4,110        | 5,079         | 6,632         | 8,060         | 9,441         |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>8,772</b> | <b>10,521</b> | <b>13,289</b> | <b>15,712</b> | <b>18,318</b> |
| Net surplus                    | 203          | 1,083         | 1,179         | 2,013         | 1,734         |
| Loan expenditure               | 944          | 1,987         | 1,823         | 3,295         | 2,066         |
| Loan indebtedness (at 30 June) | 6,179        | 7,468         | 9,086         | 10,831        | 13,291        |

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

| Particulars      | 1975    | 1976    | 1977    | 1978    | 1979    |
|------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Fire brigades—   |         |         |         |         |         |
| Urban            | 215     | 215     | 215     | 215     | 215     |
| Rural            | 1,061   | 1,060   | 1,058   | 1,058   | 1,067   |
| Personnel—       |         |         |         |         |         |
| Permanent        | 398     | 431     | 471     | 515     | 548     |
| Volunteer        | 118,283 | 114,145 | 110,697 | 109,100 | 107,061 |
| Vehicular fleet— |         |         |         |         |         |
| Self-propelled   | 1,452   | 1,498   | 1,539   | 1,611   | 1,746   |
| Trailer units    | 389     | 401     | 429     | 422     | 476     |

**Natural disasters and emergencies**

*State Disaster Plan*

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

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

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

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

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

The Chief Commissioner of Police acts as co-ordinator under the State Disaster Plan in situations where it is necessary to bring together the resources of a number of agencies to deal with a disaster or emergency. State organisations are allocated either combating roles, for example, the Country Fire Authority and the Forests Commission in the event of

bushfires, or supporting roles, for example, the Health Commission and the State Electricity Commission. Provision is made for the obtaining of assistance from Commonwealth agencies such as Telecom Australia.

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

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

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

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

VICTORIA—STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE:  
OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES, 1978-79

| Type of operation        | Number |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Search and rescue        | 161    |
| Road accident assistance | 193    |
| Air emergency            | 7      |
| Fire support             | 18     |
| Flood                    | 45     |
| Cyclone wind storm       | 33     |
| Evacuation               | 2      |
| Welfare                  | 1      |
| Hazardous materials      | 3      |
| Community service        | 61     |
| Other                    | 84     |
| Total                    | 608    |

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