



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications



INCOMING GOVERNMENT BRIEFING

Portfolio Overview

Infrastructure and Transport

May 2022

Image credits

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development
and Communications

Portfolio Overview

About your portfolio

A high-level summary of the responsibilities of your portfolio, as well as information about the structure and function of the department.

About the department

An overview of the department's work, values, programs and projects, budget, people, and key contacts.

Portfolio entities

An overview of the Commonwealth entities and companies in your portfolio, including information on each entity's purpose, governance, functions and funding profile.

Other boards and structures

An overview of the purpose, governance, and functions of other boards and structures related to your portfolio.

Significant ministerial roles

A summary of your participation in significant ministerial meetings and other functions.

Programs administered by the department

Information on the status of each program in your portfolio, its delivery partners and stakeholders, governance arrangements, including your role with regard to decision-making, program funding, key facts and program administration details.

Portfolio legislation

An up-to-date list of legislation relevant to the work of the department and portfolio entities.

Administrative Arrangements Order

Administrative Arrangements Orders formally allocate executive responsibility among ministers. They set out which matters and legislation are administered by which department or portfolio.

- o Leadership team
- o Organisational structure
- o Establishing your office and ministerial support services

- o National Intermodal Corporation Limited
- o WSA Co Limited
- o Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited
- o Airservices Australia
- o Australian Maritime Safety Authority
- o National Transport Commission
- o Civil Aviation Safety Authority
- o Infrastructure Australia
- o Australian Transport Safety Bureau
- o National Faster Rail Agency
- o North Queensland Water Infrastructure Authority

- o Infrastructure and Transport Ministers' Meeting
- o Planning Ministers' Meeting

- o Budget Outcome 1: Infrastructure
- o Budget Outcome 2: Transport
- o Budget Outcome 3: Cities

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About your portfolio

This portfolio overview contains a high-level summary of the responsibilities of your portfolio, as well as information about the structure and function of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. The responsibilities described below, as well as the department's current organisational arrangements, are based on the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) dated 2 July 2021. These arrangements will be updated in accordance with any new AAOs produced by your government.

This overview sets out the full range of infrastructure, transport and cities portfolio roles and responsibilities. More tailored information on each function will be provided in the weeks following the election, taking into account the allocation of ministerial responsibilities across the portfolio.

Responsibilities

Land transport	Civil aviation and airports	Water infrastructure
Infrastructure planning and coordination	Maritime transport including shipping	Major projects, including implementation of all non-Defence development projects
National policy on cities	Transport safety, including investigations	

Portfolio entities

In addition to the department, your portfolio comprises 11 Commonwealth entities and companies (portfolio entities) that are subject to the obligations and accountabilities of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. The portfolio entities contribute to outcomes delivered on behalf of the Australian Government.

A summary of the Commonwealth entities within your portfolio is provided below. More detailed information on your role and responsibilities with regard to these entities, including in relation to board appointments, is provided in the chapter on portfolio entities, along with information on each entity's purpose, governance, functions and funding profile.

Commonwealth company	National Intermodal Company Limited	WSA Co Ltd	Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited
Corporate Commonwealth entity	Airservices Australia	Australian Maritime Safety Authority	National Transport Commission
	Civil Aviation Safety Authority	Infrastructure Australia	
Non-corporate Commonwealth entity	Australian Transport Safety Bureau	National Faster Rail Agency	North Queensland Water Infrastructure Authority



Other boards and structures

Separate to the portfolio entities, there are a number of other boards and structures related to the business of the portfolio. A list of higher-profile bodies (for example the Sydney Airport Community Forum and the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator) is provided in the chapter on other boards and structures.

A number of these bodies are government appointed boards. Appointments made by the Australian Government (through the Prime Minister, Cabinet, Governor-General advised by the Federal Executive Council, ministers and chairs of portfolio boards) to bodies such as these are a significant activity for the Australian Government and attract a level of public scrutiny.

The department provides support for the effective functioning of government-appointed boards and structures within your portfolio. This includes administration of appointment processes, management of reporting requirements including on gender balance, and the maintenance of a register of members, terms and appointment requirements. Further information on these functions will be provided to your office separately by the department as needed to meet appointment and reporting timeframes.

Significant ministerial roles

You have a key role in two important inter-governmental ministerial meetings, the Infrastructure and Transport Ministers' Meeting and the Planning Ministers' Meeting. These forums advance issues that affect the economy and all Australian communities, whether urban or regional, and enable cross-government engagement on policy challenges and reform opportunities.

The department supports the effective operation of these forums, and supports your participation.

Further information is provided in the chapter on significant ministerial roles.

Portfolio legislation

You are responsible for a considerable body of legislation relevant to the work of the department and portfolio entities, for example the *National Land Transport Act 2014*, the *Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018* and the *Airports Act 1996*.

Further information on your role is provided in the chapter on portfolio legislation.

About the department

Infrastructure, Transport and Cities roles and activities

The department's work spans a broad range of matters, supporting the government in the effective development and delivery of programs, policies and regulations that enrich the lives of all Australians and connect communities.

The department's values of being respectful, informed, collaborative, accountable and adaptive will be applied in support of you and your office, and we will adapt our roles and activities to support you to deliver your agenda this term.

The department works to achieve 6 outcomes across our budget programs, a subset of which relate to your portfolio, listed below. These outcomes form the legal basis for the appropriation of funding, and therefore any change to outcomes involves a formal process requiring legal advice and approval from the Minister for Finance. The names of budget programs can be changed more easily, where these are not set out in legislation.



Outcome 1: Improved infrastructure across Australia through investment in and coordination of transport and other infrastructure

Program 1.1 Infrastructure Investment – The infrastructure investment program supports economic growth, makes travel safer, increases transport access and supports regional development. It increases the efficiency, productivity, sustainability and safety of Australia's land transport infrastructure through programs and policy to improve connectivity for communities and freight.



Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Program 2.1 Surface Transport – The surface transport program supports economic growth, makes travel safer and increases transport access through delivering programs, policies and regulation for efficient, sustainable, safer and better-connected road, rail and maritime sectors.

Program 2.2 Road Safety – The road safety program makes travel safer through coordinating a national strategic approach to improving road safety and working to make vehicles safer for all road users.

Program 2.3 Air Transport – The air transport program facilitates investment in aviation infrastructure, ensures the aviation industry operates within a clear and robust regulatory framework, and ensures Australian businesses and consumers have access to competitive international and domestic air services, and access to regional and remote areas.



Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance

Program 3.3 Cities – The cities program supports the development of more liveable and productive cities through programs and policies that support jobs and economic growth, manage population pressures and reduce congestion.

Water Infrastructure – Your water infrastructure portfolio responsibilities are also delivered under Outcome 3.

Programs administered by the department

The department is responsible for administering a large number of budget programs under the department's budget outcomes.

The chapter on programs administered by the department sets out the status of each program, its delivery partners and stakeholders, governance arrangements including your role with regard to decision-making, program funding, key facts and program administration details.

Program funding outlined in these briefs reflects the 2022-23 Budget and the program expenditure figures are as at 31 March 2022. Updated expenditure figures as at 30 April 2022 will be provided to you and your office in early briefings.

Budget

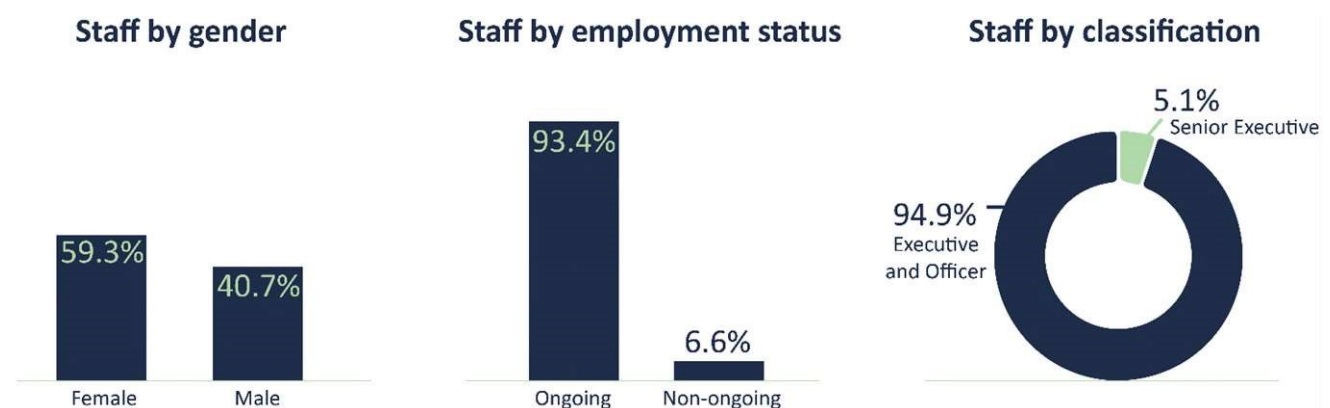
For the 2022-23 financial year, the department will administer \$19.0 billion in agency resourcing, comprised of \$0.7 billion in departmental and \$18.3 billion in administered (i.e. program) funding. Administered funding includes \$2.4 billion in payments to portfolio bodies. Agency resourcing increased by \$2.7 billion between the 2021-22 and 2022-23 financial years, primarily due to additional support provided through the 2022-23 Budget to regional Australia and pandemic economic recovery measures.

Of the departmental funding, \$479.3 million is in departmental operating funding and \$10.2 million in departmental capital budget. The remainder of the \$164.1 million represents prior year appropriation available to the department, funding in existing special accounts (reserved for specific purposes) and own-source revenue. The department's Average Staffing Level (ASL) for the 2022-23 Budget has increased by 56 ASL from the 2021-22 estimated ASL of 1,708 to 1,764.

A further \$17.6 billion in 2022-23 (\$64.7 billion across 4 years) is provided to states and territories through various National Partnership Payments.

People

At 31 March 2022, the department had a total employee headcount of 1,934 people. Just over 93 per cent are ongoing, close to 60 per cent are female, and while the majority of employees are located in the ACT, the department has staff in all other states and territories, plus Norfolk Island, Jervis Bay Territory, the Indian Ocean Territories and internationally. Further information is provided in the graphics below.



Non-Senior Executive Service (non-SES) employees are employed under the Enterprise Agreement which came into effect from 28 March 2016. From 2 December 2021, a new one year section 24(1) determination continued the terms and conditions of the Enterprise Agreement. The determination provided a 1.9 per cent pay increase from 28 March 2022 to all non-SES employees covered by the department's Enterprise Agreement.

SES employees are employed under a separate instrument.

The department's non-APS workforce consists of 267 labour hire and fee-for-service employees who primarily undertake roles in specialist data and program positions, IT and non-ongoing administrative functions.

Leadership team

The department's executive comprises the Secretary and 7 Deputy Secretaries. Deputy Secretaries support the Secretary and carry out a wide-ranging brief across the portfolio's policy, regulatory and operational responsibilities as well as overseeing the work of business divisions.

Simon Atkinson



Secretary

Simon Atkinson was appointed Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications on 1 February 2020. He was previously Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development.

Prior to his appointment as Secretary, Mr Atkinson served as Deputy Secretary, Fiscal Group at the Treasury.

Since joining the Australian Public Service as a graduate, he has held senior roles in many Australian Government portfolios, including Infrastructure and Regional, Finance, Defence, and Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Mr Atkinson has held leadership roles delivering major policy reforms, including the establishment of Infrastructure Australia in 2007, the 2009 Defence White Paper and 24 Commonwealth economic updates. He has overseen the largest infrastructure investment in the Commonwealth's history including transformational projects such as the Western Sydney Airport and led the successful stewardship of aviation, shipping, freight, telecommunications and the arts through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr Atkinson is an alumnus of the University of Queensland with bachelor degrees in Science and Law. He is a barrister and solicitor of the Federal Court and the Supreme Court of NSW. Mr Atkinson holds a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

02 6274 7573 s47F
Simon.Atkinson@infrastructure.gov.au

Diane Brown



Deputy Secretary Transport Group

Diane Brown commenced as Deputy Secretary at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications in May 2021. Diane joined the Department in August 2020 as First Assistant Secretary of Communications Infrastructure Division. Prior to that, Diane spent 7 years at the Australian Treasury, in the Markets Group with various responsibilities predominantly relating to financial markets and corporate regulation.

Prior to joining the public service, Diane held senior roles in the private sector and in the corporate regulator, the Australian Securities and Investment Commission. She commenced her career as an economist at the Reserve Bank and has practised law at a national law firm in Sydney.

Diane holds bachelor degrees (with honours) in economics and law from the University of Sydney and a masters degree (with honours) in economics from the University of New South Wales.

02 6274 7515 s47F
Diane.Brown@infrastructure.gov.au

Dave Hallinan



Deputy Secretary Infrastructure Group

Dave Hallinan is the Deputy Secretary of the Infrastructure Group of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, with two decades of public sector experience and well over a decade in senior leadership roles across the Australian Public Service.

Dave is values driven, enjoys linking complex practical implementation issues with nationally significant agendas, and working collaboratively with complex stakeholder groups to solve challenging policy, program and regulatory issues to support the best outcomes for the Australian community.

Dave has spent his career working across policy development, and program and regulatory delivery across the Health, Infrastructure and Finance portfolios. Dave's key content areas include infrastructure financing and delivery, Australian Government budget management and advice, and rural health, primary care financing and delivery, health workforce management and regulation, aged care, and health and related systems integration.

02 6274 7302 s47F
David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

Rachel Bacon



Deputy Secretary Regional, Cities and Territories Group

Dr Rachel Bacon is currently Deputy Secretary of the Regional, Cities and Territories Group at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

Prior to this Rachel worked in the Department of Environment and Energy, running the Policy Analysis and Implementation Division and as Deputy Chief Executive Officer with the Northern Territory Government's Department of the Chief Minister.

Rachel previously led a number of taskforces based in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) working to deliver whole of government priorities in areas such as environment regulation reform and Australia's engagement with Asia.

02 6274 6181 s47F
Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

Marisa Purvis-Smith



**Deputy Secretary
Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia Group
CEO of the National Water Grid Authority**

Marisa is the Deputy Secretary of Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia and the CEO of the National Water Grid Authority within the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. This role includes responsibility for the Office of Northern Australia.

Marisa brings a wealth of experience, including a strong understanding of regional and community issues, including as First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development, Local Government and Regional Recovery. Prior to that, Marisa worked in the federal Treasury in a range of roles, including tax policy and Commonwealth-State relations. Marisa is also the department's representative on the Australian Maritime Safety Authority Board.

02 6274 7884 s47F
Marisa.Purvis-Smith@infrastructure.gov.au

Richard Windeyer



**Deputy Secretary
Communications and Media Group**

Richard has held Deputy Secretary roles in the communications portfolio since 2018. Richard joined the Australian Public Service 23 years ago. The majority of his career has been in the communications portfolio. He had held numerous roles in the departments responsible for communications and has also spent time in the offices of communications portfolio ministers. Other roles have included working on homeland security policy in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and on transport security policy.

The Communications and Media group has responsibility for broadband, telecommunications, media and digital platform industry policy, infrastructure investment and consumer policy, radio-communications policy, online safety as well as oversight of the government's shareholding interests in Australia Post and the National Broadband Network. The group is also responsible for policy and regulatory advice around public interest communications issues relating to provision of emergency calls, access to communications services by people with disabilities, and communications network resilience.

02 6274 7882 s47F
Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au

Stephen Arnott



Deputy Secretary Creative Economy and the Arts Group

Stephen Arnott is the Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy and the Arts in the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. Stephen has more than 20 years' experience in the Australian Public Service in arts, screen, creative industries, communications and technology policy areas. He has also worked as a ministerial adviser.

Stephen was promoted to the Senior Executive Service in 2009. He was awarded a Public Service Medal in 2005 for his work reforming Australia's symphony orchestras. Previously Stephen helped run a small business providing data security services to corporate clients in Sydney. Stephen has a Doctorate in French Philosophy from the University of New England where he lectured in both philosophy and psychology for a number of years.

02 6274 7883 s47F
Stephen.Arnott@arts.gov.au

Maree Bridger



Acting Chief Operating Officer

Maree Bridger is currently the acting Chief Operating Officer at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

Maree has worked in the Australian Public Service for 14 years across a range of policy, program, corporate and service delivery areas in the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, Services Australia, the Department of Immigration and Border Protection and the Australian Customs Service.

Maree's current responsibilities include leading a wide variety of corporate functions including: human resources, property, finance, IT, legal, governance, assurance and communications.

Prior to Maree's time in the APS she had 17 years in the private sector and held roles at the Shell Company of Australia, Osborne Computers Corporation and Austar United Communications. Prior to her transition in to the public sector, Maree worked as a consultant for 8 years, with a specific focus on organisational change, strategic planning, maximising competitive advantage and building organisational capability.

Maree has a Bachelor of Economics from ANU, an Executive MBA from the Australian Graduate School of Management at UNSW and is a Certified Practising Accountant.

02 6274 7029 s47F
Maree.Bridger@infrastructure.gov.au



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

Portfolio
Secretary
Taskforce
FAS: Julia
Pickworth



Secretary
Simon Atkinson
Chief of Staff:
Louise Rowlings

* Denotes acting
Taskforce

Organisational structure
current as at 20 May 2022

GROUP (Deputy Secretary)



Deputy Secretary
Creative Economy
and the Arts
Stephen
Arnott



Chief
Operating
Officer
Marse
Bridger*



Deputy
Secretary
Transport
Diane
Brown



Deputy
Secretary
Infrastructure
David
Hallinan



Deputy Secretary
Communications
and Media
Richard
Windeyer



Deputy Secretary
Regional, Cities
and Territories
Rachel
Bacon



Deputy Secretary
Water Infrastructure
and Northern Australia
/ CEO National Water
Grid Authority
Marisa
Purvis-Smith

DIVISION (First Assistant Secretary / SES Band 2)

Office for the Arts
Greg Cox

Date, Analytics
and Policy
Philip Smith

People,
Governance,
Parliamentary and
Communication
Ruth Wall

Finance and IT
Brad McLeod

Legal Services
Chris Burke

Domestic Aviation
and Reform
Janet Quigley

International
Aviation,
Technology
and Services
Richard Wood

Surface
Transport Policy
Madison*

Road and
Vehicle Safety
Lisa La Rance

Infrastructure
Investment
David Mackay

Major Transport
and Infrastructure
Projects
Jessica Hall

Significant
Projects
Investment
Delivery Office
Diane Hallam

Online Safety,
Infrastructure
Platforms
Pauline Sullivan

Communications
Infrastructure
Matthew Birne

Communications
Services and
Consumer
Lachlan
Paterson

Regional
Development, Local
Government and
Regional Recovery
Sarah Nately*

Territories
Sarah
Vandenbroek

Cities
Matthew Roper

Water
Infrastructure and
Northern Australia
Stephanie
Werner*

BRANCH (Assistant Secretary / SES Band 1)

Arts Development
and Investment
Alison Todd

Arts Recovery
and Response
Leone
Halloway

Creative Industries
Anne-Louise
Doves

Access and
Partnerships
Marie Gannell*

IT Services
Information
Security
Cassidy (CDO)

Infrastructure,
Transport and
Regional
Development
(Commercial)
Jonna Piva

Airports
Phil McClure

Western Sydney
Airport
Regulatory Policy
David Jansen

Transport Market
Reform and
Technology
Mike Malin

Vehicle Safety
Policy and
Partnerships
Anna Longford

Office of
Road Safety
Gabby O'Neill

North West
Infrastructure
Investment
Shona
Rosenberg

Inland Rail
Operations
Mitch Pirie

NSW, ACT and
Territory Roads
Rabyn Legg

VIC, TAS and SA
Robert Bradley

Investment
Advisory
and Business
Improvement
Andrew Bleich*

WSI - Governance
and Finance
Jennifer Stace

Inland Rail
Stakeholder and
Regional Delivery
Andrew Bourne

Program, Policy
and Budget
Benjamin
Wiegler*

Vehicle Safety
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David Mitchell*

Digital Initiatives
Maxine Ewers
(CDO)

Infrastructure,
Transport and
Regional
Development
(Commercial)
Jonna Piva

Strategic Policy
Economic Policy
Projects
Kai Everist*

Policy
Coordination
Sally Todd

Governance,
Ministerial and
Parliamentary
Services
Rebecca Rush

Assurance,
Integrity
Lachlan Wood

Regional Policy
and Environment
Clare Chapple

Sustainable
Maritime Safety
Review
Catherine
Gladman

WSI - Governance
and Finance
Jennifer Stace

Vehicle Safety
Policy and
Partnerships
Anna Longford

Vehicle Safety
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Partnerships
Anna Longford

Aviation
Programs
Ben Vincent

Domestic Policy
and Reform
Jason
Dymowski

International
Aviation
Jim Wolfe

Maritime
and Shipping
Andrew
Johnson

Land Transport
Policy
Paula Stagg

Safety and Future
Technology
Noa Opoku

Communications
and Arts
Stuart Kerr*

Human Resources
and Property
Stephanie
Bourke

Bureau of
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Ben Vincent

Establishing your office and ministerial support services

The department provides a range of services to support you and the effective establishment and operation of your office. Services to ministers typically provided by departments include provision of information and communications technology support, support for ministers' cabinet roles, media and communications assistance, and departmental liaison officers to manage the flow of briefing and correspondence between your office and the department. These are in addition, and separate, to services provided by the Department of Parliamentary Services at Parliament House and the support provided by the Department of Finance and the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

The Prime Minister's Office agrees staffing levels in ministers' offices including the number of departmental liaison officers. In the interim, the department will support the transition of your office to full operation, particularly in the first 3 months while staff are being appointed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* (see Department of Finance's Ministerial and Parliamentary Services for further advice and information).

In circumstances where ministers may hold a number of portfolios, there will be discussions across relevant agencies and with the Department of Parliamentary Services and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet regarding how best to service your office, including which agency will take a lead role with regard to support.

Senior staff will be in contact with you and your office as soon as possible to commence discussions regarding your immediate support requirements. We will have close engagement with you over the coming weeks to bed down our service offering. Your incoming Chief of Staff will be provided with an overview of our services in order to commence those discussions.

The department's primary points of contact on these matters are listed below.

Rebecca Rush

Assistant Secretary

Governance, Ministerial and Parliamentary Services

Rebecca.Rush@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6271 1153 s47F

Julia Pickworth

First Assistant Secretary

Transition Lead

Julia.Pickworth@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7565 s47F

International engagement

The department is responsible for delivering a range of domestic policy outcomes that are critical to the prosperity and well-being of Australians. Most of these outcomes can only be fully realised through the international engagement activities we undertake alongside the strategy and policy advice, fit-for-purpose regulation and program delivery services provided by the department to the Australian Government.

Our international engagement activities seek to achieve 3 objectives:

- Influence international agreements and standards and align international and Australian interests across transport, communications and the arts.
- Build capability and learn from international experience in order to provide informed advice on the portfolio's policy and programs.
- Ensure Australia meets international obligations with regard to the portfolio's areas of responsibility, and contributes to Australian foreign policy and trade initiatives.

Information on key international stakeholders and bodies that the department works with to achieve its international engagement objectives will be provided in separate briefing.

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National Intermodal Corporation Limited

Purpose

The National Intermodal Corporation Limited (National Intermodal) (formerly the Moorebank Intermodal Company Limited) is a Government Business Enterprise (GBE) limited by shares and wholly owned by the Australian Government. National Intermodal is governed by the *Commonwealth Government Business Enterprises – Governance and Oversight Guidelines* (GBE Guidelines) and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act).

National Intermodal was established to assist with delivery of intermodal terminals in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to support Inland Rail, and will play an important role in ensuring genuine, independent open access to a network of terminals, driving efficiency and competition in the freight network.

National Intermodal, in partnership with Qube Holdings Limited (Qube) and the LOGOS Property Group, is delivering the Moorebank Logistics Park (MLP) in south-west Sydney. The MLP contains an Import-Export (IMEX) Terminal with a dedicated freight rail connection to Port Botany, an Interstate Terminal and onsite warehousing. The IMEX terminal became operational in November 2019 and the Interstate Terminal is being developed through a joint venture between National Intermodal, Qube and LOGOS which is due for completion in March 2025. Once complete, the MLP will take up to 3,000 truck movements off Sydney's roads per day, reduce up to 110,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per year and create over 6,800 on-site and off-site jobs.

Since the 2021–22 Budget, the government has committed \$3.6 billion towards new intermodal terminals and supporting infrastructure in Melbourne, at both Beveridge and Truganina, including \$3.1 billion of funding in the 2022–23 Budget. Construction of the Melbourne terminals is expected to create over 1,350 jobs during peak construction and a further 550 jobs during peak operation, and remove 5,500 truck movements per day from Melbourne metropolitan arterial roads over the first 15 years of operation. A business case for the Brisbane terminal is underway in partnership with the Queensland Government.

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the GBE Guidelines,

- You and the Minister for Finance are shareholder ministers.
- Shareholder ministers appoint board members every 3 years.
- Shareholder ministers issue a statement of expectations and commercial freedoms framework to National Intermodal.
- Subject to consultation with the shareholder ministers, the directors of the National Intermodal board may appoint a chief executive officer (CEO) in accordance with the National Intermodal Constitution.
- Board and CEO appointments are considered significant appointments, and subject to additional government approval processes through the Prime Minister or Cabinet.
- You may delegate your powers as an accountable authority under the PGPA Act to an official of a non-corporate Commonwealth entity.

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Ms Erin Flaherty	Chair	3 February 2023
Mr Lucio Di Bartolomeo	Deputy Chair	1 May 2022
Mr Michael Byrne	Director	30 March 2025
Ms Annette Carey	Director	30 March 2025
Mr Joseph Carrozzi	Director	12 December 2024
Ms Bronwyn Morris	Director	12 December 2024
Ms Christine Holman	Director	25 July 2024
Mr Ron Koehler	Director	15 December 2022
The Hon James (Jim) Lloyd	Director	31 May 2022

National Intermodal acts in accordance with the PGPA Act, statement of expectations and commercial freedoms framework issued by shareholder ministers. The National Intermodal board consists of the chair, deputy chair and up to 7 additional members. The board, under your direction, is responsible for ensuring the performance of National Intermodal and the proper and efficient use of funds.

Funding profile

s47 [REDACTED]

As of 30 June 2021, Moorebank Intermodal had 24 employees.

Portfolio Entity Contact

David Hallinan

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure Group

David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7302 | s47F

Department Contact

Diana Hallam

First Assistant Secretary, Significant Projects Investment

Delivery Office

Diana.Hallam@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7007 | s47F

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WSA Co Ltd

Purpose

WSA Co Limited (WSA) is an unlisted public company limited by shares incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Corporations Act), and a Commonwealth Company for the purposes of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act). It was established in 2017 to deliver and operate the Western Sydney International (Nancy–Bird Walton) Airport.

Your roles and responsibilities

You and the Minister for Finance represent the Commonwealth as joint shareholder ministers for WSA. WSA is required to adhere to the Corporations Act and, as a wholly-owned Commonwealth company, to the governance and reporting requirements outlined in the PGPA Act. The PGPA Act outlines that the WSA board has a duty to keep shareholder ministers informed of WSA's activities, which complement and extend beyond directors' duties outlined in the Corporations Act.

Shareholder ministers' oversight of WSA is also governed through expectations and requirements set out in governance documents established between shareholder ministers and WSA, including:

- A Statement of Expectations, which details shareholder ministers' expectations of WSA in its delivery of the airport and other obligations.
- An Equity Subscriptions Agreement, which details the Commonwealth's provision of equity financing to WSA and the terms and conditions on which the financing is provided.
- A Commercial Freedoms Framework, which provides guidance and limits on WSA's activities to ensure alignment with shareholder ministers' expectations with regard to WSA's core business functions outlined in WSA's constitution.
- A Project Deed, which defines the scope of the airport WSA is required to deliver and provides clarity on the roles and responsibilities between WSA and the Commonwealth.

Board

WSA is governed by the 7 member WSA board under your direction. The WSA board meets regularly and is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of WSA, and is fully accountable to the shareholders.

Shareholder ministers have the exclusive power to appoint a person to the WSA board. These positions are significant appointments requiring consideration of the Prime Minister, or the Cabinet and fall within the remit of the Remuneration Tribunal. The WSA board is responsible for the appointment of the CEO, subject to consultation with shareholder ministers and as a significant appointment relevant agreements of the Prime Minister or the Cabinet.

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr Paul O'Sullivan s47F	Chair and Non-executive Director	6 August 2025
Ms Anthea Hammon	Non-executive Director	13 November 2022
Ms Fiona Balfour	Non-executive Director	6 August 2023
Mr Timothy Eddy	Non-executive Director	6 August 2023
Mr John Weber	Non-executive Director	13 November 2023
Ms Christine Spring	Non-executive Director	6 August 2024
Mr Vincent Graham	Non-executive Director	13 November 2024

Governance and functions

In addition to the PGPA Act and the Corporations Act, WSA is required to adhere to the Commonwealth Government Business Enterprise Governance and Oversight Guidelines.

WSA's governance framework includes the WSA Constitution, Statement of Expectations, Commercial Freedoms Framework and Equity Subscription Agreement.

WSA is required to annually prepare:

- A Corporate Plan covering a minimum of four years.
- A public Statement of Corporate Intent covering the same period as the Corporate Plan.
- An Annual Report, covering the previous financial year.

In addition, WSA prepares quarterly shareholder minister reports and responds to other ad hoc requests.

The role of the infrastructure portfolio minister with responsibility for WSA (supported by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications), as joint shareholder with the Minister for Finance, is to oversee the strategic direction and accountability of WSA. The department has strong engagement with the Department of Finance on these matters.

Funding profile

s47

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Equity injection	s47				
Total Australian Government Funding	s47				
Dividends returned to Australian Government^(b)	-	-	-	-	-

■

s47

^(b) Under the GBE Guidelines, GBEs are expected to agree a dividend policy and a payout ratio with shareholder ministers. The dividend policy is to have regard to the maintenance of, or progress toward, the GBE's optimal capital structure, profitability of the enterprise, and the level of agreed future capital expenditure. The development of WSA's dividend policy will be based on the recommendations of the WSA board and in consultation with shareholder ministers.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Simon Hickey Chief Executive Officer s47F	Jessica Hall First Assistant Secretary, Major Transport and Infrastructure Projects Division Jessica.Hall@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 6778 s47F



Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited

Purpose

The Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) Limited was established in 1998 and is a wholly owned Commonwealth company. ARTC's primary purpose is to provide efficient and seamless access to the interstate rail network in addition to improving Australia's productivity by making rail the mode of choice in the national logistics chain.

ARTC manages and operates more than 8,500km of (primarily) standard and dual gauge rail infrastructure across mainland Australia, which move both bulk and non-bulk freight. ARTC also manages the Hunter Valley coal rail network and the North East Rail Line in Victoria. ARTC is delivering a number of Commonwealth funded infrastructure projects that will strengthen its network and supply chain resilience, and ensure the national freight rail network is able to support Australia's economy into the future.

ARTC is also responsible for delivering the Inland Rail project: a new strategic 1,700km rail corridor between Melbourne and Brisbane via regional Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland (see Programs Administered by the Department – Delivery of Inland Rail).

Your roles and responsibilities

You and the Minister for Finance are joint shareholder ministers for ARTC. Your role encompasses oversight of ARTC, including its accountability, transparency, sustainability, governance arrangements and financial and operational performance to facilitate best practice governance.

You can issue a statement of expectations to the company outlining government priorities and setting clear objectives.

In accordance with Section 93 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) and following consultation with yourself, the Minister for Finance may issue a ministerial directive/government policy order to ARTC. Under section 28E of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014* (PGPA Rule), these ministerial directives/government policy orders are publically reported through ARTC's annual report.

You and the Minister for Finance appoint board members for terms of 3 years and appoint the chief executive officer (CEO) and managing director for a term of 5 years. In accordance with section 9 of ARTC's constitution, and subject to consultation with shareholder ministers, the board may appoint a chief executive for Inland Rail.

Board

ARTC is governed by the ARTC Board under your direction. The ARTC Board meet regularly and are responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of ARTC and is fully accountable to the shareholders.

Shareholder ministers are responsible for appointing 7 non-executive board members, including a chair. Shareholder ministers also appoint the company's CEO and managing director, who is also a board member. These positions are significant appointments requiring consideration of the Prime Minister or the Cabinet, and fall within the remit of the Remuneration Tribunal.

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
The Hon Warren Truss AC §47F	Chair	20 April 2024
Mr Mark Campbell §47F	Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director	29 April 2025
Mr Ryan Arrol §47F	Director	29 March 2025
Ms Keira Brennan §47F	Director	29 March 2025

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson s47F	Director	29 March 2025
Ms Rosheen Garnon s47F	Director	27 February 2025
Mr David Saxelby s47F	Director	25 November 2022
Ms Jennifer Seabrook s47F	Director	25 November 2022

Governance and functions

ARTC acts in accordance with the PGPA Act, the *Corporations Act 2001* and the Commonwealth Government Business Enterprise Governance and Oversight Guidelines.

ARTC's governance framework includes the ARTC Constitution 2012, Commercial Freedoms Framework, Inland Rail Statement of Expectations 2018, Inland Rail Equity Financing Agreement and Inland Rail Project Development Agreement.

ARTC is required to annually prepare: a corporate plan covering a minimum of 4 years; a public statement of corporate intent covering the same period as the corporate plan; and an annual report, covering the previous financial year.

In addition, ARTC prepare quarterly shareholder minister reports and other ad hoc requests.

The role of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, as joint shareholder with the Department of Finance, is to oversee the strategic direction and oversight of ARTC's operations. The department also oversees ARTC's delivery of vital infrastructure projects, including Inland Rail. The department has close engagement with the Department of Finance on these matters.

Funding profile

Under the *National Land Transport Act 2014*, ARTC is funded for rail infrastructure projects. Funding is appropriated through the department. ARTC receives a mixture of grant and equity funding. Equity funding is provided through the issue of shares, valued at a nominal \$1 per share. Funding is not provided for ongoing operational maintenance of the ARTC network.

As at 2022–23 Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Grants	380.6	172.4	20.7	7.0	0
Equity injection	s47F				
Total Australian Government Funding	s47F				
Dividends returned to the Australian Government^(a)	70.6	34.2	34.9	45.6	52.4

^(a) Subject to change based on shareholder minister agreement to the proposed dividend policy.

As of 2020–21, ARTC had 1,918 employees.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Mark Campbell Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director s47F	Jessica Hall First Assistant Secretary, Major Transport & Infrastructure Projects Jessica.Hall@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 6778 s47F
Gavin Carney General Council and Company Secretary s47F	Mitch Pirie Assistant Secretary, Inland Rail Operations Mitch.Pirie@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 6114 s47F



Airservices Australia

Purpose

Airservices Australia (Airservices) is responsible for providing air traffic services, aeronautical information services, aviation rescue and fire-fighting services, aeronautical communications, and facilities necessary for safe navigation of aircraft. Airservices also carries out activities to help minimise the impact of the environment from the effects of aircraft operations.

Airservices is a corporate Commonwealth entity established by the *Air Services Act 1995* (the Act).

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the Act:

- You are responsible for appointing board members (other than the CEO) and can make acting appointments to the office of chair and deputy chair. An individual board member appointment is a maximum of 5 years. An appointed member is eligible for re-appointment.
- You also have the power to grant leave of absence to the chair and to terminate the appointment of appointed board members.
- You may:
 - Give directions to Airservices relating to the performance of its functions or the exercise of its powers.
 - Direct a variation of Airservices' corporate plan.
 - Issue a statement of expectations to notify Airservices about its strategic direction and the manner in which it should perform its functions.
 - Direct Airservices to supply any documents or information to a person nominated by you.
- You may approve a written determination setting out charges for services or facilities provided by Airservices and penalties for late payment of these charges.
- You may approve or vary the board's dividend recommendations.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr John Weber	Chair	2 June 2024
Mr Gregory Hood	Deputy Chair	7 September 2024
Ms Anne Brown	Member	3 December 2022
Ms Sue Ellen Bussell AM	Member	3 December 2022
Mr David Marchant AM	Member	20 July 2023
Dr Marlene Kanga AM	Member	3 September 2024
Dr Eileen Doyle	Member	20 April 2025
Mr Lawrence Turner	Member	2 March 2024

The CEO of Airservices is Mr Jason Harfield (term of appointment 9 March 2021 to 8 March 2024).

Governance and functions

Airservices acts in accordance with its establishment Act, your statement of expectations, the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014* (PGPA Rule) which require Airservices to deliver annual reports and to prepare corporate plans.

It has been usual practice for the minister to issue a statement of expectations every 2 years and for Airservices to respond with a statement of intent, which are included in the corporate plan and annual report.

Airservices is governed by its board under your direction. The board is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of Airservices' functions. The board consists of the chair, deputy chair, CEO (ex-officio member) and 6 other members.

Airservices is an entity under the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio. s47C

Funding profile

Airservices is funded through industry charges levied on aviation activity. Airservices typically operates with minimal financial support and historically has provided dividend payments to the Australian Government.

COVID-19's impact on the aviation industry has had negative impacts on Airservices' ability to generate revenue. The reduction in aviation activity and fee waivers applied during COVID-19 resulted in the government providing \$2 billion in financial support to ensure Airservices remained viable, including a \$495 million equity injection in the 2022–23 Budget.

s47E

As at 2022–23 Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Grants	63.9 ^(a)	-	-	-	-
Equity injection	-	495.0	-	-	-
Total Australian Government Funding	63.9	495.0	-	-	-
Dividends returned to Australian Government	-	-	-	-	-

^(a) A \$550 million grant to Airservices was reported in the 2021–22 Budget, but this amount was paid in the 2020–21 financial year and so is not included in the table.

As of 2020–21, Airservices had 3,353 employees.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
John Weber Chair s47F	Richard Wood First Assistant Secretary, International Aviation, Technology and Services Richard.Wood@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 6589 s47F
Jason Harfield Chief Executive Officer s47F	Naa Opoku Assistant Secretary, Safety & Future Technology Naa.Opoku@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6271 6609 s47F



Australian Maritime Safety Authority

Purpose

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) is Australia's national maritime regulatory body responsible for ensuring safe vessel operations, combating marine pollution and rescuing people in distress. AMSA has regulatory responsibilities for international shipping in Australian waters and the safety of domestic commercial vessels.

AMSA's responsibilities include:

- Promote maritime safety and protection of the marine environment.
- Prevent and combat ship-sourced pollution in the marine environment.
- Provide infrastructure to support safety of navigation in Australian waters.
- Provide a national search and rescue service to the maritime and aviation sectors.
- Provide, on request, services to the maritime industry on a commercial basis.
- Provide, on request, services of a maritime nature on a commercial basis to the Australian Government and/or states and territories.

AMSA is an independent statutory authority established under the *Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990* (AMSA Act).

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the AMSA Act,

- You are responsible for appointing board members for periods not exceeding 5 years.
- You are not able to issue directions to the board, but can issue a statement of expectations.
- You are responsible for appointing a chief executive officer to hold office for a period not exceeding 5 years.
- You may delegate your powers under section 30, 31, 34, 48, 59 under the AMSA Act to the secretary or an SES employee of the department.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr Mick Kinley s47F	Chief Executive Officer	30 June 2024
Mr Stuart Richey AM s47F	Chair	20 November 2022
Ms Jennifer Clark	Deputy Chair	9 February 2025
Dr Ian Poiner	Member	12 November 2022
Mr Daryl Quinlivan	Member	16 December 2024
Ms Marisa Purvis-Smith	Departmental ex-officio member	Appointment term is ongoing
Mr Peter Toohey	Member	16 December 2024
Ms Elizabeth Montano	Member	16 December 2024
Capt Jeanine Drummond	Member	16 December 2024

Governance and functions

AMSA acts in accordance with the AMSA Act, the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and your statement of expectations.

AMSA is governed by the AMSA board. The board is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of AMSA's functions. It is to consist of the chair, deputy chair, chief executive officer plus 6 additional members.

AMSA is required to prepare a statement of intent, corporate plan and annual report.

The department provides advice to you on appointments to the AMSA board and CEO and on the reporting requirements of AMSA.

The department has an ex-officio appointment on the board. This is a ministerial appointment under the AMSA Act.

Funding profile

AMSA is not directly appropriated as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the department (a non-corporate Commonwealth entity), which are then paid to AMSA and are considered departmental for all purposes. AMSA's services are mainly provided on a cost recovery basis from fee and levy revenue sources. Levies collected under the following Acts are paid to the Consolidated Revenue Fund and appropriated under section 48 of the AMSA Act through the department as special appropriations:

- *Marine Navigation Levy Act 1989*
- *Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Act 1991*
- *Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Act 1981.*

AMSA is funded separately to provide a national search and rescue service to the maritime and aviation sectors and for the delivery of safety regulation under the National System for Domestic Commercial Vessel Safety.

Levies collected relating to the AMSA Act enable AMSA to deliver maritime safety and environmental protection regulations for international shipping, including the requirements under the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) and International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL).

As at 2022–23 Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government	224.9	229.0	234.8	239.2	243.3
Other Revenue	16.1	13.3	12.7	12.8	13.1
Total Resourcing	240.9	242	247.5	252.0	256.4
Average Staffing Level	447	448			

Please note: Funding profile table may not total due to rounding.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Stuart Richey AMSA Chair s47F	Andrew Madsen Acting First Assistant Secretary, Surface Transport Policy Division andrew.madsen2@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 7804 s47F
Mick Kinley AMSA CEO s47F	Andrew Johnson Assistant Secretary, Maritime and Shipping Andrew.Johnson@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 6881 s47F



National Transport Commission

Purpose

The National Transport Commission (NTC) is an independent inter-governmental statutory agency established by the Commonwealth and state and territory governments to improve the productivity, safety and environmental performance of Australia's road, rail and intermodal transport systems.

The NTC's primary purpose is:

- To develop uniform or nationally consistent regulatory and operational arrangements for road, rail and intermodal transport.
- Maintaining and reviewing agreed reforms including model law.
- Monitoring and reporting on the implementation of agreed reforms by state and territory governments and regularly report to the Infrastructure and Transport Ministers' Meeting (ITMM).
- Undertaking research, as directed by ministers, to support model law reforms and broader strategic transport policy.

The NTC also delivers a number of reform initiatives including reviewing and maintaining national laws agreed by governments, the heavy vehicle charging methodology, and a framework to support the use of automated vehicles.

The NTC is a corporate commonwealth entity established by the *National Transport Commission Act 2003* (NTC Act).

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the NTC Act:

- You appoint its commissioners (board members) for a term up to 3 years, as agreed by the ITMM.
- You can issue a statement of expectations, as agreed by the ITMM.
- Subject to consultation with the ITMM, the commissioners appoint a CEO in accordance with the NTC Act.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Ms Carolyn Walsh	Chair	31 December 2023
Ms Nola Bransgrove	Deputy Chair	31 December 2022
Mr Reece Waldock	Commissioner	31 December 2022
Mr Neil Scales	Commissioner	31 December 2023
Mr Simon Atkinson	Commissioner	8 October 2023
Ms Gillian Miles	Chief Executive Officer	31 March 2024

Governance and functions

The NTC acts in accordance with the NTC Act, the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, and the NTC Statement of Expectations agreed by the ITMM.

The NTC is governed by the commissioners under the direction of the ITMM. The commission is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of the NTC's functions. It consists of a chair, deputy chair, plus 3 additional members and the chief executive officer.

The NTC is required to prepare a corporate plan and annual report, which is approved by the ITMM.

The department and state and territory transport agencies provide oversight of the NTC's activities through the Infrastructure and Transport Senior Officials Committee (ITSOC). The secretary (as chair of ITSOC) serves as one of the NTC's Commissioners, along with a state/territory member of ITSOC (currently Neil Scales, Director-General, Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads). The department also manages the tabling of the NTC's annual reports and the consideration of NTC matters by the ITSOC and ITMM.

Funding profile

The NTC is jointly funded by Commonwealth, state and territory governments.

The Commonwealth's funding for the NTC is not directly appropriated, as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the department (a non-corporate Commonwealth entity), which are then paid to the NTC and are considered "departmental" for all purposes.

As at 2022–23 Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government	4.5	4.4	4.3	3.9	4.0
Other Revenue	8.3	8.0	8.1	7.2	7.4
Total Resourcing	12.7	12.4	12.5	11.1	11.4
Average Staffing Level	42	43			

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Gillian Miles Chief Executive Officer s47F	Andrew Madsen Acting First Assistant Secretary, Surface Transport Policy Division andrew.madsen2@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 7804 s47F



Civil Aviation Safety Authority

Purpose

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) is the agency responsible for establishing a regulatory framework to maintain, enhance and promote the safety of civil aviation, with particular emphasis on preventing aviation accidents and incidents. CASA also has an obligation to foster the efficient use of, and equitable access to, Australian-administered airspace.

CASA is a corporate Commonwealth entity established in 1995 under the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* (CA Act).

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the CA Act:

- You are responsible for appointing members and the deputy chair and chair of the CASA board, including making acting appointments. An appointment can be for a maximum of 3 years, and members are eligible for re-appointment.
- You may give the CASA board written directions through a statement of expectations as to the performance of its functions or the exercise of its powers. You may also notify the CASA board in writing of your views on the following:
 - The appropriate strategic direction for CASA.
 - The manner in which CASA should perform its functions.
- You may direct CASA to give any documents or information relating to its operations to a person nominated by you.
- Your directions as to the performance of CASA's regulatory functions can only be of a general nature.
- You must respond to CASA's corporate plan within 60 days of being provided the plan. Your response may include a direction to the CASA board to vary the plan.
- You must cause a copy of the corporate plan to be laid before each House of Parliament within 15 sitting days after responding to the plan, if the response did not include a direction to vary the plan, and within 15 sitting days after receiving a revised copy of the plan, if the response included a direction to vary the plan.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Air Chief Marshal (Ret'd) Mark Binskin AC	Chair	19 August 2024
Vacant	Deputy Chair	
Ms Donna Hardman	Member	31 December 2022
Ms Marilyn Andre	Member	30 June 2023
Ms Elizabeth Hallett	Member	30 June 2023
Mr Michael Bridge	Member	30 September 2023
Professor Felipe Gonzalez	Member	22 March 2025

The Chief Executive Officer and Director of Aviation Safety is Ms Pip Spence PSM (commenced 17 May 2021).

Governance and functions

CASA operates in accordance with the CA Act, your statement of expectations, the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014* (PGPA Rule), which require CASA to deliver annual reports and to prepare corporate plans. CASA also acts in accordance with the principles outlined in the Regulator Performance Guide.

As set out in the CA Act, CASA's key function is to conduct the safety regulation of civil air operations in Australia and of Australian aircraft operating overseas. CASA also has responsibility for classifying Australian-administered airspace and determining the services and facilities provided by approved air navigation service providers, having regard to the efficient use of, and equitable access to, Australian-administered airspace.

In performing its functions, CASA takes into account the economic and cost impact of the standards it sets, the differing risks associated with different aviation industry sectors and, to the extent practicable, the effects of the operation and use of aircraft on the environment. In all cases, the safety of air navigation is CASA's most important consideration. CASA also provides safety-focused education and training programs.

It has been usual practice for the minister to issue a statement of expectations every two years, which are included in the corporate plan and annual report. We will provide you with an updated statement of expectations in the second half of 2022 to reflect the government's priorities.

CASA is governed by its board under your direction. The board is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of CASA's functions. The board consists of the chair, deputy chair, CEO and 6 other members and a meeting must have a quorum of four members.

CASA is an entity under the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio.

s47C

Funding profile

CASA is not directly appropriated as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the department, which are then paid to CASA and are considered 'departmental' for all purposes.

CASA receives funding from three major sources: a 3.556 cents per litre excise on aviation fuel consumed by all domestic aircraft (all of which is provided to CASA); a Government annual appropriation; and regulatory services fees and levies. Due to the impact of COVID-19, the Government has provided increased funding to offset decreased revenue from the fuel excise and waivers for regulatory fees and levies. As of the 2022–23 Budget, CASA has received \$190.3 million in funding support due to COVID-19, with an additional \$32.3 million in support appropriated for the 2023–24 financial year.

Payments from special appropriations under the *Aviation Fuel Revenues (Special Appropriation) Act 1988* (the Fuel Revenues Act) are made to CASA by the department. The payments are ongoing. Aviation fuel excise forecasts are unpredictable and unreliable, in particular due to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on aviation activity.

As at 2022–23 Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government	208.8	182.6	190.0	163.7	163.9
Other Revenue	8.7	9.8	9.2	9.5	9.7
Total Resourcing	217.4	192.4	199.2	173.2	173.6
Average Staffing Level	832	832			

Portfolio Entity Contacts

ACM (ret'd) Mark Binskin AC

Chair

s47F

Pip Spence

CEO and Director of Aviation Safety

s47F

Department Contacts

Richard Wood

First Assistant Secretary, International Aviation, Technology and Services

Richard.Wood@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6589 | s47F

Naa Opoku

Assistant Secretary, Safety & Future Technology

Naa.Opoku@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6271 6609 | s47F

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Infrastructure Australia

Purpose

Infrastructure Australia (IA) is established by Part 2 of the *Infrastructure Australia Act 2008* (IA Act).

IA is a statutory authority that advises governments, investors and infrastructure owners, and the community on matters relating to infrastructure. IA maintains the Infrastructure Priority List, identifies infrastructure needs and opportunities, and develops research and advice on broader opportunities for infrastructure reform.

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the IA Act:

- You may give written directions to the IA board about the performance of its functions. In giving directions, you may have regard to any decisions by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG).¹ Any directions must be of a general nature only and you must not give directions about the content of any audit, list, evaluation, plan or advice to be provided by IA.
- You appoint IA board members (including a chair) by written instrument, usually every three years. The chief executive officer (CEO) is appointed by the IA board by written instrument. Please note, the current CEO, Ms Romilly Madew, has announced her resignation from IA for the end of July 2022. Acting CEO arrangements will likely be put in place until the Board recruits a new CEO. Your office will be briefed on the appointment in due course.
- You may delegate some of your powers under the IA Act (other than powers or functions under section 6, 8 or 18) to the Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (the department) or an SES employee or acting SES employee in the department.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr Colin (Col) Murray s47F	Chair	30 November 2024
Ms Amanda Cooper	Member	30 November 2024
Ms Elizabeth Schmidt	Member	30 November 2024
Mr Robert Moffat	Member	30 November 2024
Ms Vicki Meyer	Member	31 October 2024
Dr Vanessa Guthrie AO	Member	30 November 2024
Cr Vonette Mead	Member	31 October 2024
Mr Graham Quirk	Member	30 November 2022
Mr John McGee	Member	30 March 2025
Mr John Fitzgerald	Member	30 November 2022
Ms Marion Fulker AM	Member	30 November 2022

¹ On 29 May 2020, the National Cabinet agreed to the formation of the National Federation Reform Council (NFRC) and the cessation of the COAG.

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr Mark Balnaves	Member	30 November 2022

Governance and functions

IA functions in accordance with the IA Act, the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) and your statement of expectations. IA must prepare a corporate plan at least once each financial year covering a period of 3 financial years and must consult with you in doing so. IA prepares an annual report and a statement of intent in response to your statement of expectations.

The IA CEO is responsible for the day-to-day administration of IA, which is governed by the IA board. The board comprises the chair and 11 other members, with a quorum of 8 members required for a meeting. The IA board must convene at least 4 meetings each calendar year.

The functions of the board are:

- to decide the objectives, strategies and policies to be followed by IA
- to ensure the proper, efficient and effective performance of the IA functions and
- any other functions conferred to the board by the IA Act.

IA's functions include conducting audits, developing priority lists based on its audits, evaluating nationally significant infrastructure,² developing infrastructure plans, providing advice on infrastructure matters, identifying impediments to infrastructure investments and remedies, to promote investment in infrastructure, to provide advice on the harmonisation of policies and laws, and to undertake or commission research relating to its functions.

The department is responsible for advising IA on government policy, administrative arrangements and budget matters and may seek assistance from IA in the preparation of correspondence including ministerial replies, senate committee submissions and other parliamentary inquiries.

The department provides policy advice to you on all aspects of IA's operations and is responsible for supporting you in appointing the chair and IA board members.

Funding profile

IA is a corporate Commonwealth entity and appropriations are made to the department which are then distributed to IA.

As at 2022–23 Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government	12.9	12.7	12.8	12.9	13.0
Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenue	12.9	12.7	12.8	12.9	13.0
Average Staffing Level	30	29			

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Romilly Madew AO FTSE CEO s47F	David Mackay First Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Investment Division David.Mackay@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 6642 s47F

² Transport infrastructure, energy infrastructure, communications infrastructure and water infrastructure.



Australian Transport Safety Bureau

Purpose

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) is an independent statutory agency which conducts no-blame safety investigations in the aviation, rail and interstate and overseas shipping modes of transport. Through these investigations, the ATSB's purpose is to improve transport safety for the greatest public benefit by identifying systemic issues and influencing safety action.

The ATSB is a non-corporate Commonwealth entity established by the *Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003* (TSI Act). The TSI Act makes it clear that in carrying out its purpose the ATSB cannot apportion blame, assist in determining liability or, as a general rule, assist in court proceedings.

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the TSI Act:

- You appoint the chief commissioner and other commissioners under section 13 of the Act.
- You may give a written Statement of Expectations to the ATSB on its strategic direction.
- You may direct the ATSB to investigate a transport safety matter.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr Angus Mitchell	Chief Commissioner	1 September 2026
Mr Gary Prosser	Commissioner	30 September 2022
Mr Christopher Manning	Commissioner	8 June 2023
Ms Catherine Scott	Commissioner	7 September 2023

Chief Commissioner Angus Mitchell will be available to assist with any early ministerial engagement with the ATSB.

Governance and functions

The ATSB acts in accordance with the TSI Act, your Statement of Expectations, the *Public Governance Performance & Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) and is subject to the *Public Service Act 1999*. The ATSB provides a corporate plan and an annual report each year.

The ATSB is led by a commission structure, headed by a chief commissioner to govern the overall functions of the entity. It is constituted by a full-time commissioner and 3 part-time commissioners.

The ATSB's function is to improve transport safety through:

- The independent investigation of transport accidents and other safety occurrences.
- Safety data recording, analysis and research.
- Fostering safety awareness, knowledge and action.

The ATSB is an entity under the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio. The department has regular executive level meetings with the ATSB.

Funding profile

The ATSB receives funding from the Australian Government through an annual appropriation. Part of this government funding is sourced from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, for the ATSB's bilateral engagements with the transport safety authorities of Indonesia and Papua New Guinea.

The ATSB also receives a small amount of other revenue from some state and territory governments for its role as the national rail investigator.

As at 2022–23 Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government – Appropriation	20.9	21.0	21.3	21.7	21.8
Capital funding	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Other Revenue	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Total Resourcing	22.9	23.1	23.4	23.8	23.9
Average Staffing Level	106	105			

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Angus Mitchell Chief Commissioner s47F	Richard Wood First Assistant Secretary, International Aviation, Technology and Services Richard.Wood@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 6589 s47F
	Naa Opoku Assistant Secretary, Safety & Future Technology Naa.Opoku@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6271 6609 s47F



National Faster Rail Agency

Purpose

The National Faster Rail Agency (NFRA) was established on 1 July 2019 as an executive agency under section 65 of the *Public Service Act 1999* (PS Act) within the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio.

The NFRA supports the Australian Government in planning for Australia's future population by working closely with state and territory governments on opportunities to develop faster rail services between major cities and key regional centres. The NFRA is leading the development and implementation of the Australian Government's 20-year Plan for a Faster Rail Network, and the \$6 billion Faster Rail Investment Program released in April 2022. The agency has built up a small specialist multi-disciplinary team, and put in place robust governance and accountability systems, project tools and processes to support its activities.

s47C

Your roles and responsibilities

You have authority to appoint the chief executive officer (CEO) under section 67 the *Public Service Act 1999* (PS Act), via an instrument of appointment. s47C

Leadership team

Name	Position	Date of appointment	Appointment Expiry
Mr Barry Broe s47F	CEO	6 January 2020	11 December 2024
Mr Greg Whalen s47F	General Manager	20 September 2021	-

s47F

Governance and functions

A memorandum of understanding has been established with the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (the department) for the provision of corporate services to the NFRA.

The CEO is the accountable authority, and acts in accordance with an Order of the Governor-General, the PS Act, and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act). The NFRA is required to prepare a corporate plan and annual report in accordance with all applicable requirements of the PGPA Act.

The NFRA has built up its expertise and knowledge through business cases, liaison with the states, and a series of technical consultancies. The agency has focused on ensuring all work is done comprehensively and informed advice is provided to the minister.

The NFRA has the following functions:

- Lead the development and implementation of the Commonwealth Government's 20-year Fast Rail Plan.
- Oversee the development of business cases with state and territory governments, ensuring that population and transport policy objectives are met.
- Identify additional rail corridors that would benefit from faster rail services over the long term, in consultation with state and territory governments, industry and stakeholders.
- Work with relevant state and territory governments in the delivery of faster rail construction projects.
- Develop an investment strategy recommending how faster rail projects can be staged to link future expenditure to investment need, and increase community and industry confidence to reduce market pressures.
- Work in partnership with the Infrastructure and Project Financing Agency to explore alternative funding and financing options for faster rail, such as private sector investment and value capture opportunities.
- Provide advice on options to future-proof corridors for high-speed rail, including the need for technical guidelines, corridor planning and protection.

Funding profile

The NFRA is a non-corporate Commonwealth entity.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government	3.5	3.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Other Revenue ^(a)	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenue ^(b)	3.5	3.5	2.5	2.5	2.6
Average Staffing Level	11	11			

^(a) Other revenue each year of \$25,000.

^(b) Figures may not add due to rounding.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Barry Broe CEO s47F	David Mackay First Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Investment Division David.Mackay@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 6642 s47F



North Queensland Water Infrastructure Authority

Purpose

The North Queensland Water Infrastructure Authority (NQWIA) was established on 12 March 2019 as an executive agency under section 65 of the *Public Service Act 1999* with a focus on the delivery of water infrastructure projects in North Queensland. NQWIA's establishment pre-dates the establishment of the National Water Grid Authority (NWGA).

NQWIA's key objective is to provide strategic planning and coordination of Commonwealth resources to implement water projects in Northern Queensland, including the Hughenden Irrigation Scheme, Hells Gates Dam, and Big Rocks Weir. These projects are located in the electoral division of Kennedy. NQWIA works collaboratively with stakeholders, local governments and the Queensland Government to progress project feasibility and planning activities for major water infrastructure initiatives potentially eligible to receive funding from the National Water Grid Fund.¹ NQWIA works closely with the NWGA, as the NWGA retains responsibility for the administration of the National Water Grid Fund.

Your roles and responsibilities

As the agency minister:

- You may appoint a person to be the chief executive officer (CEO) of NQWIA for a period of up to 5 years as specified in the instrument of appointment.

s47C

s47C

Executive team

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr James (Jim) Pruss	Chief Executive Officer	16 July 2022
Mr Matthew Squire	Chief Operating Officer	N/A
Dr Peter Wallbrink	Chief Scientist	N/A

¹ See Programs administered by the department – National Water Grid Fund

Governance and functions

NQWIA acts in accordance with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and its executive orders.

NQWIA is required to prepare a statement of corporate intent, corporate plan and annual report. NQWIA uses the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communication's framework of operational policies and guidelines, supported by accountable authority instructions, operational guidelines, human resources policies, processes and behaviours to ensure it delivers on its purpose and vision, conforms to its obligations and meets expectations of accountability and transparency.

Funding profile

NQWIA is directly appropriated. In the 2022–23 Budget, a measure was agreed to provide NQWIA with new funding of \$11.6 million to continue operations over the next 5 years to 30 June 2027. s47C

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government	3.3	3.3	2.6	2.6	2.7
Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenue	3.3	3.3	2.6	2.6	2.7
Average Staffing Level	3	10			

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Jim Pruss CEO, North Queensland Water Infrastructure Authority s47F	Stephanie Werner Acting First Assistant Secretary, Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia Stephanie.Werner@infrastructure.gov.au s47F

Other boards and structures

Body	Description	Established by/under	Appointed by
Aircraft Noise Ombudsman	The Aircraft Noise Ombudsman conducts independent reviews of Airservices Australia's and Defence's management of aircraft noise-related activities.	<i>Air Services Act 1995</i>	Minister
Australian Road Research Board Group Limited	Australian Road Research Board Group Limited (ARRB) provides research, consulting to road authorities and the road transport industry primarily on a fee-for-service basis.	Not-for-profit company	Australian Government, state and territory governments
Austrroads	Austrroads is the association of Australian and New Zealand road transport and traffic authorities. Austrroads promotes improved Australian and New Zealand transport outcomes by providing expert technical input to national policy development on road and road transport issues.	Australian and New Zealand road transport and traffic authorities	Representatives from member organisations
Black Spot Consultative Panels	The panels are managed by the relevant state/territory road authority who assesses nominations for Black Spot projects and arranges meetings. Each panel agrees on a list of projects each year to be submitted for the consideration and approval of the minister, through the department.	Ministerial authority	Each panel chair is appointed by the minister
Brisbane Airport Post Implementation Review Advisory Forum	The Forum is an independent, community-orientated forum that provides advice to Airservices Australia on the Brisbane Airport Flight Path Changes Post Implementation Review and reports to the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development.	Ministerial authority	Minister
Forum on Western Sydney Airport	A key objective of the Forum is to promote informed and responsive engagement between community and stakeholder representatives and an Aviation Expert Steering Group on issues relating to airspace management and flight path options, noise abatement and other aircraft operating procedures, and potential noise and amenity impacts from aircraft overflights.	Western Sydney Airport — Airport Plan	Minister

Body	Description	Established by/under	Appointed by
General Aviation Advisory Network	The General Aviation Advisory Network is to operate as a forum where industry representatives can identify opportunities to work collaboratively to respond to pressures facing the general aviation sector; provide advice to the Minister on matters impacting on generation aviation particularly where existing consultative processes are not addressing the issue; and act as a reference group for the General Aviation Study, conducted by the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Research Economics.	Ministerial authority	Minister
International Air Services Commission	The International Air Services Commission's (IASC) role is to determine the outcomes of applications by existing and prospective Australian airlines for capacity and route entitlements available under air services arrangements.	<i>International Air Services Commission Act 1992</i> , section 6	Governor-General in Council
National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Industry Reference Panel	The reference panel monitors progress in implementing the strategy and provides independent advice to support the delivery of the strategy.	Ministerial authority	Infrastructure and Transport Ministers' Meeting ministers
National Heavy Vehicle Regulator Further information is provided in this chapter	The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) is Australia's first national, independent Regulator for all vehicles over 4.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass. The NHVR currently manages National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme accreditations and Performance-Based Standards Scheme design and vehicle approvals nationally. From 10 February 2014, the NHVR commenced administering a single set of laws for heavy vehicles under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL), delivering a comprehensive range of services under a consistent regulatory framework in participating jurisdictions (all states and territories except WA and NT).	<i>Heavy Vehicle National Law Act 2012</i>	Infrastructure and Transport Ministers Meeting ministers

Body	Description	Established by/under	Appointed by
National Maritime Safety Regulator	The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), is the National Maritime Safety Regulator and is responsible for the National System for Domestic Commercial Vessel Safety (National System). The National System is designed to provide a single national regulatory framework ensuring the safe operation, design, construction and equipping of domestic commercial vessels in Australian waters. It provides for a national approach allowing operators, seafarers and vessels to move seamlessly between jurisdictions under a reduced regulatory burden and a single national jurisdiction.	<i>Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Act 2012</i> <i>Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law (Consequential Amendments) Act 2012</i>	Infrastructure and Transport Ministers Meeting ministers
Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator Further information is provided in this chapter	The primary objectives of the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator are to encourage and enforce safe operations and to promote and improve national rail safety. The office has responsibility for regulatory oversight of rail safety law in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania, the Northern Territory, the Australian Capital Territory, and Western Australia.	Rail Safety National Law	Infrastructure and Transport Ministers Meeting ministers
Slot Compliance Committee	The Slot Compliance Committee oversees the compliance scheme for Sydney Airport consistent with section 49 of the <i>Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997</i> .	<i>Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997</i> and associated Regulations	Minister
Sydney Airport Community Forum	The Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) provides advice to the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development on the Long Term Operating Plan for the Airport.	Australian Government ministers in the region surrounding Sydney Airport	Minister
Sydney Airport Slot Manager	The Sydney Airport Slot Manager has responsibility for the administration of slot management at Sydney Airport, including slot allocation, reporting and monitoring, compliance and financial management. Slots are airline rights to terminal gates for departure and arrival times.	<i>Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997</i>	Minister
Transport Certification Australia Limited	The Transport Certification Australia Limited (TCA) is a public company established by Australian and state and territory governments providing assurance in the use of telematics and related technologies, to support the current and emerging needs of Australian Governments.	Australian governments	Australian Government, state and territory governments

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National Heavy Vehicle Regulator

Purpose

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) is the national regulator for heavy vehicles over 4.5 tonnes (excluding Western Australia and the Northern Territory). It is established under the *Heavy Vehicle National Law Act 2012* (Qld) (HVNL Act). Each state and territory covered by the HVNL has passed legislation to adopt it in their state and territory, with some modifications.

The NHVR regulates safety and productivity including driver fatigue management, vehicle safety, extension of obligations to others in the supply chain, mass, dimension and loading requirements, and coordinates heavy vehicle access permissions with state and local governments.

Your roles and responsibilities

While the HVNL is not Commonwealth legislation, you are a responsible minister under the HVNL Act. Responsible ministers are Australian Government and state and territory ministers responsible for transport portfolios (excluding Western Australia and the Northern Territory).

The Queensland minister, on the unanimous recommendation of the responsible ministers makes appointments to the NHVR board. In determining whether to recommend candidates for appointment, responsible ministers must ensure that a candidate's skills and experience meet the requirements of the HVNL.

Responsible ministers may give directions to the NHVR about policies to be applied by the NHVR in exercising its functions, and approve guidelines under the HVNL. Each responsible minister must table the NHVR's annual report in their respective parliament each year.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr Duncan Gay	Chair	11 October 2024
Ms Julie Russell	Deputy Chair	16 October 2022
Mr Ken Lay AO APM	Member	11 October 2024
Mr Robin Stewart-Crompton	Member	11 October 2024
Ms Catherine Scott	Member	16 October 2022

Governance and functions

The NHVR acts in accordance with requirements of the HVNL Act and must report to responsible ministers on the operation of the HVNL.

The NHVR is governed by a board, which is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of the NHVR's functions. It is to consist of the chair, deputy chair, plus three additional members.

The NHVR's chief executive officer is Mr Sal Petrocchio. Mr Petrocchio is appointed by the board and is responsible for the day-to-day management of the NHVR.

The NHVR is required to give responsible ministers an annual report for the financial year within three months after the end of each financial year. The NHVR is also required to prepare and give to responsible ministers for approval a

corporate plan for each 3-year period on an annual basis. Additionally, the NHVR is required to provide responsible ministers a report about any matter related to the exercise of their statutory functions in response to a written direction.

Funding profile

s47E. The Australian Government does not fund the NHVR for its regulatory functions. The Australian Government provides grant funding to the NHVR to administer the Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative (see Programs administered by the department – National Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative) and Strategic Local Government Asset Assessment Projects (see Programs administered by the department – Strategic Local Government Asset Assessment Project).

As at 30 June 2021, the NHVR employed 468 people.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)
Revenue from the Australian Government ^(a)	9.5	9.6	8.2
Other Revenue	175.7	179.1	183.5
Total Resourcing	185.2	188.7	193.1

^(a) Per the 2022-23 Budget, funding for the National Heavy Vehicle Safety initiative is \$4.2m for 2024-25, and \$4.3m for 2025-26.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Sal Petrocchio Chief Executive Officer National Heavy Vehicle Regulator s47F	Andrew Madsen Acting First Assistant Secretary, Surface Transport Policy Division andrew.madsen2@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 7804 s47F



Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator

Purpose

The Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator (ONRSR) oversees rail safety regulation in every Australian state and territory, and promotes national rail safety to ensure the safety of the community.

ONRSR is an independent body corporate established under the *Rail Safety National Law (South Australia) Act 2012* (RSNL). ONRSR performs its functions and responsibilities, and exercises its regulatory powers on behalf of the state, territory and Australian Government ministers for transport and infrastructure. ONRSR reports to ministers through the Infrastructure and Transport Ministers' Meetings (ITMM).

Your roles and responsibilities

While the RSNL is not Commonwealth legislation, you are a 'responsible minister' under the RSNL. Responsible ministers are Australian Government and state and territory ministers responsible for transport portfolios.

Unanimous agreement from responsible ministers is needed for:

- The appointment of National Rail Safety Regulator and non-executive members.
- Recommendations to the designated authority (generally, the Governor of the State of South Australia) about any national regulations required to implement changes in rail regulation policy.

As the Australian Government minister, you have discretion on whether or not to exercise a function or power given to the responsible ministers under the RSNL (state and territory ministers do not have this discretion).

Responsible ministers also agree to ONRSR's statement of intent and approve other governance-related documents such as its annual report (jurisdictional ministers are required to table the report in their respective parliaments but the Australian Government is not required to do so as the RSNL is not Commonwealth legislation).

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Ms Sue McCarrey	National Rail Safety Regulator and CEO	2 November 2022
Ms Trish White	Non-executive member	1 December 2022
Ms Julie-Anne Schafer	Non-executive member	6 September 2025

Governance and functions

ONRSR acts in accordance with requirements of the RSNL.

The RSNL is applied through legislation in all jurisdictions except for Western Australia, which enacts mirror legislation. The RSNL provides ONRSR's administrative and financial accountability framework.

ONRSR is governed by the National Rail Safety Regulator and ONRSR chief executive officer (CEO) and two non-executive members. Appointments for the CEO and non-executive members are made by the Transport Minister for South Australia, on the unanimous recommendation of all responsible ministers.

The CEO is appointed for a term not exceeding 5 years with terms and conditions determined by the South Australian Minister acting on the unanimous recommendation of the responsible ministers. The non-executive members are appointed for up to four years. Reappointments for all roles is possible.

ONRSR currently reports to ITMM on strategic policy, fee regulation and corporate governance issues, and reports to the relevant Australian Government and/or state and territory transport minister about specific rail safety incidents.

Funding profile

ONRSR is funded by the following state and territory governments – NSW, VIC, TAS, NT, and industry, based on operations and an additional major projects fee. The Australian Government does not currently provide funding to ONRSR.

ONRSR is developing an industry-only cost recovery model as agreed by ITMM. Under the new model, the Commonwealth and state and territory governments have agreed to cover the fees for the tourist and heritage sector. The Commonwealth's contribution is estimated to be approximately \$1.5 million per year.

ONRSR employs around 180 staff.

Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)
Revenue from Australian Government	-	-	-
Revenue from other Governments	11.7	-	-
Revenue from Industry	27.2	-	-
Revenue from major projects fee	1.2	-	-
Revenue from finance income and activities	0.2	-	-
Total Resourcing	40.3	-	-

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Ms Sue McCarrey National Rail Safety Regulator and CEO s47F	Andrew Madsen Acting First Assistant Secretary, Surface Transport Policy Division andrew.madsen2@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 7804 s47F

Significant ministerial roles

Infrastructure and Transport Ministers' Meetings

Description	<p>The Infrastructure and Transport Ministers' Meeting (ITMM) brings together Commonwealth, state, territory ministers and local government with responsibility for transport and infrastructure. The ITMM is supported by the Infrastructure and Transport Senior Officials' Committee (ITSOC), comprising departmental secretaries from the Commonwealth and jurisdictions. Secretariat support is also provided by the Commonwealth.</p> <p>The purpose of the ITMM is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider and develop responses to emerging issues in transport and infrastructure. • Support an internationally competitive transport and infrastructure industry. • Pursue further opportunities for national consistency in regulatory and policy frameworks to improve safety, reduce costs and improve the operation of infrastructure and transport. • Deliver on responsibilities under legislation, national agreements, national partnerships and other governance arrangements.
Current status	<p>The ITMM is generally held twice a year around May and November where possible, and ad hoc meetings can be arranged to resolve any urgent issues. Priorities are outlined in an agreed 12-month work plan that deals with matters that are of significance or require national agreement. In 2022, the pandemic and election dates have impacted the meeting schedule, with the next meeting of the ITMM scheduled for 9 September 2022.</p> <p>The department will brief you on the role and functions of the ITMM, and Commonwealth priorities for the next ITMM meeting.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>As the Commonwealth Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development you chair the ITMM and represent the Commonwealth's position in discussions and decision making.</p> <p>As chair, you play a strategic role in ensuring the ITMM operates effectively and collaboratively to achieve reforms in the national interest that require joint action by Commonwealth, state, and territory governments.</p>
Contact	<p>Andrew Madsen, Acting First Assistant Secretary, Surface Transport Policy Division;</p> <p>02 6274 7804 s47F</p>

Planning Ministers' Meeting

Description	<p>The Planning Ministers' Meeting (PMM) brings together Commonwealth, state and territory ministers with responsibility for planning. The President of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) was a member of the predecessor body, the Planning Ministers' Forum, but there are no local government representatives on the PMM.</p> <p>The PMM is supported by the Heads of Planning forum of senior officials.</p>
Current status	<p>The Planning Ministers' Meeting last met in October 2021, and received updates on priorities for planning legislation (including reform options), and priorities for population growth, transport and land use planning, housing and CBD recovery initiatives.</p> <p>Planning reform is a key driver of productivity, and state and territory decisions on land use planning policy, housing supply, affordability, and transport planning should take into account Commonwealth priorities. s47B</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>As the Commonwealth Minister, you chair the Planning Ministers' Meeting and have a strategic role in ensuring that it operates effectively and collaboratively to share information, coordinate initiatives that require cooperation beyond the Commonwealth's direct responsibilities, and champion opportunities for reform.</p>
Resourcing / funding information	<p>Secretariat for the Planning Ministers' Meeting is provided by the department, but there may be opportunities for a rotating chair and secretariat function in the future.</p>
Contact	<p>Matthew Roper, First Assistant Secretary, Cities Division; 02 6274 8038 s47F</p>

Programs administered by the department

For completeness, programs outlined in this chapter include those announced in the 2022-23 Budget. s47C

Infrastructure

Infrastructure Investment
Infrastructure Investment Program — Financial Summary
Infrastructure Investment Program — Investment
Delivery of Inland Rail
Inland Rail Interface Improvement Program
Infrastructure Investment Program — Roads of Strategic Importance Initiative
Infrastructure Investment Program — Urban Congestion Fund
Infrastructure Investment Program — Roads to Recovery Program
Infrastructure Investment Program — Black Spot Program
Infrastructure Investment Program — Bridges Renewal Program
Infrastructure Investment Program — Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program
Regional Australia Level Crossing Safety Program
Northern Australia Roads Program
Remote Roads
Water
National Water Grid Fund
Regions
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program

Transport

Air Transport
Western Sydney Airport
Regional Airline Network Support
Managing PFAS at Australian Airports
Regional Aviation Access Program
Regional Airports Program
Enhanced Regional Security Screening
Emerging Aviation Technologies Programs
International Civil Aviation Organization
Gold Coast Airport Contribution
Women in the Aviation Industry Initiative

Transport (continued)

Surface Transport
Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme
Bass Strait Passenger Vehicle Equalisation Scheme
Emissions and Fuel Economy
National Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative
Strategic Local Government Asset Assessment Project
Road Safety
Road Safety Program
Road Safety Innovation Fund
Keys2drive
Driver Reviver Site Upgrades
Road Safety Awareness and Enablers Fund
Digital Roads Safety Passport

Cities

Western Sydney City Deal
South East Queensland City Deal
Melbourne City Deals
Hobart City Deal
Perth City Deal
Townsville City Deal
Launceston City Deal
Geelong City Deal
Darwin City Deal
Adelaide City Deal

Revenue Programs¹

Revenue programs are programs administered within your portfolio which provide the government with revenue. Revenues administered by the portfolio include dividends from organisations, levies, and fees-for-service. The current revenue programs within the portfolio are:

- Airport Building Control Services at Federally Owned Airports
- Airport Environment Officers Service Provision at Federally Leased Airports
- Airport Land Tax Equivalents
- Airservices Australia Dividend
- Coastal Trading
- International Oil Pollution Fund
- Marine Navigation Levy
- Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy
- Motor Vehicle Standards Regulations Fees
- Melbourne Airport New Runway Land Acquisition — Revenue
- Parking Fines at Federally Leased Airports
- Competition and Consumer Act Part X (ten)—International Liner Cargo Shipping
- Protection of the Sea Levy.

¹ Separate briefing can be provided on request.

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Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP)

Financial Summary

Outcome 1.1: Infrastructure investment

Australia's transport system underpins our way of life and is the lifeblood of our economy. Working with state and territory governments, the Australian Government's Infrastructure Investment Program is delivering the majority of a \$120 billion rolling 10-year infrastructure pipeline to facilitate the safer, more reliable and efficient movement of people and goods throughout Australia, and investing in projects assisting national and regional economic and social development. This is s47 across the forward estimates and s47

s47

Summary of total transport infrastructure investment, including equity and contingent liabilities

Funding allocation (as at 2022-23 Budget)		2022-23 to 2031-32 \$million
Infrastructure Investment Program (grant funding primarily under the National Partnership Agreement)		84,748.2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding under the IIP includes grant funding, including transfers to states for projects and subprograms, Urban Congestion Fund, Roads of Strategic Importance (ROSI), payments to the ARTC and payments to non-state entities for infrastructure projects. Includes unallocated funding within initiatives (such as ROSI, Urban Congestion and Major Business Case Fund). See Infrastructure Investment Brief for a breakdown of IIP funding. 		
Financial Assistance Grants (untied local road grants)		9,742.5
s47		s47
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> s47 		
Other Infrastructure Investments, including Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program		2,597.2
Total investment allocation as shown in the Budget papers, without Contingent Liabilities or Contingency Reserve		s47
Funding for specific projects recorded as Contingent Liabilities		
East West Link (Melbourne)	4,000.0	
Perth Freight Link	1,160.0	
Total allocations held as Contingent Liabilities		5,160.0
Total investment allocation, including Contingent Liabilities		s47

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Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP)

Investment

Outcome 1.1: Infrastructure investment

The rolling 10-year infrastructure pipeline is the Australian Government's funding envelope for land transport infrastructure, of which a substantial component is under the Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP).

Status

Start date: 1 July 2005 (ongoing).

As part of the rolling 10-year infrastructure pipeline, the IIP is administered under the *National Land Transport Act 2014* (NLT Act).

At the 2022-23 Budget there were 1,328 major projects funded under the IIP of which 547 have been completed, 305 are underway or under construction, and 479 are yet to commence.

Eligibility, application and decision process

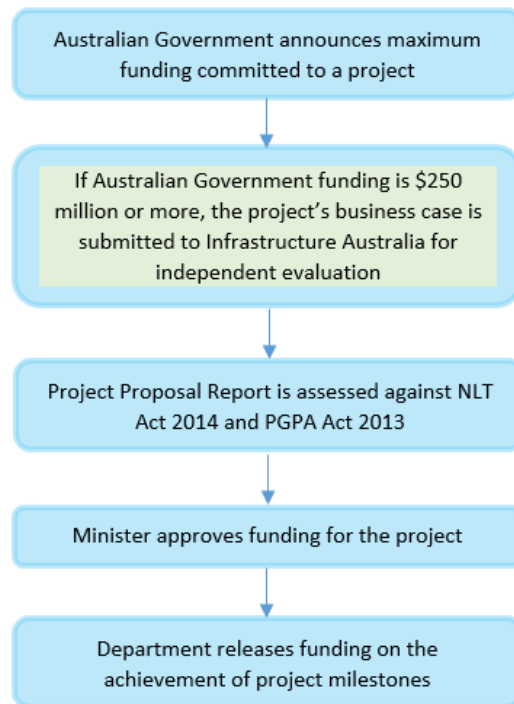
To be eligible for funding, proposed projects must meet the requirements of the NLT Act. The NLT Act allows the Australian Government to call for submissions. This provides an avenue for state, territory and local governments to seek funding from the Commonwealth for priority transport projects. The rolling 10-year program allows the Australian Government to be at the forefront of setting out a longer-term plan to progressively deliver nationally significant projects.

Under this approach, project selection focuses on addressing critical transport network deficiencies that currently constrain commuter and freight movements across both urban and regional Australia, as well as improving safety and productivity outcomes.

In recommending projects to government for funding, the department assesses projects against a range of criteria including whether:

- The project has been identified as a priority on Infrastructure Australia's Infrastructure Priority List.
- The project has been identified as a state or transport user priority.
- The project demonstrates strong economic benefits, generally based on its benefit/cost ratio.
- The project proposal has considered, and where appropriate applied, alternatives to construction, including enhanced use of existing infrastructure and/or technological solutions.
- The proposal has considered, and where appropriate applied, alternative funding and financing approaches; cost recovery (such as user charging); and/or delivery options which encourage innovation and greater private sector involvement in the development and delivery of public infrastructure.
- The project delivers other strategic benefits such as safety, regional development and improved connectivity between communities and employment centres.

The department also provides advice to the Australian Government on its assessment of infrastructure priorities and implementation issues, including aligning recommendations to available funding allocations. This includes, where appropriate, recommending the Australian Government provide funding for early involvement through business case development for major transformational projects which are assessed as likely to deliver significant strategic benefits and meet the objectives of the rolling 10-year program. As state and territory governments or local governments own and manage transport networks, and are responsible for contracting and delivering projects and maintaining infrastructure, all decisions should be made in consultation with jurisdictions.



The National Partnership Agreement (NPA) under the Federal Financial Relations (FFR) framework is the primary payment mechanism for delivering funding to the states and territories. Updated schedules are usually provided to jurisdictions twice a year (at each economic update). Once agreed, they are published on the FFR website.

Funding commitments are then refined as detailed planning is undertaken, with state and territory governments required to provide a final cost estimate as part of a Project Proposal Report based on the fully developed scope and design, before formal funding approval is considered under the NLT Act.

Limited funding is also available for transport development and innovation projects relating to the National Land Transport Network and grants to land transport research entities.

Infrastructure program total funding

Forward Estimate 10 Year Pipeline Funding

Budget Year (\$ millions)	Budget 2022–23				Summaries	
	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26	2022–23 to 2025–26	2022–23 to 2031–32
Infrastructure Investment Program (Details above)	15,932.2	17,928.9	15,494.2	10,180.9	59,536.3	84,748.1
City and Regional Deals	368.5	393.7	274.2	100.6	1,137.0	1,174.5
Drought Communities Program	10.0	-	-	-	10.0	10.0
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure	649.3	349.6	249.7	-	1,248.7	1,248.7
Payments to non-state entities – Non-Infrastructure Investment Program	53.8	55.1	35.2	-	144.0	144.0
Other Grants	236.5	899.7	936.9	974.2	3,047.2	9,762.5
\$47						
Contingent Liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	5,160.0
\$47						

Forward estimates funding for IIP

Budget Year (\$ millions)	Budget 2022–23				Summaries		
	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26	2022–23 to 2025–26	2022–23 to 2031–32	2026–27 to 2031–32
Table 1a - Payments to support State Infrastructure Services - Infrastructure Investment Program							
Infrastructure Investment Program							
Black spot projects	128.9	121.1	121.1	110.0	481.1	1,141.1	660.0
Bridges renewal program	131.1	131.1	101.1	101.1	464.5	1,012.9	548.4
Developing Northern Australia							
Improving cattle supply chains (aka Beef Roads)	5.8	0.5	1.0	0.1	7.4	7.4	-
Northern Australia Roads	70.1	111.8	118.4	128.1	428.5	441.2	12.8
Heavy vehicle safety and productivity	67.2	101.6	69.3	69.3	307.5	741.2	433.6
Major Projects Business Case Fund	53.6	52.1	37.8	2.5	146.0	174.7	28.8
Rail investment component	3,438.8	4,101.4	3,670.3	2,971.9	14,182.3	21,073.7	6,891.3
Road investment component	9,134.1	10,343.6	9,115.7	5,113.1	33,706.6	45,498.6	11,792.0
Roads of Strategic Importance	1,126.3	1,096.5	860.6	742.7	3,826.0	4,676.6	850.6
Roads to Recovery*	490.9	485.3	499.5	499.5	1,975.2	4,972.3	2,997.1
Urban Congestion Fund	941.3	1,004.0	477.5	302.5	2,725.3	3,559.9	834.6
Infrastructure Growth Package							
Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan	148.0	338.7	402.4	123.2	1,012.2	1,067.2	54.9
Sub-total Table 1a	15,736.0	17,887.8	15,474.7	10,164.2	59,262.7	84,366.8	25,104.1
Table 1b - Payments to non-state entities - Infrastructure Investment Program							
Infrastructure Investment Program							
Grants to the ARTC	172.4	20.7	7.0	-	200.1	200.1	-
Research and Evaluation	23.4	19.7	12.0	16.3	71.4	176.2	104.8
Roads to Recovery - Norfolk and Indian Ocean Territories	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.5	2.1	5.0	2.9
Sub-total - Table 1b	196.3	41.1	19.5	16.8	273.6	381.4	107.7
TOTAL TABLE 1	15,932.2	17,928.9	15,494.2	10,180.9	59,536.3	84,748.2	25,211.8

Notes:

As at 2022-23 Budget - Figures may be different due to rounding.

* Roads to Recovery funding is provided to councils directly, but is categorised as a payment to support state infrastructure services. Includes an amount each year for payments for non-state entities (Norfolk Island and Indian Ocean Territories).

Program facts and examples

The IIP provides funding for major road and rail projects in Australia. The IIP also provides funding for transport development and innovation projects relating to the national network and grants to land transport research entities, along with ongoing maintenance for roads.

The rolling infrastructure pipeline provides certainty on the level of future investment to industry and aims to improve long term infrastructure planning. The pipeline supports improved reliability, travel times, connectivity and safety.

For example:

- The NorthConnex project in New South Wales opened to traffic in October 2021. It will save motorists up to 15 minutes and remove up to 5,000 trucks per day off Pennant Hills Road. The NorthConnex tunnels bypass 21 sets of traffic lights, allowing motorists to drive from Newcastle to Melbourne without a single set of traffic lights.
- Since the Bruce Highway Upgrade Program in Queensland commenced in 2013, 190 kilometres of wide centre line treatments and 320 kilometres of audio tactile line markings have been installed, 64 new bridges have been built and 45 new and upgraded rest areas have been completed.

The program also assists with job creation. Australian Government funded road and rail projects currently underway are expected to support up to 100,000 direct and indirect jobs over the lifetime of the projects.

Program administration

Outcome 1: Improved infrastructure across Australia through investment in and coordination of transport and other infrastructure

Purposes:

- Increasing transport access
- Making travel safer
- Supporting economic growth through land transport infrastructure
- Supporting regional development, local communities and cities

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 1.1 — Infrastructure Investment Annual Appropriations Acts 1/3; Annual Appropriation Acts 2/4; Special Appropriation (Treasury) — *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009*

Relevant legislation: *National Land Transport Act 2014*

Background

The current National Partnership Agreement came into effect on 1 July 2019. The MYEFO 2021–22 Schedules have been agreed to by all state and territories except Northern Territory. **s47B**

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Contacts

David Hallinan
Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure
David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 7302 | **s47F**

David Mackay
First Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Investment
David.Mackay@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 6642 | **s47F**



Delivery of Inland Rail

Outcome 1.1 Infrastructure investment

The Australian Government is investing up to \$14.5 billion in equity financing to the Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited (ARTC) to deliver Inland Rail. While the project continues to make progress in all states, risks remain.

Status

As at 31 March 2022, 140 kilometre (8.1 per cent) of the 1,700 kilometre Inland Rail has been completed. Inland Rail is a 13 section mega-project, spanning Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. Of the 13 sections that make up Inland Rail, one is operational (Parkes to Narromine), one is under construction (Narrabri to North Star) and the remaining 11 are navigating design and environmental approval processes.

Between now and 2024 the majority of Inland Rail projects will move from reference design, through statutory environmental and planning approvals, to construction. s47G

The final cost and schedule for Inland Rail will be better understood when all procurements and detailed designs are complete. Contracts for Inland Rail works in Victoria, construction of the Stockinbingal to Parkes section and the Commitment Deed with the preferred proponent for the Gowrie to Kagaru Public Private Partnership will be entered into in 2022. In addition, preferred proponents have been appointed for the key greenfield sections in Queensland and New South Wales, with final contracts expected by 2023–24.

The Inland Rail CEO role is still vacant and is recommended to be filled as an early priority.

Delivery partners

Inland Rail is being delivered by the ARTC in partnership with the private sector on behalf of the government. ARTC is wholly owned by the Australian Government represented by two shareholder ministers, the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development.

ARTC has entered into delivery agreements with:

- Fulton Hogan and BMD Joint Venture for Parkes to Narromine – construction completed and new track operational as part of national network providing increased connectivity as far west as Perth.
- John Holland and SEE Civil Joint Venture for phase one of the Narrabri to North Star (N2NS) project – currently under construction with the first section of track completed October 2021 and operational in time for the 2021 NSW grain season.
- Acciona CPB Joint Venture for the design phase of Narromine to Narrabri (Southern Civil Works Program).
- Laing O'Rourke for the design phase of phase two of N2NS and North Star through to Whetstone (Central Civil Works Program).
- Bielby Hull QBirt (BHQ) Consortium for the design phase of Whetstone to Gowrie (Northern Civil Works Program).
- Martinus Rail for the design phase of delivery rail corridor works for the projects linking Narromine and Moree in New South Wales and Gowrie in Queensland (excluding phase one of N2NS).

ARTC has also appointed Regionerate Rail as the preferred proponent for the Gowrie to Kagaru section, which is being delivered through a Public Private Partnership. This section includes 3 separate tunnels totalling 8 kilometres. s47

ARTC has engaged McConnell Dowell to undertake detailed designs and preparatory works in Victoria and construction is expected to commence mid-2022.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding ^(a) (at 2022-23 Budget)	s47				

s47

Key stakeholders

- Freight users
- ARTC
- QLD, NSW and VIC state governments
- Relevant local governments and community
- Landowners
- Rail industry
- Relevant private sector

Program facts and example

The Inland Rail project is a vital component of the National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy, providing enhanced resiliency in the network and helping to meet Australia's growing freight task which is forecast to grow up to 35 per cent by 2040 (total more than 1,000 billion tonne kilometres).

At the peak of construction Inland Rail will support more than 21,500 jobs while delivering a potential boost of more than \$18 billion to gross domestic product during construction and the first 50 years of operation.

The department commissioned EY to review the economic benefits of Inland Rail to regional Australia after the construction effort is finished (from 2027). The report found that Inland Rail could boost gross regional product by \$13.3 billion in today's dollars over the first 50 years of Inland Rail's operation and inject up to 2,500 full time jobs in the tenth year of Inland Rail's operation with more to come over the following decades.

Narrabri to North Star (Phase 1) has included delivery of almost 25,000 tonnes of Australian steel, delivery of more than 340,000 concrete sleepers, removal of 80 kilometres of old track and installation of almost 10 kilometres of new track.

Program administration

Outcome 1: Improved infrastructure across Australia through investment in and coordination of transport and other infrastructure

Purposes: Supporting an efficient, sustainable, competitive, accessible, safe and secure transport system and supporting jobs through infrastructure investment

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 1.1 — Infrastructure Investment; Appropriation Bill No.2 — Administered Assets and Liabilities Investment

Relevant legislation: Appropriation Bill No.2 — Administered Assets and Liabilities Investment

Contacts

David Hallinan

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure and Surface Transport

David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7302 | s47F

Jessica Hall

First Assistant Secretary, Major Transport and Infrastructure Projects

Jessica.Hall@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6778 | s47F



Inland Rail Interface Improvement Program

Outcome 1.1: Infrastructure investment

The Australian Government provided \$44 million to the Inland Rail Interface Improvement Program (IRIIP). The IRIIP supports the development of local project ideas that could increase the amount of freight on Inland Rail. By providing access to specialist business advisors, regional organisations, governments and communities have an opportunity to develop their project ideas into robust feasibility studies and strategic business cases that will enable proponents to evaluate and understand the economic viability of their ideas.

Status

IRIIP includes two funding streams:

- A \$20 million Productivity Enhancement Program to assess the costs and benefits of proposed improvements to the interfaces between supply chains and Inland Rail.
- A \$24 million Country Lines Improvement Program to assess the costs and benefits of proposed improvements to country lines that intersect with Inland Rail.

Proponents were invited to submit expressions of interest through two rounds, one in 2019 and one in 2021. 38 proposals were found eligible across the two rounds. No further rounds are anticipated. It is expected that the program will be completed by the end of the 2022–23 financial year.

The IRIIP uses a gateway assessment framework to assess the merit of the proposals:

- Eligibility (Gate 1)
- Pre-feasibility (Gate 2)
- Feasibility (Gate 3)
- Strategic Business Case (Gate 4).

Of the 38 proposals 4 have completed a strategic business case; 5 have completed a pre-feasibility study (and will not continue their involvement in the program) and; 29 proposals have progressed at various stages through the framework.

The department has committed \$38.8 million to deliver this program. As at 31 March 2022, \$23.5 million has been spent.

IRIIP does not provide or guarantee funding to implement the proposals. However, in the 2022–23 Budget, the Australian Government also committed to ring fence \$150 million of the Infrastructure Investment Program to help bring to fruition projects that have successfully gone through Gate 4. Funding is yet to be allocated, but it is expected jurisdictions will bring forward projects for consideration within coming months.

Delivery partners

EY Australia provide business case support to proponents. NineSquared provide independent technical advice to the department on the eligibility of proposals to progress through the program's gateway assessment process. Proponents include local and state governments, local communities and businesses.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	30.0	-	-	-	-

Unspent funding in 2021–22 will be moved to financial year 2022–23.

Key stakeholders

- Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC)
- Country rail network managers
- NSW, QLD, Vic Governments
- Relevant local governments
- Rail industry
- Local communities

Program facts and examples

- \$44 million program
- 38 proposals
- 4 successfully completed Gate 4
- An additional \$150 million allocated to support funding proposals that are economically viable.

The types of proposals being assessed include: line reinstatement and rail upgrades, road and rail connections, intermodal terminals and freight precincts and opportunities to provide for longer and heavier trains.

Program administration

Outcome 1: Improved infrastructure across Australia through investment in and coordination of transport and other infrastructure

Purposes: Increase transport access; making travel safer; supporting economic growth through transport; supporting regional development, local communities and cities

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 1.1 – Infrastructure Investment

Relevant legislation: Appropriation Bill No.2 – Administered Assets and Liabilities Investment

Contacts

David Hallinan
Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure
david.hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 7302 | s47F

Jessica Hall
First Assistant Secretary, Major Transport Infrastructure Projects
jessica.hall@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 6778 | s47F



Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP) – Roads of Strategic Importance Initiative

Outcome 1.1 Infrastructure investment

Roads of Strategic Importance (ROSI) is a \$5.8 billion initiative to improve the productivity and efficiency of key regional freight roads, connecting agricultural and mining regions to ports, airports and other transport hubs.

Status

Start date: 2018 (funding allocated over a 13 year period).

As at the 2022–23 Budget, 17 projects have been completed and 45 projects are under construction, with 7 scoping and development projects underway. A further 41 projects are expected to commence this calendar year. These figures include projects identified from consultations that are in early stages of planning with delivery partners. Some are expected to commence construction in 2022, including on corridors in South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales.

As at 2022–23 Budget, around \$4.3 billion has been allocated to agreed ROSI corridors and around \$1.5 billion remains unallocated. Under ROSI, the Infrastructure Minister has the delegated authority to allocate funding to projects along ROSI corridors agreed to by Cabinet or the Prime Minister.

Delivery partners

- State and territory governments
- Local governments

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	702.7	1,126.3	1,096.5	860.6	742.7

Key stakeholders

- Road users
- Local governments
- State and territory governments
- Agriculture, mining and other industries

Eligibility, application and decision process

ROSI corridors and projects are determined by a two stage approach with the identification of ROSI corridors based on a range of factors, including analysis of relevant data and evidence to further understand the challenges and opportunities across Australia's road network. A rolling package of upgrades along a key freight corridor supports the full corridor network, as opposed to addressing an individual element of a capacity issue.

Once additional funding has been agreed by the government, the department works with jurisdictions to identify specific packages of work aligned to ROSI principles, which include:

- Delivering via a corridor approach.
- Delivering improvements to freight movements.
- Supporting regional economic growth by helping to support the expansion of local industries.
- Improving connectivity and access.
- Improving safety for all road users through improved road conditions.

The Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development is responsible for approving packages of work in accordance with the *National Land Transport Act 2014* (the NLT Act).

Program facts and examples

ROSI is a \$5.8 billion initiative delivered under the Infrastructure Investment Program. Funding has been allocated to 29 significant freight and tourist routes (corridors) across Australia, and 33 other ROSI initiatives (comprising of 47 individual projects).

ROSI funds projects such as the \$25.8 million Great Northern Highway Upgrade from Broome to Kununurra on the Newman to Katherine Corridor (WA), which is expected to be completed in late 2022. This project includes seal widening, bridge improvements and rehabilitation works to address deterioration of road conditions following flooding events. Benefits include improved efficiency and network reliability, improved accessibility and connectivity of road networks and improved road safety for all road users.

Program administration

Outcome 1: Improved infrastructure across Australia through investment in and coordination of transport and other infrastructure

Purposes:

- Increasing transport access
- Making travel safer
- Supporting economic growth through land transport infrastructure
- Supporting regional development, local communities and cities

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 1.1 – Infrastructure Investment; Special Appropriation (Treasury) – *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009*

Relevant legislation: *National Land Transport Act 2014*

Contacts

David Hallinan
Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure
David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 7302 | s47F

David Mackay
First Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Investment Division
david.mackay@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 6642 | s47F



Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP) – Urban Congestion Fund

Outcome 1.1: Infrastructure investment

The Urban Congestion Fund (UCF) is a \$4.8 billion initiative delivered under the Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP). It is designed to target congestion through projects that remediate pinch points, improve traffic safety and increase network efficiency for commuter and freight movements in urban areas. The UCF currently has 143 projects with 181 separately identifiable packages of work.

Status

The UCF includes \$697.2 million allocated to upgrades of commuter car parks at 45 stations (packages of works) in major cities, providing more opportunities for commuters to park and ride on public transport.

As at 31 March 2022, UCF has total funding of \$4.8 billion, of which:

- \$4,059.2 million has been allocated to specific projects.
- \$692.8 million has been paid to jurisdictions.
- \$47B [REDACTED]

Of the 181 packages of work in the UCF, as at 31 March 2022:

- 46 packages of work have been completed.
- 40 are underway.
- 57 are due to commence construction later in 2022.
- 38 are due to commence in 2023 or yet to be confirmed.

The 2022–23 Budget included \$18 million in new funding for a commuter car park project in Victoria (Kananook); and \$103.5 million in additional funding for existing UCF projects, including an additional \$25 million for the Fremantle Traffic Bridge (Swan River Crossing) in Western Australia, and an additional \$23.1 million for the Canterbury Road Upgrade in Victoria.

Delivery partners

UCF projects are delivered by state, territory, and local governments. The money budgeted for all projects is paid based on delivery milestones. The department is working to ensure that state governments and local councils carry out the planning and delivery as quickly as possible, with advice provided to the Australian Government where further decisions may be required to ensure delivery.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	725.0	941.3	1,004.0	477.5	302.5

Key stakeholders

- Road users
- Local governments
- State and territory governments

Eligibility, application and decision process

The government makes decisions on funds committed through the budget under the IIP, including the UCF. The decisions of government are subsequently implemented by the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development within the legislative framework provided by the *National Land Transport Act 2014* (NLT Act) and the National Partnership Agreement on Land Transport Infrastructure (NPA) as a schedule to the Federation Funding Agreement – Infrastructure.

Details of projects selected by the government are provided through the Schedules to the NPA which, once agreed to by the state and territory governments, are published on the federal financial relations website.

Program administration

Outcome 1: Improved infrastructure across Australia through investment in and coordination of transport and other infrastructure

Purposes:

- Increasing transport access
- Making travel safer
- Supporting economic growth through land transport infrastructure
- Supporting regional development, local communities and cities

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 1.1 — Infrastructure Investment; Special Appropriation (Treasury) — *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009*

Relevant legislation: *National Land Transport Act 2014*

Contacts

David Hallinan

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure

David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7302 | s47F

David Mackay

First Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Investment

David.Mackay@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6642 | s47F



Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP) – Roads to Recovery Program

Outcome 1.1: Infrastructure investment

The Roads to Recovery Program (R2R) aims to improve local roads by funding construction and maintenance projects, responding to local priorities.

Status

Start date: 1 January 2001 (ongoing).

R2R operates uniformly across Australia, with 551 funding recipients comprised of local government authorities (LGAs) and state/territory governments acting on behalf of unincorporated areas. Funding is allocated in 5-year programs with the current program period running from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2024. Each funding recipient is allocated a share of the \$2.5 billion that is made available in each 5-year program cycle.

In order to provide funding recipients with certainty of funding, each funding recipient's program allocation is listed in a legislative instrument, the Roads to Recovery List. The *National Land Transport Act 2014* (NLT Act) states that the instrument cannot be revoked and that allocations cannot be changed except in limited circumstances (for example, in the case of an amalgamation of LGAs).

R2R does not contain a sunset clause under the NLT Act, meaning no new legislation is required for the continuation of the program. The next program cycle will commence in the 2024–25 financial year.

There were 2,378 R2R projects completed in the 2020–21 financial year. The most common type of project is one that reconstructs, rehabilitates or widens a local road.

Funding recipients

- Local government authorities
- State / Territory authorities (acting on behalf of unincorporated areas)

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	500.0	490.8	485.3	500.0	500.0

Key stakeholders

- Road users
- Local government authorities
- State and territory road authorities responsible for roads in unincorporated areas

Eligibility, application and decision process

All LGAs in Australia are eligible for funding under R2R. In instances where there are no LGAs, mainly in remote areas, other entities such as state or territory governments provide municipal services to small communities known as

'unincorporated areas'. Funding for unincorporated areas is provided to relevant state governments, the shires of Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Norfolk Island and the Lord Howe Island Board.

R2R funding for LGAs is based on the allocations determined by the Local Government Grants Commissions, in each jurisdiction, for the roads component of the Financial Assistance Grants (FA Grants). This means that if a LGA received one per cent of the roads component of FA Grants for its state in 2018–19, then its R2R allocation is also one per cent of the R2R funding for its state over the relevant 5-year program cycle.

Funding recipients choose road projects on which to spend their R2R funding based on their local priorities. The types of projects that are funded through R2R are defined in the NLT Act and the R2R funding conditions, and include (but are not limited to): gravel sheeting; construction of a new road; resealing; and reconstruction of roads. Projects are submitted to the department to determine their eligibility as defined in the NLT Act and the R2R funding conditions.

Program facts and examples

R2R began on 1 January 2001 with funding to 2004–05, and has subsequently continued with ongoing funding across four new program lives: 2005–06 to 2008–09; 2009–10 to 2013–14; 2014–15 to 2018–19; and 2019–20 to 2024–25 financial years. Under the Local and State Government Road Safety Package in the 2019–20 Budget, base funding for the program increased by \$100 million per annum from the 2019–20 financial year.

On 7 November 2019, the government announced \$138.9 million additional R2R funding in the 2020 calendar year for the 128 Local Government Areas eligible for the Drought Communities Program Extension. The additional funding under this extension was paid in full to relevant LGAs in 2020 and is no longer an active component of the program.

Program administration

Outcome 1: Improved infrastructure across Australia through investment in and coordination of transport and other infrastructure

Purposes:

- Increasing transport access and connecting communities
- Making travel safer
- Supporting economic growth through transport
- Supporting regional development, local communities and cities

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 1.4 — Infrastructure Investment Program – Roads to Recovery program - ongoing

Relevant legislation: *National Land Transport Act 2014*

Contacts

David Hallinan

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure

David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7302 | s47F

David Mackay

First Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Investment

David.Mackay@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6642 | s47F



Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP) – Black Spot Program

Outcome 1.1: Infrastructure investment

Road crashes are a major cost to Australians every year. Black Spot projects target road locations where crashes are occurring, or are at risk of occurring.

Status

Start date: 1 July 1996 (ongoing).

The program has operated continuously since 1 July 1996 and has been renewed on 7 occasions. In 2016, funding was provided on an ongoing basis.

As at the 2022–23 Budget, there is \$481.1 million in committed funding for the Black Spot Program over the forward estimates from 2022–23 to 2025–26 financial years, with \$110 million committed per year from 2026–27 financial year onwards.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 3,010 projects committed to under this program: 2,569 have been completed, and 441 are contracted, of which 138 are underway and 303 are in planning.

Delivery partners

- State and territory road authorities
- Local government proponents

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	137.0	128.9	121.1	121.1	110.0

Key stakeholders

- Road users
- State and territory road authorities
- Local government project proponents
- Road Safety groups

Eligibility, application and decision process

Funding is primarily available for the treatment of Black Spot sites (such as intersections or short road sections), or lengths of road of 3 kilometres or more, with a proven history of crashes. Project proposals should be able to demonstrate a benefit to cost ratio of at least 2:1.

For individual sites such as intersections, mid-block or short road sections, there should be a history of at least 3 casualty crashes over a 5 year period. For lengths of road, there should be an average of 0.2 casualty crashes per kilometre per year over the length in question, over 5 years.

The program also recognises there are road locations that can be considered 'accidents waiting to happen'. Therefore, each year up to 30 per cent of program funds may be used to treat sites where road traffic engineers have completed a road safety audit and found that remedial work is necessary. This provides an opportunity for proactive safety works to be

undertaken before casualties occur. Funds cannot be used for the purchase of road building plant or equipment, or for operational or maintenance costs.

As at 2019, data from the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics (published in 2020 as the Road Trauma Australia 2019 Statistical Summary) shows that more than 60 per cent of road deaths and a significant proportion of serious injuries occur outside metropolitan areas. In line with national road safety policy objectives, approximately 50 per cent of Black Spot funds in each state (other than Tasmania, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory) are reserved for projects in non-metropolitan areas.

Program facts and examples

Nominations for Black Spot locations are invited from state and territory governments, local councils, community groups and associations, road user groups, industry and individuals. Nominations are submitted to the relevant state and territory transport agency. On receipt of a completed Black Spot nomination form, the relevant state and territory transport agency will consider the nominated site's eligibility and undertake a formal assessment.

A Black Spot consultative panel, chaired by a member of parliament or senator appointed by the responsible minister, has been established in each state and territory. Consultative panels consist of representatives drawn from community and road user groups, industry, Australian and local government, and state road and transport agencies. Following state and territory assessment, all project nominations are referred to the appropriate consultative panel, which generally meets annually to recommend projects for consideration and approval by the responsible minister.

Rounds for the Black Spot Program are managed on a rolling annual basis by each state and territory road authority, often in conjunction with assessments for other federal and state government road safety program rounds.

Program administration

Outcome 1: Improved infrastructure across Australia through investment in and coordination of transport and other infrastructure

Purposes:

- Increasing transport access
- Making travel safer
- Supporting economic growth through transport
- Supporting regional development, local communities and cities

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 1.1 — Infrastructure Investment; Special Appropriation (Treasury) — *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009*

Relevant legislation: *National Land Transport Act 2014* (NLT Act)

Contacts

David Hallinan

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure

David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7302 | s47F

David Mackay

First Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Investment

David.Mackay@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6642 | s47F



Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP) – Bridges Renewal Program

Outcome 1.1: Infrastructure investment

The Bridges Renewal Program (BRP) provides funding to upgrade or replace bridges to enhance access for local communities and facilitate higher productivity vehicle access.

Status

Start date: 18 June 2014 (ongoing).

As at the 2022–23 Budget, there is \$464.5 million in committed funding for the BRP over the forward estimates from 2022–23 to 2025–26 financial years, with an ongoing commitment of \$85 million per year from 2026–27 financial year. Unallocated funds across the entire forward estimates period is \$270.8 million.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 734 projects committed to under this program: 514 have been completed; 74 are underway; 118 are in planning; and 7 have been cancelled.

Delivery partners

Projects are delivered by either local government authorities or state governments, with payments made to state governments under the National Partnership Agreement.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget) ^{(a) (b)}	90.0	131.1	131.1	101.1	101.1

^(a) On 14 March an additional \$10 million per year was announced for the years 2022–23 to 2025–26. These figures incorporate this decision.

^(b) The uneven amounts of funding between individual years represents movements of funds made to align with project delivery.

Key stakeholders

- Road users
- Local government project proponents
- State and territory road authorities

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Australian Government accepts applications for BRP funding from state and territory governments and local governments at any time. New projects are approved and announced on a regular basis.

Projects are co-funded with proponents. Projects in regional areas can receive up to 80 per cent of project costs, with urban projects able to receive up to 50 per cent of project costs, up to a maximum of \$5 million in Australian Government funding per project.

Guidelines are publicly available on the department's website to assist applicants to submit eligible applications. All applications are assessed for eligibility by the department. Where applications are assessed as being ineligible, applicants may resubmit a fresh application if the reason for ineligibility has been corrected.

Eligible applications are assessed by the department on a merit basis against equally weighted criteria detailed in the Guidelines. State and territory road transport authorities provide input on assessments for applications submitted by

local government authorities in their jurisdiction. Recommendations are made to your government who approves and announces funded projects.

Projects eligible for funding may include replacing old bridges with new bridges, bridge strengthening, bridge widening and replacement of existing water crossings.

Program facts and examples

In November 2021 the program moved from a round-based program to one accepting applications continuously, with decisions made on a regular (typically quarterly) basis.

In the last round 273 applications were received, of which 75 per cent were funded. The program has always been oversubscribed.

The program co-funds projects with both state and local governments. State projects include the Hindmarsh Drive Bridges Renewal project completed with Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate, which was completed in February 2022. This \$3.8 million project that strengthened bridges on a major Canberra road, bringing them up to a modern standard, improving productivity and access. Council projects include the \$6.6 million Hector Street Bridge Upgrade project which was completed in November 2021. This project delivered widening and strengthening of a key bridge in the Canterbury-Bankstown local government area in New South Wales. Benefits include support for a greater weight of industrial traffic and an increase to the bridge lifespan of 100 years.

Program administration

Outcome 1: Improved infrastructure across Australia through investment in and coordination of transport and other infrastructure

Purposes:

- Increasing transport access
- Making travel safer
- Supporting economic growth through transport
- Supporting regional development, local communities and cities

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 1.1 — Infrastructure Investment; Special Appropriation (Treasury) — *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009*

Relevant legislation: *National Land Transport Act 2014*

Contacts

David Hallinan
Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure
David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 7302 | s47F

David Mackay
First Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Investment
David.Mackay@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 6642 | s47F



Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP) – Heavy Vehicle Safety & Productivity Program

Outcome 1.1 Infrastructure investment

The Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program (HVSPP) delivers improved productivity and safety outcomes for heavy vehicle operations across Australia through improved road infrastructure.

Status

Start date: 1 July 2008 (ongoing).

As at the 2022–23 Budget, there is \$307.5 million in committed funding for the HVSPP over the forward estimates from 2022–23 to 2025–26, with a commitment of \$65 million per year from 2026–27 onwards. Unallocated funds across the entire forward estimates period is \$148.8 million.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 386 projects committed to under this program: 220 have been completed, 63 are underway, 80 are in planning, and 13 have been cancelled.

Delivery partners

Projects are delivered by either local government authorities or state governments, with payments made to state governments under the National Partnership Agreement.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget) ^(a)	65.0	67.2	101.6	69.3	69.3

^(a) The increased budget in 2023–24 is due to historical movements of funds. **\$47C**

Key stakeholders

- Road users
- Local government project proponents
- State and territory road authorities

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Australian Government accepts applications for HVSPP funding from state and territory governments and local governments at any time. New projects are approved and announced on a regular basis.

Projects are co-funded with proponents. Projects in regional areas can receive up to 80 per cent of project costs, with urban projects able to receive up to 50 per cent of project costs, up to a maximum of \$5 million in Australian Government funding per project.

Guidelines are publicly available on the department's website to assist applicants to submit eligible applications. All applications are assessed for eligibility by the department. Where applications are assessed as being ineligible, applicants may resubmit a fresh application if the reason for ineligibility has been corrected.

Eligible applications are assessed by the department on a merit basis against equally weighted criteria detailed in the guidelines. State and territory road transport authorities provide input on assessments for applications submitted by local

government authorities in their jurisdiction. Recommendations are made to the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development who approves and announces funded projects.

Projects eligible for funding include rest areas, parking/decoupling bays, road enhancements including overtaking lanes, and technology trials, public road-related livestock transport industry proposals, and livestock collection/treatment facilities associated with public roads.

Program facts and examples

In November 2021, the program moved from a round-based program to one accepting applications continuously, with decisions made on a regular (typically quarterly) basis. In the last round, 214 applications were received, of which 68 per cent were funded. The program has always been oversubscribed.

The program co-funds projects with both state and local governments. The program funds projects such as the \$5.1 million Queensland state road heavy vehicle rest area and breakdown pad package project, which will be completed in December 2022. This project will deliver upgrades to four heavy vehicle rest area and breakdown sites in regional Queensland, providing greater access to modern facilities to improve safety and productivity for heavy vehicle operators.

Council projects include the \$1.6 million Eudunda Road Upgrade project which was completed in July 2020. This project delivered widening and strengthening of an agricultural road in Dutton, South Australia. Benefits include improved conditions for heavy vehicles and a higher road classification for freight.

Program administration

Outcome 1: Improved infrastructure across Australia through investment in and coordination of transport and other infrastructure

Purposes:

- Increasing transport access
- Making travel safer
- Supporting economic growth through transport
- Supporting regional development, local communities and cities

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 1.1 — Infrastructure Investment; Special Appropriation (Treasury) — *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009*

Relevant legislation: *National Land Transport Act 2014*

Contacts

David Hallinan

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure

David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7302 | s47F

David Mackay

First Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Investment

David.Mackay@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6642 | s47F



Regional Australia Level Crossing Safety Program

Outcome 1.1: Infrastructure investment

The Regional Australia Level Crossing Safety Program (program) will improve safety at level crossings.

Status

The 2022–23 Budget allocated \$180.1 million to the program for the following:

- \$160.0 million for upgrades to level crossings in regional areas.
- \$6.5 million for a level crossing safety and awareness campaign.
- \$5 million for research and trials of lower cost level crossing technologies (innovation grants).
- \$2 million for improvements to data and risk assessment (data grant).
- \$6.6 million for departmental costs to deliver the program, including system upgrades.

Delivery partners

- Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator
- State and territory governments

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	1.8	48.3	45.2	42.1	42.7

Key stakeholders

- Regional communities
- Tracksafe
- Rail industry organisations
- State and territory governments
- National Heavy Vehicle Regulator
- Australasian Railway Association

Eligibility, application and decision process

Level crossing upgrades: Guidelines require ministerial approval and provision to states and territories. The department will conduct a merit-based assessment on projects submitted by states and territories. The department will provide a list of recommended projects to the minister for approval.

Safety and awareness campaign: Authority to commence the development of a Railway Level Crossing Safety campaign was provided on 5 April 2022.

Level crossing innovation and data improvements grants: Grant guidelines require ministerial approval.

- The level crossing research and trials grants will be allocated through an open, competitive grant process. The department will conduct a merit-based assessment of applications and provide a list of recommended projects to the minister for approval.

- The level crossing data improvement grant will be a closed, non-competitive process with the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator (ONRSR) the only entity invited to apply. ONRSR is uniquely placed to scope and deliver data improvements, including to enhance the National Level Crossing Portal (portal) and improve its functions.

Program facts and examples

Level crossing upgrades

The program will fund lower-cost level crossing safety protections, such as upgrades to change level crossings from passive to active (for example by installing boom gates, additional lighting and signals), works to improve roads leading to level crossings like rumble strips, or works to improve visibility and line-of-sight for motorists and train drivers. The program will not fund grade separations (removal of level crossings). The program will fund up to 80 per cent of the cost of delivering priority level crossing upgrades, with the state or territory governments providing the remaining 20 per cent.

Safety and awareness

A national campaign will raise awareness about level crossing safety.

Innovation

The program will fund research and trials of level crossing technologies and measures that improve safety at level crossings, especially lower-cost technologies that can be readily adopted in regional areas. Research and trials will be undertaken in partnership with states or territories and through research partners.

Data improvement

A program will support improvements to data and risk assessment at level crossings, which will enable road and rail infrastructure managers to better target level crossing protections and prioritise crossings for upgrade.

Program administration

Outcome 1: Improved infrastructure across Australia through investment in and coordination of transport and other infrastructure

Purposes: Transport connectivity and safety

Nature of appropriation: Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications — Program 1.1 Infrastructure Investment and Department of Treasury Program 1.9 National Partnership Payments to the States

Relevant legislation: *National Land Transport Act 2014*

Contacts

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport Group
diane.brown@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 7515 | s47F

Andrew Madsen

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Surface Transport Policy Division
andrew.madsen2@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 7804 | s47F



Northern Australia Roads Program

Outcome 1.1: Infrastructure investment

The Northern Australia Roads Program is a \$978 million initiative to support the upgrade of key regional roads to efficiently connect agricultural, resource and freight routes across northern Australia.

Status

As at 31 March 2022, the Northern Australia Roads Program has total funding of \$978 million, of which:

- Around \$585 million has been allocated to projects.
- \$504.1 million has been paid to proponents.
- Around \$393 million remains unallocated.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 20 projects committed to under this program: 14 have been completed and 6 are underway.

Delivery partners

- State and territory governments
- Local governments

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	39.6	70.1	111.8	118.4	128.1

Key stakeholders

- State and territory governments
- Local governments
- Agriculture, mining and other industries

Eligibility, application and decision process

Projects to be funded from the remaining \$400 million will be determined following engagement with stakeholders and project delivery partners. Guidelines are to be revised for Ministerial approval in 2022.

Projects selected under the Northern Australia Roads Program must comply with the requirements of the *National Land Transport Act 2014* (NLT Act) and will be administered under the National Partnership Agreement on Land Transport Infrastructure Projects. A co-contribution of 20 per cent is required for all projects.

The Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development is responsible for recommending specific projects to Cabinet for agreement.

Program facts and examples

Projects delivered under the program are to improve the reliability, productivity and resilience of key agriculture and commodities supply chains in northern Australia, reducing costs, improving efficiency and strengthening links to markets.

The program has a pipeline model with smaller levels of funding over an extended period of time. This provides regional Australia with long term funding certainty. The planning and design work for future projects can occur whilst higher priority projects are under construction in the shorter term. A pipeline approach also provides a consistent and steady stream of work that can be delivered by smaller tier, Australian construction firms, supported by local and Indigenous communities.

Some examples of projects that have been funded under the program include:

- \$6.62 million in Australian Government funding for the Barkly Highway (Cloncurry - Mount Isa) Intersection Upgrades in the Mount Isa Urban Area that upgraded nine intersections on the Barkly Highway through the Mt Isa urban area.
- \$2.66 million in Australian Government funding for the Kennedy Developmental Road (Mount Garnet - The Lynd) Pavement Widening Project that widened a 3 kilometre section from single-lane to two-lane seal.
- \$36.97 million in Australian Government funding for the Great Northern Highway Upgrade - Maggie Creek to Wyndham Project that widened and overlaid approximately 22 kilometres of the Wyndham Spur section and the reconstruction of over 5 kilometres of road pavement at Maggie's Jump Up.

Program administration

Outcome 1: Improved infrastructure across northern Australia through investment in and coordination of transport and other infrastructure

Purposes:

- Increasing transport access
- Making travel safer
- Supporting economic growth through land transport infrastructure
- Supporting regional development, local communities and cities

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 1.1 – Infrastructure Investment; Special Appropriation (Treasury) – *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009*

Relevant legislation: *National Land Transport Act 2014*

Contacts

David Hallinan

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure

David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7302 | s47F

David Mackay

First Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Investment Division

david.mackay@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6642 | s47F



Remote Roads

Outcome 1.1: Infrastructure investment

The Remote Roads Upgrade Program (RRUP) is a pilot program designed to address significant deficiencies on key regional and rural roads that limit community access, pose safety risks and impact the economic development of surrounding areas.

Status

The Program was announced on 2 November 2021, with calls for project nominations from state, territory and local governments.

The Program is funded under the *National Land Transport Act 2014* (the Act). Applications that are approved for funding under the program need to be delivered in compliance with the relevant sections of the Act. Council applications that are approved will be administered, with payments and reporting made through state and territory governments, under the National Partnership Agreement on Land Transport Infrastructure Projects and the related Notes on Administration.

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As at 31 March 2022, the program has \$150 million of funding, all of which has been allocated. A total of 33 projects have been committed to, none of which have commenced.

Delivery partners

- State and territory governments
- Local government entities

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	Total (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	-	100.0	50.0	-	150.0

Key stakeholders

- Local governments
- State and territory governments
- Emergency services
- Road users
- Regional and remote communities
- Construction industry
- Community services (schools, medical centres)

Eligibility, application and decision process

Eligibility for the program was outlined in the Application Guidelines provided to delivery proponents on the department's website. Further detail may be provided in subsequent briefings.

Funding is available to state and territory governments and local government entities eligible for funding under the Roads to Recovery Program – state and territory governments were required to provide input on local government applications.

The department conducted an assessment of applications, and ranked them according to a rubric based on the Application Guidelines, for ministerial consideration and decision.

Program facts and examples

The program received 205 applications for funding, totaling approximately \$1.1 billion of funding applications. Program applications were significantly oversubscribed, with approximately \$650 million worth of projects being put forward as suitable for funding.

Program administration

Outcome 1: Improved infrastructure across Australia through investment in and coordination of transport and other infrastructure

Purposes:

- Improved community access in regional and remote areas
- Improved safety for road users
- Improved productivity for freight traffic
- Improved resilience of the road network in regional areas

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 1.1 – Infrastructure Investment, Special Appropriation (Treasury) – *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009*

Relevant legislation: *National Land Transport Act 2014*

Contacts

David Hallinan

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure

David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7302 | s47F

David Mackay

First Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Investment

David.Mackay@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6642 | s47F



National Water Grid Fund

Outcome 3.1: Regional Development

The National Water Grid Fund (NWGF) supports regional economic growth through the delivery of new and upgraded water infrastructure projects that improve the reliability and security of water for Australia's regions and support growth in the agriculture and primary industry sectors.

Status

The NWGF is a rolling program administered by the National Water Grid Authority (NWGA), which was established on 1 October 2019 as a Secondary Australian Government Body – non-statutory function with separate branding within the department – to oversee the development of the National Water Grid and provide advice to government on water infrastructure investment decisions. The NWGF currently has funding to 2032–33, which is almost fully allocated. Departmental funding for the NWGA is currently set to terminate at 30 June 2024.

As at 31 March 2022, the NWGF has total funding of \$8,873 million:

- Over \$8,839 million has been committed, of which over \$1,595 million has been contracted.
- **s47C**
- \$528 million has been paid to jurisdictions and contracted suppliers.

The NWGF's key components are:

- The Infrastructure Pipeline, which supports the identification, planning and delivery of water infrastructure by investing in business cases and construction projects in partnership with state and territory governments. As at 31 March 2022, of the 74 construction projects committed, 9 have been completed; 59 are contracted (of which 16 are under construction); and 6 have been agreed but not yet contracted.
- The Science program, which provides high-quality scientific information to identify options that are best suited to improving Australia's regional water security and inform investment decisions. As at 31 March 2022, more than 30 Science projects have been agreed, including projects transferred from earlier programs. Seven have been completed; 23 are contracted and underway; and 4 have been agreed but not yet contracted.

Delivery partners

Projects funded under the NWGF are delivered by state and territory governments. Funding terms and conditions are set out in the NWGF Federation Funding Agreement and Schedules. State and territory governments sometimes partner with local government and/or private entities in delivering projects.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	244.4	757.2 ^(a)	552.0	833.4	874.0

^(a) Note figures do not include the additional \$23 million for the Nyngan to Cobar project agreed post-2022-23 Budget (included in the PEFO).

Key stakeholders

- Rural and regional communities
- State, territory and local governments
- Agriculture and Primary Industry sectors
- Science institutions

Eligibility, application and decision process

NWGF investments are guided by the National Water Grid investment framework and science program strategy. The NWGA seeks Infrastructure Pipeline proposals from state and territory governments for consideration in biannual submissions at Budget and the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook. The eligibility criteria and objectives of the NWGF are set out in the investment framework. Funds are only available to state and territory governments. Funding is typically limited to up to 50 per cent of construction costs and up to 100 per cent of business case costs. However, more than 50 per cent of construction costs can be funded at the Australian Government's discretion, typically where a project is considered to be 'transformational'.

The NWGA assesses the merits of proposals against the investment framework, in the context of the government's broader objectives, and relevant findings from the Science Program and business case development process. The NWGA provides advice to the Government on investment decisions based on this assessment. Final investment decisions are made by the government.

Science projects must align with one or more of the 3 themes in the NWGA Science Strategy: water resource analysis; alternative and emerging options; and new information resources. Topics for investigation may come from a range of sources including Australian, state and territory governments; research institutes; businesses; or the public. Proposals are assessed as to their alignment to the science strategy and the aims of the NWGA. Projects may be undertaken through standard Commonwealth procurement processes or in partnership with state and territory governments.

Program facts and examples

The NWGF funds dams, weirs, pipelines, water recycling plants and other projects that form the National Water Grid.

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Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance

Purpose: Water Infrastructure

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 – Regional Development - Annual administered appropriation; [Treasury] Budget Program 1.9 - Water Infrastructure Development Fund - Special Appropriation

Relevant legislation: Nil

Contacts

Marisa Purvis-Smith

Deputy Secretary, Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia

Marisa.Purvis-Smith@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6271 1656 | s47F

Stephanie Werner

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia

Stephanie.Werner@infrastructure.gov.au

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Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program

Outcome 3.2: Local government

\$3 billion in funding to local councils to deliver priority local road and community infrastructure projects, supporting jobs and helping local economies bounce back from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Status

\$1.5 billion under Phases 1 and 2 almost fully committed (\$1.469 billion) to more than 6,300 projects, with projects due to be completed by 30 June 2022. Over \$878 million has been paid against progress so far.

The 2021–22 Budget announced a further \$1 billion Phase 3, with projects to be delivered by 30 June 2023. Phase 3 commenced in January 2022. To date more than 1,300 projects have been approved with \$464 million already committed.

The Phase 3 Extension was announced in the 2022–23 Budget. Councils will be able to access funding through the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Phase 3 Extension from July 2023, with projects to be delivered by 30 June 2024. This additional \$500 million brings to the total Australian Government commitment to the program to \$3 billion.

Start date: 1 July 2020 (end date: 30 June 2024)

Delivery partners

The 550 funding recipients are comprised primarily of local councils, but also some state and territory governments who have responsibility for delivery of services in some areas.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	914.8	650.0	350.0	250.0	-

Key stakeholders

- Local governments

Eligibility, application and decision process

The LRCI Program is a demand-driven/eligibility based and non-competitive grant program currently administered over three Phases.

The Nominal Allocation available to councils is calculated using a formula incorporating road length and population size and is modelled on funding allocations under the Roads to Recovery Program (R2R) and the local road component of the Financial Assistance Grants Program.

Councils enter into a grant agreement for each phase, and nominate eligible priority projects through a work schedule. Following assessment by the department and approval by the program delegate, projects are funded through instalments.

Program facts and examples

As part of stimulus measures on 22 May 2020, the government announced a new \$500 million Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program with projects to be completed during the 2020–21 financial year. Through the 2020–21 Budget, the Government announced a \$1 billion extension with projects to be completed during the 2021 calendar year. The 2021–22 Budget announced a further \$1 billion Phase 3 with projects to be delivered by 30 June 2023. The \$500 million Phase 3 Extension was announced in the 2022–23 Budget.

This program supports local councils to deliver priority local road and community infrastructure projects across Australia, supporting jobs and the resilience of local economies to help communities bounce back from the COVID-19 pandemic. The LRCI Program Phase 3 Extension will continue to support local jobs and businesses at the time it is needed most

Projects include new or upgraded bicycle and walking paths, community halls, picnic shelters and barbeque facilities at parks as well as projects to support tourism and accessibility in regional areas. The projects delivered under this program are contributing to making regional communities safer, stronger and more sustainable.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of our cities and regional economies including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through reforms that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance

Purposes: Regional development — improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions across Australia

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.2 — Local Government; Annual administered expenses

Relevant legislation: *Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Act 1997*

Contacts

David Hallinan

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure

David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

6274 7302 | s47F

David Mackay

First Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Investment

David.Mackay@infrastructure.gov.au

6274 6642 | s47F



Western Sydney Airport

Outcome 2.3: Air transport

Scheduled to open in late 2026, Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport will meet Sydney and NSW's growing aviation needs. It is currently under construction, generating economic activity and providing employment opportunities for people in the Western Sydney region.

Status

Construction of Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport (WSI) is underway and the airport is on track to begin operations in late 2026. The airport is a transformational infrastructure project that will generate economic activity, provide employment opportunities closer to home for people in the Western Sydney region, and meet Sydney's growing aviation needs.

The Australian Government has committed to the delivery of stage one of WSI as outlined in a Project Deed (and subsequent Airport Master Plan), with both the department and the established Government Business Enterprise, WSA Co Limited (WSA) responsible for delivering the airport by 2026. WSA will also be responsible for operating the airport.

The stage one development will include a 3.7 kilometre runway, an integrated domestic and international terminal, and initial capacity for 10 million passengers annually, growing to an expected capacity of more than 80 million passengers a year. The airport will be a full service airport operating curfew free, offering international, domestic and freight services.

During the construction period, over 11,000 direct and indirect jobs are expected to be created. By 2031, 5 years after opening, the airport is expected to support almost 28,000 direct and indirect jobs.

As at 31 March 2022, the project is approximately 30 per cent complete. The construction of the airport (managed by WSA) is divided into four major works packages:

- **Bulk Earthworks:** approximately 86 per cent complete.
- **Terminal Buildings and Specialty Works:** nearly 10 per cent complete. Terminal completion is expected in late 2024.
- **Airside Civil and Pavement Works:** This includes the 3.7km runway, aprons and taxiways, with design nearly 45 per cent complete. Construction work on the runway commenced in March 2022.
- **Landside Civil and Building Works:** s47, s47E. Construction is scheduled to commence in late 2022.

The department is responsible for discharging a range of Commonwealth obligations under the Project Deed, known as Commonwealth Preparatory Activities. These include development of the airspace design and flight paths, procuring biodiversity offsets, land acquisition, noise amelioration, the Greening Australia Seeds Program, Aboriginal Keeping Place and management of obstacle limitation surface intrusions.

The preliminary flight path design process is now at the environmental assessment phase, with public consultation on the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) scheduled by mid-2023. The department has contracted WSP Australia to prepare the EIS and associated stakeholder engagement program. You will ultimately be responsible for approving the EIS for the flight paths and any conditions based on advice from the Environment Minister, including a noise amelioration program. Aircraft noise remains a significant sensitivity in the Western Sydney community. The department will brief you on the approach to community engagement.

The government's investment in WSI is supported by additional significant investment in connecting road and rail infrastructure. This includes the Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport (AG contribution \$5.25 billion) and the \$4.1 billion Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan (WSIP), which includes the M12 connection.

The economic and social benefits of the airport are also leveraged through the Western Sydney City Deal.

Delivery partners

To give effect to the totality of Commonwealth investment in and around WSI, the government has partnered across all levels of government.

The government established WSA in 2017 to deliver and operate WSI. WSA is an unlisted public company limited by shares incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001*, and a Commonwealth Company for the purposes of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. WSA is wholly owned by the government and is represented by you and the Minister for Finance.

At the 2017–18 Budget, the government committed to invest up to \$5.3 billion in equity in WSA to develop stage one of WSI. s47

For the delivery of supporting road and rail infrastructure, the government, through the *National Partnership Agreement on Land Transport Infrastructure Projects*, has partnered with the NSW Government. The delivery proponent for WSI is Transport for NSW, while the Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport project is delivery by Sydney Metro.

The Western Sydney City Deal, an agreement between the 3 levels of government to invest more than \$11 billion, involves a partnership with the NSW Government and the 8 Western Parkland City councils.

Program funding

s47	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
As at 2022–23 Budget					
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Equity injection	s47				
Total Australian Government Funding	s47				
Dividends returned to Australian Government ^(b)	-	-	-	-	-

s47

^(b) Under the GBE Guidelines, GBEs are expected to agree a dividend policy and a payout ratio with the shareholder ministers. The dividend policy is to have regard to the maintenance of, or progress toward, the GBE's optimal capital structure, profitability of the enterprise, and the level of agreed future capital expenditure. The development of WSA's dividend policy will be based on the recommendations of the WSA Board and in consultation with the shareholder Ministers.

Commonwealth Preparatory Activities

This administered funding is for expenses related to the Commonwealth Preparatory Activities of biodiversity offsets, airspace design, noise amelioration, obstacle limitation surfaces intrusions and seeds program.

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	40.5	73.5	33.0	8.8	4.6

Key stakeholders

- WSA Co Limited
- Western Sydney community and stakeholder groups
- NSW Government
- Western Parklands local governments
- Forum on Western Sydney Airport (consultative committee with members appointed by you)
- Sydney (Kingsford Smith) Airport
- Airport users (passenger and freight)
- Sydney basin airspace users
- Commonwealth agencies (Department of Home Affairs, Australian Border Force, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Australian Federal Police, Airservices Australia and Bureau of Meteorology)

Program facts and examples

- Over 11,000 jobs to be created during construction.
- Initial capacity for both domestic and international passengers of 10 million.
- Earthworks to move and redistribute 25 million cubic metres of earth on an airport site three times the size of the Sydney CBD.
- A 3.7 kilometre runway, aprons, taxiways.
- A multi-level terminal with a floor area of up to 90,000 square metres.
- Car-parking facilities for about 11,500 cars.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Transport Connectivity: supporting an efficient, sustainable, competitive, accessible, safe and secure transport system and supporting jobs through infrastructure investment

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.3 – Air Transport

Contacts

David Hallinan

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure

David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7302 | s47F

Jessica Hall

First Assistant Secretary, Major Transport and Infrastructure Projects Division

Jessica.Hall@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6778 | s47F

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport

Diane.Brown@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7804 | s47F

Richard Wood

First Assistant Secretary, International Aviation, Technology and Services Division

Richard.Wood@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6589 | s47F

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Regional Airline Network Support

Outcome 2.3: Air transport

The Regional Airline Network Support program (RANS program) is supporting the continued operation of a minimum network of connectivity to regional and remote locations across Australia during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Status

The RANS program commenced on 28 March 2020 and will conclude on 30 June 2022 or when existing funding is expended, whichever occurs sooner. As at 31 March 2022, the RANS program had total funding available of \$229.5 million, of which:

- \$229.2 million has been allocated to 15 airlines.
- \$201.7 million has been paid to airlines.
- \$300,000 remains unallocated.

As at 31 March 2022, 15 grants have been approved under this program: one has been completed and the remaining 14 are executed until 30 June 2022.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	88.9	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Air operators and allied businesses
- Regional and remote communities
- State, territory and local governments
- Regional industries such as agriculture and mining

Eligibility, application and decision process

Decisions to enter into grant agreements, approve funding and make payments are made by the department under delegation.

Under the program a grant is available to domestic commercial airlines operating Regular Public Transport (RPT) services to regional and or remote locations, ranging from Qantas, Virgin and Rex to smaller regional operators. The airlines must have been operating flights on the routes prior to February 2020 to be eligible. The RANS program supports a minimum network of flights, typically two return services per route per week.

The RANS program has been extended a number of times most recently on 17 February 2022, when it was extended to 30 June 2022 or once available funding is expended, whichever occurs sooner.

Program facts and examples

As at 31 March 2022, the RANS program:

- Has allowed more than 1.34 million passengers to fly on nearly 23,000 RANS subsidised services.
- Has supported more than 300 weekly services across more than 120 routes.
- Has supported flights to more than 110 regional or remote locations across all states and territories.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations.

Purposes: Transport connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.3 – Air Transport

Relevant legislation: *Assistance for Severely Affected Regions (Special Appropriations) (Coronavirus Economic Response Package) Act 2020* and *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*

Contacts

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport Group

Diane.Brown@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7515 | s47F

Janet Quigley

First Assistant Secretary, Domestic Aviation and Reform
Division

Janet.Quigley@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6061 | s47F



Managing PFAS at Australian Airports

Outcome 2.4: Program support for Outcome 2

The PFAS Investigation Program (the program) aims to help quantify the nature and extent of any per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination, assist airports in developing robust management plans to address PFAS at the source, and understand any potential liability risks to the Commonwealth. Scientific understanding of the potential health effects from PFAS exposure is still developing but as a bio-accumulative chemical, PFAS can reach high levels in people, and contamination has impact on land values. In addition to PFAS investigation programs, the government is providing support to communities affected by PFAS contamination and investing in research to better understand the potential health and environmental impacts of PFAS and how to best remediate PFAS contaminated sites.

Status

The program was announced in the 2021–22 Budget, commencing on 1 July 2021 until June 2024.

The department has appointed a contaminated land specialist to design a PFAS investigation framework and is testing this through a pilot program with 8 airports. Agreements are in place with Adelaide, Bankstown, Brisbane, Canberra, Hobart, Launceston, Melbourne and Parafield airports. Site inspections commenced from mid-March 2022, with 3 initial site inspections completed as at 31 March 2022. It is expected the pilot will be completed by the end of 2022, with the program to be rolled out at up to 29 other airports.

The program seeks to leverage other PFAS investigations undertaken by airports and their tenants, including Airservices Australia, to provide a whole-of-site understanding of contamination and to avoid duplication of effort. While the primary purpose of the program is to examine and address on-airport contamination, offsite testing will be conducted where PFAS has migrated outside the airport boundary. Where offsite testing occurs, community engagement will be targeted and undertaken in conjunction with existing consultative mechanisms established by airports.

The Australian Government Solicitor has been appointed as the external probity advisor to ensure third party independent overview of the program.

Work has commenced to appoint Technical Specialists and Contaminated Land Auditors to independently verify the investigations undertaken through the program.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	26.0	70.6	33.9	–	–

Key stakeholders

- Airport lessee companies / airport owners
- Airport tenants and activity operators
- The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
- State and territory environment protection authorities
- CSIRO
- Communities surrounding airports
- The Department of Health
- The Department of Defence
- Airservices Australia

Eligibility, application and decision process

Up to 37 Airports are eligible for the program, including 20 federally leased and 17 non-federally leased airports. These are all airports where the Commonwealth has provided firefighting activities using PFAS containing foam.

Funding provides for detailed site investigations, independent site audits, and development of management plans at each participating airport. It also includes a small component to manage any identified risks to human health (for example, contaminated drinking water). Community engagement will be targeted and tailored to the extent of, and risk posed by, PFAS contamination.

Program facts and examples

PFAS are manufactured chemicals widely used in Australia since the 1950s, including in firefighting foams. There are a number of sites where the historical use of firefighting foams containing PFAS has resulted in increased levels of PFAS in surrounding soil and water. PFAS are highly mobile in water, do not fully break down naturally in the environment, bio-accumulate within the food chain, and are toxic to a range of animals.

Historically, civilian aviation rescue fire-fighting services in Australia were delivered by Commonwealth agencies, with responsibility transferred to Airservices Australia on its establishment in 1995. Airservices Australia began phasing out use of PFAS in 2003, transitioning to a PFAS-free foam on all sites in 2010, with the exception of joint civil-military airports. Airservices Australia are conducting their own national PFAS investigation program for their leased sites.

While airports and their tenants are generally responsible of managing environmental outcomes on their airport sites, they are not consistent in approaching and addressing the risks posed by PFAS contamination. This has led to delays in building activity, regulatory uncertainty (particularly for the federally leased airports where the Commonwealth performs the on-airport environment regulatory role), increasing community concern, s47C

The department's program recognises airports are inherently contaminated industrial sites and focuses on identifying, managing and monitoring PFAS at its source in order to minimise the risk off offsite contamination. Undertaking the investigative work and supporting airports in developing management plans will give regulators, the community and developers the confidence PFAS contamination at airports is being managed effectively.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Transport Connectivity - Supporting an efficient, sustainable, competitive, accessible, safe and secure transport system and supporting jobs through infrastructure investment

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.4 – Program Support for Outcome 2

Relevant legislation: *Airports Act 1996*; Airports (Environment Protection) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport Group
diane.brown@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 7515 | s47F

Janet Quigley

First Assistant Secretary, Domestic Aviation & Reform Division
Janet.Quigley@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 6061 | s47F



Regional Aviation Access Program

Outcome 2.3: Air transport

The Regional Aviation Access Program (RAAP) provides remote communities with improved access to regional centres by supporting flights and airstrip works.

Status

The Australian Government provides targeted support for aerodrome infrastructure and air services to remote areas where they are not commercially viable, through the RAAP (the program). The program provides funding assistance for access and safety upgrades to remote aerodromes as well as subsidised flights to ensure residents of remote communities have access to health and other essential services. The three components of the RAAP are:

- The Remote Air Services Subsidy (RASS) scheme.
- The Remote Airstrip Upgrade (RAU) program.
- The Remote Aerodrome Inspection (RAI) program.

RASS scheme: The scheme is an ongoing program and has existed in various forms since 1982. The scheme's objective is to provide communities in remote areas of Australia with improved access through subsidising a regular air transport service, typically weekly, for the carriage of passengers and goods including fresh food, mail, educational materials, medicines and other urgent supplies. Because of the distances involved and the fact that road access into many of these communities is cut-off for several months during the wet season, a regular air service can be the only reliable means of transport. Several communities typically share capacity on a seven to nine seat aircraft.

The RASS scheme currently subsidises a regular air service to up to 270 remote communities. 86 of these locations are Indigenous communities with the balance primarily cattle stations. Due to significant cost increases in service provision additional funding has been provided to the program until the end of the 2025–26 financial year.

RAU program: The program commenced in 2011 and provides grants to improve the safety and accessibility of remote airstrips. Round 9 round will provide up to \$15 million in grant funding for projects nationwide, to be delivered from 2022 to 2024. Applications were open from 3 February to 17 March 2022.

The outcomes of round eight were announced on 4 May 2021 with 46 successful projects receiving \$8.2 million. As at 31 March 2022, 44 projects are contracted; one is under negotiation; and one was withdrawn. An evaluation of the RAU program is being undertaken in 2022. There is no funding provided for further rounds of the program.

RAI program: Run since 1999, departmental funds are used to assist designated aerodromes servicing Indigenous communities to cover the cost of annual technical safety inspections.

Delivery partners

- Remote airlines, aerodrome consultants
- State, territory and local governments

Program funding

RASS and RAU	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	30.0	25.5	18.7	16.1	14.7

Key stakeholders

- Remote communities including cattle stations
- State, territory and local governments
- Health, education, freight, justice and police services
- Emergency service providers

Eligibility, application and decision process

RASS scheme: Air operators for each of the 10 geographic areas under the scheme are engaged through competitive tender processes. The RASS subsidy is paid directly to the air operator to deliver the negotiated schedule of flights. To gain admission to the RASS scheme, communities must meet certain eligibility criteria. The capacity to admit communities is limited by the scheme's budget in any year. Communities can apply for admission to the scheme at any time. To be considered for inclusion under the RASS scheme, a community must meet two fundamental requirements: there must be a demonstrated need for a weekly air service and the community must be sufficiently remote in terms of surface travel time to a population centre or neighbouring community receiving a weekly transport service.

RAU program: The program provides funding assistance for access and safety upgrade projects at remote airstrips. RAU is a competitive, merit-based grants program. The Australian Government generally contributes up to 50 per cent of the cost of an approved project, with some flexibility to relax the co-funding requirement for projects at designated indigenous communities. Funding recommendations are made to the relevant minister by an assessment panel consisting of representatives of the department.

RAI program: Technical air safety inspection services are provided to a designated list of Indigenous communities to assist them to comply with aviation safety requirements applicable to their aerodrome.

Program facts and examples

RAU Program: Nine rounds of the program have been run, with round nine receiving 98 applications and being heavily oversubscribed, similar to previous rounds. The RAU program funds projects such as the upgrade and restoration of the airstrip at Pickertamoor Aerodrome on Melville Island in the Northern Territory, for which the Tiwi Education Board received a grant of \$386,200 under round seven.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purpose: Transport connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.3 – Air Transport

Relevant legislation: *Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997*

Contacts

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport Group
Diane.Brown@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 7515 | s47F

Janet Quigley

First Assistant Secretary, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division
Janet.Quigley@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 6061 | s47F



Regional Airports Program

Outcome 2.3: Air transport

The Regional Airports Program (RAP) provides assistance to the owners of regional airports to undertake essential works, promoting aviation safety and access for communities.

Status

The program was announced in the 2019–20 Budget and all projects are due to be completed by June 2025. Successful projects under round 2 were announced in July 2021, supporting 89 projects at a cost of \$29.6 million. Successful projects under round 2 were announced in June 2020, supporting 61 projects at a cost of \$41.2 million.

On 31 March 2022 round 3 of the RAP opened for applications. Applications closed on 17 May 2022. In July 2022, you will be asked to approve projects as part of round 3 of the RAP. An assessment panel will make recommendations for your consideration.

As at 31 March 2022, the RAP has total funding of \$100 million, of which:

- \$70.8 million has been allocated to projects, of which \$67.7 million has been contracted.
- \$29.2 million remains unallocated.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 150 projects committed to under this program: two have been withdrawn; 22 have been completed; 144 are contracted; and projects are underway in line with their agreed project milestones. A total of \$25.2 million has been paid to recipients.

Delivery partners

The program is administered on behalf of the department by the Business Grants Hub in the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources. This program is delivered through the owners and operators of regional airports.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	38.5	27.6	10.0	10.0	-

Key stakeholders

- Air service providers
- Local governments
- Regional communities
- State and territory governments
- Aeromedical and health providers
- Travelling public

Eligibility and application process

Corporations and government bodies that are owners and/or operators of an existing aerodrome or airport in a regional area of Australia, with passenger throughput below 250,000 passengers in 2019, are eligible to apply for grants under this program. Decisions do not need to be passed through state and territory entities although they may apply on behalf of an aerodrome owner/operator.

Within an approved project, there can be a range of eligible activities including work to improve all weather capability, sealing or resealing, extending or strengthening of runways, taxiways and aprons, and installation of lighting, air navigational aids and animal proof fencing. Grants are generally awarded for up to 50 per cent of eligible costs.

Program facts and examples

Two rounds of the program have been run, with round 1 receiving 72 applications of which 61 were successful and round 2 receiving 120 applications of which 89 were successful. Round 3 was open for applications until 17 May 2022. The RAP funds projects such as the \$1.2 million Shepparton Aerodrome Safety Upgrade project which was completed in October 2021. This project, assisted by a \$452,000 grant under the program, delivered a new taxiway, aircraft parking, helicopter landing area and upgraded lighting. Benefits include improved safety for aircraft movements, compliance with Civil Aviation Safety Authority requirements and a dedicated sealed landing area for emergency helicopter landings.

Program governance

Applications are assessed on their merits, considering the need for the project, the ability to deliver the project, and the benefit that grant funding would bring to the project, and whether the project provides value for money. The applications are assessed by an assessment panel, which includes representatives of the department, to make recommendations to you

You decide which grants to approve, taking into account the recommendations of the assessment panel and the availability of grant funds.

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Transport connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.3 – Air Transport

Relevant legislation: *Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997*

Contacts

Diane Brown
Deputy Secretary, Transport Group
Diane.Brown@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 7515 | s47F

Janet Quigley
First Assistant Secretary, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division
Janet.Quigley@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 6061 | s47F



Enhanced Regional Security Screening

Outcome 2.3: Air transport

The Regional Airports Screening Infrastructure (RASI) program (the program) funds the minimum necessary capital works costs to accommodate enhanced security screening equipment at eligible regional airports, and a portion of initial operating costs. While regional airports receive the funding, it is ultimately regional communities that benefit as costs supported by grant funding cannot be passed on to airlines and, by extension, passengers.

Status

The program commenced 22 July 2020 as a COVID-19 support measure and is expected to conclude on 30 June 2023. Grant agreements are in place with 36 airports under the program and the majority have funding for both capital and operating costs. Two airports are yet to accept offers for funding, due to external issues such as leasing arrangements.

On 29 March 2022 (as part of the Regional Ministerial Budget Statement 2022–23) additional funding of \$28.5 million was allocated to the program. This builds on the \$66 million previously committed to the program, increasing the total funding to \$94.5 million (\$50.2 million for capital costs and \$44.3 for operating costs).

This additional funding of \$28.5 million will directly benefit a number of regional airports which have already expended their allocated RASI grant, or are projected to do so shortly. Of this \$28.5 million, \$9.5 million was committed in March 2022 and a further \$19 million is planned to be allocated in July 2022.

Delivery partners

The Department of Home Affairs sets the airport security requirements needed to keep Australia and the travelling public safe and secure. RASI is intended to support eligible regional airports to meet new requirements for enhanced security screening. The program is administered by the department and is delivered through the owners and operators of regional airports. The department is working with Home Affairs to consider longer-term support options for sustainable security screening at regional airports, s37.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	45.0	26.1	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Regional airports
- Airlines
- Local governments
- Regional communities
- Airport users

Eligibility, application and decision process

Regional airports eligible under the Department of Home Affairs' Regional Airport Security Screening Fund (RASSF) program were eligible to apply for RASI funding (47 airports in total). The program is a closed non-competitive grant process and eligible airports were invited to apply. Applications closed 28 August 2020.

Eligible applications were assessed against three criteria:

1. The proposed capital works and related costs were necessary and the minimum required to reasonably meet enhanced screening requirements (as set by the Department of Home Affairs).
2. The estimated costs to operate the equipment were reasonable and commensurate with the expected passenger volume to be screened in a typical year.
3. Costs for which funding was provided would not be passed on to airport users.

Additional funding of \$28.5 million was provided in the 2022–23 Budget to ‘top up’ support for existing RASI grantees.

s45, s47G

. To allocate this funding equitably between participating airports, the ‘top up’ funding is being provided on a ‘tiered’ basis that takes into account passenger throughput, with available support scaling down from:

- Full operational expenditure support for the very smallest airports.
- Support for an estimated 20 per cent of eligible security screening costs for the largest airports with more than 500,000 departing passengers per year.

This approach ensures the additional support is appropriately targeted and recognises that larger regional airports are able to spread the costs of screening across a greater number of passengers.

The department was delegated authority to determine allocations on this basis and negotiate funding agreements with airports. This additional funding is being distributed by the department to existing RASI grantees in two tranches (March 2022: \$9.5 million; and July 2022: \$19 million). A review of grantee expenditure will be conducted in June 2022 to inform the second tranche of funding allocations.

Program facts and examples

The program is part of the Australian Airlines Financial Relief Package (Measures 4 and 5). The program commenced on 22 July 2020 and is expected to end on 30 June 2023. s33

The program received an exemption from publicly reporting grant recipients due to security concerns relating to regulated screening requirements at individual airports.

s37

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Transport Connectivity - Supporting an efficient, sustainable, competitive, accessible, safe and secure transport system and supporting jobs through infrastructure investment

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.3 – Air Transport

Relevant legislation: N/A

Contacts

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport Group

Diane.Brown@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7515 | s47F

Janet Quigley

First Assistant Secretary, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division

Janet.Quigley@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6061 | s47F



Emerging Aviation Technologies Programs

Outcome 2.3: Air transport

A suite of programs was announced in the National Emerging Aviation Technology Policy Statement to support the growth and management of the drones sector and other emerging aviation technologies. This will support the development of a safe, accessible, competitive, efficient, secure and sustainable drone system.

Status

In May 2021, the Australian Government released the National Emerging Aviation Technologies Policy Statement (the Policy Statement). The Policy Statement outlines a comprehensive set of initiatives to ensure Australia makes the most of the economic and social opportunities of emerging aviation technologies, such as drones and advanced air mobility (for example air taxis).

Funding under the 2021–22 Budget will support three key initiatives outlined in the Policy Statement:

- \$30.5 million for an Emerging Aviation Technologies Partnership (EATP) program, which will enable partnerships with industry to fund research and trials to encourage and support the uptake and adoption of emerging aviation technologies in the community.
- \$1.2 million to develop detailed requirements for the establishment of a National Drone Detection Network, which will provide a coordinated system for managing capabilities to detect drone activity across Australia to manage security and safety risks.
- \$900,000 to develop detailed requirements for a Drone Rule Management System, which will reduce regulatory burden and avoid regulatory misalignment by ensuring clear, coordinated and consistent rules related to drone use across agencies and jurisdictions.

Applications for round one of the EATP program are currently being assessed. **s47C**

. The program will conclude on 30 June 2024.

Contracts have been awarded for the development of the technical requirements for the National Drone Detection Network and the Drone Rule Management System, which are expected to be completed in the 2021–22 financial year.

Delivery partners

The EATP program is administered by the department and will be delivered through partnerships with the emerging aviation technology sector and research institutions.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	2.1	11.5	19.0	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Drone manufacturers/operators
- Civil Aviation Safety Authority and Airservices Australia
- Traditional aviation – in particular the general aviation industry
- Commonwealth, state, territory and local governments

Eligibility, application and decision process

Individuals, partnerships and incorporated bodies are eligible under the EATP program provided they have an Australian Business Number and are registered for the purposes of the Goods and Services Tax. This includes foreign corporations that can demonstrate how funding will benefit the Australian emerging aviation technology sector, local businesses, and local communities. Commonwealth, state and local government agencies and bodies are not eligible for funding under the program.

You are the decision maker for grants approved under the program, taking into account the recommendations of the assessment committee.

Once scoping and development of the technical requirements for both the Drone Rule Management System and the National Drone Detection Network is complete, the department will provide advice recommending next steps including funding options.

Program facts and examples

The first round of the EATP Program received 120 applications. The program is now in the assessment phase; no projects have been funded. Approximately \$15 million has been allocated to each round. Round one was oversubscribed, with approximately \$170 million requested by project proponents.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Transport connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.3: Air Transport

Relevant legislation: Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport Group

Diane.Brown@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7515 | s47F

Richard Wood

First Assistant Secretary, International Aviation, Technology and Services

Richard.Wood@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6589 | s47F



International Civil Aviation Organization

Outcome 2.3: Air transport

Ongoing participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) remains a vital strategic component of Australia's international aviation engagement and influence on aviation safety, air navigation and security standards development and implementation as well as international aviation economic development, environmental and facilitation policies.

Status

The ICAO program is ongoing. ICAO is a United Nations (UN) body of which Australia is a member State as a signatory to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention), signed on 7 December 1944. The Chicago Convention established ICAO and the principles and arrangements for international civil aviation to develop in a safe and orderly manner.

Article 61 of the Chicago Convention includes provisions for the apportionment of the expenses for running ICAO as an annual assessment payable by ICAO member States. Contributions are based on a formula established in 1959 centred on the level of aviation traffic and the capacity of individual States to pay under a United Nations wide assessment.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.2

ICAO issues invoices to member States in a combination of Canadian and United States currencies and payment is due by 1 January of the ICAO budget year. Australia's annual contribution for 2022 was assessed by ICAO at just over AUD\$2.3 million and this was paid by Australia on 22 December 2021.

Key stakeholders

- ICAO (Headquarters, Montreal)
- ICAO Asia-Pacific regional office (Bangkok)
- Australian Government aviation agencies
- Aviation industry

Program facts and examples

The ICAO triennial budget adopted at the ICAO Assembly in late 2019 was CAD\$322.7 million for the period of 1 January 2020 – 31 December 2022. It has been capped at zero nominal growth with the baseline year being 2019. The next triennial budget will be reviewed at the ICAO Assembly in Montreal in the second half of 2022.

ICAO is a civil aviation standards setting body, comprised of 193 member States. It works with industry groups to seek consensus on international civil aviation standards and recommended practices (SARPs) and global policies and strategies in support of safe, secure, efficient, economically sustainable and environmentally responsible civil aviation.

Fundamentally, SARPs and ICAO global policies and strategies can have significant impacts on Australian, regional and international economic, security, social and environmental interests.

International aviation is a fundamental enabler for trade and tourism, vital to Australia's economy and particularly important as international aviation recovers from the impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic. It is strategically

important for Australia to maintain our leadership in ICAO through representation of the 36 member State ICAO Council (its governing body), the Air Navigation Commission, and to participate in relevant technical Panels and working groups.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Transport Connectivity - Supporting an efficient, sustainable, competitive, accessible, safe and secure transport system and supporting jobs through infrastructure investment

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.3 – Air Transport

Relevant legislation: *Air Navigation Act 1920*

Contacts

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport Group

Diane.Brown@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7515 | s47F

Richard Wood

First Assistant Secretary, International Aviation, Technology and Services

Richard.Wood@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6589 | s47F



Gold Coast Airport Contribution

Outcome 2.3: Air transport

Fund the re-establishment of biosecurity, immigration and customs services within the renovated Gold Coast Airport terminal.

Status

Activity under this grant commenced on 25 November 2019 and is scheduled to end on 30 June 2022 with completion of the construction of relocated border services.

At 31 March 2022, the grant contract had been agreed and signed between the Commonwealth and the grantee, QAL Finance Pty Ltd. Construction activities to dismantle and re-establish border services facilities within the renovated Gold Coast Airport terminal had also commenced. The project's start was delayed due to the impacts of the COVID-19 global pandemic and poor weather.

As at 31 March 2022, the Gold Coast Airport Contribution has total funding of \$8.4 million, of which:

- \$8.4 million has been allocated and contracted to recipients.
- \$2.9 million has been paid to recipients.
- \$5.5 million remains unpaid.

Delivery partners

The Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources' (DISER) Business Grants Hub (the Hub) administers the grant. The Hub liaises with the Department of Home Affairs to ensure the work, undertaken by Lendlease, acting on behalf of GCAL Finance Pty Ltd, is carried out in line with requirements set by the Australian Border Force and the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	8.4	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

The Gold Coast Airport (GCAL Finance Pty Ltd) is the main stakeholder. Other significant stakeholders include:

- Border services agencies: Department of Home Affairs, Australian Border Force and the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
- The Gold Coast community and those living in the catchment area for the airport
- The Australian Federal Police
- Regional importers and exporters

Eligibility, application and decision process

- This is a one-off ad-hoc grant to QAL Finance Pty Ltd designed to fund the movement of biosecurity, immigration and customs services within the Gold Coast Airport terminal. The expansion of the terminal, which would require dismantling existing border service facilities and re-establishing them elsewhere in the expanded building, was

approved prior to a Commonwealth decision to shift such establishment costs services to airports. In recognition of this, the grant eligibility was limited to QAL Finance Pty Ltd only.

- The project, budget and eligible activities were agreed with QAL Finance Pty Ltd. The application was considered by the Hub, the Department of Home Affairs and the Australian Border Force as the lead border services agency.
- The final decision to approve the grant was made by the Hub.
- The DISER Minister with responsibility for the Hub approved the Grant Opportunity Guidelines – Ad-hoc grant to QAL Finance Pty Ltd (ABN: 69 113 941 512) to support the relocation of border services at Gold Coast Airport.

Program facts and examples

The program is a one-off grant and received one application, which was successful. No further rounds are planned.

The Commonwealth's funding commitment ensures biosecurity, immigration and customs control services at Gold Coast Airport that match anticipated passenger and freight volumes. This will ensure safe and efficient movement of passengers and freight, and a level of service that maintains the integrity of border control processes to protect Australia's health, environment and economy.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Transport Connectivity – supporting an efficient, sustainable, competitive, accessible, safe and secure transport system and supporting jobs through infrastructure investment

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.3 – Air Transport

Relevant legislation: N/A

Contacts

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport

Diane.Brown@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7515 | s47F

Richard Wood

First Assistant Secretary, International Aviation, Technology and Services

Richard.Wood@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6589 | s47F



Women in the Aviation Industry Initiative

Outcome 2.3: Air transport

The Women in the Aviation Industry Initiative (the Initiative) seeks to encourage more women to pursue one of the many dynamic, rewarding and long-term career opportunities in the aviation industry. By addressing barriers to female participation in the aviation workforce, and promoting more female engagement across the industry, the Initiative will contribute to improved diversity across the sector.

Status

The Initiative was launched on 8 March 2019 and initially allocated \$4 million over four years. On 21 December 2021 as part of the *Aviation Recovery Framework*, the government extended the Women in the Aviation Industry Initiative (the Initiative) until 2025–26 financial year and allocated a further \$4 million (GST exclusive).

The Initiative has an appropriation of \$2.7 million in the 2021–22 financial year.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 18 contracts established under the program since its commencement in the 2018–19 financial year, 13 have been completed and 5 projects are contracted and are underway. These include:

- \$550,000 has been contracted to Flightdeck Crewing for Aviation Workforce Careers to represent the Initiative at a range of university and career fairs around Australia, of which \$400,000 has been spent.
- \$130,000 has been contracted to Women in Aviation International, Australian Chapter, to facilitate several Emerging Leaders Forums and Girls in Aviation Days across the 2021–22 financial year, of which \$70,000 has been spent.
- \$60,000 has been contracted to Aviation / Aerospace Australia for a program of events in the 2021–22 financial year and to facilitate the Barriers to the Pipeline Research Project, of which \$30,000 has been spent.
- \$130,000 has been contracted to Ernst and Young to conduct a formal evaluation of the first four years of the Initiative. The contract was executed on 1 April 2022 and as at 31 March 2022 no money has been expended.
- \$220,000 has been contracted to Western Sydney Women to oversee mentoring programs in New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria for girls and young women yet to enter the aviation industry, as well as mid-level executive women working in the aviation industry. The contract was executed on 1 April 2022 and as at 31 March 2022 no money has been expended.

Additionally, on 1 April 2022, quotes were sought from suppliers for developing a strategic action plan for the Initiative. This plan will clearly articulate the key objectives of the Initiative over the next four years, outline how government and industry might work together, consider risks and opportunities, specify how success will be measured, and identify both short and longer term goals.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	2.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8

Key stakeholders

- Aviation industry associations
- Airlines
- Airports
- Departments of Education, Skills and Employment, and Industry, Science, Engineering and Resources
- Civil Aviation Safety Authority and Airservices Australia

Eligibility, application and decision process

The first phase of the Initiative was largely informed by the outcomes of an industry roundtable held in 2018.

To inform the next four years of the program, a strategic action plan will be developed. The action plan is intended as a public document and will communicate what the Initiative hopes to achieve and how it will do it. Following the development of the action plan, applications and quotes for activities to be implemented under the Initiative will be sought through appropriate approaches to market.

Program facts and examples

The Initiative was established in response to the Report of the Expert Panel of Aviation Skills and Training (Expert Panel Report), published in July 2018, which found that 3 per cent of commercial pilots and less than one per cent of aircraft engineers worldwide are women and the industry has not done well tapping into this very large source of potential skills.

The Initiative complements and supports work already being undertaken by the aviation industry, education sector and the Government's existing COVID-19 support measures underpinning aviation's recovery. Activities include the promotion of aviation careers information at conferences, mentoring programs, workshops and careers events, as well as publishing complementary online resources. The Initiative has been able to reach a substantial number of girls, young women and parents. For example, from 2019 to 2021, the Initiative was represented at 13 careers fairs across Australia, directly engaging with almost 14,000 female students and 9,000 teachers, parents/guardians and careers advisors.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigation

Purposes: Supporting an efficient, sustainable, competitive, accessible, safe and secure transport system and supporting jobs through infrastructure investment

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.3 – Air Transport

Relevant legislation: Nil

Contacts

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport Group

Diane.brown@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7515 | s47F

Janet Quigley

First Assistant Secretary, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division

Janet.quigley@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6061 | s47F



Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme

Outcome 2.1: Surface transport

The Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme (TFES) supports the Tasmanian economy by reducing the additional cost of transporting non-bulk sea freight across the Bass Strait.

Status

The TFES assists in alleviating the higher shipping cost incurred by shippers of eligible non-bulk goods transported between Tasmania and mainland Australia, and between the main island of Tasmania and King Island or the Furneaux Group. Its objective is to provide Tasmanian industries with equal opportunities to compete, recognising that, unlike their mainland counterparts, Tasmanian shippers do not have the option of transporting goods interstate by road or rail.

A total of \$165.4 million in assistance was provided under the TFES in the 2020–21 financial year, representing an increase of approximately \$4.2 million from the previous financial year. The TFES budget for the 2021–22 financial year is \$176 million and the budget for the 2022–23 financial year is \$178 million. The TFES commenced on 1 July 1976 and is an ongoing program.

Delivery partners

- Services Australia

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	176.0	178.0	180.0	182.0	182.0

Key stakeholders

- Services Australia
- Tasmanian Government
- Tasmanian businesses

Eligibility, application and decision process

The TFES operates under Ministerial Directions (MDs) that outline the eligibility and claim lodgment requirements, including the rates of assistance paid.

The northbound component of the TFES applies to goods produced or manufactured in Tasmania for permanent use or sale on the mainland of Australia, or shipped to the mainland for transshipment. Assistance for goods shipped to the mainland for transshipment has been available for eligible shipments since 1 January 2016, following the Australian Government's March 2015 decision to expand the TFES.

The southbound component of TFES applies to eligible non-consumer raw materials and equipment for use in the mining and manufacturing industries in Tasmania; and material inputs to, or machinery, implements and equipment for use in the agricultural, fishing and forestry industries in Tasmania.

On 11 May 2021, the Australian Government announced the TFES was being extended to eligible imported goods, which are shipped to Tasmania via a mainland port and where there is no Australian equivalent good. TFES imported good claims can be lodged online from 1 October 2021 onwards, for eligible imported goods shipped from the mainland to Tasmania on or after 1 July 2021.

Program facts and examples

The TFES has an allocated budget, but it is demand-driven in nature. The number of claims received and paid is driven by Tasmanian economic conditions and activity in the manufacturing, mining, agriculture, forestry and fishing industries.

Approximately 17,026 claims of assistance were paid under TFES in the 2020–21 financial year, an increase from the 16,802 claims paid in the 2019–20 financial year. Claims for TFES assistance can be lodged at any time of the year, as long as less than six months has passed between claim lodgment and the date of shipment of the good.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Transport connectivity, regional development, northern Australia and cities

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.1 — Surface Transport

Relevant legislation: MDs for the Operation of the Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme; Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport Group
diane.brown@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 7515 | s47F

Andrew Madsen

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Surface Transport Policy
 Division
andrew.madsen2@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 7804 | s47F



Bass Strait Passenger Vehicle Equalisation Scheme

Outcome 2.1: Surface transport

The Bass Strait Passenger Vehicle Equalisation Scheme (BSPVES) aims to reduce the cost of sea travel between the mainland and Tasmania by providing a rebate for the transportation of an eligible passenger vehicle across Bass Strait.

Status

The BSPVES commenced in 1996 and it provides an approximate subsidy, not an exact equalisation, relative to the cost of an equivalent road or rail journey on the mainland. The BSPVES is capped per annum and demand-driven in nature. The BSPVES operates under Ministerial Directions (MDs), last updated on 4 May 2021.

In the 2020–21 financial year, approximately \$37.0 million was paid in BSPVES assistance. The BSPVES budget for the 2021–22 financial year is \$53.2 million and \$54.5 million in 2022–23 financial year.

Delivery partners

- Services Australia (as delivery agency)
- Bass Island Line (as service operator)
- TT-Line (as service operator)

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	53.2	54.5	55.9	57.3	58.7

Key stakeholders

- Tasmanian Government
- Bass Island Line
- TT-Line

Eligibility, application and decision process

An eligible passenger vehicle is one which is accompanied by an eligible passenger (the driver) on a Bass Strait shipping service, or is transported by an eligible person on a Bass Strait shipping service, and includes:

- A motor car
- A bus
- A motorhome
- An eligible passenger vehicle towing a caravan
- A motorcycle
- A bicycle

The rebate for an eligible passenger vehicle is paid to the service operator who passes on the rebate in the form of a lower passenger vehicle fare to the eligible passenger accompanying or the eligible person transporting an eligible passenger vehicle on a Bass Strait service under the scheme.

The BSPVES is also available to eligible persons who must fly between mainland Australia and King Island or the islands of the Furneaux Group in the absence of a ferry service between these islands and mainland Australia.

Program facts and examples

The rebates for eligible passenger vehicles are reviewed annually. The rebates provided for eligible passenger vehicles from 1 July 2021 are up to:

- \$243 each way for a motor car.
- \$243 each way for a bus.
- \$489 each way for a motor home.
- \$489 each way for an eligible passenger vehicle towing a caravan.
- \$125 each way for a motorcycle.
- \$37 each way for a bicycle.

BSPVES rebates for eligible passenger vehicles will increase by 2.4 per cent from 1 July 2022 for the 2022–23 financial year, in line with the rate in which the BSPVES budget will increase and consistent with the Consumer Price Index.

In the 2020–2021 financial year, the Australian Government provided assistance for approximately 123,564 eligible passenger vehicles, including 47,233 eligible passenger vehicles under the temporary higher rebate.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Transport connectivity, regional development, northern Australia and cities

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.1 – Surface Transport

Relevant legislation: MDs for the Operation of the Bass Strait Passenger Vehicle Equalisation Scheme; Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport Group
diane.brown@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 7515 | s47F

Andrew Madsen

A/g First Assistant Secretary, Surface Transport Policy Division
andrew.madsen2@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 7804 | s47F



Emissions and Fuel Economy

Outcome 2.1: Surface transport

The Improved Information on Vehicle Emissions and Fuel Economy program (the program) will provide funding to the Australian Automobile Association (AAA) to help consumers choose cleaner and more fuel efficient vehicles by providing funding for on-road 'real world' testing of light vehicles.

Status

- Funding was provided in the 2022–23 Budget for the program to operate in the 2022–23 financial year and 2023–24 financial year. A review of the program will be undertaken in the 2023–24 financial year.
- The AAA is the only entity eligible for this grant. AAA will be invited to apply for the funding once grant guidelines for the program are in place.

Delivery partners

The program will be administered on behalf of the department by the Business Grants Hub in the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	-	3.0	3.0	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Vehicle manufacturers
- Fleet managers
- New car buyers
- Consumer organisations

Eligibility, application and decision process

The 2022–23 Budget identified the AAA as the only entity eligible to receive a grant in this program. The Business Grants Hub will provide advice to the department on whether the activities proposed by the AAA comply with the program guidelines. The funding can be used for a range of activities, including governance and oversight, consultation with industry, testing vehicles, data analysis and publication of results (subject to consultation and peer review by the department and industry stakeholders).

Program facts and examples

The program will fund the AAA to source and undertake on-road vehicle emissions and fuel economy testing for approximately 50 light vehicle model variants per year. The program will provide real world information on the emissions and fuel consumption of new cars, which is intended to support increased uptake of fuel efficient vehicles in Australia. It will complement the regulated tests adopted in the Australian Design Rules and information available on the Australian Government's Green Vehicle Guide website.

This data may also help inform development of an international standards for on-road fuel consumption and emissions testing. The program will provide data on the performance of vehicles in Australian conditions, which are not typically experienced in major vehicle markets in the Northern Hemisphere. The program will also provide data on pollutants not currently regulated in the existing on-road tests adopted in Europe and Japan.

The program is expected to receive one application from the eligible entity for the two-year period.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Transport connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.1 – Surface Transport

Relevant legislation: *National Land Transport Act 2014*

Contacts

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport Group

Diane.Brown@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7515 | s47F

Andrew Madsen

A/g First Assistant Secretary, Surface Transport Policy
Division

Andrew.Madsen2@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7804 | s47F



National Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative

Outcome 2.1: Surface transport

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) delivers the Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative (HVSII) on behalf of the Australian Government.

Status

The HVSII funds practical projects to improve heavy vehicle safety nationally. The NHVR runs a funding round each year. Applications for round seven closed on 14 February 2022. A decision on successful applicants is expected in the third quarter of 2022. Total funding available for round seven is \$5.6 million.

Delivery partners

- NHVR

Program funding

HVSII is an ongoing measure that commenced in 2016. In the 2019-20 Budget, the Australian Government committed an additional \$1.5 million per year for four years for the HVSII (this additional funding terminates in the 2022-23 financial year).

	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	5.5	5.6	4.2	4.2	4.3

Key stakeholders

- Transport industry operators
- Transport industry associations

Eligibility, application and decision process

In the 2016-17 Budget, the Australian Government committed \$15.6 million over four years for the NHVR to deliver the HVSII to improve the safety of the heavy vehicle industry. This funding was redirected from the former Road Safety Remuneration Tribunal.

- The NHVR was established in 2013 as the single national regulator for heavy vehicles (excluding Western Australia and the Northern Territory). The NHVR regulates safety and productivity including driver fatigue management, vehicle safety, extension of obligations to others in the supply chain, mass, dimension and loading requirements, and coordinates heavy vehicle access permissions with state and local governments.

The Australian Government provides an annual grant to the NHVR for the HVSII program. The NHVR then runs the program, including entering into grant agreements with successful funding applicants for the delivery of projects.

- The department has a multi-year grant agreement in place with the NHVR. The grant agreement details how much funding is to be provided each year, as well as the NHVR's obligations as the grantee.

Program facts and examples

As at 31 March 2022, 117 projects valued at more than \$28 million have been funded under the first six rounds of the HVSI. A further \$5.6 million has been committed for round seven for the HVSI (2022–23) taking the total committed to \$33.6 million.

Initiatives funded in previous rounds include programs to educate young drivers on how to share the road with heavy vehicles, support improved mental health and individual wellbeing in the heavy vehicle industry, and raise awareness of chain of responsibility obligations.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Transport connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.1 – Surface Transport

Relevant legislation: *National Land Transport Act 2014*

Contacts

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport Group

diane.brown@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7515 | s47F

Andrew Madsen

A/g First Assistant Secretary, Surface Transport Policy
Division

andrew.madsen2@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7804 | s47F



Strategic Local Government Asset Assessment Project

Outcome 2.1: Surface transport

The Australian Government funds the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) to deliver the Strategic Local Government Asset Assessment Project (SLGAAP).

Status

SLGAAP funds local government areas to undertake engineering assessments of road assets like bridges and culverts to assist their road managers make decisions about heavy vehicle access to the road network. The program commenced in the 2019-20 financial year and will terminate in the 2023–2024 financial year.

As at 31 March 2022, SLGAAP has total funding of \$20.1 million, of which:

- \$20 million has been allocated and contracted to NHVR.
- \$12 million has been paid, with the remaining \$8 million not yet paid.
- \$100,000 has been allocated and contracted to the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources Business Grants Hub.

Delivery partners

- NHVR

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	4.0	4.0	4.0	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Local government road managers
- Heavy vehicle operators

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Australian Government has allocated funding for the NHVR to deliver SLGAAP. SLGAAP assists local government road managers across Australia to undertake capacity assessments of bridges and culverts on key heavy vehicle routes to help them better understand the safe operating limits of road infrastructure. This new data and information will help local governments assess requests for heavy vehicle road access. This can lead to greater access for heavy vehicles as a result of understanding the safe operating limits of key infrastructure.

The NHVR delivers SLGAAP on behalf of the Australian Government. The NHVR was established in 2013 as the single national regulator for heavy vehicles (excluding Western Australia and the Northern Territory). The NHVR regulates safety and productivity including driver fatigue management, vehicle safety, extension of obligations to others in the supply chain, mass, dimension and loading requirements, and coordinates heavy vehicle access permissions with state and local governments.

Local governments nominate road assets for engineering assessments funded by SLGAAP. As SLGAAP is not a competitive grants process, there is no eligibility criteria. The NHVR decides which assets are assessed to maximise the program outcome (for example, assessing ‘bridge families’).

Program facts and examples

In the 2019-20 Budget (Stage 1), the Australian Government committed \$8 million over two years.

In the 2021-22 Budget (Stage 2), the Australian Government committed a further \$12.1 million over three years.

Under Stage 1 of the SLGAAP, the NHVR assessed approximately 400 assets across 74 local government areas. Stage 1 was completed 31 December 2021.

It is anticipated Stage 2 of SLGAAP will assist the NHVR to assess of up to 900 bridges and culverts across approximately 90 local government areas.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purpose: Transport connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.1 — Surface Transport

Relevant legislation: *Heavy Vehicle National Law Act 2012; National Land Transport Act 2014*

Contacts

Diane Brown

Deputy Secretary, Transport Group
diane.brown@infrastructure.gov.au
 6274 7515 | s47F

Andrew Madsen

A/g First Assistant Secretary, Surface Transport Policy
 Division
andrew.madsen2@infrastructure.gov.au
 6274 7804 | s47F



Road Safety Program

Outcome 2.2: Road safety

The Road Safety Program (the Program) supports the fast roll out of lifesaving road safety treatments on rural and regional roads and delivers greater protection for vulnerable road users like cyclists and pedestrians in urban areas.

Status

The Australian Government has committed \$3 billion towards the Program – \$2 billion in the 2020–21 Budget, with a further \$1 billion announced in the 2021–22 Budget.

The Program is being delivered in 5 tranches and as at 31 March 2022:

- Over \$1.9 billion has been allocated to deliver 1,380 projects nationwide in the first three tranches.
- Over \$1.1 billion has been paid.
- s47C

As at 31 March 2022, 1,380 projects have been approved in the first 3 tranches. 663 of these projects have been completed, 637 are underway, 40 have not commenced, and 40 have been cancelled.

Delivery partners

- State and territory governments

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	1,143.6	1,121.6	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- State and territory governments

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Australian Government provides national coordination and leadership to improve road safety outcomes, with local, state and territory governments managing the program of works within each jurisdiction. The \$3 billion Program is being delivered under the *National Land Transport Act 2014* and in accordance with the National Partnership Agreement on Land Transport Infrastructure Projects. The Program will be delivered over 30 months in 5, six-month tranches.

- Tranche 1 commenced on 1 January 2021 with allocated funding of over \$1 billion for 705 projects across all jurisdictions, and with works due for completion by 30 June 2021.
- Tranche 2 commenced on 1 July 2021 with allocated funding of \$490.7 million for 305 projects across all jurisdictions except Tasmania who did not apply for this tranche, and with work due for completion by 31 December 2021.
- Tranche 3 commenced on 1 January 2022 with allocated funding of \$474.1 million for 370 projects across Australia except the Northern Territory who did not apply for this tranche, and with work due for completion by 30 June 2022.
- s47C
- s47C

All projects require a co-contribution from the state or territory, with regional projects funded on an 80:20 basis and urban and peri-urban projects funded on a 50:50 basis. Funding is provided to all jurisdictions on a 'use it or lose it' basis, unless defined exceptional circumstances exist (e.g. COVID-19 or extreme weather). Projects must be delivered within the required timeframe, otherwise funding is reduced in the succeeding tranche in proportion to the underspend.

Applications are assessed against a selection criteria and in accordance with the approved program guidelines. All successful projects and funding recipients in Tranches 1, 2 and 3 received Ministerial approval.

Program facts and examples

The National Partnership Agreement on Land Transport Infrastructure Projects outlines that the Australia Government and the states and territories must have regard for safe system principles and road safety treatments when considering road infrastructure investment proposals. States and territories are required to report against 4 metrics on a regular basis, including their current baseline data of road safety risk:

- Traffic volume and mix – the number of each type of vehicles on the upgraded road before and after works – reported on commencement and bi-annually thereafter.
- A death from an on-road (traffic) crash on a public road within 30 days of the event.
- A serious injury – as per the national definition being persons admitted to a hospital (inpatient) – from an on-road (traffic) crash on a public road within 30 days of the event.
- Risk profile across the road network – measured by the number of kilometres with safety attributes, and the change in the risk profile as safety measures are applied – reported on commencement and bi-annually thereafter.

Reporting is required to continue for the life of the new National Road Safety Strategy 2021–2030. The improvements in road safety from this Program will be measured by the expected reductions in both fatal and serious injury road crashes, and the data will be used in the assessment of future road safety mass action programs and individual road infrastructure projects which have a road safety benefit. Data will also be provided to the newly established National Road Safety Data Hub to support delivery of the National Road Safety Strategy 2021–2030.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Supporting an efficient, sustainable, competitive, accessible, safe and secure transport system and supporting jobs through infrastructure investment

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.2 – Road Safety

Relevant legislation: Part 3 of the *National Land Transport Act 2014* (NLT Act), and the National Partnership Agreement on Land Transport Infrastructure Projects (Infrastructure NPA)

Contacts

David Hallinan

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure

David.Hallinan@Infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7302 | s47F

Lisa La Rance

First Assistant Secretary, Road and Vehicle Safety

Lisa.larance@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6001 | s47F



Road Safety Innovation Fund

Outcome 2.2: Road safety

The Road Safety Innovation Fund (the Program) provides targeted competitive grants for innovation, research and development in priority areas such as regional road safety, driver distraction from mobile devices, protecting vulnerable road users and reducing drug driving. Projects are aimed at reducing deaths and serious injuries on our roads.

Status

The Program was announced in the 2019–20 Budget and is administered by the Office of Road Safety. The Program commenced on 20 July 2019 with funding of \$12 million over 4 years from 2019–20. In April 2022, an additional \$12 million was committed across 3 years, and extends the program to 30 June 2025.

As at 31 March 2022:

- \$12 million has been allocated to projects and contracts are in place.
- \$6.5 million has been paid to recipients.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 53 projects committed to under the Program, one has been completed with the remaining 52 currently in delivery.

The additional funding will support road safety research projects and the development of road safety technologies.

\$47E

Delivery partners

The Program has 37 delivery partners, however, outlined below are the main delivery partners:

- Universities
- Australian Road Research Board Transport Research
- George Institute for Global Health
- Neuroscience Research Australia

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget) ^(a)	3.6	4.9	5.0	5.5	-

^(a) Includes additional funding agreed in April 2022.

Key stakeholders

- Road safety researchers, including universities
- Technology developers
- State and territory governments
- Local governments

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Program was announced in the 2019-20 Budget and 2 funding rounds have been held:

- Round One (Open Round – submissions closed in May 2020) - \$2 million from the Program was committed over 4 years. 104 applications were received from eligible applicants, with 13 successful projects being announced in July 2020.
- Round Two (open round – submissions closed in March 2021) – utilising the remaining \$10 million from the initial Program allocation, committed over 3 years. 114 applications were received from eligible applicants, with 40 successful projects being announced in July 2021.

Eligible applicants included innovation, research and development organisations, such as academic institutions that specialise in aspects of road safety that are focused on the task of road safety and target specific road safety issues.

Applications were required to be evidence-based and align with the National Road Safety Strategy (NRSS) or emerging national priority issues in road safety.

Applications targeted reducing road crash deaths and serious injuries in regional and remote areas, and reducing road crash deaths and serious injuries to vulnerable road users.

Applications were assessed against a selection criteria and in accordance with the approved guidelines.

Successful projects received ministerial approval.

No process has commenced for allocating the additional \$12 million committed to the Program.

Program facts and examples

In September 2018 the Australian Government received a report of an independent Inquiry into the effectiveness of the NRSS 2011–2020. The NRSS Inquiry report made a wide range of recommendations, one of which was funding innovation research initiatives to ensure road safety is a genuine part of the ‘business as usual’ approach for governments and businesses.

The Program addresses these recommendations by funding innovation initiatives aimed at reducing deaths and serious injuries on our roads. The projects funded under the Program include initiatives that protect vulnerable road users, develop crash prediction models, improve night visibility signs, and carry out driver decline sensitivity testing.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations.

Purposes: Supporting an efficient, sustainable, competitive, accessible, safe and secure transport system and supporting jobs through infrastructure investment

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.2 – Road Safety

Relevant legislation: Financial Framework (supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

David Hallinan
Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure
David.Hallinan@Infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 7302 | s47F

Lisa La Rance
First Assistant Secretary, Road and Vehicle Safety
Lisa.larance@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 6001 | s47F



Keys2drive

Outcome 2.2: Road safety

The Keys2drive Program (the Program) is a national learner driver program which aims to improve the safety of novice drivers by supporting their parents/supervisors with tools to achieve foundational safe driving practices for learners, along with a practical demonstration of the skills needed and driving practice for the novice driver. This approach helps L platers gain effective driving experience before graduating to a 'P-plate' licence.

Status

The Program commenced on 23 June 2008 and has been administered by the Office of Road Safety since July 2019. The Program is scheduled to be completed on 30 June 2023.

The total value of the Program is \$16 million over four years from 2019–20. As at 31 March 2022:

- \$10 million has been paid to the recipient.
- \$6 million is committed in 2022–23.

Delivery partners

The Program is delivered by the Australian Automobile Association (AAA).

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	4.0	6.0	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Learner drivers and their supervisors
- AAA and its motoring clubs
- Accredited driving instructors

Eligibility, application and decision process

- The Program commenced on 23 June 2008 and has been administered by the Office of Road safety since July 2019.
- In 2019, the Australian Government provided funding for the Program for a further two year period until 30 June 2023.
- An extension to the Program was contracted from 1 July 2021.

Program facts and examples

In September 2018 the Australian Government received a report of an independent inquiry into the effectiveness of the National Road Safety Strategy 2011–2020 (NRSS). The NRSS Inquiry report made a wide range of recommendations, one of which was that key road safety enablers be better resourced to assist with their road safety work.

The Program addresses these recommendations by funding road safety awareness, education and collaboration initiatives undertaken by road safety enabling organisations. It aims to improve the safety of young drivers before they graduate to the 'P-plate' license, and contributes to road safety outcomes by providing a free theory and practical lesson to learner drivers and supervisors.

In 2020–21, 83,802 free one hour lessons were delivered under the program. The Program is being enhanced to expand uptake in regional areas where young drivers are over-represented in crashes.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Supporting an efficient, sustainable, competitive, accessible, safe and secure transport system and supporting jobs through infrastructure investment

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.2 – Road safety

Relevant legislation: Financial Framework (supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

David Hallinan

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure

David.Hallinan@Infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7302 | s47F

Lisa La Rance

First Assistant Secretary, Road and Vehicle Safety

Lisa.larance@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6001 | s47F



Driver Reviver Site Upgrades

Outcome 2.2: Road Safety

Driver Reviver Site Upgrades (the Program) will upgrade existing Driver Reviver sites nationwide to improve amenities and signage, install new equipment and support the establishment of new sites.

Status

The Program was announced in the 2019-20 Budget and is administered by the Office of Road Safety. The Program commenced in June 2020 with funding of \$8 million over 2 years from 2019–20. In April 2022, an additional \$10 million was committed across 3 years, which extends the program to 30 June 2025.

As at 31 March 2022:

- \$8 million has been allocated, contracted to projects, and paid to recipients prior to the 2021–22 financial year.
- The additional \$10 million has not been allocated.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 105 sites committed under the Program, 44 have been completed with the remaining 61 currently in delivery.

The additional funding will support further upgrades to Driver Reviver sites. s47E

Delivery partners

The Program has 66 delivery partners. Outlined below are delivery partners with multiple projects:

- Main Roads T/A, Main Roads WA
- Transport for NSW
- Main Roads WA Mid West-Gascoyne Region

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget ¹)	-	3.0	3.0	4.0	-

¹ Includes additional funding agreed in April 2022.

Key stakeholders

- State and territory governments
- Local governments
- Community groups

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Program commenced in June 2020 and due to COVID-19 impacts, extensions to site upgrades have been granted to 30 June 2022 for projects committed to in the first 2 rounds. Due to COVID-19 and extreme weather impacts, a further extension may need to be sought.

To date, 2 funding rounds have been held.

- Round One (Open Round – closed May 2020) \$0.8 million paid to purchase mobile variable messaging signs between June 2020 and August 2020.
 - Of the 34 sites funded under Round One, all have been completed.
 - Round Two (Open Round – closed February 2021) \$7.2 million paid to upgrade amenities, signage and establishing new sites between June 2021 and June 2022.
 - Of the 71 sites funded under Round Two, 10 have been completed.
- No process has commenced for allocating the additional \$10 million committed to the Program.

Program facts and examples

The Driver Reviver Program has been operating since 1990 across all jurisdictions encouraging long distance drivers to stop and enjoy complimentary refreshments. The Program operates during school holidays and over long weekends to reduce fatigue-related crashes on our roads.

The Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety – Queensland (CARRS-Q) has identified driver fatigue as one of the Fatal Five road safety factors that contribute to road trauma. It can affect anyone at any time of day or night and is estimated to contribute to 2030 per cent of all deaths and severe injuries on the road. Australian national data indicates a significant increase in fatigue-related crashes in holiday periods such as Christmas and Easter.

Driver Reviver sites provide drivers and their passengers with a place to stop safely, particularly on long trips, during peak holiday periods.

The Office of Road Safety works collaboratively with Driver Reviver Australia to determine the best approach to rolling out improvements to the amenities, while engaging with state, territory and local governments as the asset owners of the sites.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Supporting an efficient, sustainable, competitive, accessible, safe and secure transport system and supporting jobs through infrastructure investment

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.2 – Road Safety

Relevant legislation: Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

David Hallinan
Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure
david.hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 7302 | s47F

Lisa La Rance
First Assistant Secretary, Road and Vehicle Safety
lisa.larance@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 6001 | s47F



Road Safety Awareness and Enablers Fund

Outcome 2.2: Road safety

The Road Safety Awareness and Enablers Fund (the Program) delivers significant benefits to the Australian community through reducing road trauma and serious injury. The Program provides targeted competitive grants for road safety awareness, education and collaboration initiatives.

Status

The Program was announced in the 2019–20 Budget and is administered by the Office of Road Safety. The Program commenced on 9 December 2019 with funding of \$4 million over four years from 2019–20. In April 2022, an additional \$4 million was committed across two years, which extends the program to 30 June 2025.

As at 31 March 2022:

- \$4.0 million has been allocated to projects and contracts are in place.
- \$2.5 million has been paid to recipients.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 20 projects committed to under the Program, 6 have been completed with the remaining 14 currently in delivery.

The additional funding will support road safety awareness, education and collaboration initiatives. **s47E**

Delivery partners

The Program has 14 delivery partners, however, outlined below are the main delivery partners:

- Driver Reviver Australia
- Australian College of Road Safety
- Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia
- Australian Road Safety Foundation

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget) ^(a)	1.3	1.3	1.5	2.0	-

^(a) Includes additional funding agreed in April 2022.

Key stakeholders

- Road Safety enabling organisations
- Local governments
- State and territory governments

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Program was announced in the 2019–20 Budget and two funding rounds have been held:

- Round One (Closed Round) – \$3.3 million committed over four years. Seven specific grants were funded.

- Round Two (Open Round – submissions closed in November 2019) – funding of \$700,000 was committed over four years. 58 applications were received from eligible applicants, with the round being finalised in early 2020. 13 projects were funded.

Eligible applicants included road safety enabling organisations, which include academic institutions that specialise in aspects of road safety, non-profit organisations focused on the task of road safety, and programs of local, state, and territory governments that target specific road safety issues.

Applications were required to be evidence-based and align with the National Road Safety Strategy (NRSS) or emerging national priority issues in road safety.

Applications targeted reducing road crash deaths and serious injuries in regional and remote areas, and reducing road crash deaths and serious injuries to vulnerable road users.

Applications were assessed against a selection criteria and in accordance with the approved guidelines.

Successful projects received ministerial approval.

Program facts and examples

In September 2018 the Australian Government received a report of an independent Inquiry into the effectiveness of the NRSS 2011–2020. The NRSS Inquiry report made a wide range of recommendations, one of which was that key road safety enablers be better resourced to assist with their road safety work.

The Program addresses these recommendations by funding road safety awareness, education and collaboration initiatives undertaken by road safety enabling organisations. The road safety projects funded by the Program target a wide range of road users (not just drivers) and cover a variety of issues, such as rural and regional road safety, the impacts of speeding, driveway safety and sharing the road safely with other vehicles and people.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Supporting an efficient, sustainable, competitive, accessible, safe and secure transport system and supporting jobs through infrastructure investment

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.2 – Road Safety

Relevant legislation: Financial Framework (supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

David Hallinan

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure

David.Hallinan@Infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7302 | s47F

Lisa La Rance

First Assistant Secretary, Road and Vehicle Safety

Lisa.larance@Infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6001 | s47F



Digital Roads Safety Passport

Outcome 2.2: Road safety

The Digital Road Safety Passport Pilot Program (the Program) supports a digital road safety platform known as 'RoadSet' to engage Year 9 students on road safety issues. The educational tool delivers a road safety awareness program designed to support young people set and reinforce positive road safety neural pathways prior to entering a novice driver program as a learner driver.

Status

The Program commenced on 28 February 2020 and is scheduled to be completed on 30 June 2022.

The total value of the Program is \$1.8 million over two years from 2019–20.

As at 31 March 2022, \$1.8 million has been paid to the recipient with program funding fully expended.

Delivery partners

The Program is delivered by the Australian Road Safety Foundation (ARSF).

Program funding

Program funding is fully allocated and expended. There is no further funding allocated in current or future financial years.

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	-	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- State and territory governments
- The education community
- The general community
- School students and their peers

Eligibility, application and decision process

- The Program commenced on 28 February 2020 and is scheduled to be completed on 30 June 2022.
- In 2019, the Australian Government made an election commitment to fund the Digital Road Safety Passport Pilot Program.
- A six month extension of timeframe was granted to complete the Project by 30 June 2022 due to COVID-19 impacts.

Program facts and examples

In September 2018 the Australian Government received a report of an independent inquiry into the effectiveness of the National Road Safety Strategy 2011–2020 (NRSS). The NRSS Inquiry report made a wide range of recommendations, one of which was that key road safety enablers be better resourced to assist with their road safety work.

The Program addresses these recommendations by funding road safety awareness, education and collaboration initiatives undertaken by road safety enabling organisations. The Year 9 Pilot Program provides educational tools for students before they prepare for their driver licence (L Plates). The Program delivers a road safety awareness program that can be accessed through a free online interactive app, or can be teacher-led and integrated into the school curriculum.

In 2020–21, 47,728 students had accessed the Program, with a further 58,000 students identified to take part in the Program in 2021–22.

Access to the passport app is through students' mobiles, tablets or PC, and the application is a game-like program, testing students' understanding of the road rules.

On successful completion of the modules, students receive a passport certificate for road safety.

Program administration

Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations

Purposes: Supporting an efficient, sustainable, competitive, accessible, safe and secure transport system and supporting jobs through infrastructure investment

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 2.2 – Road Safety

Relevant legislation: Financial Framework (supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

David Hallinan

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure

David.Hallinan@Infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7302 | s47F

Lisa La Rance

First Assistant Secretary, Road and Vehicle Safety

Lisa.larance@Infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6001 | s47F



Western Sydney City Deal

Outcome 3.3: Cities

The Western Sydney City Deal is a \$10.9 billion 20-year partnership agreement between the Australian Government, NSW Government and 8 local governments of the Western Parkland City to improve the its prosperity, sustainability and liveability. The Western Sydney City Deal builds on the Australian Government's \$5.3 billion investment in Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport.

Status

The Western Sydney City Deal was signed in March 2018 and is due to conclude in 2038. s47B

As at April 2022, the Western Sydney City Deal has total funding of \$10.9 billion, of which:

- The Australian Government is investing \$5.325 billion.
- The New South Wales Government is investing \$5.498 billion.
- The Western Parkland City Councils are investing \$90.48 million.

To date, the Australian Government has spent \$692 million.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 38 commitments under the Western Sydney City Deal: 16 have been completed; 20 are on track to meet their milestone and end delivery dates; and 2 have been delayed. The Penrith Multi-Use Depot commitment is delayed pending agreement on land use; and the impacts of flooding, COVID-19 and bushfires have delayed delivery of the Liveability Program.

The department has taken steps to engage State and local senior officials on the future direction of the city deal and how it can improve the prosperity, liveability and sustainability of the region, noting that 4 new mayors have been appointed as a result of the NSW Local Government elections held in December 2021.

The next leadership group meeting, for which the minister responsible for cities is co-chair, is scheduled for 22 July 2022. It will consider the work done by senior officials on the future direction of the Western Sydney City Deal.

Delivery partners

The Australian Government, in partnership with the State and Local Governments are responsible for delivering Deal projects. Delivery partners vary for individual commitments, but are made up from the 9 other Deal Partners:

- NSW Government
- Blue Mountains City Council
- Camden Council
- Campbelltown City Council
- Fairfield City Council
- Hawkesbury City Council
- Liverpool City Council
- Penrith City Council
- Wollondilly Shire Council

Program funding^(a)

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Deal funding - AG (at 2022-23 Budget)	22.6	15	0.1	-	-

(a) Excluding funding for the Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport (administered under the Infrastructure Investment Program).

Key stakeholders

- Australian Government agencies
- Blue Mountains City Council
- Camden Council
- Campbelltown City Council
- Fairfield City Council
- Hawkesbury City Council
- Liverpool City Council
- Penrith City Council
- Wollondilly Shire Council
- Western Parkland City community and industry
- NSW Government departments and agencies: DPC, DEIT, DPE, Sydney Metro, Transport for NSW, Western Parkland City Authority, Greater Sydney Commission

Eligibility and application process

City deals and regional deals are negotiated between the Commonwealth, state, and identified local governments. Funding recipients are identified through deal negotiations. Each deal arrangement includes governance structures for monitoring and reporting.

The Minister for Cities is responsible for chairing the Leadership Group as part of the Western Sydney City Deal. Officials meet through the Implementation Board, Coordination Committee and project working groups. The Western Sydney City Deal can be expanded over time through agreement by all partners to the deal.

Program facts and examples

The commitments include:

- \$10.5 billion to the Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport – of which \$5.25 billion is Australian Government funding.
- \$210.0 million to the Liveability Program – of which \$60.0 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$33.75 million to the Housing Package – of which \$15.0 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$1.32 million to a Community and Justice Precinct – of which \$0.52m is Australian Government funding.

As at 31 March 2022, 16 of the 38 City Deal commitments have been completed.

The Western Sydney City Deal is expected to create 200,000 jobs, with 2,825 jobs created as at 31 March 2022.

Program governance

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia’s cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance

Purposes: Regional development — improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions across Australia; and transport connectivity — supporting an efficient, sustainable, safe and accessible transport system

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.3 — Cities; and Budget Program 1.1 — Infrastructure Investment

Relevant legislation: *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009; COAG Reform Fund Act 2008; National Land Transport Act 2014; Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*

Contacts

Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories Group
Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 6181 | s47F

Matthew Roper

First Assistant Secretary, Cities Division
Matthew.Roper@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 8038 | s47F



South East Queensland City Deal

Outcome 3.3: Cities

The South East Queensland (SEQ) Deal is a \$1.86 billion, 20-year partnership (2022-42) between the Australian Government, Queensland Government and Council of Mayors (SEQ) to achieve four strategic outcomes: accelerating future jobs across SEQ; a faster, more connected SEQ region; a more liveable SEQ; and creating thriving communities for SEQ.

Status

The SEQ Deal was signed in March 2022 and is due to conclude in 2042. As at 31 March 2022, the SEQ Deal has total funding of \$1.86 billion, of which:

- The Australian Government is contributing \$667.8 million.
- The Queensland Government is contributing \$618.8 million.
- The Council of Mayors (SEQ) is contributing \$501.6 million.
- Other contributions from non-government parties total \$75 million.

As at 31 March 2022, the Australian Government has spent \$0.

The department is engaging deal partner officials to develop the Implementation Plan for the 31 commitments by the end of 2022. It will outline delivery, milestone and the responsible authority arrangements.

Delivery partners

- Australian Government
- Queensland Government
- Council of Mayors (SEQ)

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	-	44.8	122.0	111.5	85.6

Key stakeholders

- Australian Government
- Queensland Government
- South East Queensland community and industry
- Council of Mayors (SEQ) represents eleven local councils participating in the SEQ City Deal: Brisbane City Council; Ipswich City Council; Lockyer Valley Regional Council; Logan City Council; Moreton Bay Regional Council; Noosa Council; Redland City Council; Scenic Rim Regional Council; Somerset Regional Council; Sunshine Coast Council; and Toowoomba Regional Council.

Eligibility and application process

City deals and regional deals are negotiated between the Australian Government, state, territory and identified local governments. Additional partners to a deal may be involved (for example universities and private businesses). Funding recipients are identified through deal negotiations. Each deal arrangement includes governance structures for monitoring and reporting.

Program facts and examples

Of the 31 commitments, key commitments include:

- \$450 million for the Wooloongabba Brisbane Metro Station – of which \$150 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$285.8 million for the SEQ Liveability Fund – of which \$100 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$150 million for the SEQ Innovation Economy Fund – of which \$50 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$105 million for resource recovery infrastructure – of which \$35 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$70 million for digital connectivity – of which \$60 million is Australian Government funding.

Program governance

The Minister for Cities is responsible for chairing the Leadership Group as part of the SEQ City Deal. Officials meet through the Deal Leadership Group and project working groups. The SEQ City Deal can be expanded over time through agreement by all partners to the deal.

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia’s cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance

Purposes: Regional Development, northern Australia and Cities - Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions

Nature of appropriation: Budget program 3.3 — Cities

Relevant legislation: Nil

Contacts

Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories Group

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 | s47F

Matthew Roper

First Assistant Secretary, Cities Division

Matthew.Roper@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8038 | s47F



Melbourne City Deals

Outcome 3.3: Cities

The Melbourne City Deals will bring all three levels of government together to help address the challenges of population growth, access to employment and services, and transport connectivity across the Melbourne metropolitan area. s47B

Status

The Australian Government publicly committed to City Deal arrangements for Melbourne through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Victorian Government in 2018. The MOU notes “the Commonwealth will work with Victoria and local governments to identify opportunities for collaboration in regional centres and to develop a strategy for a future Melbourne City Deal”.

In May 2019, the Australian Government announced its intention to commence discussions on a North West Melbourne City Deal and the South East Melbourne City Deal. Both deals are in the development phase.

The deals are to be sequenced, starting with the North West Melbourne City Deal. In April 2022, the Australian Government convened a workshop with a wide range of local government and peak body stakeholders to discuss the proposed deal and how to best leverage the Australian Government’s investments in the region. In the 2022-23 Budget, the Australian Government announced its investment of \$3.1 billion in new commitments towards the \$3.6 billion Melbourne Intermodal Terminal Package. The package includes the delivery of the \$1.62 billion Beveridge Interstate Freight Terminal in Melbourne’s north and \$740 million for the Western Interstate Freight Terminal in Truganina in Melbourne’s west.

The South East Melbourne City Deal will be considered once the North West Melbourne City Deal is agreed.

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Delivery partners

The deals will be delivered by the Australian Government in partnership with the Victorian Government, relevant local governments and potentially other partners such as La Trobe University and the University of Victoria.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	-	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Victorian Government
- Local governments
- LeadWest
- La Trobe University
- Northern Councils Alliance
- NorthLink West of Melbourne Economic Development Alliance
- University of Victoria

Eligibility and application process

City deals and regional deals are negotiated between the Australian Government, state, territory and identified local governments. Additional partners to a deal may be involved (e.g. universities). Funding recipients are identified through deal negotiations. Each deal arrangement includes governance structures for monitoring and reporting.

Program facts and examples

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Program governance

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance

Purposes: Regional Development, northern Australia and Cities – Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions, including northern Australia

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.3 – Cities

Relevant legislation: Nil

Contacts

Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories
Group

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 | s47F

Matthew Roper

First Assistant Secretary, Cities Division

Matthew.Roper@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8038 | s47F



Hobart City Deal

Outcome 3.3: Cities

The Hobart City Deal is a \$2.5 billion, 10-year partnership (2019–29) between the Australian and Tasmanian Governments and the Clarence, Glenorchy, Hobart, and Kingborough Councils to guide and encourage investment to build on Hobart's position as a vibrant, liveable and connected global city.

Status

The Hobart City Deal was signed in February 2019 and is due to conclude in 2029. Note, total Australian Government funding for the Hobart City Deal is \$1.7 billion, which is being administered by the department and other agencies. Allocations include \$128.6 million in 2021–22; \$254.8 million in 2022–23; \$351.4 million in 2023–24; \$194.4 million in 2024–25; and \$91.5 million 2025–26.

As at 31 March 2022, the Hobart City Deal has total funding of \$2.5 billion, of which:

- The Australian Government is investing \$1.7 billion.
- The Tasmanian Government is investing \$816.9 million.
- The Clarence, Glenorchy, Hobart and Kingborough Councils are investing a combined \$97.5 million.
- Other contributions from non-government parties total \$16.5 million.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 19 projects committed to under this program: 3 have been completed; 14 are underway; and 2 have not commenced.

As at 31 March 2022, the Australian Government has spent \$238.2 million.

Delivery partners

All three levels of government deliver the projects under the Hobart City Deal through departments, agencies and government corporations.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	-	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Australian Antarctic Division (Department of Agriculture Water and Environment)
- Department of Education, Skills and Employment
- CSIRO
- Tasmanian Department of State Growth
- Clarence City Council
- Glenorchy City Council
- Hobart City Council
- Kingborough City Council
- University of Tasmania

Eligibility and application process

City deals and regional deals are negotiated between the Australian Government, state, territory and identified local governments. Additional partners to a deal may be involved (e.g. universities and private enterprise). Funding recipients are identified through deal negotiations.

Program facts and examples

The commitments include:

- \$786 million for the Bridgewater Bridge – of which \$628.8 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$523.5 million for Antarctic Infrastructure – fully funded by the Australian Government.
- \$130 million for the Tasman Bridge upgrade – of which \$65 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$92.3 million for border services (Immigration and Customs) at Hobart International Airport – of which \$82.3 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$52 million towards activating the Northern Suburbs Transit Corridor – of which \$38.5 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$2 million towards a business case process to examine the feasibility of an Antarctic and Science Precinct at Macquarie Point – of which \$1 million is Australian Government funding.

As at 31 March 2022, three of the deal projects have been completed, which are the Derwent Ferry Service, the Greater Hobart Act and the Infill Housing Report.

As at 31 March 2022, the deal has created 69 jobs.

Program governance

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia’s cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance

Purposes: Regional Development, northern Australia and Cities – Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions including northern Australia

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.3 — Cities: Annual Administered Expenses

Relevant legislation: Nil

Contacts

Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories Group

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 | s47F

Matthew Roper

First Assistant Secretary, Cities Division

Matthew.Roper@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8038 | s47F



Perth City Deal

Outcome 3.3: Cities

The Perth City Deal is a \$1.7 billion 10-year partnership (2020 to 2030) between the Australian Government, Western Australian Government and the City of Perth to invest in key infrastructure projects to support Perth's recovery in the short term, and in key exports including education and tourism to position Perth for the future.

Status

The Perth City Deal was announced in September 2020 and is due to conclude in 2030. From 2022–23, the Australian Government will provide an additional \$49 million to support the Edith Cowan University's Cultural and Creative Industries CBD campus project. Totalling \$294 million of Commonwealth investment in this project.

As at 31 March 2022, the Perth City Deal has total funding of \$1.7 billion, of which:

- The Australian Government is investing \$487.13 million.
- The Western Australian Government is investing \$575 million.
- Other deal partners are investing \$629 million.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 15 projects committed to under this program: 1 has been completed; and the remaining 14 are contracted and/or underway.

As at 31 March 2022, a total of over \$88.2 million has been spent by all deal partners across commitments. The Australian Government has spent \$70.5 million.

Delivery partners

The deal is delivered by the Australian Government in partnership with the Western Australian Government and the City of Perth, as well as specific commitment partners: Fugro Australia Marine, Western Australian Cricket Association, Cricket Australia, Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University and Curtin University.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	86.8	78.7	74.0	74.0	-

Key stakeholders

- Australian Government
- Western Australian Government
- City of Perth
- Cricket Australia
- Edith Cowan University
- Murdoch University
- Curtin University
- Western Australian Cricket Association

Eligibility and application process

City deals and regional deals are negotiated between the Australian Government, state, territory and identified local governments. Additional partners to a deal may be involved (e.g. universities, private businesses and governing bodies). Funding recipients are identified through deal negotiations.

Program facts and examples

The commitments include:

- \$853 million for the Edith Cowan University City Campus – of which \$294 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$157 million for the CBD Transport Plan – of which \$72.5 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$115 million for the WACA Redevelopment – of which \$30 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$52.4 million for the Perth Concert Hall Redevelopment – of which \$12 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$48.4 million for the Homelessness Housing Projects – of which \$8 million is Australian Government funding.

As at 31 March 2022, 1 of the deal projects has been completed, and the other commitments are on-track.

As at 31 March 2022, the deal has created 81 jobs.

Program governance

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance

Purposes: Regional Development, northern Australia and Cities – Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions including northern Australia

Nature of appropriation: Budget 2020-21, Federal Financial Relations Budget Paper No. 3 2020-21, Table 2.8 and Budget 2022-23 Federal Financial Relations Budget Paper No. 3 2022-23, Table 2.8

Relevant legislation: *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009*

Contacts

Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories Group
Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 6181 | s47F

Matthew Roper

First Assistant Secretary, Cities Division
Matthew.Roper@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 8038 | s47F



Townsville City Deal

Outcome 3.3: Cities

The Townsville City Deal is a \$986.1 million 15-year agreement (2016-31) between the Australian Government, Queensland Government and Townsville City Council for a program of planning and investment to deliver a prosperous economic future for the city and positioning Townsville as a vibrant, liveable and innovative city in northern Australia.

Status

The Townsville City Deal was the first City Deal in Australia. It was signed in December 2016 and is due to conclude in 2031. As at 31 March 2022, the Townsville City Deal has total funding of \$986.1 million, of which:

- The Australian Government is investing \$381.2 million.
- The Queensland Government is investing \$552.3 million.
- The Townsville City Council is investing \$80,000, plus in-kind land contribution (see below).
- Other contributions from non-government parties total \$52 million.

Townsville City Council provided land in-kind for the Queensland Country Bank Stadium; transferred from Townsville City Council to the Queensland Government as an action before the commitment could proceed, but is not officially recognised as a commitment in itself under the Deal. The full site - land and stadium - are owned and operated by Stadiums Queensland (Queensland Government).

The Australian Government has spent \$130.9 million. As at 31 March 2022, of the 22 projects committed to under this program: 11 have been completed; 9 are contracted of which 9 are underway; 2 have not commenced; and 1 has been discontinued. As at 31 March 2022, total Australian Government spend totalled \$131 million.

Delivery partners

Delivery partners vary for individual commitments, this includes:

- Queensland Government
- Townsville Port Authority
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
- Townsville City Council
- Royal Flying Doctor Service

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	35.5	90.0	69.0	18.0	-

Key stakeholders

- Queensland Government
- Businesses and residents
- National Indigenous Australians Agency
- Townsville City Council
- Local Partnership Forum
- Office of Northern Australia
- RDA – Townsville and NW QLD

Eligibility and application process

City deals and regional deals are negotiated between the Australian Government, state, territory and identified local governments. Additional partners to a deal may be involved (e.g. universities). Funding recipients are identified through deal negotiations. Each deal arrangement includes governance structures for monitoring and reporting.

Program facts and examples

The commitments include:

- \$239.5 million for the North Queensland Stadium – of which \$100 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$232 million for the Port of Townsville channel upgrade – of which \$75 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$80 million for the Reef HQ expansion – of which \$40 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$30 million for the Royal Flying Doctor Service Super Hub in Townsville – of which \$15 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$28 million for Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct – of which \$12 million is Australian Government funding.

As at 31 March 2022, 11 deal commitments have been completed. An example is the North Queensland Stadium project, which was completed in January 2020 and funded through \$100 million of Australian Government funding to the total \$239.5 million project cost. This project delivered over 2300 jobs and over \$165 million in trade packages which let local contractors and 488 local businesses engage in the extended supply chain during construction. The facility is used by the North Queensland Cowboys National Rugby League team and for non-sporting events including concerts.

Program governance

The Minister for Cities is responsible for chairing the Leadership Group as part of the Townsville City Deal. Officials meet through the Executive Board and project working groups. The Townsville City Deal can be expanded over time through agreement by all partners to the deal.

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia’s cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional development, northern Australia and Cities – improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions across Australia

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.3 – Cities; administered expenses

Contacts

Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities & Territories Group

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 | s47F

Matthew Roper

First Assistant Secretary, Cities Division

Matthew.Roper@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8038 | s47F



Launceston City Deal

Outcome 3.3: Cities

The Launceston City Deal is a \$570 million, 10-year partnership (2017–27) to make Launceston Australia's most liveable and innovative regional city, with growing incomes and falling levels of disadvantage.

Status

The Launceston City Deal was signed on 20 April 2017. In May 2019, the Australian Government announced the extension of the Launceston City Deal from five to ten years, with the deal to now conclude in 2027.

As at 31 March 2022, the Launceston City Deal has total funding of \$570 million, of which:

- The Australian Government is investing \$266.4 million.
- The Tasmanian Government is investing \$126.4 million.
- The City of Launceston is investing \$27.9 million.
- Other contributions from non-government parties total \$149.3 million.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 33 projects committed to under this program: 15 have been completed; 14 are underway; and 4 have not commenced.

As at 31 March 2022, a total of \$182.9 million has been spent by all deal partners across commitments. The Australian Government has spent \$120.3 million.

Delivery partners

The delivery of the projects are managed by State and local governments. Delivery partners include TasWater, NRM North, University of Tasmania and other private project partners.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	17.3	16.3	7.6	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Tasmanian Government
- City of Launceston and other relevant councils
- Launceston Chamber of Commerce
- Northern Tasmanian Development Corporation
- NRM North
- TasWater
- University of Tasmania

Eligibility and application process

City deals and regional deals are negotiated between the Australian Government, state, territory, and identified local governments. Additional partners to a deal may be involved (e.g. universities, advisory boards and steering committees). Funding recipients are identified through deal negotiations. Each deal arrangement includes governance structures for monitoring and reporting.

Program facts and examples

The commitments include:

- \$304 million for the University of Tasmania’s campus relocation and redevelopment of which \$130 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$144.7 million for improving the health of the Tamar Estuary of which \$49 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$30.5 million for establishing the Defence and Maritime Innovation and Design Precinct of which \$30.3 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$15.7 million for a new Defence Force Cadet Facility, all of which is Australian Government funding.

As at 31 March 2022, 15 of the deal projects have been completed including the Regional Industry Forum and supporting delivery of a new Low-Power Wide-Area Network which enables infrastructure for a range of purposes aligned to the Internet of Things.

In May 2019, the Australian Government announced the extension of the Launceston City Deal and five new projects were added. This comprised the: Defence and Maritime Innovation and Design Precinct; Albert Hall Redevelopment; Divestment of Patterson Barracks; Northern Suburbs Community Recreation Hub; and the Launceston Creative Precinct Project.

As at 31 March 2022, the deal has created 213 jobs.

Program governance

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia’s cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance

Purposes: Regional development, northern Australia and Cities – Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions across Australia

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.3 — Cities

Relevant legislation: Nil

Contacts

Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities & Territories Group

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 | s47F

Matthew Roper

First Assistant Secretary, Cities Division

Matthew.Roper@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8038 | s47F



Geelong City Deal

Outcome 3.3: Cities

The Geelong City Deal is a \$502.48 million, 10-year partnership (2019–29) between the Australian Government, the Victorian Government and the City of Greater Geelong to support economic diversification, growth of the city and regional visitor economy.

Status

The Geelong City Deal was signed in March 2019 and is due to conclude in 2029. As at 31 March 2022, the Geelong City Deal has total funding of \$502.48 million, of which:

- The Australian Government is investing \$183.8 million.
- The Victorian Government is investing \$292 million.
- The City of Greater Geelong is investing \$14.4 million.
- Other contributions from non-government parties total \$12.3 million.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 24 projects committed under this City Deal: 4 have been completed, 19 are underway and one is subject to Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal approval – the Redevelopment of Point Grey, Lorne. Following the 5 successful projects announced under the Private Sector Business Enablement Fund (PSBEF) in February 2022, a second round of the PSBEF opened on 4 April 2022 and closed on 16 May 2022.

To date, the Australian Government has spent \$16.2 million.

Delivery partners

Delivery partners include:

- Victorian Government
- City of Greater Geelong and other relevant councils
- Deakin University
- Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority
- Royal Geelong Yacht Club
- Searoad Ferries

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	24.2	48.0	51.7	44.6	-

Key stakeholders

- Victorian Government
- City of Greater Geelong
- Deakin University
- Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority
- Lorne Aquatic and Angling Club
- Searoad Ferries
- Geelong City Deal Advisory Group
- Royal Geelong Yacht Club

Eligibility and application process

City deals and regional deals are negotiated between the Commonwealth, state, territory and identified local governments. Additional partners to a deal may be involved (e.g. universities and private businesses). Funding recipients

are identified through deal negotiations. Each deal arrangement includes governance structures for monitoring and reporting.

The Minister for Cities is responsible for chairing the Leadership Group as part of the Geelong City Deal. Officials meet through the Deal Leadership Group and project working groups. The Geelong City Deal can be expanded over time through agreement by all partners to the Deal.

Programs facts and examples

The commitments include:

- \$138.10 million towards tourism infrastructure projects along the Great Ocean Road, including for the Shipwreck Coast and other key locations along the road – of which \$115.65 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$294.20 million towards construction of the Geelong Convention and Exhibition Centre – of which \$30 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$38.13 million towards public realm improvements under the Revitalising Central Geelong Action Plan – of which \$20.85 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$15.90 million towards a new ferry terminal at Queenscliff to improve services across Port Phillip Bay to Sorrento – of which \$10 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$11.50 million towards road upgrades at Deakin University's Geelong Future Economy Precinct to unlock new jobs and businesses and improve access at the site – of which \$3.80 million is Australian Government funding .

As at 31 March 2022, 4 City Deal commitments have been completed including the Geelong Waterfront Safe Harbour wave attenuator, Green Spine block 1 and the Gheringhap Street Drain. The Geelong City Deal is expected to create 1,956 jobs, with 100 created as at April 2022.

Program governance

Outcome: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance

Purposes: Regional Development, northern Australia and Cities – Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions including northern Australia

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.3 — Cities: Annual Administered Expenses

Relevant legislation: Nil

Contacts

Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories Group

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 | s47F

Matthew Roper

First Assistant Secretary, Cities Division

Matthew.Roper@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8038 | s47F



Darwin City Deal

Outcome 3.3: Cities

The Darwin City Deal is a \$326.6 million, 10-year partnership (2018–28) to position the city as vibrant and liveable, supported by a growing population and diversified economy. It also supports the Australian Government's commitment to develop Northern Australia.

Status

The Darwin City Deal was signed on 16 November 2018 and is due to conclude in 2028.

As at 31 March 2022, the Darwin City Deal has total funding of \$326.6 million, of which:

- The Australian Government is investing \$109.1 million.
- The Northern Territory Government is investing \$207.1 million.
- The City of Darwin is investing \$10.4 million.

As at 31 March 2022, 5 of the 23 commitments under the Darwin City Deal have been completed and the remainder are on track for delivery.

As at 31 March 2022, the Australian Government has spent \$78 million on deal commitments.

Delivery partners

The Darwin City Deal is delivered by the Australian Government in partnership with the Northern Territory Government and the City of Darwin, as well as other deal partners: Charles Darwin University, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Department of Defence, Department of Home Affairs, Larrakia Development Corporation, Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation and the National Indigenous Australians Agency.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	27.3	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Australian Government agencies
- CSIRO
- Northern Territory Government
- City of Darwin
- Activate Darwin
- Charles Darwin University
- Larrakia Development Corporation Larrakia Development Corporation
- Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation

Eligibility and application process

City Deals and Regional Deals are negotiated between the Australian Government, state, territory and identified local governments. Additional partners to a deal may be involved (e.g. universities and private enterprise). Funding recipients are identified through deal negotiations.

Program facts and examples

The commitments include:

- \$250 million for the construction of the Charles Darwin University's 'Education and Community Precinct' (a new city campus for Charles Darwin University) – of which \$97.3 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$11.2 million for the Switching on Darwin project – of which \$5 million was Australian Government funding (completed in 2019).
- \$6.8 million for the CSIRO-led Darwin Living Lab project – of which \$4.8 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$2.25 million to support planning and design of the Larrakia Cultural Centre – of which \$2.0 million is Australian Government funding.

As at 31 March 2022, 5 of the deal projects have been completed including the Switching on Darwin project and the Trial Skills Recognition Hub.

As at 31 March 2022, the deal has created 1,028 jobs.

Program governance

Outcome: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional Development, northern Australia and Cities - Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions including northern Australia

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.3 — Cities: Annual Administered Expenses

Relevant legislation: Nil

Contacts

Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories Group
Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 6181 | s47F

Matthew Roper

First Assistant Secretary, Cities Division
Matthew.Roper@infrastructure.gov.au
 02 6274 8038 | s47F



Adelaide City Deal

Outcome 3.3: Cities

The Adelaide City Deal is a 10-year partnership (2019–29) between the Australian Government, South Australian Government and the City of Adelaide to deliver \$698.6 million of government investment in Adelaide and its surrounding region.

Status

The Adelaide City Deal was signed in March 2019 and is due to conclude in 2029. As at 31 March 2022, the Adelaide City Deal has total funding of \$698.6 million, of which:

- The Australian Government is investing \$174 million.
- The South Australian Government is investing \$512 million.
- The City of Adelaide is investing \$12.6 million.

At this point, no other parties have committed to, or announced funding for the Adelaide City Deal.

The 22 commitments in the Adelaide City Deal are made up of 33 sub-projects. As at 31 March 2022, 15 of the sub-projects have been completed; 14 are underway; and 4 are in planning stages. By agreement of the Adelaide City Deal partners in December 2021, the International Centre for Food, Hospitality and Tourism project within the Lot Fourteen precinct was replaced by the Digital Technologies Academy. A business case for the Digital Technologies Academy is currently being prepared.

To date the Australian Government has spent \$29.9 million.

Delivery partners

- Government of South Australia
- City of Adelaide
- Austrade
- Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources
- National Indigenous Australians Agency
- Department of Home Affairs

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	49.7	42.0	49.5	5.0	-

Key stakeholders

- Government of South Australia
- City of Adelaide
- Australian Space Agency
- National Indigenous Australians Agency
- Department of Defence
- Austrade
- Home Affairs
- University of Adelaide
- Flinders University
- University of South Australia

Eligibility and application process

City deals and regional deals are negotiated between the Commonwealth, state, territory and identified local governments. Additional partners to a deal may be involved (e.g. universities and private businesses). Funding recipients are identified through deal negotiations. Each deal arrangement includes governance structures for monitoring and reporting.

The Minister for Cities is responsible for chairing the Leadership Group as part of the Adelaide City Deal. Officials meet through the Implementation Board and project working groups. The Adelaide City Deal can be expanded over time through agreement by all partners to the deal.

Program facts and examples

The commitments include:

- \$200 million for the Tarrkarri: Centre for First Nations Cultures – of which \$85 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$60 million for the Digital Technologies Academy – of which \$30 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$20 million for the Innovation Hub – of which all is Australian Government funding.
- \$22.6 million for Smart technology projects – of which \$10 million is Australian Government funding.

As at 31 March 2022, 9 of the Adelaide City Deal commitments have been completed including the Circle-First Nations Entrepreneur Hub, Australian Space Agency, the Australian Space Discovery Centre and Mission Control Facility. As at April 2022, 15 sub-projects have been completed including works at the garden and coach house at Old Government House, installation of an ocean viewing platform and walking trail at Marino Conservation Park, and a play space at Wittunga Botanic Garden.

The Adelaide City Deal is expected to create 2000 jobs, with 466 jobs created as at 31 March 2022.

Program governance

Outcome: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance

Purposes: Regional Development, northern Australia and Cities – Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions including northern Australia

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.3 — Cities: Annual Administered Expenses

Relevant legislation: Nil

Contacts

Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories Group

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 | s47F

Matthew Roper

First Assistant Secretary, Cities Division

Matthew.Roper@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8038 | s47F

Portfolio legislation

This directory is current and as such may not match the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) created on 18 March 2021. It includes acts which have received royal assent, and excludes acts which have been repealed since the AAO was last amended on 02 July 2021. Should the AAO change, the department will advise you of changes to your legislative role.

Program 1.1 – Infrastructure Investment

Infrastructure Australia Act 2008

National Land Transport Act 2014

Program 2.1 – Surface Transport

Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990

Australian National Railways Commission Sales Act 1997

Carriage of Goods by Sea Act 1991

Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012

Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Act 2012¹

Competition and Consumer Act 2010, Part X (ten)

Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims Act 1989

Marine Navigation Levy Act 1989

Marine Navigation Levy Collection Act 1989

Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Act 1991

Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Collection Act 1991

Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Act 2012

Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law (Consequential Amendments) Act 2012

Maritime Legislation Amendment Act 2007

Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989

National Transport Commission Act 2003

Navigation Act 2012

Port Statistics Act 1977

Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability) Act 1981

Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage) Act 2008

Protection of the Sea (Harmful Anti-fouling Systems) Act 2006

Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—Customs) Act 1993

Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—Excise) Act 1993

Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—General) Act 1993

Protection of the Sea (Oil Pollution Compensation Funds) Act 1993

Protection of the Sea (Powers of Intervention) Act 1981

Protection of the Sea (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Act 1983

Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Act 1981

Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy Collection) Act 1981

Road Charges Legislation Repeal and Amendment Act 2008¹

Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018

Road Vehicle Standards (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2018

¹ No brief provided on this Act as it has limited ongoing effect.

Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – General) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – Customs) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – Excise) Act 2018
Shipping Reform (Tax Incentives) Act 2012
Shipping Registration Act 1981
Special Recreational Vessels Act 2019
Submarine Cables and Pipelines Protection Act 1963

Program 2.3 – Air Transport

Adelaide Airport Curfew Act 2000
Air Accidents (Commonwealth Government Liability) Act 1963
Air Navigation Act 1920
Air Navigation Legislation (Validation and Interpretation) Act 1982
Aircraft Noise Levy Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Treasurer
Aircraft Noise Levy Collection Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Treasurer
Airports (On-Airport Activities Administration) Validation Act 2010
Airports Act 1996
Air Services Act 1995
Airspace Act 2007
Airspace (Consequential and Other Measures) Act 2007
Australian Airlines (Conversion to Public Company) Act 1988
Aviation Fuel Revenues (Special Appropriation) Act 1988
Civil Aviation Act 1988
Civil Aviation (Carriers' Liability) Act 1959
Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment Act 1995
Damage by Aircraft Act 1999
International Air Services Commission Act 1992
International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Act 2013
Qantas Sale Act 1992, Part 3, sections 7 to 13 inclusive
Sydney Airport Curfew Act 1995
Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997
Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003

Program 1.1: Infrastructure Investment

Infrastructure Australia Act 2008

Purpose	<p>The <i>Infrastructure Australia Act 2008</i> (IA Act) establishes Infrastructure Australia (IA), providing for its related purpose and defining its roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>From 2008 to 2014 IA was part of the Commonwealth department with responsibilities for infrastructure. In 2014 the IA Act was amended to re-establish IA as a separate legal entity under legislation governed by a board, reporting to the relevant minister. The amendment also established a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) position to manage IA, reporting to the board and provided IA the power to engage its own employers and consultants.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may give written directions to the IA Board about the performance of its functions. Any directions must be of a general nature only and you must not give directions about the content of any audit, list, evaluation, plan or advice to be provided by IA. You appoint IA board members (including a chair) by written instrument. The term of appointment must not exceed three years. A member is eligible for reappointment. You must ensure that each member has knowledge of, or experience in, a field relevant to IAs functions. Three members of IA are nominated by agreement between the states, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory. The IA CEO is appointed by the IA Board by written instrument. You may delegate some of your powers under the IA Act (other than powers or functions under section 6, 8 or 18) to the Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications or an SES employee or acting SES employee in the department.
Contact	<p>Andreas Bleich, A/g Assistant Secretary, Investment Advisory and Business Improvement Branch, Infrastructure Investment Division; 02 6274 7934 s47F</p>

National Land Transport Act 2014

Purpose	<p>The <i>National Land Transport Act 2014</i> (NLT Act) assists national and regional economic and social development by the provision of Commonwealth funding aimed at improving the performance of land transport infrastructure. The NLT Act and the regulations provide a legislative basis for the eligibility of projects funded under the Infrastructure Investment Program.</p> <p>Funding under the NLT Act may be provided for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> road and rail projects research, planning and investigation of matters relating to the National Network (Transport Development and Innovation Projects) land transport research entities road safety improvements at road sites that have or are likely to contribute to serious motor vehicle crashes involving death or personal injury (Black Spot Projects) local councils and unincorporated areas under the Roads to Recovery Program.
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Your role and responsibilities	<p>You must, in writing, determine a National Land Transport Network. You may also vary the Network.</p> <p>You may approve projects and the provision of funding for projects under Parts 3 (infrastructure projects), 4 (transport development and innovation projects), 5 (land transport research entities) and 7 (Black Spot programs) of the NLT Act, and determine the Roads to Recovery List under Part 8 of the NLT Act.</p> <p>You may determine conditions that apply to payments made under the NLT Act and vary or revoke project and funding approvals.</p>
Contact	Benjamin Meagher, Assistant Secretary, Program, Policy and Budget, Infrastructure Investment Division; 02 6274 6750 s47F

Program 2.1: Surface Transport

Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990

Purpose	<p>The Act establishes the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) and has as its objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• promotion of maritime safety• protection of the marine environment from pollution from ships and other environmental damage caused by shipping• provision of a national search and rescue service• promotion of efficient services by AMSA.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>Ministerial responsibilities under the Act cover corporate governance issues relating to the function of the authority and the approval of maritime charges and levies. In particular, you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• may give written directions to AMSA about the performance of its functions• may determine an amount to be reimbursed to AMSA if AMSA has suffered a financial detriment as a result of complying with a direction from the minister under a section of the Act• may advise AMSA by notice in writing of his or her views about the appropriate strategic direction of AMSA or the manner in which it should be performing its functions• may direct AMSA to provide to a specified ministerial nominee, documents or information relating to the operations of AMSA requested by the nominee• appoint members to the AMSA board• may grant leave of absence to the chairperson• may appoint a person to act in the position of any board member when the office is vacant or the occupant is unable to perform duties of the office• may terminate the appointment of board members, other than the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), under a variety of specified circumstances• may convene a meeting of the AMSA Board at any time• may direct board members to provide a corporate plan by a specified date• must respond to the corporate plan within 60 days of receiving it• must cause to be lodged with the relevant state officer details of the interest in any land transferred from the Commonwealth to AMSA• must determine the value of assets transferred from the Commonwealth to AMSA• may give AMSA notice in writing approving or disapproving a proposed determination by AMSA fixing charges for services and facilities and fixing penalties• may delegate his or her powers relating to the transfer of property and assets• appoint the CEO of AMSA after receiving a recommendation from the board• may grant leave of absence to the CEO• may appoint an acting CEO after receiving a recommendation from the board.
Contact	<p>Andrew Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Maritime and Shipping Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 6881 s47F</p>

Australian National Railways Commission Sale Act 1997

Purpose	<p>The sale of the Australian National Railways Commission (ANRC) operating businesses, apart from its interstate track elements, was completed in November 1997. Interstate corridors and rail infrastructure held by the Commonwealth, other assets, specified liabilities and contractual rights and obligations transferred to the Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd (ARTC).</p> <p>The purpose of the <i>Australian National Railways Commission Sale Act 1997</i> was to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • amend the <i>Australian National Railways Commission Act 1983</i> (ANRC Act) to provide for the winding down of the operations of ANRC, including the transfer of all residual ANRC assets and liabilities to the Commonwealth, prior to ANRC being abolished by the repeal of the ANRC Act • repeal the ANRC Act and related acts • amend other acts to remove reference to the abolished ANRC • provide access to railways for defence-related purposes. <p>Note: although the ANRC Act was repealed by the Australian National Railways Commission Sale Act, its operation in respect of Ministerial Notices is preserved. It also continues to apply in relation to residual assets and liabilities, and to the registration of certain land rights, titles or interests that vested in a person prior to the Act's repeal.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>Under Part 2 of Schedule 5 to the Act, you may require the manager of a railway previously owned or controlled by ANRC, to provide access, or priority of access, to specified kinds of railway services for specified kinds of defence-related purposes.</p>
Contact	<p>Paula Stagg, Assistant Secretary, Land Transport Policy Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division 02 6274 8125 s47F</p>

Carriage of Goods by Sea Act 1991

Purpose	<p>The Act regulates the extent to which carriers (shipping companies) are liable for loss or damage to cargo carried by sea. It aims to provide a regime of marine cargo liability that is equitable and efficient and compatible with arrangements existing in countries that are major trading partners of Australia.</p> <p>The Act is based on the Hague Rules, which were originally developed through international agreement in 1924 to deal with the problem of carriers regularly excluding themselves from all liability for loss or damage to cargo. Basically, the Hague Rules make the carrier liable for faults in the care and custody of cargo, but not for faults in the navigation and management of the ship. The major proportion of the risk in regard to cargo loss or damage remains with the shipper (exporter or importer) and his/her insurer.</p> <p>Since the introduction of the Act, which received Royal Assent on 31 October 1991, and after consultations with industry, a number of amendments have been made to improve the balance between the interests of carriers and the interests of shippers.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have no responsibilities in respect of dealing with claims for damage to cargo pursued under the provisions of the Act. These are matters for the parties to the contracts for the carriage of goods by sea, and the courts in which litigation may take place.</p>
Contact	<p>Catherine Gladman, Assistant Secretary, Sustainable Transport and Maritime Safety Review Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 7488 s47F</p>

Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012

Purpose	<p>The Act provides for the regulatory arrangements for access of vessels into Australian coastal waters to engage in coastal trading. It provides for three types of licences (general licence, temporary licence and emergency licence). Using a vessel to engage in coastal trading without the appropriate licence may lead to a pecuniary penalty for breach of a civil penalty provision. The Act also deals with the application process for each licence, conditions and cancellation of licences.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You exercise a broad range of powers and responsibilities under this Act which include the power to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • grant or refuse a licence application • impose conditions • issue a 'show cause notice' and cancel a licence • exempt certain vessels or persons from the requirements of the Act • declare vessels which operate intrastate voyages to be subject to the requirements of the Act. <p>Your powers and functions as minister, and the secretary's powers and functions, are delegated to relevant SES level employees in the department except your power as minister to exempt vessels or persons from the application of the Act.</p>
Contact	<p>Andrew Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Maritime and Shipping Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 6881 s47F</p>

Competition and Consumer Act 2010, Part X

Purpose	<p>The purpose of Part X is to ensure that Australian shippers, that is, exporters and importers, have continued access to liner cargo shipping services of adequate frequency and reliability at freight rates that are internationally competitive.</p> <p>Part X has its origins in the late 1920s and resulted from concerns that Australian exporters should have access to adequate and efficient liner shipping services at reasonable freight rates.</p> <p>The legislation sets out conditions for granting limited but assured exemptions from sections 45 and 47 of the <i>Competition and Consumer Act 2010</i> to allow liner shipping companies to collaborate as conferences. The conditions include requirements to negotiate with exporters and importers on minimum levels of service provided under registered agreements. Part X provides a legislative framework within which parties to shipping conferences and shippers can resolve problems through commercial negotiations with minimal government involvement.</p> <p>Some of Australia's major trading partners (USA, Japan, Korea, Singapore) have arrangements broadly similar to Part X for regulating international liner shipping. Part X has been subject to review by the Competition Policy Review (2014–2015); the final report has recommended repeal of Part X.</p> <p>The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) has issued a discussion paper seeking comments on a possible class exemption for ocean carriers providing international liner cargo shipping services to and from Australia. However, consultation on the class exemption has been temporarily paused due to the impacts of COVID-19.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have enforcement powers under Part X designed to deal with situations where shipping conferences may have failed to meet their obligations under that legislation. If exporters or</p>

importers are dissatisfied with the result of their negotiations with shipping conferences, you can refer the matter to the ACCC for investigation. This can lead to you removing the Part X exemptions from parties to the shipping conference concerned. Decisions by you that affect the interests of conference shipping lines, and/or users of their services are reviewable by the Australian Competition Tribunal.

Contact Andrew Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Maritime and Shipping Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 6881 | **s47F**

Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims Act 1989

Purpose The purpose of the *Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims Act 1989* (LLMC Act) is to allow shipowners to limit their liability if any of their ships cause damage to a third party (for example, injury to passengers, damage to port installations).

The LLMC Act gives effect to the International Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims, 1976, as amended, to which Australia and most of its major trading parties are party.

Under the LLMC Act, a shipowner whose ship is involved in an incident that may give rise to claims for personal injury or damage to property may apply to a state or territory Supreme Court in Australia to have his/her liability limited to an amount which depends on the size of the ship.

Shipowners are able to limit their liability in all but the most exceptional circumstances. The main exception is if the loss, injury or damage resulted from the shipowner's personal act or omission, committed with intent to cause such loss, injury or damage, or recklessly and with knowledge that such loss, injury or damage would probably result.

Your role and responsibilities You may, by notice published in the Gazette, declare that a country specified in the notice has ratified or acceded to the LLMC Convention, and that it will come into force for that country on the date specified in the notice, or that a country specified in a notice has denounced the convention. A minister has not published any such notices. Actions taken under the LLMC Act are matters for the parties concerned and the courts. You have no role in such proceedings.

Contact Catherine Gladman, Assistant Secretary, Sustainable Transport and Maritime Safety Review Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 7488 | **s47F**

Marine Navigation Levy Act 1989

Purpose The Act imposes the marine navigation levy on commercial sea-going ships of 24 metres in length and over and provides the administrative details required for the collection of the levy. The levy is paid to the Consolidated Revenue Fund and appropriated to AMSA to cover the cost of the operation and maintenance of the Commonwealth network of marine aids to navigation, which includes lighthouses, buoys and lights.

In accordance with a 1934 agreement, the Commonwealth has responsibility for aids to assist international and coastal shipping while the states have responsibility for entry into ports and harbours, inner ports and inland aids, and aids for local traffic.

A levy is payable in respect of a particular ship once only in any three-month period that the ship enters an Australian port. The rate of the levy depends on the net registered tonnage of the ship.

Your role and responsibilities	Under the <i>Marine Navigation Levy Collection Act 1989</i> , you may, in writing, appoint a person to be an authorised person for the collection of the levy. You may, in writing, delegate this power of appointment to an officer of the department.
Contact	Andrew Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Maritime and Shipping Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 6881 s47F

Marine Navigation Levy Collection Act 1989

See: *Maritime Navigation Levy Act 1989*

Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Act 1991

Purpose	<p>The Act imposes the regulatory functions levy on sea-going ships and provides the administrative details required for the collection of the levy.</p> <p>The levy is paid to the Consolidated Revenue Fund and appropriated to AMSA to cover the cost of AMSA's activities in establishing the seaworthiness of Australian ships through periodic assessment and survey, ensuring that persons on board Australian ships are appropriately qualified and that effective measures concerning navigational safety and on-board safety-related procedures are in place.</p> <p>The levy also meets the costs of port state control inspections, that is, inspections of foreign ships calling at Australian ports. Any ships found to have serious deficiencies may be detained in port until the deficiencies are rectified.</p> <p>A levy is payable in respect of a particular ship once only in any three-month period that the ship enters an Australian port. The rate of the levy depends on the net registered tonnage of the ship.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	You have no powers or functions under the Act.
Contact	Andrew Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Maritime and Shipping Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 688 s47F

Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Collection Act 1991

See: *Maritime Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Act 1991*

Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Act 2012

Purpose	The Act establishes the national law and legislative framework for the regulation of domestic commercial vessel safety, and establishes AMSA as the National Marine Safety Regulator.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>Under the Act your responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • declaring or revoking a declaration relating to a corresponding state-territory • consulting and agreeing with Australian Infrastructure and Transport Ministers on regulations relating to the scope of the Act, before they are made by the Governor-General • consulting and agreeing with Australian Infrastructure and Transport Ministers on the first draft regulations on accreditation, before they are made by the Governor-General.

Contact Catherine Gladman, Assistant Secretary, Sustainability and Maritime Safety Review Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 7488 | s47F

Maritime Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law (Consequential Amendments) Act 2012

Purpose The Act provides consequential amendments to the AMSA Act to include definitions defined in the Maritime Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Act and reflect the COAG IGA reached on Commercial Vessel Safety Reform.

The Act also contains un-commenced provisions in Schedule 2 that provide the legislative mechanism to repeal the existing offences and penalties for the general safety duties set out in the National Law and replace them with provisions that mirror the duties and offences contained in the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*.

Your role and responsibilities For Schedule 2 provisions to commence, you must be satisfied that the laws of each state correspond substantially to Part 2 of the *Work Health and Safety Act*. You must announce by notice in the *Gazette* the day the provision(s) commence.

Contact Catherine Gladman, Assistant Secretary, Sustainability and Maritime Safety Review Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 7488 | s47F

Maritime Legislation Amendment Act 2007

Purpose The Act repeals the *Maritime College Act 1978* to facilitate the integration of the Australian Maritime College (AMC) with the University of Tasmania (the University) including the transfer of all assets and liabilities from the AMC to the University and makes transitional arrangements. The Act amends the *Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990* to enable the AMSA to disclose certain information to states and territories and non-government entities.

Your role and responsibilities Under the Act you have a number of responsibilities. You may:

- make a determination in writing to substitute any other person or body instead of the University in a specified reference in an instrument
- make written directions to specify that certain items do not apply in relation to the transfer of obligations or benefits to the University
- advise the University on its reporting requirements to assess against performance standards, and to assess whether the Australian Maritime College has maintained its maritime focus and capability.

As minister, you may delegate all or any powers to the secretary of the department, an SES employee of the department, or an acting SES employee.

Contact Andrew Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Maritime and Shipping Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 6881 | s47F

Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989

Purpose	<p>The <i>Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989</i> (MVSA) established a number of arrangements through which road vehicles may be supplied to the market in Australia. The main purpose of the legislation was to set uniform vehicle standards that ensured an acceptable level of safety, emission control and theft protection across the Australian vehicle market. The legislation also limits the supply of vehicles which do not fully comply with mandatory standards, whether they are imported or locally manufactured.</p> <p>The <i>Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018</i> (RVSA) was implemented in full on 1 July 2021 to replace the MVSA.</p> <p>The <i>Road Vehicle Standards (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2018</i> (Transition Act) repealed the MVSA but continues certain MVSA provisions related to vehicle supply to support the smooth transition to the RVSA. These transitional arrangements are available for a 24-month transitional period, which concludes on 30 June 2023.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	Delegations for the remaining MVSA functions and powers continue through the transitional period until 30 June 2023.
Contact	Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary, Road and Vehicle Safety Division; 02 6274 7001 s47F

National Transport Commission Act 2003

Purpose	<p>The <i>National Transport Commission Act 2003</i> (NTC Act) establishes the National Transport Commission (NTC) with ongoing responsibility to develop, monitor and maintain uniform or nationally consistent regulatory and operational reforms relating to road, rail and intermodal transport.</p> <p>The NTC performs the role of an expert adviser to the Infrastructure and Transport Ministers Meeting (ITMM) on national regulatory reform development, implementation and evaluation in the Australian land transport sector. The NTC, as an inter-jurisdictional transport body covered by the Inter-Governmental Agreement for Regulatory and Operational Reform in Road, Rail and Intermodal Transport (IGA), reports to ITMM. The NTC is subject as a corporate Commonwealth entity to the <i>Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013</i> (PGPA Act).</p> <p>The NTC's membership is made up of five ordinary members appointed by the Commonwealth minister and a chief executive officer (appointed by the chair of the commission following the recommendation of the commission) making six members in total.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>Sections 12 and 13 of the NTC Act provide for appointments. You appoint ordinary (part-time) members of the commission under the NTC Act and the IGA. You also appoint the chair and deputy chair from the ordinary members. The ITMM (the successor ministerial council to the Australian Transport Council mentioned in the Act), which you chair, has the role of recommending the nominees that should be appointed. Any ITMM minister can recommend candidates who are then voted on by ITMM. You then appoint from the nominated candidates. The IGA sets out the appointments process and the factors for considering nominees.</p> <p>Section 46 of the PGPA Act provides for annual reporting. You are responsible for tabling the NTC Annual Report.</p>
Contact	Catherine Gladman, Assistant Secretary, Sustainable Transport and Maritime Safety Review Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 7488 s47F

Navigation Act 2012

Purpose	The <i>Navigation Act 2012</i> is an “Act relating to maritime safety and the prevention of pollution of the marine environment, and for related purposes”. It provides the legislative basis for many of the Commonwealth’s responsibilities for maritime matters including the regulation of international ship and seafarer safety, shipping aspects of protecting the marine environment and the actions of seafarers in Australian waters. It also gives effect to the relevant international conventions to which Australia is a signatory.
Your role and responsibilities	The Navigation Act provides you or AMSA the power to exempt vessels from application or specified provision of the Act.
Contact	Andrew Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Maritime and Shipping Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 6881 s47F

Port Statistics Act 1977

Purpose	<p>The Act provides for the collection of certain statistics relating to the loading and unloading of cargo at Australian ports, and the movement of ships into, from or within Australian ports. The Act specifically allows for the collection of information relating to employees involved in the stevedoring of such ships.</p> <p>While the Act enables the monitoring of waterfront productivity, the Act is not currently used as the basis of the Commonwealth’s current waterfront performance monitoring program as conducted by the Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Resource Economics (BITRE). Instead, the Commonwealth has relied on the stevedoring operators and port authorities’ good will in supplying the data voluntarily. However, knowledge by the industry that the BITRE has authority under the Act to collect the data has been helpful in getting the industry’s cooperation.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>The primary responsibility of administering the Act falls to the Secretary, with the Act referring to your role in only two instances.</p> <p>You may exempt an authorised officer from the secrecy provisions of the Act to allow the communication of the affairs of any other person acquired under the provisions of the Act. You may also enter into arrangements with the states to allow the delegation of the secretary’s powers under the Act.</p>
Contact	Dr Louise Rawlings, Head of Bureau, Bureau of Infrastructure & Transport Research Economics, Data, Analytics & Policy; 02 6274 7962 s47F

Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability) Act 1981

Purpose	<p>The main purpose of the Act is to provide a liability and compensation regime for pollution damage in Australian territory, territorial sea or exclusive economic zone caused by oil spills from oil tankers.</p> <p>The Act requires oil tankers carrying over 2,000 tons of oil in bulk as cargo to be insured to provide compensation for damage resulting from an oil spill. In addition, all ships which carry oil as cargo or bunkers of 400 gross tonnage and over are required to be insured to cover their liabilities arising from pollution damage. This latter requirement is aimed at providing compensation for pollution damage caused by chemicals carried on a ship. A ship at an Australian port which is not carrying evidence of insurance may be detained until evidence of insurance is provided.</p>
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Shipowners are able to limit their liability in accordance with relevant international conventions where applicable. Liability limits increase with the size of the ship.

The Act also provides that AMSA may recover from the shipowner any expenses incurred in preventing, or reducing the effects of, pollution damage from a ship.

Your role and responsibilities	<p>You may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• by notice published in the Gazette, declare that, for the purpose of the Act, a country or territory is a country or territory to which the International Convention for Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage applies• issue a certificate to provide proof of insurance if you are satisfied that the shipowner has insurance or other financial security sufficient to cover the limits of liability• in specified circumstances, extend an insurance certificate for up to one month or cancel an insurance certificate• where a ship is owned by the Commonwealth or by a state, certify that the Commonwealth or state responsible will meet any liability for pollution damage up to the applicable limits• detain a ship in the case of non-payment of charges, compensation of liabilities to AMSA.
Contact	Catherine Gladman, Assistant Secretary, Sustainable Transport and Maritime Safety Review Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 7488 s47F

Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage) Act 2008

Purpose	<p>The main purpose of the Act is to establish a liability and compensation regime for pollution damage in Australian territory or Australia's exclusive economic zone caused by spills of fuel oil from ships other oil tankers.</p> <p>The Act provides that owners of ships other than oil tankers are strictly liable for damage resulting from a spill of fuel oil. Such ships with a gross tonnage in excess of 1,000 are required to be insured to provide compensation for damage resulting from a spill of fuel oil. Persons or organisations which provide assistance following a spill of fuel oil whose actions inadvertently lead to an increase in pollution damage will not be liable to pay damages if they are acting reasonably and in good faith.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	The Act only applies to a government owned ship in the case where it is being used for commercial purposes. You may in the case of a ship owned by the Commonwealth or by a state or territory certify that the ship is owned by the Commonwealth, a state or a territory, as the case may be, and that the Commonwealth, state or territory, respectively, will meet liabilities for pollution damage resulting from a spill of fuel oil from the ship.
Contact	Catherine Gladman, Assistant Secretary, Sustainable Transport and Maritime Safety Review Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 7488 s47F

Protection of the Sea (Harmful Anti-fouling Systems) Act 2006

Purpose	The purpose of the Act is to protect the marine environment and human health from the adverse effects of anti-fouling systems on ships. Since the commencement of the Act (17 September 2008), the application of organotin compounds which act as biocides in anti-fouling systems has been banned in ships in Australian ports and in Australian ships world-wide. Further, all ships entering Australian ports, and all Australian ships entering ports anywhere, are banned from having such compounds on their hulls or external surfaces, or are required to have a coating that forms a barrier to such compounds leaching from any underlying non-compliant anti-fouling system.
Your role and responsibilities	You may issue a certificate stating that a document set out in, or annexed to, the certificate sets out the terms of the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships.
Contact	Catherine Gladman, Assistant Secretary, Sustainable Transport and Maritime Safety Review Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 7488 s47F

Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds – Customs) Act 1993

See *Protection of the Sea (Oil Pollution Compensation Funds Act) 1993*

Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds – Excise) Act 1993

See *Protection of the Sea (Oil Pollution Compensation Funds Act) 1993*

Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds – General) Act 1993

See *Protection of the Sea (Oil Pollution Compensation Funds Act) 1993*

Protection of the Sea (Oil Pollution Compensation Funds) Act 1993

Purpose	<p>The Act applies to pollution damage within Australian territory (including the territorial sea) and exclusive economic zone, and also applies to preventive measures taken to prevent or minimise pollution damage where the pollution damage is caused by an oil spill from an oil tanker.</p> <p>The Act provides for the payment by the tanker owner of compensation for damage where the amount of compensation available under the <i>Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability) Act 1981</i> is inadequate. This will generally be because the damage exceeds the tanker owner's liability limit under that Act or because the shipowner is not insured or is otherwise unable to meet his or her financial obligations.</p> <p>Enactment of this legislation provides that compensation will then be payable by the International Oil Pollution Compensation (IOPC) Funds up to an aggregate limit (tanker owner and IOPC Funds) of approximately \$410 million. If the amount of compensation still does not cover the total amount of damages, further compensation, up to an aggregate limit (tanker</p>
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owner, IOPC Fund and Supplementary Fund) of approximately \$1,515 million is payable from the Supplementary Fund.

The IOPC Fund and Supplementary Fund are financed by annual levies imposed on companies which receive by sea more than 150,000 tonnes of oil in a calendar year. The amount of the annual levy varies from year to year depending on estimates of compensation to be paid in the following year. In some years, no levy is imposed.

The supporting Acts are:

- *Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—Customs) Act 1993* which imposes contributions where oil is imported into Australia from a place outside Australia.
- *Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—Excise) Act 1993* which imposes contributions where oil is moved by sea from one place in Australia to another place in Australia.
- *Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—General) Act 1993* which imposes contributions where the contributions appear to be duties of customs or duties of excise but a court rules that they are neither.

Your role and responsibilities

You have no functions or powers under this Act.

Contact

Catherine Gladman, Assistant Secretary, Sustainable Transport and Maritime Safety Review Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 7488 | s47F

Protection of the Sea (Powers of Intervention) Act 1981

Purpose

The Act allows AMSA to take action to prevent pollution of any Australian waters, any part of the Australian coast or an Australian reef. The types of intervention action that can be taken include:

- move a ship or a part of a ship to another place
- remove cargo from a ship
- sink or destroy a ship or part of a ship
- sink, destroy or discharge into the sea any part of a ship's cargo
- to take over control of a ship or part of a ship.

Intervention action very rarely occurs. Before intervention action is taken in respect of a ship registered in a country other than Australia, AMSA may be required to consult with the country in which the ship is registered in certain circumstances.

Your role and responsibilities

AMSA may not exercise its powers to sink or destroy a ship or part of a ship without your approval.

Contact

Catherine Gladman, Assistant Secretary, Sustainable Transport and Maritime Safety Review Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 7488 | s47F

Protection of the Sea (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Act 1983

Purpose	<p>This Act gives effect in Australia to the operational provisions of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships. The Act regulates under strict conditions and in some cases, prohibits the discharge, disposal or emissions from ships of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• oil or oily mixtures• noxious substances• packaged harmful substances• sewage• garbage• air pollution.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You may certify that documents set out in, or annexed to, a certificate forms part of that certificate as prima facie evidence of compliance to the matters of that certificate.</p>
Contact	<p>Catherine Gladman, Assistant Secretary, Sustainable Transport and Maritime Safety Review Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 7488 s47F</p>

Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Act 1981

Purpose	<p>The Act imposes a levy on commercial ships of 24 metres in length and over in Australian ports and which have onboard more than 10 tonnes of oil and provide the administrative details required for the collection of the levy. The levy is paid to AMSA to fund the National Plan to Combat Pollution of the Sea by Oil and other Noxious and Hazardous Substances (the National Plan).</p> <p>The National Plan is a national integrated government and industry organisational framework enabling effective response to marine pollution incidents. AMSA manages the National Plan, working with state and the Northern Territory governments, the shipping, oil, exploration and chemical industries, emergency services and fire brigades to maximise Australia's marine pollution response capability.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have no functions or powers under this Act.</p>
Contact	<p>Andrew Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Maritime and Shipping Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 6881 s47F</p>

Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy Collection) Act 1981

See: *Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Act 1981*

Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018

Purpose	<p>The <i>Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018</i> (RVSA) replaced the <i>Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989</i> (MVSA).</p> <p>The main purpose of the legislation is to set an acceptable level of safety, emission control and theft protection across the Australian vehicle fleet, whether vehicles are imported or locally manufactured. The legislation also enables the provision in Australia of vehicles which do not fully comply with mandatory standards in some circumstances. Vehicles that meet eligibility criteria are entered on the Register of Approved Vehicles (RAV) – an online publically accessible database maintained by the secretary.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You are responsible for making the associated <i>Road Vehicle Standards Rules 2019</i> (the Rules) that prescribe matters relating to the regulation of road vehicles and road vehicle components.</p> <p>You have various functions or powers under the RVSA which are delegated to departmental officers as set out below.</p> <p>You may determine national road vehicle standards for road vehicles and road vehicle components for the purpose of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • making road vehicles safe to use • controlling the emission of gas, particles or noise from road vehicles • securing road vehicles against theft • providing for the security marking of road vehicles • promoting energy conservation. <p>You may issue recall notices to suppliers of vehicles or components for safety purposes or non-compliance with national road vehicle standards.</p> <p>Your recall powers include a power to issue disclosure notices to obtain information from providers of road vehicles and/or road component providers if there is a reasonable belief that a road vehicle or road vehicle component:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • may or will cause injury to a person, including through a reasonably foreseeable use (or misuse) of that vehicle or component • does not, or it is likely that it does not, comply with applicable road vehicle standards. <p>You may arrange for the use of computer programs to support computerised decision-making, including to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make a decision under the provisions of the RVSA and Rules • exercise a power or comply with legislative obligation. <p>You may substitute a more favourable decision for certain computer-based decisions in cases where a computer program was not functioning correctly and a substituted, more-favourable decision can be lawfully made in response to an application.</p> <p>Under the Rules you have various functions and powers, including functions and powers relating to the grant of certain approvals.</p> <p>Delegations of your functions or powers under the Act are to the secretary, or SES employees or acting SES employees in the department. Delegations of your functions and powers under the Rules are to APS employees and SES employees in the department.</p>
Contact	<p>Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary, Road and Vehicle Safety Division; 02 6274 7001 s47F</p>

Road Vehicle Standards (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2018

Purpose	<p>The <i>Road Vehicle Standards (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2018</i> (Transitional Act) supports the transition from the <i>Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989</i> (MVSA) to the <i>Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018</i> (RVSA).</p> <p>There are three key purposes for the RVS Transitional Act: repeal the MVSA, set out arrangements for a transition to the RVSA (the transitional period is 24 months from full commencement of the RVSA), and make consequential amendments to Commonwealth legislation that references the MVSA.</p> <p>The <i>Road Vehicle Standards (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Amendment Act 2022</i> received Royal Assent on 1 April 2022 and extended the RVSA transitional period provided under the Transitional Act from 12 to 24 months.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>The arrangements set out in the Transitional Act for a transition to the RVSA include various functions or powers that you have to support these arrangements. Delegations of these functions or powers are to the Administrator of Vehicle Standards, or an Associate Administrator. The Transitional Act also allows you to make rules prescribing matters of a transitional nature, to address unforeseen issues that may arise during the transitional period. No transitional rules have been made.</p>
Contact	<p>Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary, Road and Vehicle Safety Division; 02 6274 7001 s47F</p>

Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition—Customs) Act 2018 / Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition—Excise) Act 2018 / Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition—General) Act 2018

Purpose	<p>The <i>Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition—Customs) Act 2018</i>, <i>Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition—Excise) Act 2018</i> and <i>Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition—General) Act 2018</i> (the RVS Charging Acts) allow regulations to be made that set out charges that relate to the administration of the <i>Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018</i>. The three RVS Charging Acts ensure that these charges can relate to general, excise, and customs matters.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have no functions or powers under this legislation.</p>
Contact	<p>Lisa La Rance, First Assistant Secretary, Road and Vehicle Safety Division; 02 6274 7001 s47F</p>

Shipping Reform (Tax Incentives) Act 2012

Purpose	<p>The purpose of the <i>Shipping Reform (Tax Incentives) Act 2012</i> is to provide a mechanism for obtaining certificates which facilitate access to the concessions contained in the <i>Income Tax Assessment Act 1997</i> (ITAA) for the Australian shipping industry (additional criteria are contained in the ITAA), so as to encourage ship ownership and ship operations in Australia and the employment of Australian seafarers.</p> <p>The tax incentives provide for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• accelerated depreciation and rollover relief for owners of Australian registered eligible vessels
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- an income tax exemption (ITE) for Australian operators of Australian registered eligible vessels on qualifying shipping income
- a refundable tax offset for employers who employ eligible Australian seafarers
- an exemption from royalty withholding tax for foreign owners of eligible vessels leased under a bareboat or demise charter to an Australian operator.

Your role and responsibilities

You are able to issue a certificate to an eligible vessel, which renders an entity eligible for the incentives listed above (this function or power has been delegated to an SES employee in the department).

You may, by legislative instrument, specify:

- (a) kinds of vessels that are to be excluded vessels
- (b) kinds of vessels that are not to be excluded vessels.

Contact

Andrew Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Maritime and Shipping Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 6881 | **s47F**

Shipping Registration Act 1981

Purpose

The *Shipping Registration Act 1981* provides for Australia to register ships and bestow nationality. It was introduced to provide a code for the registration of Australian-owned or operated ships. It establishes the Australian General Shipping Register and the Australian International Shipping Register (the International Register). Registration is typically compulsory for Australian-owned or operated ships of 24 metres tonnage length or greater, and for ships sailing to foreign ports. Australian-owned or operated ships that are predominantly used to engage in international trading may be registered in the International Register. The Act also provides for employment conditions with respect to seafarers working on board ships registered in the International Register.

Your role and responsibilities

You:

- may, in specified circumstances, disallow the name of a ship
- may appoint a Registrar and Deputy Registrar of Shipping
- shall determine the form of the seal of the Australian Shipping Registration Office
- must determine the amount of wages of seafarers performing particular types of work on board ships registered in the International Register
- must determine the amount of compensation for the death or long-term disability suffered by a seafarer as a result of sickness or injury occurring while on board a ship registered in the International Register
- may apply to the Supreme Court of a state or territory for the forfeiture of a ship detained under the Act and approve the method of disposal of the ship and its equipment.

Contact

Andrew Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Maritime and Shipping Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 6881 | **s47F**

Special Recreational Vessels Act 2019

Purpose	<p>The Act allows for special recreational vessels (superyachts) to opt into the coastal trading regulatory regime established by the <i>Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012</i>.</p> <p>The Act was set to repeal in 2021 but was extended by a further two years by the <i>Special Recreational Vessels Amendment Act 2021</i> to 30 June 2023, allowing further time for a more permanent regulatory solution to be developed.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have the power under this Act to grant or refuse a special recreational vessel temporary licence application for a superyacht to operate in Australia under the <i>Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act</i>.</p>
Contact	<p>Andrew Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Maritime and Shipping Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 6881 s47F</p>

Submarine Cables and Pipelines Protection Act 1963

Purpose	<p>The Act gives effect to Australia's obligation under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the 1884 Convention for the Protection of Submarine Telegraph Cables. The Act provides that the breaking or injury by Australian ships of a submarine cable, pipeline or high-voltage power cable beneath the waters of the exclusive economic zone or the high seas shall be a punishable offence.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have no functions or powers under the Act.</p>
Contact	<p>Catherine Gladman, Assistant Secretary, Sustainable Transport and Maritime Safety Review Branch, Surface Transport Policy Division; 02 6274 7488 s47F</p>

Program 2.3: Air Transport

Adelaide Airport Curfew Act 2000

Purpose	The Act imposes a curfew at Adelaide Airport between 11pm and 6am. It defines the operations that may be exempt from the curfew, and any grounds for the grant of dispensations. It allows for a quota to be set allowing international aircraft during curfew shoulder periods (one hour after curfew starts and one hour before curfew ends) and for freight jet operations.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• grant or refuse applications to operate international aircraft during curfew shoulder periods and impose conditions on these operations (also possible by your delegate)• grant or refuse applications to operate low noise heavy freight aircraft during curfew periods and impose conditions on these operations (also possible by your delegate)• grant dispensations for aircraft to take-off or land in emergencies during curfew periods• grant dispensations for aircraft to take-off or land where you (or your delegate) is satisfied that circumstances justify the operation occurring during curfew periods. <p>These functions have been ordinarily delegated to the department.</p>
Contact	Phil McClure, Assistant Secretary, Airports, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division; 02 6274 6289 s47F

Air Accidents (Commonwealth Government Liability) Act 1963

Purpose	<p>The Act provides for the payment of damages by the Commonwealth and authorities of the Commonwealth in respect to the death of, or personal injury to, persons travelling as passengers in aircraft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• operated by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth authority, or• who are travelling in the course of their employment by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth authority, or• whose cost of travel has been borne by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth authority, or• who are travelling in pursuance of arrangements made or authority given by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth authority. <p>The limitations of amounts recoverable under the Act are aligned to those available under the <i>Civil Aviation (Carriers' Liability) Act 1959</i>.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	You have no functions or powers under this Act.
Contact	Jason Dymowski, Assistant Secretary, Domestic Policy and Reform Branch, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division; 02 6274 6684 s47F

Air Navigation Act 1920

Purpose	The Act provides for the economic regulation of international air services and gives effect to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (the Chicago Convention). The Act regulates the operation of both scheduled and non-scheduled air services to/from Australia by requiring permission for these services to operate, by requiring international airlines to hold international airline licenses and approvals for timetables and tariffs.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You or your delegate may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • designate international airports that must be used by aircraft engaged in international flights • require that foreign ownership of Australian International Airlines other than Qantas is limited to 49 per cent equity • approve the carriage of munitions over Australia by civilian aircraft. <p>The secretary or the secretary delegate has the authority to approve non-scheduled services and to make legislative instruments exempting certain categories of aircraft and flights from various regulatory requirements. The authority to approve tariffs and timetables, and to grant, vary, suspend or cancel an International Airline Licence is located in the Air Navigation Regulation 2016.</p>
Contact	Jim Wolfe, Assistant Secretary, International Aviation, International Aviation, Technology and Services Division; 02 6274 7611 s47F

Air Navigation Legislation (Validation and Interpretation) Act 1982

Purpose	The Act was introduced to correct a legislative error arising from changes in the machinery of government made on 7 May 1982. At that time, the Department of Transport was abolished and replaced by the Department of Transport and Construction and the Department of Aviation.
Your role and responsibilities	You have no powers or functions under this Act.
Contact	Naa Opoku, Assistant Secretary, Safety and Future Technology, International Aviation, Technology and Services Division; 02 6274 6609

Aircraft Noise Levy Act 1995

Purpose	<p>The Act (and the complementary <i>Aircraft Noise Levy Collection Act 1995</i>) establishes a cost recovery regime for Commonwealth funded aircraft noise amelioration programs.</p> <p>The levy is only payable at airports where noise amelioration programs have been undertaken, and is only applied for as long as is required to recover Commonwealth expenditure.</p> <p>The levy is currently not in force at any airport. Previously the levy applied to Sydney airport between 1995 and 2006, and Adelaide airport between 2000 and 2010.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	Responsibility for the legislation is split between you and the Treasurer (for further details of these arrangements, see Aircraft Noise Levy Collection Act).
Contact	Naa Opoku, Assistant Secretary, Safety and Future Technology, International Aviation, Technology and Services Division; 02 6274 6609 s47F

Aircraft Noise Levy Collection Act 1995

Purpose	The Act (and the complementary Aircraft Noise Levy Act) establishes a cost recovery regime for Commonwealth funded aircraft noise amelioration programs. The Act sets out the criteria for imposing the levy and the collection arrangements.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>There are two steps involved in imposing the levy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • declaring the airport a qualifying airport (your responsibility) • declaring the airport to be a leviable airport (the responsibility of the Treasurer, as it is regarded as a “taxation matter”). <p>A qualifying airport can be declared if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there are residences or certain noise sensitive public buildings within the relevant Australian Noise Exposure Forecast noise exposure contours around the airport • the Commonwealth is funding, or has funded a noise amelioration program for the airport. <p>Once an airport has been declared a qualifying airport, the Treasurer can declare it a leviable airport, and set the levy amount and make the relevant Regulations.</p> <p>You must table a copy of the Annual Report on the working of the Act in Parliament.</p>
Contact	Naa Opoku, Assistant Secretary, Safety and Future Technology, International Aviation, Technology and Services Division; 02 6274 6609 s47F

Airports (On-Airport Activities Administration) Validation Act 2010

Purpose	The Act validates all actions performed and powers exercised under the Airports (Control of On-Airport Activities) Regulations 1997 (the regulations) by persons not validly authorised under the regulations to perform such functions. The regulations deal with liquor, commercial trading, vehicle movements, gambling and smoking at specified airports.
Your role and responsibilities	You have no powers or functions under this Act.
Contact	Phil McClure, Assistant Secretary, Airports, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division; 02 6274 6289 s47F

Airports Act 1996

Purpose	The Act sets out the regulatory framework for the 21 Australian federally-leased airports. The Act covers matters such as leasing and management of airports, restrictions on ownership of airport-operator companies, land use, planning and building control, environmental management, accounts and financial reports of airport-operator companies, quality of service monitoring, variation and closure of airport sites, control of certain on-airport activities (for example, gambling, parking, smoking etc), airspace protection for controlled activities (such as building construction), access and demand management at airports, air traffic services and rescue, and firefighting at airports.
Your role and responsibilities	You exercise a broad range of powers and responsibilities in relation to the airports covered by the Act. Your primary role is in the control of land use planning and development through the approval of master plans and major development plans for each of the leased airports (except Mount Isa and Tennant Creek airports, which are exempt from some arrangements).

You also have additional responsibilities in relation to ownership and control through the approval of the transfer of airport leases, the approval of airport-management companies and the ability to seek remedial orders in the Federal Court for breaches of the ownership and control provisions.

Where a demand management scheme is formulated for an airport, you are to approve such a scheme and may issue a declaration that the airport is subject to statutory demand management, and a declaration about the capacity of the airport to handle aircraft movements.

You have the authority to delegate powers under the Act or a demand management scheme to the secretary or an SES level employee.

Contact Phil McClure, Assistant Secretary, Airports, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division;
02 6274 6289 | s47F

Air Services Act 1995

Purpose The Act established Airservices Australia, which is responsible for providing air traffic services, aeronautical information services, aviation rescue and fire-fighting services, aeronautical communications, and facilities necessary for safe navigation of aircraft. Airservices Australia also carries out activities to help minimise the impact of the environment from the effects of aircraft operations.

Your role and responsibilities You may give directions to Airservices Australia relating to the performance of its functions or the exercise of its powers, direct a variation of its corporate plan, notify Airservices Australia about its strategic direction and the manner in which it should perform its functions and direct it to supply any documents or information to his nominee.

You are responsible for appointing board members (other than the Chief Executive Officer) and can make acting appointments to the office of chair and deputy chair. You have the power to grant leave of absence to the chair and to terminate the appointment of appointed board members.

You may approve a written determination setting out charges for services or facilities provided by Airservices Australia and penalties for late payment of these charges.

Within 60 days of receiving Airservices' corporate plan, you may direct members of the board to vary the plan in respect of financial targets, and performance indicators, relating to the provision of services and facilities. You must cause a copy of the corporate plan to be laid before each House of Parliament within 15 sitting days of receiving the plan.

Contact Naa Opoku, Assistant Secretary, Safety and Future Technology, International Aviation, Technology and Services Division; 02 6274 6609 |

Airspace Act 2007

Purpose	The Act transferred the function of airspace regulation from Airservices Australia to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority to strengthen Australia's planning and administration of airspace and address any perception of a conflict of interest within Airservices, noting its roles as both a commercial air navigation service provider and regulator of the level of service to be provided in particular volumes of Australian administered airspace.
Your role and responsibilities	The Act requires you to make an Australian Airspace Policy Statement on the administration and regulation of, and policy objectives for, Australian administered airspace. The current Australian Airspace Policy Statement came into effect on 19 November 2021.
Contact	Naa Opoku, Assistant Secretary, Safety and Future Technology, International Aviation, Technology and Services Division; 02 6274 6609 s47F

Airspace (Consequential and Other Measures) Act 2007

Purpose	The Act amended the <i>Civil Aviation Act 1988</i> to ensure that airspace regulation is a clear and separate function for the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), and that CASA acts consistently with the Australian Airspace Policy Statement described in the Airspace Act. The Act enables regulations to be made to grandfather decisions made by Airservices Australia under regulations to be transferred to CASA.
Your role and responsibilities	You have no powers or functions under this Act.
Contact	Naa Opoku, Assistant Secretary, Safety and Future Technology, International Aviation, Technology and Services Division; 02 6274 6609 s47F

Australian Airlines (Conversion to Public Company) Act 1988

Purpose	The Act relates to the conversion of the Australian National Airlines Commission to a public company. The company was subsequently sold to Qantas.
Your role and responsibilities	You have no powers or functions under this Act.
Contact	Jason Dymowski, Assistant Secretary, Domestic Policy and Reform Branch, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division; 02 6274 6684 s47F

Aviation Fuel Revenues (Special Appropriation) Act 1988

Purpose	<p>The Act provides for the appropriation of revenue raised from duty on aviation fuels to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and/or Airservices Australia. Aviation fuels duty is levied on aviation gasoline (avgas) and aviation kerosene (avtur) under the <i>Excise Tariff Act 1921</i> and the <i>Customs Tariff Act 1995</i>.</p> <p>Currently, all duties collected from the duty on aviation fuels are provided to CASA.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You may make written determinations under the Act in respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the statutory rate of the duty on aviation fuels • the proportion of the duty that is made to either CASA and/or Airservices Australia • whether indexation applies (indexation ceased from 1 March 2001).
Contact	<p>Naa Opoku, Assistant Secretary, Safety and Future Technology, International Aviation, Technology and Services Division; 02 6274 6609 s47F</p>

Civil Aviation Act 1988

Purpose	<p>The Act establishes a regulatory framework for maintaining, enhancing, and promoting the safety of civil aviation, with particular emphasis on preventing aviation accidents and incidents.</p> <p>The Act also establishes the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) as the agency responsible for this regulatory framework and the safety of civil aviation.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appoint board members (other than the Chief Executive Officer) and make acting appointments to the office of chair and deputy chair • grant leave of absence to the chair and to terminate the appointment of appointed board members • give the CASA board written directions as to the performance of its functions or the exercise of its powers, including the appropriate strategic direction and manner in which CASA should perform its functions • direct CASA to give to a specified ministerial nominee any documents or information relating to CASA's operations that the nominee requests • specify a drug as testable for the purposes of drug and alcohol management. <p>Your directions as to the performance of CASA's regulatory functions can only be of a general nature.</p> <p>You must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • respond to a corporate plan within 60 days of being given the plan. Your response may include a direction to the CASA board to vary the plan. • cause a copy of the corporate plan to be laid before each House of Parliament within 15 sitting days after responding to the plan, if the response did not include a direction to vary the plan, and within 15 sitting days after receiving a revised copy of the plan, if the response included a direction to vary the plan.
Contact	<p>Naa Opoku, Assistant Secretary, Safety and Future Technology, International Aviation, Technology and Services Division; 02 6274 6609 s47F</p>

Civil Aviation (Carriers' Liability) Act 1959

Purpose

The Act provides the legislative framework for air carriers' liability and related consumer protection arrangements. The Act gives force of law to the Warsaw System of carriers' liability in Australia, enacting as the law of Australia those components of the Warsaw System which have been signed and ratified by Australia including the Warsaw Convention (1929), The Hague Protocol (1955), the Guadalajara Convention (1961) and the Montreal Protocol No. 4 (1975). The Warsaw System imposes strict but limited liability on international air carriers for the carriage of passengers, baggage and cargo by air.

In 2008, the Act was amended to give force of law to the 1999 Montreal Convention, which updates and modernises the Warsaw System. The Montreal Convention provides for unlimited liability to give Australians travelling overseas on international airlines access to fairer compensation in the event of an airline accident.

Mandatory non-voidable insurance is required for all air carriers flying to, from, or within Australia. In the case of domestic carriage, the minimum insurance level is A\$925,000 per passenger. International carriers, including foreign carriers serving Australia, are required to provide evidence that they are insured to a level of 480,000 special drawing rights (SDRs) per passenger. Carriers must have these levels of insurance irrespective of their liabilities under the relevant international convention.

The arrangements under the Act do not apply to intrastate operations by licensed Regular Public Transport operators. However, the states have adopted complementary legislation to ensure a uniform regime of carriers' liability and mandatory non-voidable insurance in Australia.

CASA is the regulatory agency which oversees compliance with the insurance requirements under this Act as stipulated by the Civil Aviation Act.

The Act was amended by the *Aviation Legislation Amendment (Liability and Insurance) Act 2020* which increased minimum insurance levels and provided that servants and agents of a carrier can avail themselves of the same conditions of liability in addition to the limits applicable to air carriers.

Your role and responsibilities

You may publish in the Gazette information relating to:

- the increase of liability limits under the Montreal Convention
- the coming into operation of the Guadalajara Convention
- countries ratifying or denouncing the 1999 Montreal Convention and the Warsaw System's Conventions or Protocols.

Contact

Jason Dymowski, Assistant Secretary, Domestic Policy and Reform Branch, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division; 02 6274 6684 | **s47F**

Damage by Aircraft Act 1999

Purpose	<p>The Act provides for strict and uncapped liability for owners and operators of aircraft that cause damage to third parties on the ground within the Commonwealth's jurisdiction. This includes death, injury or damage to people and property on the ground. It applies to aircraft, including foreign aircraft, within Australia's territory that cause damage on the ground.</p> <p>The Act also allows liability to be limited under the principle of contributory negligence and defendants can seek a right of contribution from other parties who have contributed to the damage.</p> <p>Separate state government legislation covers operations beyond the constitutional reach of the Commonwealth. The Act does not extend to Defence Force aircraft.</p> <p>The Act was amended by the <i>Aviation Legislation Amendment (Liability and Insurance) Act 2012</i> which introduced a provision providing for reductions in compensation payments where the victim was partially responsible for the damage.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have no powers or functions under this Act.</p>
Contact	<p>Jason Dymowski, Assistant Secretary, Domestic Policy and Reform Branch, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division; 02 6274 6684 s47F</p>

International Air Services Commission Act 1992

Purpose	<p>The Act established the International Air Services Commission (IASC).</p> <p>The purpose of the Act is to enhance the welfare of Australians by promoting economic efficiency through competition in the provision of international air services resulting in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• increased responsiveness by airlines to the needs of consumers, including an increased range of choices and benefits• Australian tourism and trade• the maintenance of Australian carriers capable of competing effectively with airlines of foreign countries. <p>The IASC's role is to allocate international aviation capacity to Australian international carriers in accordance with the requirements of the Act and the minister's policy statement. The IASC may delegate some of its powers to an Australian public service officer.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>Section 11 of the Act confers power on you to make policy statements about the way the Commission is to perform its functions.</p> <p>Section 40 states IASC members are appointed by the Governor-General and hold office on such terms and conditions as determined by you (if any) which are not provided for by the Act.</p> <p>Section 44 allows you to grant the chairperson leave of absence, other than recreation leave, under such terms and conditions as to remuneration or otherwise as you determine.</p> <p>Section 48 allows you to appoint a person to act as chairperson or as a member, during a vacancy in the office of that position, or during any period when the person holding that office is absent or unable to perform the duties of the office.</p>

Section 53 requires you to provide a copy of each financial year's report to the House of the Parliament within 15 sitting days of that House after you have received the report.

Contact Jim Wolfe, Assistant Secretary, International Aviation, International Aviation, Technology and Services; 02 6274 7611 | s47F

International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Act 2013

Purpose	<p>The purpose of the Act is to facilitate Australia's accession to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Convention) and the Protocol thereto on matters specific to aircraft equipment (Protocol).</p> <p>The Convention and Protocol provide an international legal system to protect secured creditors of aircraft objects and to reduce the risks and costs associated with financing mobile objects.</p> <p>The Convention creates a uniform international legal framework to protect investors in high value mobile objects. It provides an International Register for creditors to register their security interests and thereby also attain a priority ranking (similar to the Personal Property Securities Register), and creates a set of basic remedies in the event of debtor default or insolvency.</p> <p>The Protocol complements the Convention and adapts its provisions to meet the particular requirements of financing aircraft equipment. This increases the protection of creditor interests and commensurately reduces their risks, resulting in increased access to cheaper aircraft and asset financing for the Australian aviation industry.</p> <p>The Act provides for the Convention and Protocol to have force of law in Australia.</p> <p>The Act also provides that the Convention and Protocol to have precedence over all other laws to the extent that any inconsistency arises. A companion Act, the <i>International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Cape Town Convention) (Consequential Amendments) Act 2013</i> made amendments to the Air Services Act, Civil Aviation Act, and <i>Personal Property Securities Act 2009</i> to ensure the Convention and Protocol complement and operate in harmony with other Australian laws.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>The Act enables you to, by legislative instrument, make rules (section 10) for carrying out or giving effect to the Convention and the Protocol. The International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Rules 2014 confer functions upon CASA in relation to the recording, removal and exercise of the Irrevocable Deregistration and Export Request Authorisation (IDERA). The IDERAs are a remedy provided under the Convention that allow for deregistration and export of an aircraft asset in the event of debtor default or insolvency.</p>
Contact	<p>Jason Dymowski, Assistant Secretary, Domestic Policy and Reform Branch, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division; 02 6274 6684 s47F</p>

Qantas Sale Act 1992 Part 3, sections 7 to 13 inclusive

Purpose	<p>The Act provided for the sale of Qantas, allowed certain financial transactions by the Commonwealth to facilitate the sale and imposed conditions on the articles of association of Qantas.</p> <p>The Minister for Finance is responsible for the administration of the Act, except for sections 14, 16 and 17 which are administered by the Treasurer and sections 7-13 which are administered by you.</p>
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Sections 7-13 of the Act limits total foreign ownership in Qantas Airways Ltd to 49 per cent and also seeks to ensure that the Australian character and control of Qantas is maintained, including that:

- its principal operational centre remains in Australia
- its head office remains in Australia
- at least two-thirds of its directors are Australian citizens
- its chairperson is Australian
- the name 'Qantas' remains
- it not take any action to be incorporated outside Australia.

Your role and responsibilities	The Act obliges Qantas to monitor its level of foreign ownership and control, to maintain a register of foreign shareholdings and to order foreign shareholders to sell their holdings if the airline breaches the foreign ownership restriction. You may request in writing a copy of Qantas' register of foreign shareholdings. You may also apply for a court injunction to remedy a breach of the Act.
Contact	Jason Dymowski, Assistant Secretary, Domestic Policy and Reform Branch, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division; 02 6274 6684 s47F

Sydney Airport Curfew Act 1995

Purpose	<p>The curfew at Sydney Airport was enacted to alleviate the impact of night-time noise on residents in the vicinity of the airport, following the opening of the airport's third runway. The curfew imposed by the Act strengthened the previous arrangements that were in place under the Air Navigation (Aerodrome Curfew) Regulations.</p> <p>The curfew is in force between 11pm and 6am. The legislation permits operations by emergency aircraft and provides for the granting of dispensations for aircraft to operate in 'exceptional circumstances'. A limited number of international aircraft are allowed to land between 5am and 6am and take off or land between 11pm and midnight. A quota applies for specified freight jet aircraft. Movements are also allowed for certain categories of 'low noise' jet and non-jet aircraft. All aircraft, except emergency aircraft and those granted a dispensation, must land and take-off to the south of the airport over Botany Bay.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You are responsible for granting dispensations for operations to take place during the curfew in exceptional circumstances. You must make guidelines which provide advice on what constitutes 'exceptional circumstances' and must have regard to these when deciding to grant a dispensation. In practice, decisions to grant dispensations are made by departmental officers to whom you have delegated your powers.</p> <p>You are also empowered to publish a list of 'low noise' 'small' jet aircraft in the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments that may operate during the curfew period. The Act specifies the noise and weight criteria that jet aircraft must meet to be considered for the list.</p>
Contact	Phil McClure, Assistant Secretary, Airports, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division; 02 6274 6289 s47F

Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997

Purpose	The Act sets the maximum movement limit for aircraft movements at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport. The maximum movement limit is 80 aircraft movements per hour. The Act also provides for the Slot Management Scheme, under which slots for gate movements at Sydney Airport are allocated and the Compliance Scheme, under which penalties for unauthorised gate movements are prescribed.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>The Act requires Airservices Australia to report on adherence to maximum movement limit. You may lower the maximum movement limit following consultation. The Act establishes the broad framework for the slot management and compliance schemes. You may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • issue a determination which provides for additional requirements in the schemes • take action to ensure that the schemes are consistent with the Act • request the Slot Manager amend the Slot Management Scheme • request the Compliance Committee amend the Compliance Scheme • develop and approve amendments to the schemes. <p>You may also direct the Slot Manager to vary, suspend or cancel slots. Any such directions, including a statement of reasons, are to be tabled in Parliament.</p> <p>The Slot Manager is appointed by you for a period not exceeding three years and is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Slot Management Scheme.</p> <p>The Compliance Committee has responsibility for developing, administering and amending the Compliance Scheme. You appoint the members of the Compliance Committee.</p>
Contact	Jason Dymowski, Assistant Secretary, Domestic Policy and Reform Branch, Domestic Aviation and Reform Division; 02 6274 6684 s47F

Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003

Purpose	<p>The Act establishes the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) as the national transport safety investigation agency.</p> <p>The function of the ATSB under the Act is to improve transport safety through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • independent investigation of transport accidents and other safety occurrences • safety data recording, analysis and research • fostering safety awareness, knowledge and action. <p>Under the Act, the ATSB must carry out its functions while avoiding the apportionment of blame or the determination of liability.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appoint the chief commissioner and commissioners of the ATSB, appoint an acting chief commissioner, grant the chief commissioner a leave of absence and terminate the appointment of the chief commissioner and commissioners • give a written Statement of Expectations to the ATSB on its strategic direction • direct the ATSB to investigate a transport safety matter.
Contact	Naa Opoku, Assistant Secretary, Safety and Future Technology, International Aviation, Technology and Services Division; 02 6274 6609 s47F

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Administrative Arrangements Order (2021)

The responsibilities described in this portfolio overview, as well as the department's current organisational arrangements, are based on the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) dated 2 July 2021. These arrangements will be updated in accordance with any new AAOs produced by your government.

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

Matters dealt with by the department

Infrastructure planning and co-ordination

Transport safety, including investigations

Land transport

Civil aviation and airports

Maritime transport including shipping

Major projects, including implementation of all non-Defence development projects

Administration of the Jervis Bay Territory, the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Territory of Christmas Island, the Coral Sea Islands Territory, the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands, and Norfolk Island

Constitutional development of the Northern Territory

Constitutional development of the Australian Capital Territory

Delivery of regional and territory specific services and programmes

Planning and land management in the Australian Capital Territory

Regional development

Matters relating to local government

Regional policy and co-ordination

National policy on cities

Broadband policy and programmes

Postal and telecommunications policies and programmes

Spectrum policy management

Broadcasting policy

Content policy relating to the information economy

Cultural affairs, including movable cultural heritage and support for the arts

Classification

Copyright

Northern Australia policy and coordination

Legislation administered by the minister

A.C.T. Self-Government (Consequential Provisions) Act 1988

Adelaide Airport Curfew Act 2000

Air Accidents (Commonwealth Government Liability) Act 1963

Air Navigation Act 1920

Air Navigation Legislation (Validation and Interpretation) Act 1982

Air Services Act 1995

Aircraft Noise Levy Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Treasurer

Aircraft Noise Levy Collection Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Treasurer

Airports Act 1996

Airports (On-Airport Activities Administration) Validation Act 2010

Airspace Act 2007

Airspace (Consequential and Other Measures) Act 2007
Ashmore and Cartier Islands Acceptance Act 1933
Assistance for Severely Affected Regions (Special Appropriation) (Coronavirus Economic Response Package) Act 2020
AUSSAT Repeal Act 1991
Australia Council Act 2013
Australia Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2013
Australian Airlines (Conversion to Public Company) Act 1988
Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983
Australian Broadcasting Corporation (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1983
Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988, except to the extent administered by the Minister for Finance
Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988
Australian Communications and Media Authority Act 2005
Australian Communications and Media Authority (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2005
Australian Film, Television and Radio School Act 1973
Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990
Australian National Maritime Museum Act 1990
Australian National Railways Commission Sales Act 1997
Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989
Aviation Fuel Revenues (Special Appropriation) Act 1988
Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Broadcasting Reform) Act 2017
Broadcasting Services Act 1992
Broadcasting Services (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1992
Canberra Water Supply (Googong Dam) Act 1974
Carriage of Goods by Sea Act 1991
Christmas Island Act 1958
Christmas Island Agreement Acts
Circuit Layouts Act 1989
Civil Aviation Act 1988
Civil Aviation (Carriers' Liability) Act 1959
Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment Act 1995
Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Minister for Indigenous Australians
Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012
Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Act 2012
Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955
Commercial Broadcasting (Tax) Act 2017
Competition and Consumer Act 2010, Parts X, XIB and XIC
Copyright Act 1968
Coral Sea Islands Act 1969
Damage by Aircraft Act 1999
Do Not Call Register Act 2006
Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015
Enhancing Online Safety for Children (Consequential Amendments) Act 2015
Enhancing Online Safety (Non-consensual Sharing of Intimate Images) Act 2018
Infrastructure Australia Act 2008

Interactive Gambling Act 2001
International Air Services Commission Act 1992
International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Act 2013
Jervis Bay Territory Acceptance Act 1915
Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims Act 1989
Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995
Marine Navigation Levy Act 1989
Marine Navigation Levy Collection Act 1989
Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Act 1991
Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Collection Act 1991
Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Act 2012
Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law (Consequential Amendments) Act 2012
Maritime Legislation Amendment Act 2007
Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989
National Broadband Network Companies Act 2011
National Film and Sound Archive of Australia Act 2008
National Gallery Act 1975
National Land Transport Act 2014
National Library Act 1960
National Museum of Australia Act 1980
National Portrait Gallery of Australia Act 2012
National Portrait Gallery of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2012
National Transmission Network Sale Act 1998
National Transport Commission Act 2003
Navigation Act 2012
Norfolk Island Act 1979
Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016
Northern Territory Acceptance Act 1910
Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978, except sections 69 and 70
Parliament Act 1974
Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act 1946
Postal and Telecommunications Commissions (Transitional Provisions) Act 1975
Port Statistics Act 1977
Protection of Cultural Objects on Loan Act 2013
Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986
Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage) Act 2008
Protection of the Sea (Harmful Anti-fouling Systems) Act 2006
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—Customs) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—Excise) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—General) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Oil Pollution Compensation Funds) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Powers of Intervention) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Act 1983
Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy Collection) Act 1981
Public Lending Right Act 1985

Qantas Sale Act 1992, Part 3, sections 7 to 13 inclusive
Radiocommunications Act 1992
Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Act 1983
Radiocommunications (Spectrum Licence Tax) Act 1997
Radiocommunications Taxes Collection Act 1983
Radiocommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1992
Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Act 1983
Removal of Prisoners (Territories) Act 1923, insofar as it relates to the Northern Territory (except to the extent administered by the Attorney-General) and to Norfolk Island, the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Territory of Christmas Island, the Coral Sea Islands Territory, and the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands
Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act 2009
Road Charges Legislation Repeal and Amendment Act 2008
Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – General) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – Customs) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – Excise) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2018
Screen Australia Act 2008
Screen Australia and the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2008
Screen Australia (Transfer of Assets) Act 2011
Seat of Government Acceptance Acts
Seat of Government Act 1908
Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910
Shipping Reform (Tax Incentives) Act 2012
Shipping Registration Act 1981
Spam Act 2003
Special Broadcasting Service Act 1991
Special Recreational Vessels Act 2019
Submarine Cables and Pipelines Protection Act 1963
Sydney Airport Curfew Act 1995
Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997
Telecommunications Act 1997
Telecommunications and Postal Services (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1989
Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer) Act 2020
Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act 1997
Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999
Telecommunications (Industry Levy) Act 2012
Telecommunications (Numbering Charges) Act 1997
Telecommunications (Regional Broadband Scheme) Charge Act 2020
Telecommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1991
Telecommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1997
Telstra Corporation Act 1991
Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Act 2005
Territories Law Reform Act 2010
Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003
Urban and Regional Development (Financial Assistance) Act 1974



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications



INCOMING GOVERNMENT BRIEFING

Portfolio Overview

Regional Development

May 2022

Image credits

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Bottom left. Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

Right. Getty Images, SolStock

Portfolio Overview

About your portfolio

A high-level summary of the responsibilities of your portfolio, as well as information about the structure and function of the department.

About the department

An overview of the department's work, values, programs and projects, budget, people, and key contacts.

Portfolio entities

An overview of the Commonwealth entities and companies in your portfolio, including information on each entity's purpose, governance, functions and funding profile.

Other boards and structures

An overview of the purpose, governance, and functions of other boards and structures related to your portfolio.

Significant ministerial roles

A summary of your participation in significant ministerial meetings and other functions.

Programs administered by the department

Information on the status of each program in your portfolio, its delivery partners and stakeholders, governance arrangements, including your role with regard to decision-making, program funding, key facts and program administration details.

Portfolio legislation

An up-to-date list of legislation relevant to the work of the department and portfolio entities.

Administrative Arrangements Order

Administrative Arrangements Orders formally allocate executive responsibility among ministers. They set out which matters and legislation are administered by which department or portfolio.

- o Leadership team
- o Organisational structure
- o Establishing your office and ministerial support services

- o Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility
- o National Capital Authority

- o Local Government Ministers' Meeting
- o Regional Intelligence Briefings and Town Hall Webinars
- o Rural and Regional National Cabinet Reform Committee

- o Budget Outcome 3: Regions, local government and northern Australia
- o Budget Outcome 4: Territories

- o A.C.T. Self-Government (Consequential Provisions) Act 1988
- o Ashmore and Cartier Islands Acceptance Act 1933
- o Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988
- o Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988
- o Canberra Water Supply (Googong Dam) Act 1974
- o Christmas Island Act 1958
- o Christmas Island Agreement Acts
- o Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955
- o Coral Sea Islands Act 1969
- o Jervis Bay Territory Acceptance Act 1915
- o Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995
- o Norfolk Island Act 1979
- o Northern Territory Acceptance Act 1910
- o Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978
- o Parliament Act 1974
- o Removal of Prisoners (Territories) Act 1923
- o Seat of Government Acceptance Act 1909
- o Seat of Government (Acceptance) Act 1922
- o Seat of Government Act 1908
- o Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910
- o Territories Law Reform Act 2010
- o Urban and Regional Development (Financial Assistance) Act 1974

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About your portfolio

This portfolio overview contains a high-level summary of the responsibilities of your portfolio, as well as information about the structure and function of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. The responsibilities described below, as well as the department's current organisational arrangements, are based on the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) dated 2 July 2021. These arrangements will be updated in accordance with any new AAOs produced by your government.

This overview sets out the full range of regional development, territories, local government and northern Australia portfolio roles and responsibilities. More tailored information on each function will be provided in the weeks following the election, taking into account the allocation of ministerial responsibilities across the portfolio.

Responsibilities

Regional development	Regional policy and coordination	Administration of the Jervis Bay Territory, the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Territory of Christmas Island, the Coral Sea Islands Territory, the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands, and Norfolk Island
Delivery of regional and territory specific services and programmes	Planning and land management in the Australian Capital Territory	
Constitutional development of the Australian Capital Territory	Matters relating to local government	
Constitutional development of the Northern Territory	Northern Australia policy and coordination	

You have a relatively minor role in regards to constitutional development of the Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory, and administration of the Coral Sea Islands and Ashmore and Cartier Islands in comparison to your other functions.

Portfolio entities

In addition to the department, your portfolio comprises 2 Commonwealth entities (portfolio entities) that are subject to the obligations and accountabilities of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. The portfolio entities deliver outcomes on behalf of the Australian Government.

A summary of the Commonwealth entities within your portfolio is provided below. More detailed information on your roles and responsibilities with regard to these entities, including in relation to board appointments, is in the chapter on portfolio entities, along with information on each entity's purpose, governance, functions and funding profile.

Commonwealth company	
Corporate Commonwealth entity	Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility
Non-corporate Commonwealth entity	National Capital Authority

Other boards and structures

Separate to the portfolio entities, there are a number of other boards and structures related to the business of the portfolio. A number of these bodies are government appointed boards or include government appointed chairs, such as the Regional Development Australia Committees. The portfolio also has a key role in recommending appointments of Territory Administrators. A list of these higher-profile bodies is provided in the chapter on other boards and structures.

Appointments made by the Australian Government (through the Prime Minister, Cabinet, Governor-General advised by the Federal Executive Council, ministers and chairs of portfolio boards) to roles such as these are a significant activity for the Australian Government and attract a level of public scrutiny.

The department provides support for the effective functioning of government-appointed boards and roles within your portfolio. This includes administration of appointment processes, management of reporting requirements including on gender balance, and the maintenance of a register of members, terms and appointment requirements. Further information on these functions will be provided to your office separately by the department as needed to meet appointment and reporting timeframes.

Significant ministerial roles

You and your ministerial colleagues in the portfolio have a key role in two important inter-governmental ministerial meetings, being the Local Government Ministers' meeting and the Rural and the Regional National Cabinet Reform Committee meeting. These forums advance issues that affect the economy and all Australian communities, and enable cross-government engagement on policy challenges and reform opportunities.

The department supports the effective operation of these forums, and supports your participation.

Further information is provided in the chapter on significant ministerial roles.

Portfolio legislation

You are responsible for a considerable body of legislation relevant to the work of the department and portfolio entities, for example the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* and the *Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988*.

Further information on your role is provided in the chapter on portfolio legislation.

About the department

Regional, Local Government and Territories roles and activities

The department's work spans a broad range of matters, supporting the government in the effective development and delivery of programs, policies and regulations that enrich the lives of all Australians and connect communities.

The department's values of being respectful, informed, collaborative, accountable and adaptive will be applied in support of you and your office, and we will adapt our roles and activities to support you to deliver your agenda this term.

The department works to achieve 6 outcomes across our budget programs, a subset of which relate to your portfolio, listed below. These outcomes form the legal basis for the appropriation of funding, and therefore any change to outcomes involves a formal process requiring legal advice and approval from the Minister for Finance. The names of budget programs can be changed more easily, where these are not set out in legislation.



Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance

Program 3.1 Regional Development – The regional development program supports regional development and local communities through regionally focused stakeholder consultation and engagement, research, policy development and program delivery activities to create jobs, drive regional economic growth and build stronger regional communities.

Program 3.2 Local Government – The local government program supports regional development and local communities through delivery of policy advice to the Australian Government and financial assistance to local governments to strengthen local government capacity and better support local communities.

Program 3.4 Growing a Stronger Northern Australia Economy – 'Our North, Our Future: 2021-2026 – Targeted Growth' is the government's next five-year strategic plan for developing northern Australia. From 2021-2026 the government will invest in transformation and enabling projects through a whole-of-government approach, in partnership with state and territory governments.



Outcome 4: Good governance and service delivery in the Australian territories including through the maintenance and improvement of the laws and services for non-self-governing territories, and the overarching legislative framework for self-governing territories

Program 4.1 Services to Territories – The services to territories program provides good governance and service delivery in the Australian territories, including through the maintenance and improvement of the laws and services for non-self-governing territories, and the overarching legislative framework for self-governing territories.

Programs administered by the department

The department is responsible for administering a large number of budget programs under the department's budget outcomes.

The chapter on programs administered by the department sets out the status of each program in your portfolio, its delivery partners and stakeholders, governance arrangements including your role with regard to decision-making, program funding, key facts and program administration details.

Program funding outlined in these briefs reflects the 2022-23 Budget and the program expenditure figures are as at 31 March 2022. Updated expenditure figures as at 30 April 2022 will be provided to you and your office in early briefings.

Budget

For the 2022-23 financial year, the department will administer \$19.0 billion in agency resourcing, comprised of \$0.7 billion in departmental and \$18.3 billion in administered (i.e. program) funding. Administered funding includes \$2.4 billion in payments to portfolio bodies. Agency resourcing increased by \$2.7 billion between the 2021-22 and 2022-23 financial years, primarily due to additional support provided through the 2022-23 Budget to regional Australia and pandemic economic recovery measures.

Of the departmental funding, \$479.3 million is in departmental operating funding and \$10.2 million in departmental capital budget. The remainder of the \$164.1 million represents prior year appropriation available to the department, funding in existing special accounts (reserved for specific purposes) and own-source revenue. The department's Average Staffing Level (ASL) for the 2022-23 Budget has increased by 56 ASL from the 2021-22 estimated ASL of 1,708 to 1,764.

A further \$17.6 billion in 2022-23 (\$64.7 billion across 4 years) is provided to states and territories through various National Partnership Payments.

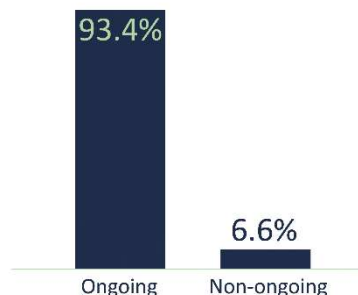
People

At 31 March 2022, the department had a total employee headcount of 1,934 people. Just over 93 per cent are ongoing, close to 60 per cent are female, and while the majority of employees are located in the ACT, the department has staff in all other states and territories, plus Norfolk Island, Jervis Bay Territory, the Indian Ocean Territories and internationally. Further information is provided in the graphics below.

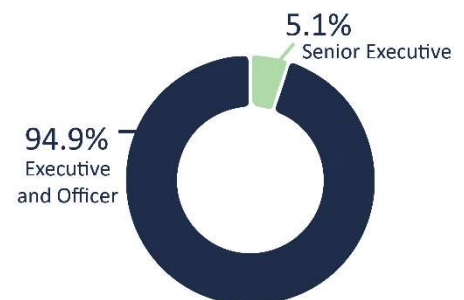
Staff by gender



Staff by employment status



Staff by classification



Non-Senior Executive Service (non-SES) employees are employed under the Enterprise Agreement which came into effect from 28 March 2016. From 2 December 2021, a new one year section 24(1) determination continued the terms and conditions of the Enterprise Agreement. The determination provided a 1.9 per cent pay increase from 28 March 2022 to all non-SES employees covered by the department's Enterprise Agreement.

SES employees are employed under a separate instrument.

The department's non-APS workforce consists of 267 labour hire and fee-for-service employees who primarily undertake roles in specialist data and program positions, IT and non-ongoing administrative functions.

Leadership team

The department's executive comprises the Secretary and 7 Deputy Secretaries. Deputy Secretaries support the Secretary and carry out a wide-ranging brief across the portfolio's policy, regulatory and operational responsibilities as well as overseeing the work of business divisions.

Simon Atkinson



Secretary

Simon Atkinson was appointed Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications on 1 February 2020. He was previously Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development.

Prior to his appointment as Secretary, Mr Atkinson served as Deputy Secretary, Fiscal Group at the Treasury.

Since joining the Australian Public Service as a graduate, he has held senior roles in many Australian Government portfolios, including Infrastructure and Regional, Finance, Defence, and Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Mr Atkinson has held leadership roles delivering major policy reforms, including the establishment of Infrastructure Australia in 2007, the 2009 Defence White Paper and 24 Commonwealth economic updates. He has overseen the largest infrastructure investment in the Commonwealth's history including transformational projects such as the Western Sydney Airport and led the successful stewardship of aviation, shipping, freight, telecommunications and the arts through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr Atkinson is an alumnus of the University of Queensland with bachelor degrees in Science and Law. He is a barrister and solicitor of the Federal Court and the Supreme Court of NSW. Mr Atkinson holds a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

02 6274 7573 s47F
Simon.Atkinson@infrastructure.gov.au

Rachel Bacon



Deputy Secretary Regional, Cities and Territories Group

Dr Rachel Bacon is currently Deputy Secretary of the Regional, Cities and Territories Group at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

Prior to this Rachel worked in the Department of Environment and Energy, running the Policy Analysis and Implementation Division and as Deputy Chief Executive Officer with the Northern Territory Government's Department of the Chief Minister.

Rachel previously led a number of taskforces based in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) working to deliver whole of government priorities in areas such as environment regulation reform and Australia's engagement with Asia.

02 6274 6181 s47F
Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

Marisa Purvis-Smith



**Deputy Secretary
Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia Group
CEO of the National Water Grid Authority**

Marisa is the Deputy Secretary of Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia and the CEO of the National Water Grid Authority within the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. This role includes responsibility for the Office of Northern Australia.

Marisa brings a wealth of experience, including a strong understanding of regional and community issues, including as First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development, Local Government and Regional Recovery. Prior to that, Marisa worked in the federal Treasury in a range of roles, including tax policy and Commonwealth-State relations. Marisa is also the department's representative on the Australian Maritime Safety Authority Board.

02 6274 7884 s47F
Marisa.Purvis-Smith@infrastructure.gov.au

Diane Brown



**Deputy Secretary
Transport Group**

Diane Brown commenced as Deputy Secretary at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications in May 2021. Diane joined the Department in August 2020 as First Assistant Secretary of Communications Infrastructure Division. Prior to that, Diane spent 7 years at the Australian Treasury, in the Markets Group with various responsibilities predominantly relating to financial markets and corporate regulation.

Prior to joining the public service, Diane held senior roles in the private sector and in the corporate regulator, the Australian Securities and Investment Commission. She commenced her career as an economist at the Reserve Bank and has practised law at a national law firm in Sydney.

Diane holds bachelor degrees (with honours) in economics and law from the University of Sydney and a masters degree (with honours) in economics from the University of New South Wales.

02 6274 7515 s47F
Diane.Brown@infrastructure.gov.au

Dave Hallinan



**Deputy Secretary
Infrastructure Group**

Dave Hallinan is the Deputy Secretary of the Infrastructure Group of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, with two decades of public sector experience and well over a decade in senior leadership roles across the Australia Public Service.

Dave is values driven, enjoys linking complex practical implementation issues with nationally significant agendas, and working collaboratively with complex stakeholder groups to solve challenging policy, program and regulatory issues to support the best outcomes for the Australian community.

Dave has spent his career working across policy development, and program and regulatory delivery across the Health, Infrastructure and Finance portfolios. Dave's key content areas include infrastructure financing and delivery, Australian Government budget management and advice, and rural health, primary care financing and delivery, health workforce management and regulation, aged care, and health and related systems integration.

02 6274 7302 §47F
David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

Richard Windeyer



**Deputy Secretary
Communications and Media Group**

Richard has held Deputy Secretary roles in the communications portfolio since 2018. Richard joined the Australia Public Service 23 years ago. The majority of his career has been in the communications portfolio.

He had held numerous roles in the departments responsible for communications and has also spent time in the offices of communications portfolio ministers. Other roles have included working on homeland security policy in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and on transport security policy.

The Communications and Media group has responsibility for broadband, telecommunications, media and digital platform industry policy, infrastructure investment and consumer policy, radio-communications policy, online safety as well as oversight of the government's shareholding interests in Australia Post and the National Broadband Network. The group is also responsible for policy and regulatory advice around public interest communications issues relating to provision of emergency calls, access to communications services by people with disabilities, and communications network resilience.

02 6274 7882 §47F
Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au

Stephen Arnott



Deputy Secretary Creative Economy and the Arts Group

Stephen Arnott is the Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy and the Arts in the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. Stephen has more than 20 years' experience in the Australian Public Service in arts, screen, creative industries, communications and technology policy areas. He has also worked as a ministerial adviser.

Stephen was promoted to the Senior Executive Service in 2009. He was awarded a Public Service Medal in 2005 for his work reforming Australia's symphony orchestras. Previously Stephen helped run a small business providing data security services to corporate clients in Sydney. Stephen has a Doctorate in French Philosophy from the University of New England where he lectured in both philosophy and psychology for a number of years.

02 6274 7883 s47F
Stephen.Arnott@arts.gov.au

Maree Bridger



Acting Chief Operating Officer

Maree Bridger is currently the acting Chief Operating Officer at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. Maree has worked in the Australian Public Service (APS) for 14 years across a range of policy, program, corporate and service delivery areas in the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, Services Australia, the Department of Immigration and Border Protection and the Australian Customs Service.

Maree's current responsibilities include leading a wide variety of corporate functions including: human resources, property, finance, IT, legal, governance, assurance and communications.

Prior to Maree's time in the APS she had 17 years in the private sector and held roles at the Shell Company of Australia, Osborne Computers Corporation and Austar United Communications. Prior to her transition in to the public sector, Maree worked as a consultant for 8 years, with a specific focus on organisational change, strategic planning, maximising competitive advantage and building organisational capability.

Maree has a Bachelor of Economics from ANU, an Executive MBA from the Australian Graduate School of Management at UNSW and is a Certified Practicing Accountant.

02 6274 7029 s47F
Maree.Bridger@infrastructure.gov.au



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

Portfolio
Secretaries
Taskforce
FAS, Julia
Pickworth



Secretary
Simon Atkinson
Chief of Staff
Louise Rowlings

* Denotes acting
Taskforce

Organisational structure
current as at 20 May 2022

GROUP (Deputy Secretary)

 Deputy Secretary Creative Economy and the Arts Stephen Arnott	 Chief Operating Officer Marce Bridger*	 Deputy Secretary Transport Diane Brown	 Deputy Secretary Infrastructure David Hallinan	 Deputy Secretary Communications and Media Richard Windeyer	 Deputy Secretary Regional, Cities and Territories Rachel Bacon	 Deputy Secretary Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia / CEO National Water Grid Authority Marisa Purvis-Smith
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DIVISION (First Assistant Secretary / SES Band 2)

Office for the Arts Greg Cox	Date, Analytics and Policy Philip Smith	People, Governance, Parliamentary and Communication Ruth Well	Finance and IT Brad McLeod	Legal Services Chris Burke	Domestic Aviation Programs and Reform Janet Quigley	International Aviation, Technology and Services Richard Wood	Surface Transport Policy Paula Stagg	Road and Vehicle Safety Lisa La Rance	Infrastructure Investment David Mackay	Major Transport and Infrastructure Projects Jessica Hall	Significant Projects Investment Delivery Office Diane Hallam	Online Safety, Infrastructure Platforms Pauline Sullivan	Communications Infrastructure Matthew Birne	Communications Services and Consumer Lachlan Paterson	Regional Development, Local Government and Regional Recovery Sarah Nately*	Territories Sarah Vandenbroek	Cities Matthew Roper	Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia Stephanie Werner*
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BRANCH (Assistant Secretary / SES Band 1)

Arts Development and Investment Alison Todd	Arts Recovery and Response Leanne Halloway	Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research David Mitchell*	Human Resources and Property Stephanie Bourke	Finance Carol Cate	Communications and Arts Stuart Kerr*	Aviation Programs Ben Vincent	Safety and Future Technology Noa Opoku	Land Transport Policy Paula Stagg	Vehicle Safety Policy and Partnerships Anna Longford	Program, Policy and Budget Benjamin Wiegler*	WSI - Program and Infrastructure James Savage*	Project Inception and Delivery Stephen Sorbellio	Classification Andrew Hykes	NBN Nicolle Power*	Regional Communications Philip Smart-Walke*	Regional Policy and Recovery Jo Neuling*	Indian Ocean Territories Aaron O'Neill	Deeds (TAS, NT, WA and Melbourne) and Cities Policy Tiffany Karlsson	Science, Policy and Engagement Majalin Southwell
Collections and Cultural Heritage Ann Crompton	Creative Industries Anne-Louise Doves	Bureau of Communications, Arts and Regional Research Justin Iu	Communications Susan Chiffes	Digital Initiatives Maxine Ewers (CDO)	Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development (Commercial) Piccolo Villoughby	Domestic Policy and Reform Jason Dymowski	International Aviation Jim Wolfe	Maritime and Shipping Andrew Johnson	Office of Road Safety Gabby O'Neill	North West Infrastructure Investment Shona Rosengren	Inland Rail Operations Mitch Prie	Project Identification and Establishment Bill Brummitt	Media Industry and Sustainability Adam Carlin	Spectrum Shayn Sparreboom*	Post, International Telecommunications and CMA Kathleen Silleri	Regional Intelligence and Local Government Michael Gregory*	Mainland Territories Jane Christie	Deeds (Geelong, NSW, Albury-Wodonga, QLD, SA) Alex Wilson*	Infrastructure, Framework, and Delivery Katrina Kendall*
Access and Participation Marie Gannell*	Content and Copyright Jenna Pridley	Strategic and Economic Policy Projects Kai Everest*	Governance, Ministerial and Parliamentary Services Rebecca Rush	IT Services Anthony Castley (CDO)	Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development (Commercial) Piccolo Villoughby	Regional Policy and Environment Clare Chapple	Western Sydney Airport Regulatory Policy David Jansen	Transport Market Reform and Technology Mike Malin	Vehicle Safety Operations Mitchell Cole	NSW, ACT and Tasmania Roads Rabyn Legg	Inland Rail Stakeholder and Regional Delivery Andrew Bourne	Project Identification and Establishment Bill Brummitt	Online Safety Bridget Gannon	Telecommunications Infrastructure Tristan Kathage	Consumer Safeguards Kathleen Silleri	Program Implementation and Drought Karly Prougen	Norfolk Island Jim Baldwin*	Office of Northern Australia Linda Lee	

PORTFOLIO ENTITY

Australian National Maritime Museum	National Gallery of Australia	Screen Australia	Australia Council	Airservices Australia	Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd	Australian Broadcasting Corporation	Australian Communications and Media Authority	Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility
Bundanon Trust	National Library of Australia	Australian Film, Television and Radio School	National Film and Sound Archive	Australian Transport Safety Bureau	WSA Co Ltd	Special Broadcasting Service Corporation	Australian Postal Corporation	North QLD Water Infrastructure Authority
Creative Partnerships Australia Ltd	National Museum of Australia	National Portrait Gallery of Australia	National Transport Commission	Civil Aviation Safety Authority	National Foster Rail Agency	eSafety Commissioner	NBN Co Ltd	National Infrastructure Authority

Establishing your office and ministerial support services

The department provides a range of services to support you and the effective establishment and operation of your office. Services to ministers typically provided by departments include provision of information and communications technology support, support for ministers' cabinet roles, media and communications assistance, and departmental liaison officers to manage the flow of briefing and correspondence between your office and the department. These are in addition, and separate, to services provided by the Department of Parliamentary Services at Parliament House and the support provided by the Department of Finance and the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

The Prime Minister's Office agrees staffing levels in ministers' offices including the number of departmental liaison officers. In the interim, the department will support the transition of your office to full operation, particularly in the first 3 months while staff are being appointed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* (see Department of Finance's Ministerial and Parliamentary Services for further advice and information).

In circumstances where ministers may hold a number of portfolios, there will be discussions across relevant agencies and with the Department of Parliamentary Services and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet regarding how best to service your office, including which agency will take a lead role with regard to support.

Senior staff will be in contact with you and your office as soon as possible to commence discussions regarding your immediate support requirements. We will have close engagement with you over the coming weeks to bed down our service offering. Your incoming Chief of Staff will be provided with an overview of our services in order to commence those discussions.

The department's primary points of contact on these matters are listed below.

Rebecca Rush

Assistant Secretary

Governance, Ministerial and Parliamentary Services

Rebecca.Rush@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6271 1153 s47F

Julia Pickworth

First Assistant Secretary

Transition Lead

Julia.Pickworth@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7565 s47F



Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility

Purpose

The Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) is a \$5 billion special investment facility to finance economic infrastructure projects across northern Australia. An additional \$2 billion has been previously approved by the Australian Government but it has yet to be legislated. The definition of northern Australia is defined in the *Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016* (NAIF Act).

The NAIF was established to accelerate infrastructure investments and drive transformational growth in northern Australia. The innovative financing options available through NAIF seek to de-risk private sector participation in the financing of northern Australia's infrastructure needs, and facilitate sustainable Indigenous economic outcomes through procurement and employment opportunities. NAIF projects generate public benefit and encourage sustainable growth in the economy and population of northern Australia.

The NAIF is a corporate Commonwealth entity established by the NAIF Act and given direction by the responsible ministers through the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Investment Mandate Direction 2021.

Your roles and responsibilities

In summary, you are responsible for:

- Considering all proposals seeking NAIF financial assistance. The legislative framework provides you with a power of veto over NAIF investment decisions on 3 grounds – where providing financial assistance would:
 - Be inconsistent with the objectives and policies of the Commonwealth government; or
 - Have adverse implications for Australia's national or domestic security; or
 - Have an adverse impact on Australia's international reputation or foreign relations.
- Issuing the NAIF Investment Mandate which provides directions to the NAIF on its provision of financial assistance (jointly with the Minister for Finance). Directions could include, but are not limited to, eligibility criteria for financial assistance, objectives the NAIF is to pursue through providing financial assistance, and loan characteristics. For example, the current Investment Mandate includes: that the proposed project will be of public benefit; that if it is an equity investment it will generate a positive return through comprehensive modelling; and that the project proponent must provide an Indigenous engagement strategy.
- The governance of the NAIF board, including appointment of the NAIF chair and board members. An individual board member appointment term is a maximum of 3 years and each member is appointed on a part-time basis.
- Undertaking a review of the NAIF Act as soon as possible after 30 June 2024 and tabling a report of the review to the Parliament within 15 sittings days after receipt.
- Issuing a statement of expectations, which outlines expectations, priorities and guidance for the NAIF board to consider in discharging its responsibilities, to shape the NAIF's delivery of its responsibilities.

Board

Name	Position	Current (and next) expiry dates
Ms Tracey Hayes	Chair	30 June 2024
Ms Kate George	Member	30 June 2024
Mr Steven Margetic	Member	30 June 2024
Mr Mark Gray	Member	30 November 2024
Mr Grant Cassidy	Member	30 November 2024
Ms Lisa Hewitt	Member	20 November 2024
Ms Shirley In't Veld	Member	20 November 2024
Secretary of department with policy responsibility for northern Australia (or nominated SES alternate).	Ex-officio	Not applicable

Mr Craig Doyle has been formally appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the NAIF, and will be based in Cairns, with his term of appointment from 20 June 2022 to 30 June 2026 (the final date under the current NAIF Act in which the NAIF can make any investment decisions). Mr Doyle has significant experience in industry and government, specialising in operations and project management including international greenfield and brownfield projects. He is currently the CEO of the Coal Network Pty Ltd and has previously held the roles of CEO of Mackay Regional Council, CEO of Gladstone Ports Corporation, and Executive General Manager of Wilmar Sugar.

The acting CEO of the NAIF is Mr Mark Darrough, appointed from 24 March 2022 to 19 June 2022. Mr Darrough is an experienced senior leader who has worked in numerous roles across the Australian Public Service including the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, and the Department of Finance. He has taken leave from his Australian Public Service role as Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Framework and Delivery Branch within the National Water Grid Authority of the department.

Governance and functions

The NAIF Act establishes the NAIF as a corporate Commonwealth entity (CCE) under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2014* (PGPA Act). As such, the NAIF is independent of government but must observe the whole of government accountability standards prescribed in the PGPA Act related to CCEs. The NAIF is required to prepare a statement of corporate intent, corporate plan and annual report.

Under the NAIF Act, the NAIF's function is to work with stakeholders to identify and develop transformational projects which demonstrate significant public benefit.

The NAIF is governed by the NAIF board. The board is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of the NAIF's functions. The board is required to consist of the Chair, the Secretary and no less than 4 and no more than 6 other members.

NAIF board members are identified as a significant appointment under the Cabinet Handbook (s116b). All significant appointments are considered by the responsible minister and Prime Minister, and at their discretion Cabinet, as required prior to formal appointment.

In line with s22A of the NAIF Act, the Secretary of the department has nominated SES staff as alternates to attend NAIF board meetings on his behalf. Any conflicts of interest in the ex-officio member's duties are managed in line with NAIF board policies, including recusing themselves from discussions or votes where a conflict of interest arises. This includes both conflicts of interest from their role as a public official, as well as any conflicts of interests that arise from material personal interests.

The NAIF board functions include responsibility for making investment decisions in alignment with the directions outlined in the investment mandate and your statement of expectations, and to ensure the proper, efficient and effective performance of NAIF's functions and all other functions conferred on the board by the NAIF Act.

While the NAIF board independently makes investment decisions, the legislative framework provides you with a power of veto over NAIF investment decisions.

The NAIF is a portfolio entity under the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio. The department has an oversight role in relation to the NAIF and supports the minister in such things as making significant appointments of the board and CEO, advising on proposal notices issued by the NAIF, and your responsibilities under the NAIF Act.

Funding profile

NAIF is not directly appropriated as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, which are then paid to NAIF and are considered 'departmental' for all purposes.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government – Appropriations	19.0	20.9	21.1	21.3	21.6
Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total Resourcing	19.0	20.9	21.1	21.3	21.6
Average Staffing Level ^(a)	1	1			

(a) The ASL estimate represents the CEO of NAIF. Total staffing for NAIF is 36.2 full time equivalents as at January 2022. The additional staff for NAIF include specialist staff engaged under contract.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Ms Tracey Hayes Chair (Darwin) s47F	Stephanie Werner Acting First Assistant Secretary, Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia Stephanie.Werner@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6271 7630 s47F
Mr Mark Darrough Acting Chief Executive Officer s47F	

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National Capital Authority

Purpose

The National Capital Authority (NCA) is an independent statutory agency that administers the Australian Government's ongoing interest in the national capital. The NCA is established under the *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988* (the PALM Act), and prepares and administers the National Capital Plan (NCP). The PALM Act requires:

- The NCA and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Government to produce separate but mutually consistent plans for the ACT. The NCP sets out general provisions for the entire ACT, and prescribes more detailed requirements for nationally important areas. The ACT Plan covers the rest of the ACT in full detail, while following the general provisions of the NCP.
- The NCA to manage services including: commissioning works in designated areas (areas deemed central to the national interest).
- The NCA to maintain selected assets (mostly via private providers) including memorials, Anzac Parade, Lake Burley Griffin, some major roads and Scrivener Dam; and educating the public about Canberra.

The NCA is responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of national memorials in Canberra. Approval of memorials is the role of the Canberra National Memorials Committee, chaired by the Prime Minister and you are a member. The NCA is the Secretariat for the Committee. Canberra National Memorials Committee meetings are usually attended by you, the secretary of the department and chair of the NCA.

Your roles and responsibilities

In accordance with section 7(1) of the PALM Act, you may give the NCA general directions in writing about the performance of its functions.

In accordance with section 33(7) of the PALM Act, you are responsible for making recommendations to the Governor-General for appointments of the NCA board chair, chief executive and members.

Amendments to the NCP are subject to approval by you. You are also responsible for tabling amendments to the NCP in parliament.

Board

Name	Position	Current (<i>and next</i>) expiry dates
Ms Gillian (Sally) Barnes	Chief Executive	10 February 2023
Mr Terry Ronald Weber	Chair	12 June 2022 <i>Reappointment expires 12 June 2025</i>
Mr Dennis Richardson	Member	17 September 2022
Ms Jenny Smithson	Member	10 June 2025
Mr James Willson	Member	30 September 2025

Governance and functions

The chief executive manages the affairs of the NCA under the general directions of the NCA board. The NCA board is currently made up of a part-time chair, full-time chief executive and 3 part-time non-executive members appointed by the Governor-General.

The department is responsible for advising portfolio agencies, including NCA of government policy, administrative arrangements and budget matters. The department may seek assistance from portfolio agencies in the preparation of replies to ministerial correspondence, submissions to Senate Committees and other parliamentary inquiries.

The department provides policy advice to the responsible portfolio minister on all aspects of the NCA's operations.

The department is responsible for supporting the responsible portfolio minister in appointing the chair, chief executive and members.

The NCA uses funding to deliver its programs including administration and overhead costs required to run the agency's operations. The majority of costs incurred by the NCA relate to the maintenance and preservation of assets under the NCA's control in the ACT.

Funding profile

From time to time, the NCA also receives funding from non-government entities to facilitate construction activities on behalf of those entities. Usually these projects relate to the construction of memorials in the national capital.

The NCA receives administered appropriations to carry out activities on behalf of the Australian Government. These activities primarily involve the construction and upgrade of assets in the national capital, including the insurance and valuation of these assets. The NCA also manages land for diplomatic use and collects rental income from embassies on the Australian Government's behalf and manages pay parking in the Parliamentary Zone.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Appropriation - Departmental	14.5	11.2	11.4	10.7	10.7
Appropriation - Administered	31.7	31.6	32.8	34.5	35.2
Appropriation - Capital	28.9	52.9	75.4	12.1	-
Total Australian Government Funding	75.1	95.7	119.5	57.4	45.8
Other Revenue	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8
Total Resourcing	77.6	98.4	112.3	60.1	48.6
Average Staffing Level	51	61			

Departmental funding relates to program 1.1 National Capital Functions. Administered funding relates to program 1.2 National Capital Estate.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Dr Rachel Bacon Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 6181 s47F	Sarah Vandenbroek First Assistant Secretary, Territories Sarah.Vandenbroek@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 8222 s47F

Other boards and structures

Body	Description	Established by/under	Appointed by
Administrator of the Indian Ocean Territories	The Administrator is the most senior Australian Government representative in the Territories and is responsible for the law, order and good governance of the Territories.	<i>Christmas Island Act 1958</i> Administration Ordinance 1968 (CI) <i>Cocos (Keeling) Act 1955</i> Administration Ordinance 1975 (CKI)	Governor-General in Council
Administrator of Norfolk Island	The Administrator is appointed by the Governor-General under the Norfolk Island Administrator Ordinance 2016 and is the most senior Australian Government representative on Norfolk Island.	<i>Norfolk Island Act 1979</i>	Governor-General in Council
Administrator of the Northern Territory	The role of the Administrator is similar to State Governors. It includes statutory duties (for example, providing assent to proposed laws of the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory), representational duties (for example, awarding honours) and ceremonial duties (for example, becoming a patron of public institutions).	<i>Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978</i> , section 32	Governor-General in Council
Jervis Bay Territory Fire Management Committee	The Committee consists of representatives of the organisations involved in fire management and control in the Jervis Bay Territory. The Committee must prepare a draft bush fire management plan, and must report to the Minister each year on the implementation of that plan.	Jervis Bay Territory Rural Fires Ordinance 2014	Minister or their delegate
Regional Development Australia Committees	Regional Development Australia (RDA) is an established national network (of 52 Committees) made up of local leaders who work with government, business and community groups to support economic development in their regions. RDA Committees are governed under an established charter.	Ministerial authority	Responsible minister appoints chairs and deputy chairs. Regional Directors and other committee members appointed by Committee Chair
Supreme Court of Norfolk Island	The Norfolk Island Supreme Court is the superior court of record for the Territory of Norfolk Island. It is constituted by a Chief Justice and such other Judges as are appointed by the Governor-General under the <i>Norfolk Island Act 1979</i> .	<i>Norfolk Island Act 1979</i>	Governor-General in Council

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Significant ministerial roles

Local Government Ministers' meeting

Description	The minister with responsibility for local government chairs the Local Government Ministers' meeting attended by state and territory local government ministers and the president of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA).
Current status	The last Local Government Ministers' meeting was held in November 2021, with the next meeting expected to be held later in 2022. The meetings are an opportunity to share information and coordinate efforts regarding local government skills and capability and local government funding from the Financial Assistance Grant program, noting that local governments are a critical delivery partner for Australian Government programs.
Your role and responsibilities	You are responsible for chairing the Local Government Ministers' meeting and setting and driving the agenda.
Resourcing/funding information	N/A
Contact	Michael Gregory Acting Assistant Secretary Regional Intelligence and Local Government Branch 02 6274 7153 s47F

Rural and Regional National Cabinet Reform Committee

Description	The Rural and Regional National Cabinet Reform Committee (NCRC) supports the National Cabinet to promote economic growth and job creation in rural and regional Australia following the acute impacts of COVID–19.
Current status:	<p>The Rural and Regional NCRC was commissioned by the National Cabinet on 18 September 2020. It last met on 11 June 2021.</p> <p>The Rural and Regional NCRC is tasked by, and develops work for the consideration of, National Cabinet. Meetings are convened by the Commonwealth Cabinet Office.</p> <p>The membership of the Rural and Regional NCRC includes one minister from the Commonwealth and each state and territory with lead responsibility for regional development.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>If the Rural and Regional NCRC is reconvened, the minister responsible for regional development would be responsible for chairing the committee.</p> <p>Prior to caretaker, Rural and Regional NCRC ministers and the Australian Local Government Association participated in the complementary, but more informal Regional Ministers Roundtable.</p> <p>The Roundtable’s work program was set by its membership, rather than by National Cabinet. If the Roundtable is maintained, the minister responsible for regional development would also be responsible for chairing this forum.</p> <p>Collaboration is the key component of both forums.</p>
Resourcing/funding information	The department can provide secretariat support for the Rural and Regional NCRC and the Regional Ministers Roundtable out of existing departmental resources.
Contact	<p>Sarah Nattey Acting First Assistant Secretary Regional Development, Local Government, and Regional Recovery Division 02 6274 7479 S47F</p>

Regional Intelligence Briefings and Town Hall webinars

Description	<p><u>Regional Intelligence Briefings</u></p> <p>Prior to caretaker, the minister responsible for regional development hosted a monthly meeting with representatives from Regional Development Australia (RDA) Committees to hear details about the issues, challenges and achievements of their region. The information from these briefings was captured in a Regional Intelligence Briefing (RIB) which was then distributed to the minister's office, Commonwealth, state and territory officials and to the RDA Committees. The intelligence from the RIB is used to provide quantitative and qualitative data to policy makers and program designers.</p> <p><u>RDA Town Hall webinars</u></p> <p>Prior to caretaker, the minister responsible for regional development hosted a monthly webinar with a relevant speaker, usually a minister, who presented to RDA Committees on government policies or programs with relevance to regional Australia. The department worked with the office of the minister responsible for regional development to arrange the speaker and organise and hold the event. The RDA Committees provided the information and advice to stakeholders in their region following the webinar.</p>
Current status	<p>The department has continued to receive regional intelligence from RDA Committees during caretaker and has provided this information to appropriate Commonwealth, state and territory agencies. Facilitated RIBs have not been held during caretaker.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>As the Commonwealth Minister responsible for regional development you have the option of hosting the Briefing and webinars, and providing RIBs to stakeholders.</p>
Resourcing/funding information	<p>N/A</p>
Contact	<p>Michael Gregory Acting Assistant Secretary Regional Intelligence and Local Government Branch 02 6274 7153 s47F</p>

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Programs administered by the department

For completeness, programs outlined in this chapter include those announced in the 2022-23 Budget. s47C

Regions, Local Government and Northern Australia

Regional Development
Energy Security and Regional Development Plan
Regional Accelerator Program
Regionalisation Fund
Community Development Grants Program
Building Better Regions Fund
Regional Growth Fund
Stronger Communities Programme
Regional Jobs and Investment Packages
Regional Recovery Partnerships
Regional Development Australia Committees
Albury Wodonga Regional Deal
Barkly Regional Deal
Hinkler Regional Deal
Drought Community Programs
Rebuilding Regional Communities
Regionalisation Agenda - Research and Development Program
Building Resilient Regional Leaders
Local Government
Local Government Financial Assistance Act
Northern Australia
Our North – Our Future: Northern Australia Grant Programs

Territories

ACT Government — National Capital Functions
Territories Asset Management
Services to the Indian Ocean Territories
Services to Norfolk Island
Norfolk Island — Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area
Services to the Jervis Bay Territory

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Energy Security and Regional Development Plan

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The objective of the *Energy Security and Regional Development Plan* (the Plan) is to drive regional and national economic growth through targeted, infrastructure-led investment in four key regions with growth potential. Investment aims to support new industries through infrastructure, low emissions technology and energy production, resources extraction and processing and water infrastructure projects.

Status

The 2022-23 Federal Budget included \$7.1 billion over 11 years for the Plan, including investment in the Northern Territory (\$2.6 billion); North and Central Queensland (\$1.7 billion); the Pilbara, Western Australia (\$1.5 billion); and the Hunter, New South Wales (\$750 million).

- This included \$5.4 billion announced for provisional projects that are subject to businesses cases or further demonstration of public benefit and co-funding agreements.
- Funding for the Plan was not legislated prior to Parliament being dissolved.
- None of the funding has been contracted.

Prior to caretaker, the department commenced engagement with relevant jurisdictions to prepare a pipeline of projects, with some identified for early delivery, and others requiring further scoping.

Delivery partners

The support of relevant jurisdictions will be essential to delivering the Plan. Close coordination will also be required with other Portfolios including Industry, Science, Energy and Resources, Agriculture, Water and Environment, Defence and central agencies.

Program funding

	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	-	119.2	218.5	473.4	595.5

Key stakeholders

- Northern Territory Government
- Queensland Government
- Western Australian Government
- New South Wales Government
- Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources
- Local Governments
- Regional communities
- Industry (including energy, resources, manufacturing)

Eligibility, application and decision process

Funding is subject to further Government consideration of project details and implementation arrangements, including finalised business cases where available, through the Budget process. Projects are to be prioritised in conjunction with jurisdictions and industry. Governance arrangements to facilitate delivery of the Plan, including with state and territory governments, are being developed by the department.

Funding delivery mechanisms would be dependent on the nature of the project. The funding will be delivered through the most appropriate funding mechanism to support a timely and successful implementation of the project. For example, funding could be delivered through:

- Existing Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications' programs or programs delivered through other Commonwealth departments; or
- Payments to the relevant state or the NT, such as through existing National Partnership Agreements, for example the Infrastructure Investment Program.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance

Purposes: Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions including northern Australia

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 – Regional Development.

Relevant legislation: Appropriation Bill (No.2) included funding for the Plan, this was not legislated prior to Parliament being dissolved.

Contacts	
Dr Rachel Bacon Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories rachel.bacon@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 6181 s47F	Kim Forbes Acting First Assistant Secretary, Regions Taskforce kim.forbes@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 7212 s47F
Marisa Purvis-Smith Deputy Secretary, Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia Marisa.Purvis-Smith@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6271 1656 s47F	Stephanie Werner Acting First Assistant Secretary, Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia Stephanie.Werner@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6271 7630 s47F



Regional Accelerator Program

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The \$2 billion Regional Accelerator Program (RAP) coordinates Commonwealth investment in regional Australia, including through targeted funding of flagship regional development programs. Most of these programs are delivered by other Commonwealth portfolio agencies, with the department responsible for coordinating activities and funding across Government. Current programs include investments for industry development, essential infrastructure, skills and training, research and development, and education.

Status

The Regional Accelerator Program (RAP) was announced as part of the 2022-23 Budget, as a five-year program from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2027. The \$2 billion RAP appropriation was allocated to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (DITRDC), to provide funding for flagship Commonwealth programs to be delivered by the relevant portfolio agency. Final details are to be agreed between relevant Ministers. As at 31 March 2022, no funding was committed, contracted, nor spent for the programs under the RAP.

Program funding

Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
RAP	-	384.8	459.1	400.7	150.4
Regionalisation Fund ¹	-	50.0	100.0	120.0	130.0

With \$205.0 million allocated in 2026-27 for RAP and \$100.0 million for Regionalisation Fund in 2026-27. Total program funding \$2 billion, allocated to DITRDC in the first instance.

Delivery partners

- Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (DISER)
- Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE)
- Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE)
- Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade)
- Department of Defence

Funding announced	Program stream	Responsible portfolio agency
\$500 million	Regionalisation Fund ¹	DITRDC
\$500 million	Modern Manufacturing Initiative (MMI)	DISER
\$200 million	Critical Minerals Accelerator Initiative	DISER
\$200 million	Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI)	DISER
\$118.9 million	Trailblazer Universities Program	DESE
\$144.1 million	Australian Apprenticeship initiatives	DESE
\$142.7 million	Education Infrastructure in Regional Australia Program	DESE
\$30.3 million	Recycling Modernisation Fund	DAWE
\$30 million	National Centre for Digital Agriculture and Innovation and Adoption Hubs	DAWE

¹ Refer to Programs administered by the department – Regionalisation Fund.

Funding announced	Program stream	Responsible portfolio agency
\$100 million	Export Market Development Grant program	Austrade
\$25 million	Capability Improvement Grant program	Defence
\$9 million	Sovereign Industrial Capability Priorities Grant Program	Defence

Key stakeholders

- Ministers and agencies responsible for delivery
- Local governments/councils
- Not for profit organisations
- Private industry
- State and Territory Governments
- Regional Communities
- Higher education institutions with a large regional presence

Eligibility, application and decision process

- For all programs with RAP funding, the relevant Commonwealth agency is responsible for the program's administration, including monitoring and reporting under the RAP.

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- The Minister for Regionalisation has responsibility for the Regionalisation Fund, as well as the overarching RAP.

Program facts

The RAP is a new program, announced in the 2022-23 Budget. Implementation details for streams of individual programs with RAP funding have not yet been settled with responsible Ministers. Governance arrangements for the RAP will promote cooperation between Commonwealth agencies to help deliver the Regionalisation agenda. s47E

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional Development, northern Australia and Cities - Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions including northern Australia.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 – Regional Development.

Relevant legislation: None required for the RAP. Minor legislative amendments may be needed for some programs receiving RAP funding, the process for which will be managed by the relevant agency.

Contacts	
Dr Rachel Bacon Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 6181 s47F	Sarah Nattey Acting First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development, Local Government and Regional Recovery Sarah.Nattey@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 7479 s47F



Regionalisation Fund

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The Regionalisation Fund is the centrepiece of the Regional Accelerator Program (RAP)¹, designed to support the Regionalisation agenda by backing growing regions that have vision and ambition. It will provide grants of \$10 million or more for major transformational projects, which will support long term economic growth and job creation in regions, including those undergoing significant economic structural change.

Status

The \$500 million Regionalisation Fund was announced in the 2022-23 Budget as a component of the \$2 billion Regional Accelerator Program (RAP). Funding will commence in the 2022-23 financial year and cease on 30 June 2027.

The Fund is intended to operate as an open, non-competitive program to deliver grants of at least \$10 million for each project or package of works. This will allow growth-ready applicants to seek funding as soon as they are ready, whilst providing the necessary time for those regions not ready at initial opening of the Fund to continue developing their proposals. Those regions working up applications will then have the time to develop robust proposals in consultation with the department and relevant industry bodies, councils, and state/territory governments. Projects selected for funding under the Regionalisation Fund will align and contribute to their region's strategic vision and plans, and catalyse economic growth in their region.

The guidelines were not released prior to the commencement of caretaker. As no funding has been allocated, contracted or paid, the total appropriation of \$500 million remains unallocated.

Program funding

	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	-	50.0	100.0	120.0	130.0

With \$100.0 million allocated in 2026-27. Total program funding \$500.0 million

Delivery partners

It is envisaged that local governments, the private sector (as part of a consortia), and/or the not-for-profit sector will apply for funding, as they are likely to best reflect the priorities of the region and be well placed to deliver program outcomes.

Key stakeholders

- Regional Communities
- State and territory governments
- Local governments
- Private sector
- Not-for-profit organisations

¹ Refer to Programs administered by the department – Regional Accelerator Program.

Eligibility, application and decision process

The application process for the Regionalisation Fund has not been finalised **s47C**

[REDACTED]

Program facts and examples

The types of infrastructure expected to be funded will be dependent on the needs of the region but some examples that might be funded include research facilities, infrastructure to support new developments or supply chains, creative centres, educational facilities, or advanced technology.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional Development, northern Australia and Cities – Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions including northern Australia.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 – Regional Development.

Relevant legislation: An amendment is currently being drafted for the Regionalisation Fund, under Part 4 Schedule 1AB of the *Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulation 1997*.

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 **s47F**

Sarah Nattey

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development,
Local Government and Regional Recovery

Sarah.Nattey@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7479 **s47F**



Community Development Grants Program

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The objective of the Community Development Grants Programme (CDG) is to construct and upgrade facilities to provide long term improvements in social and economic viability of local communities.

Status

The program provides grant funding to projects identified by the Australian Government through election commitments or government commitments to support needed infrastructure which promotes stable, secure and viable local and regional economies.

The intended outcomes of the program are:

- To construct and/or upgrade facilities to provide long term improvements in social and economic viability of local communities.
- To create jobs in the delivery of projects and ongoing use of the infrastructure.
- To improve social amenity, increased health and wellbeing and social cohesion by utilisation of the infrastructure by community groups.

Funding commenced in 2013–14 and will cease on 30 June 2026. Projects must be scheduled for completion and final payment made on or before 30 June 2026.

As at 31 March 2022, the program has total funding of just over \$3.2 billion, of which:

- \$2.4 billion has been allocated to projects, of which just over \$2 billion has been contracted.
- \$1.2 billion has been paid to recipients.
- \$839.0 million remains unallocated.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 1,468 projects committed to under this program: 1,050 have been completed; 1,366 are contracted of which 301 are underway; 102 have not commenced; and 15 have been cancelled.

Delivery partners

- Grant recipients

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	272.9	713.0	593.5	368.1	203.8

Key stakeholders

- Local communities
- Schools and universities
- State and territory governments
- Local governments
- Not for profit organisations
- Private sector

Eligibility, application and decision process

The program is a closed non-competitive grants program and only projects identified by the Australian Government (as election commitments or government commitments) are considered for funding. Funding proponents must be a legal entity and have an Australian Business Number (ABN) or an Australian Company Number (ACN) to receive funding under the program. There is no minimum or maximum grant funds available to recipients. Current grants are between \$2,000 and \$40 million. The Minister is the delegate to approve commitments of funds under the program.

Program facts and examples

Projects are identified by the Australian Government for inclusion in the program. Communities across Australia have benefited from funding towards projects such as men's sheds, medical centres, sporting and recreation infrastructure, aquatic centres and aged care facilities.

The CDG program funds projects such as the \$0.5 million The Shack Community Centre – Nambour project which was completed in March 2022. This project delivered purpose built secure accommodation for vulnerable and homeless men within the community. The project provides much needed affordable accommodation for those in need and develops a stable platform for part or full time employment for vulnerable members of the community.

Another example of a CDG funded project is the Western Cancer Centre in Dubbo NSW. This \$25 million project constructed an integrated cancer care centre within the Dubbo Health Service to deliver integrated, best practice care for cancer patients in the Western Region of NSW. This will reduce the need for residents and their carers to travel cross country to access treatment.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of our cities and regional economies including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through reforms that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional development — improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions across Australia.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 – Regional Development.

Relevant legislation: *Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997.*

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Nattey

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development,

Local Government and Regional Recovery

Sarah.Nattey@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7479 s47F



Building Better Regions Fund

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The Building Better Regions Fund (the program) supports projects in regional and remote communities that create jobs, drive economic growth and build stronger regional and remote communities into the future.

Status

The program was launched on 23 November 2016 and supersedes the previous National Stronger Regions Fund. The objectives of the program are to drive economic growth and build stronger regional communities into the future. The Australian Government committed \$250 million in the 2021-22 Budget to deliver a sixth round. Applications for this round opened on 13 December 2021 and closed on 10 February 2022. Applications are currently being assessed.

As at 31 March 2022, the program has total funding of \$1.4 billion, of which:

- \$1.1 billion has been allocated to proponents, of which \$1 billion has been contracted.
- \$548.1 million has been paid to recipients.
- \$283 million remains unallocated, with the expectation that funding will be fully allocated once decisions are made on Round Six applications.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 1,293 grants approved under this program: 723 have been completed; 490 are contracted and are underway; 21 have not commenced; and 59 have been withdrawn or terminated.

Delivery partners

The program is administered by the Business Grants Hub at the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources on behalf of the department.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	273.2	319.0	249.2	75.0	-

Key stakeholders

- Regional and remote communities
- Local government
- Not for profit organisations

Eligibility, application and decision process

Eligible entities under the program include incorporated not-for-profit organisations, local governments and non-distributing co-operatives. The program invests in projects located in, or benefiting eligible areas outside the major capital cities of Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, Adelaide, and Canberra. The ministerial panel, in consultation with cabinet, makes the final decision on projects to fund under the program.

Program facts and examples

Grants under the program are delivered under the Infrastructure Projects and Community Investment streams. Both streams require 25 to 50 per cent co-contribution of eligible project expenditure, unless exempt.

Each round has been highly competitive and heavily subscribed, so not all projects can be funded. A total of 5,135 applications were received under six rounds of the program, seeking total grant funding of \$7.8 billion with total project costs of over \$15 billion. A total of 815 applications were received for round six; 623 in the Infrastructure Projects stream and 192 in the Community Investments stream.

An example of a funded project is Summerland House Farm in New South Wales. This project received almost \$4.6 million to help expand its macadamia processing and packaging facilities, used by about 200 farms in the Northern Rivers and providing local disability employment opportunities.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional Development, Northern Australia and Cities.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 – Regional Development.

Relevant legislation: *Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997*.

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Nattey

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development,
Local Government and Regional Recovery

Sarah.Nattey@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7479 s47F



Regional Growth Fund

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The Regional Growth Fund (RGF) provides grants of \$10 million or more for major transformational projects that create jobs and support long-term economic growth across Australian regions. It funds projects across a range of key economic categories including, but not limited to: transport and communications, tourism, manufacturing and primary industries.

Status

The RGF funding commenced in the 2018–19 financial year and was due to cease on 30 June 2022. In April 2021 the program end date was extended to 30 June 2023 to provide additional time to project proponents impacted by COVID-19 related challenges.

As at 31 March 2022, RGF has total funding of \$247.2 million, of which:

- \$232.2 million is currently allocated to recipients, all of which has been contracted.
- \$91.7 million has been paid to recipients.
- \$15 million remains unallocated as a result of the termination of a project.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 17 projects committed to under this program: 15 are contracted and are underway; and 2 have been terminated. No projects have completed as yet.

Delivery partners

- Grant recipients

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	71.8	124.0	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Regional communities
- State and territory governments
- Local government
- Private sector
- Not-for-profit organisations

Eligibility, application and decision process

The RGF was implemented as a two-stage assessment process. Stage one required applicants to submit an Initial Application for a competitive assessment against eligibility and merit criteria. Initial Applications for the RGF closed on 27 April 2018. Stage two involved the submission of a Full Business Case (FBC) to allow the department to undertake a value with relevant money assessment of the project.

Following an assessment of the eligible Initial Applications, the department provided a recommendation to the Ministerial Panel. The Ministerial Panel considered the recommendation and supporting information, and made decisions on projects to proceed to FBC.

Selected projects were given three months to submit their FBC. The department assessed these and provided advice and a recommendation to the Minister for the approval of funding.

Program facts and examples

The program received 309 eligible applications of which 5.5 per cent were ultimately successful. The program was limited to one round.

The RGF program funds projects such as the \$28.5 million Construction of a Projectile Forging Plant in Maryborough, Queensland, that will be completed in May 2022. The project will deliver a modern, high tech, export focused projectile forging plant on a greenfield site. Benefits include the creation of up to 68 direct and indirect jobs during the construction period, with over 100 direct jobs post-construction, and increased economic growth in the region.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of our cities and regional economies including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through reforms that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional development — improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions across Australia.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 — Regional Development; Annual administered expenses.

Relevant legislation: *Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997.*

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Nattey

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development,
Local Government and Regional Recovery

Sarah.Nattey@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7479 s47F



Stronger Communities Programme

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The Stronger Communities Programme (the program) allows for the funding of small capital projects which deliver social benefits and improve local community participation.

Status

The program was announced in the 2015–16 Budget to fund small capital projects put forward by community groups and to deliver social benefits to the local community.

An eighth round of the program was announced through the 2022–23 Budget with Australian Government funding of \$22.7 million appropriated to the program.

As at 31 March 2022, the program has total funding of \$167.8 million, of which:

- \$121.5 million has been contracted and paid to recipients.
- \$46.3 million remains uncontracted or unallocated, pending funding decisions on Round Seven and Round Eight.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 12,885 grants approved under this program: 10,949 have been completed; 1,239 are underway; and 697 have been terminated.

Delivery partners

The program is administered by the Business Grants Hub at the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources on behalf of the department.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	22.7	22.7	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Not-for-profit organisations
- Local communities
- Local governments
- Members of Parliament

Eligibility, application and decision process

To be eligible for the program, the applicant must be invited by their local Member of Parliament. Eligible entities include identified incorporated entities, non-distributing co-operatives, companies limited by guarantee, Indigenous corporations, local governing bodies, religious organisations and state government agencies.

Each federal electorate has total funding of up to \$150,000 that can be allocated to successful applications. A maximum of 20 projects may be funded in each electorate. The minimum grant amount is \$2,500. The maximum grant amount is \$20,000. In consultation with an established or existing community consultation committee, each Member of Parliament identifies potential applicants and projects in their electorate and invites them to apply for a grant. Successful applicants are generally notified by their local Member of Parliament prior to receiving confirmation of funding. Grant agreements are negotiated with grant recipients and full payment of the grant is made upon execution of a grant agreement.

Under rounds six and seven, the requirement for incorporated not-for-profit community organisations to provide 50 per cent matched cash or in-kind funding was removed, in recognition of their limited capacity to raise funds whilst COVID-19 restrictions impacted their usual revenue streams. Local government bodies are still required to make a 50 per cent cash co-funding contribution.

Program facts and examples

The objective of the program is to fund small capital projects which will deliver social benefits, improve local community participation and contribute to vibrant and viable communities. Each Lower House seat has a \$150,000 allocation and the local Member nominates up to 20 projects.

Applications for round seven of the program opened on 26 October 2021 and closed on 3 February 2022 with 2,294 applications submitted from 151 electorates (from 2,451 nominations by local Members).

The program funds projects such as the \$3,825 grant to Westonia Progress Association for first aid equipment which was completed in June 2021. This project purchased defibrillators for major sporting facilities in the local area, benefitting community sporting groups by ensuring first aid equipment is available.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional Development, Northern Australia and Cities.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 – Regional Development.

Relevant legislation: *Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997*.

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Nattey

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development,
Local Government and Regional Recovery

Sarah.Nattey@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7479 s47F



Regional Jobs and Investment Packages

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The Regional Jobs and Investment Packages (the program) aim to diversify regional economies, stimulate economic growth and deliver sustainable employment.

Status

The program provided a \$220.5 million investment to help diversify regional economies, stimulate economic growth and deliver sustainable employment across 10 regions in Australia. Each pilot region received between \$20 and \$30 million across three streams (Business Innovation, Local Infrastructure and Skills and Training).

Applications for all regions have closed. Successful projects have been announced for all 10 regions. The appropriation for the program ends on 30 June 2022. The total appropriation has been reduced as savings from underspends and terminations were returned to the Budget in prior years.

As at 31 March 2022, the program has total funding of \$206.4 million, of which:

- \$190.1 million has been allocated to recipients and is fully contracted.
- \$177.7 million has been paid to recipients.
- \$16.3 million remains unallocated.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 233 grants approved under this program: 233 are contracted of which 15 are underway; 196 have been completed; and 22 have been withdrawn or terminated.

Delivery partners

The program is administered by the Business Grants Hub at the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources on behalf of the department.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	20.2	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Regional communities
- Local governments
- Businesses
- Not-for-profit organisations

Eligibility, application and decision process

Local Planning Committees were established in each region with membership determined in consultation with local Members of Parliament and Senators. Local Planning Committees submitted Local Investment Plans, outlining industry growth sectors, new market opportunities and future workforce needs to the Minister and the then Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development. Following the publication of Local Investment Plans, the program was opened and applicants were advised to align their applications with the plans and the program guidelines.

Eligible entities under the program differed depending on the program stream. The allocation of grant funding within pilot regions was based on the results of an independent assessment process by the Business Grants Hub. A Ministerial Panel was convened to decide projects to be funded under the program. The Ministerial Panel took into account assessment outcomes, as well as recommendations and advice from the department.

Program facts and examples

As part of a 2016 election commitment, initially \$200 million for 9 packages was announced to support regional communities to diversify their economies and drive growth. The Australian Government approved a further \$20 million for the Latrobe Valley region as part of a package of Commonwealth assistance following the announcement of the closure of the Hazelwood power station, bringing the total to 10 pilot packages.

In February 2018, the then Prime Minister agreed to transfer \$2.3 million in unallocated funding from the Tasmanian Jobs and Investment Fund to the Tasmanian Regional Jobs and Investment Package bringing the program's total available funding to \$222.3 million. The program received 634 applications of which 37 per cent or 233 applications were successful.

The program funds projects such as the \$8.16 million Wildlife Wonders: Ecotourism for economic development and conservation project which was completed in February 2021. This project delivered a world class wildlife ecotourism venture on the Great Ocean Road and included walking paths, visitor amenities, an arrivals building, café and theatre. The program contributed \$2 million to this project. Benefits included ensuring significant ongoing employment and career development opportunities.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional Development, Northern Australia and Cities.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 – Regional Development.

Relevant legislation: *Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997.*

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Nattey

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development,
Local Government and Regional Recovery

Sarah.Nattey@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7479 s47F



Regional Recovery Partnerships

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The Regional Recovery Partnerships (Partnerships) has invested \$100 million over two years to support recovery and growth in 10 regions across Australia. Projects are being delivered in partnership across three levels of government and local communities.

Status

The initiative is fully committed, all projects have funding mechanisms in place and all but one project has been announced. All projects are underway with steady progress towards completion of all capital works in 2023 and program closure in 2024. s47C There are established relationships with the states and across the Commonwealth to support project implementation to achieve the intended regional impacts.

The implementation of projects for regions in NSW, QLD, WA, SA and TAS are managed through Schedules under the Federal Financial Relations framework with state governments, as well as through Memorandums of Understanding (Partnership Agreements) agreed between the department and state governments. The implementation of projects for Victoria (Gippsland) is being delivered through the Community Development Grants (CDG) Programme.

Delivery partners

- Partnerships delivery partners are primarily state and local governments, with a small number of community organisations.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding – Treasury and Administered (at 2022-23 Budget)	51.2	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- NSW, VIC, QLD, WA, SA, TAS state governments
- Local government of each region
- Local communities of each region
- Regional Development Australia Committees of each region

Eligibility, application and decision process

Partnerships was announced in the 2020–21 Budget with a commitment of \$100 million to support recovery and growth in 10 regions across Australia. The selection of regions considered a number of factors, including impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and was ultimately a decision of government.

The department assessed all projects prior to recommendations for funding, giving consideration to: their alignment to existing regional recovery or development plans; their shovel-readiness; their potential contribution towards economic recovery and development as well as economic diversification for the region; and their contribution to sustained job-creation. The department also consulted other relevant Commonwealth departments and agencies to ensure that all parties with an interest could provide information on any of the proposed projects so their alignment to existing Commonwealth priorities could be assessed.

Commonwealth funding decisions were made by the responsible Commonwealth Minister.

Program facts and examples

The Australian Government has announced funded projects for all 10 regions. Projects include:

- In Cairns and Tropical North Queensland, the Cairns gallery precinct (\$10 million) with strong Indigenous economic development and international tourism benefits.
- In Gladstone, a hydrogen consortium (\$5 million) to support development of the regions emerging hydrogen industry.
- In the Snowy Mountains, stage 4 of the Iconic Snowies Walk (\$10 million) to support the development of the Snowy Mountains into a four season tourism destination.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of our cities and regional economies including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through reforms that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purpose: Regional Development – supporting regional development and local communities through regionally focused stakeholder consultation and engagement, research, policy development and program delivery activities to create jobs, drive economic growth and build stronger regional communities.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 – Regional Development; Treasury Special Appropriation and annual administered expenses managed through CDG Programme (see Programs administered by the department – Community Development Grants Programme).

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Nattey

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development,
Local Government and Regional Recovery

Sarah.Nattey@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7479 s47F



Regional Development Australia Committees

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

Regional Development Australia (RDA) committees support the economic development of their regions and are active representatives of the Australian Government's regional development interests.

Status

Regional Development Australia (RDA) is a national network of 53 RDA committees across Australia, including one locally based regional development organisation which delivers services in the Indian Ocean Territories (IOT). The RDA network brings together local leaders across all levels of government, the private sector and local communities to enhance the development of Australia's regions.

The RDA committees network was established in 2008. The continuation of the program was most recently announced in October 2020, and included a number of improvements which have been implemented under a new funding agreement from 1 January 2021. These changes included a refocussed RDA charter (included at Attachment A); a change in role for five of the capital city RDAs (Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth) from focusing on economic development within their capital city to supporting the regional development of their state; an extension to the funding agreement from three years to four and a half years; and a reintroduction of indexation to RDA committee funding allocations.

The Australian Government's relationship with each RDA committee is governed by a funding agreement which defines the outcomes required, contract deliverables and reporting obligations. The current funding agreements operate from 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2025. In some jurisdictions, funding contributions are also provided by state, territory and local governments.

The RDA program has been allocated total funding of \$99.8 million across the period 2021–22 to 2025–26, of which:

- \$95.6 million has been allocated to RDA committees.
- \$4.2 million has been allocated to administrative and support provided by the Department to RDA committees.
- \$75.7 million has been contracted.
- \$16.6 million has been paid to committees.
- There is no unallocated funding.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	19.1	19.6	19.9	20.4	20.8

Key stakeholders

- Communities in RDA regions
- Australian, state, territory and local governments
- Business (particularly small and medium enterprises) and not-for-profit organisations
- Business and industry groups, and peak bodies
- Educational institutions

Eligibility, application and decision process

This is a closed non-competitive grant opportunity for RDA committees only, and unless there are specific needs, there are no application processes. All RDA committees are incorporated associations (except Victorian RDAs which are independent non-incorporated advisory bodies of the Victorian Government). As incorporated, not-for-profit bodies, they are responsible for their own corporate governance (consistent with relevant state legislation) and for determining their own activities, in line with their funding agreement obligations.

RDA committee chair appointments are made by the Minister responsible for regional development (in conjunction with state, territory and/or local government jurisdictions where they are funding partners). Chairs lead the appointment processes for Deputy Chairs and Members and are required to seek agreement for the appointment of Deputy Chairs from the Minister with responsibility for regional development (and from state, territory and/or local governments where they are funding partners). Chairs can appoint members without seeking agreement from the Minister.

Program facts and examples

The funding amounts across the RDA committees vary and represent a historical allocation as the RDA program has evolved. RDA committees have an active and facilitative role in their regions and a clear focus on growing strong and confident regional economies that harness their competitive advantages, seize on economic opportunity and attract investment. The RDA charter outlines this role (Attachment A).

The RDA charter supports regional economic development outcomes, investment and jobs through collaboration and smart facilitation; greater regional awareness and engagement with government policies and programs and improving regional policy making by providing evidence based advice on regional development issues. The capital city RDAs in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth and Adelaide are working with regional RDAs to identify regionalisation opportunities, help deliver improved economic conditions, jobs and trade networks between capital cities and the regions. Recent examples of RDAs working to facilitate investment and create jobs include:

- RDA Tasmania assisting with applications for funding of the Blue Derby Mountain Bike Trail (North East Tasmania) – resulting in a \$30 million annual injection into the local economy and increased local jobs and investment.
- Darling Downs Second Range Crossing – a \$918 million project. As a key member of the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing Business Advisory Group, RDA Darling Downs and South West assisted with the sourcing of \$854 million, or 93 per cent of project expenditure, via local procurement, supporting 1,100 local jobs.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional development, northern Australia and cities.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 – Regional Development.

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Nattey

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development,
Local Government and Regional Recovery

Sarah.Nattey@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7479 s47F

Attachment A — RDA charter



Australian Government



STRONG, CONFIDENT AND VIBRANT REGIONS

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA CHARTER

Regional Development Australia (RDA) is a national network of Committees made up of local leaders who work with all levels of government, business and community groups to support the economic development of their regions.

RDA Committees have an active and facilitative role in their communities with a clear focus on growing strong and confident regional economies that harness their competitive advantages, seize economic opportunities and attract investment.

Collaborating with other RDA Committees, all levels of government, and the private sector, RDA Committees will:

- a) Facilitate regional economic development outcomes, investment, local procurement and jobs.
- b) Promote greater regional awareness of and engagement with Australian Government policies, grant programs and research.
- c) Improve Commonwealth regional policy making by providing intelligence and evidence-based advice to the Australian Government on regional development issues.
- d) Co-ordinate the development of a strategic regional plan, or work with suitable existing regional plans that will align with the Commonwealth's regional priorities.

Assistant Minister for Regional Development

28 October 2020

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Albury Wodonga Regional Deal

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The Albury Wodonga Regional Deal is currently in the final stages of negotiation. It will support Albury Wodonga's continued population growth, while retaining the unique lifestyle advantages and amenity of the region. The Australian Government, Albury City Council and the City of Wodonga Council have committed \$128.3 million towards the Deal. Funding commitments from the NSW Government and the Victorian Government have not been finalised.

Status

The funding commitments from three of the Albury Wodonga Regional Deal partners were announced on 25 March 2022.

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As at 31 March 2022, the Albury Wodonga Regional Deal has total funding of \$128.3 million, of which:

- the Australian Government is investing \$80 million.
- the Albury City Council is investing \$37.8 million.
- the City of Wodonga Council is investing \$10.5 million.

At this point, no other parties have committed to, or announced funding.

- As at 31 March 2022, no projects under the Albury Wodonga Regional Deal have commenced.
- To date, the Australian Government has spent \$1.5 million, with another \$0.7 million in business cases, feasibility studies and tracks, trails and sculpture works along the Murray River.

Delivery partners

Delivery partners vary for individual commitments:

- Victorian Government
- NSW Government
- Albury City Council
- City of Wodonga Council

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	0.7	20.0	20.0	21.0	15.0

Key stakeholders

- City of Wodonga
- Indigenous community groups
- Wodonga TAFE
- Health sector
- Albury City Council
- Tourism operators
- Albury Airport
- Albury Entertainment Centre

Eligibility and application process

City Deals and Regional Deals are negotiated between the Commonwealth, State, and identified Local governments. Funding recipients are identified through Deal negotiations. Each Deal arrangement includes governance structures for monitoring and reporting.

Program facts and examples

The Albury Wodonga Regional Deal commitments to date in 31 March 2022 include:

- \$22 million for the Heavy Vehicle Technology Program at Wodonga TAFE – of which \$22 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$20 million for enabling infrastructure or other infrastructure to support health outcomes (pending business cases) – of which \$20 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$25 million for the Albury Airport Expansion – of which \$5 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$30 million for the Albury Entertainment Centre redevelopment – of which \$10 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$17.2 million for the Gateway Island and Murray River Experience – of which \$5 million is Australian Government funding.

The first round of Deal funding was announced on 25 March 2022. No projects have been completed to date.

Program governance

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia’s cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional Development, northern Australia and Cities – improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions; including northern Australia.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 — Regional Development.

Relevant legislation: Nil.

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 **s47F**

Matthew Roper

First Assistant Secretary, Cities

Matthew.Roper@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8038 **s47F**



Barkly Regional Deal

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The Barkly Regional Deal is a \$84.7 million, 10-year partnership (2019 to 2029) between the Australian Government, the Northern Territory (NT) Government and the Barkly Regional Council to improve the productivity and liveability of the Barkly region by stimulating economic growth and improving social outcomes.

Status

The Barkly Regional Deal was signed on 13 April 2019 and will conclude on 13 April 2029. The 2022-23 Budget included an additional \$6.3 million in 2022-23 to support the construction of a purpose built boarding facility in Tennant Creek for secondary school children.

As at 31 March 2022, the Barkly Regional Deal has total funding of \$84.7 million, of which:

- the Australian Government is investing \$51.7 million.
- the Northern Territory Government is investing \$30 million.
- the Barkly Regional Council is investing \$3 million.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 28 projects committed to under this Deal: 3 have been completed; and 25 are underway. The Deal is three years into its 10-year period and approximately 30 per cent of its funding commitment has been spent, with delivery on track.

As at 31 March 2022, the Australian Government has spent \$12.5 million.

Delivery partners

- Australian Government agencies
- Northern Territory Government agencies
- Barkly Regional Council

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	11.8	10.8	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Australian Government agencies
- Northern Territory Government agencies
- Barkly Governance Table
- Barkly Regional Council
- Barkly community members

Eligibility and application process

Regional Deals are negotiated between the Australian Government, state, territory and identified local governments. The Barkly Regional Deal was announced on 23 July 2018, following a child abuse incident in Tennant Creek in February 2018.

Program facts and examples

The commitments under the Barkly Regional Deal include:

- \$19 million for the Student Boarding Accommodation project – of which \$16 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$17.9 million for the Weather Radar project – of which \$15.4 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$7.6 million for the Youth Infrastructure projects – of which \$7.6 million is Australian Government funding.
- \$1.9 million for the Social and Affordable Housing Private-Public Partnership – of which \$0.95 million is Australian Government funding.

As at 31 March 2022, 3 projects have been completed: The upgrade of Alpururulam Airstrip; Elliott Arts Centre Feasibility Study; and an affordability trial at Aboriginal Hostels Limited's Tennant Creek facility.

The deal is in early implementation stages. Local and Indigenous employment measurements are being established as construction works escalate.

Program governance

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of our cities and regional economies including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through reforms that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions including northern Australia.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 — Regional Development.

Relevant legislation: *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009.*

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Matthew Roper

First Assistant Secretary, Cities

Matthew.Roper@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8038 s47F



Hinkler Regional Deal

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The Hinkler Regional Deal is the second pilot Regional Deal in Australia. It is a \$304.6 million, 5-year (2020 to 2025) commitment by the Australian Government, Fraser Coast Regional Council and Bundaberg Regional Council for the Bundaberg and Hervey Bay region. Although the Queensland Government is not a signatory to the Implementation Plan, it has committed \$14.6 million towards road projects.

Status

The Hinkler Regional Deal Implementation Plan was signed on 30 January 2020 and is due to conclude in 2025. Note, total Australian Government funding for the Hinkler Regional Deal is \$180.6m, the majority of which is being administered through other Divisions (for example, Infrastructure Investment Division) and other agencies. Total allocations are \$15.4 million in 2021–22; \$27.8 million in 2022–23; \$16.2 million in 2023–24; \$56.5 million in 2024–25; and \$22.0 million 2025–26.

As at 31 March 2022, the Hinkler Regional Deal has total funding of \$304.6 million, of which:

- the Australian Government is investing \$180.6 million.
- the Fraser Coast Regional Council is investing \$97.5 million.
- the Bundaberg Regional Council is investing \$10.6 million.
- the Queensland Government is investing \$14.6 million.

To date, the Australian Government has spent \$33.5 million, with \$10.8 million spent in 2021–22. As at April 2022, of the 14 projects committed to under this Deal: 4 have been completed; 9 are at various stages of implementation; and one – Enhancing Regional Tourism – has been delayed due to ongoing discussions to confirm how funding will be spent.

Delivery partners

Delivery partners vary for individual commitments, this includes:

- Bundaberg Regional Council
- Fraser Coast Regional Council
- Royal Flying Doctor Service
- Queensland Government Department of Transport and Main Roads (road and port projects)
- Australian Government Department of Health (Hospice project).

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	7.8	3.0	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Bundaberg Regional Council
- Fraser Coast Regional Council
- Royal Flying Doctor Service
- Local Partnership Forum
- Regional Development Australia – Wide Bay Burnett
- Australian Government Department of Health
- Queensland Government Department of Transport

Eligibility and application process

City Deals and Regional Deals are negotiated between the Commonwealth, state, territory and identified local governments. Funding recipients are identified through Deal negotiations. Each Deal arrangement includes governance structures for monitoring and reporting.

The Assistant Minister for Regional Development and Territories is responsible for chairing the Leadership Group as part of the Hinkler Regional Deal. Officials meet through the Executive Board and regular project working group meetings. The commitments under the Hinkler Regional Deal can be expanded over time through agreement by all partners to the Deal.

Program facts and examples

The commitments include:

- \$85.7 million towards road infrastructure upgrades.
- \$40 million towards the Hervey Bay city centre redevelopment.
- \$15 million for a new Royal Flying Doctor Service training facility.
- \$17.7 million for a multi-use conveyor and \$0.75 million outer harbour pre-feasibility study at the Port of Bundaberg.
- \$9.2 million for the Hervey Bay Airport redevelopment.
- \$5 million towards a new agricultural technology facility.

As at 31 March 2022, 4 of the Hinkler Regional Deal's commitments have been completed. An example is the Fraser Coast Hospice, which was completed in October 2021 and supported by \$7 million of Australian Government funding. The Hinkler Regional Deal has supported at least 524 jobs as at 14 April 2022.

Program governance

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional Development, northern Australia and Cities – improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions; including northern Australia.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 1.1 – Infrastructure Investment Program; and Budget Program 3.1 — Regional Development: Annual Administered Expenses.

Relevant legislation: *Industry Research and Development (Hinkler Regional Deal Agricultural Technology Facility Program) Instrument 2020*: Instrument created to prescribe the AgTech Facility (one of the Deal's 14 commitments) under subsection 33(1) of the *Industry Research and Development Act 1986* to allow payments to be made directly to Central Queensland University (rather than to the Queensland Government) for this commitment.

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Matthew Roper

First Assistant Secretary, Cities

Matthew.Roper@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8038 s47F



Drought Community Programs

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

Drought community programs contribute to economic growth, create job opportunities, and support resilience across drought-affected regions in Australia by funding local community infrastructure projects, and other economic stimulus or drought-related relief projects.

Status

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (DITRDC) is delivering three initiatives that support regional economies and farming households. The programs are in the final stages of delivery.

Tackling Tough Times Together

Funding for the Tackling Tough Times Together (4T) Program commenced on 22 October 2018, and made grants available to drought-affected communities for grass-roots, community-led initiatives that directly benefited local communities.

Funding of \$15 million has been paid as a one-off ad hoc grant to the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal to support delivery of its 4T program. The funding has supported 430 projects, which will all be finalised by 31 May 2023.

Drought Community Outreach Program

The \$10 million Drought Community Outreach Program (DCOP) provided immediate financial assistance to eligible farming households experiencing financial hardship arising from the impact of drought. It commenced on 9 June 2020 and will terminate on 31 June 2022.

\$7.5 million was contracted and paid to Rotary Australia World Community Service to provide support of up to \$500 per household and assist the National Recovery and Resilience Agency run outreach events. \$2.5 million was contracted and paid to the Country Women's Association of Australia (CWA) to provide support of up to \$3,000 per eligible household (building on an earlier, separate \$5 million grant). The CWA grant was completed by 30 June 2021.

Drought Communities Programme - Extension

The Drought Communities Programme – Extension (DCP-E) provided grants of up to \$1 million to 180 drought-affected Local Government Areas (LGAs) for infrastructure, events and other economic stimulus or drought-related activities. The Program had 7 Rounds between August 2018 and January 2020, and will terminate on 31 June 2023.

The DCP-E has total funding of \$297 million, of which:

- \$296 million has been allocated to projects, all of which has been contracted.
- \$280.8 million has been paid to projects.
- \$1.8 million remains unallocated.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 531 grants approved under the DCP-E: 522 were contracted, of which 424 have been completed and 98 are underway; zero have not commenced; and 9 have been cancelled.

Delivery partners

The drought community programs were administered by the Department of Industry, Science, Innovation and Resources Business Grants Hub (Grants Hub) on behalf of DITRDC.

Key stakeholders

- Drought-affected communities
- Local governments
- Small business, including local suppliers and contractors
- Not-for-profit organisations

Program funding (DCP-E)

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	13.0	10.0	-	-	-

Eligibility, application and decision process

For the 4T Program and the DCOP, eligibility of recipient funding was determined by the relevant not-for-profit grant recipient, who processed applications and managed the decision process.

Eligibility for Rounds 1–6 of the DCP-E was based on the rainfall deficiency, population and employment data (reliance on agriculture). For Round 7, eligibility was based on an allocation methodology developed by Ernst & Young Australia. Funding was made available to eligible local councils listed on business.gov.au and GrantConnect, or to incorporated organisations that provide council-like services and functions by invitation from the Minister responsible for drought in consultation with the Prime Minister and the Minister for Agriculture. Once an LGA was specified by the Minister as eligible for the DCP-E, project proposals were assessed by the Grants Hub for eligibility against the program guidelines and approved by a delegate within the Grants Hub.

Program facts and examples

The DCP-E received a total of 563 applications, of which 94 per cent were successful. The DCP-E funded projects such as the Water Security Infrastructure Project, which was completed in January 2020. This project received \$1 million in Australian Government funding, and enabled the town of Ilfracombe in Queensland to secure a water supply, reduce water restrictions, and reduce reliance on dam water while boosting the local economy through the construction project.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia’s cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions including northern Australia.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 – Regional Development; Annual administered expenses.

Relevant legislation: *Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997.*

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Karly Pidgeon

Assistant Secretary, Program Implementation and Drought

Karly.Pidgeon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7931 s47F



Rebuilding Regional Communities

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The Rebuilding Regional Communities Program will provide grants to community organisations in regional, rural and remote communities to support their recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Grants will help local groups restart community activities and maintain social support networks.

Status

The Program was announced as part of the 2021–22 Budget and is being delivered by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) through eight grant rounds, terminating 9 March 2026. Round One opened on 23 February 2022 and will close on 31 May 2022. s47C

As at 31 March 2022, the Rebuilding Regional Communities Program has total funding of \$5.7 million, of which:

- \$5.7 million has been allocated to the FRRR to deliver the Program, all of which has been contracted.
- \$3.4 million has been paid to the FRRR.

A one-off ad hoc grant to the FRRR for the full \$5.7 million has been approved under this program. This funding includes \$5 million to be distributed to communities through grant rounds and \$0.7 million for the FRRR's administrative costs and the employment of a dedicated Facilitation and Communications Officer to provide assistance to applicants.

Delivery partners

The program is administered on behalf of the Department by the Business Grants Hub in the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources. The program is delivered by the FRRR.

The one-off ad hoc grant was awarded to the FRRR to deliver the program following a closed, non-competitive grant application process. The FRRR will deliver the following outputs:

- Assessment of eligible applications and distribution of Program funds to successful applicants.
- Award a minimum of 300 Micro Projects Grants and 40 COVID Recovery Grants over the life of the program.
- Deliver online grant application tools to support grant applicants.
- Raise awareness of the program through community engagement and outreach.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	3.4	2.3	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Regional and remote communities
- Regional not-for-profit community and incorporated organisations
- Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal

Eligibility, application and decision process

- Applicant organisations must be a not-for-profit organisation with either an Incorporation Certificate and/or an ABN based in a regional, rural or remote area.
- Two tiers of funding are available to eligible organisations including:
 - The Micro Projects stream which will provide small grants of up to \$10,000 for communities in regional, rural and remote Australia with fewer than 50,000 people to help sustain local organisations and their work.
 - The COVID Recovery stream which will provide grants of up to \$50,000 for larger projects to help recovery efforts for communities affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Within an approved project, there can be a range of eligible activities including community events, programs and services; community infrastructure projects; building the capacity of community organisations or developing community resources.
- The FRRR will decide on successful projects. The Minister will have the opportunity to announce successful projects following each round.

Program facts and examples

The program will include eight funding rounds, the first of which opened on 23 February 2022 and will close on 31 May 2022. The FRRR's assessment committee will meet in early September 2022 to assess the applications for this round. The program is always open to ensure that organisations can apply when they are ready and to relieve the funding pressure and volunteer fatigue experienced by local not for profit organisations.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions including northern Australia.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 – Regional Development.

Relevant legislation: *Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997.*

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Nattey

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development,
Local Government and Regional Recovery

Sarah.Nattey@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7479 s47F



Regionalisation Agenda – Research and Development Program

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The Regionalisation Agenda delivers economic and social benefits to regional communities by encouraging businesses and government agencies to relocate to regional Australia. It is supporting rural and regional Australia by creating jobs, boosting investment, and building sustainable businesses and competitive regional industries.

Status

The Regionalisation Agenda – Research and Development Program includes two programs: the Securing Raw Materials Program (SRMP) and the Regional Cooperative Research Centre – Projects Program (RCRC-P).

Securing Raw Materials Program

The SRMP helps businesses to move or expand into regional areas, and partner with regional universities or organisations to research and develop innovative and locally sourced raw material supplies. The SRMP has been delivered through 2 rounds, with Round 1 closing in March 2021 and Round 2 closing in February 2022.

Recipients for Round 1 were announced in September 2021 with projects to be completed by 30 June 2023. As at 31 March 2022, Round 1 of the SRMP has total funding of \$5.8 million, of which:

- \$5.8 million has been allocated to two projects, all of which has been contracted.
- \$2 million has been paid to recipients.

Round 2 of the SRMP closed 24 February 2022. 6 projects have been approved for funding. Projects are due to be completed by 30 June 2025. As at 31 March 2022, Round 2 has unallocated funding of \$29.2 million.

Regional Cooperative Research Centre – Projects Program

The RCRC-P provides funding for two short-term, industry-led collaborative research projects based in regional Australia. At least one Australian industry entity partner must relocate to regional Australia from a capital city.

Recipients were announced in September 2021, and projects are due to be completed by October 2024. As at 31 March 2022, the RCR-P has total funding of \$5.8 million, of which:

- \$5.8 million has been allocated to 2 projects, all of which has been contracted.
- \$1.9 million has been paid to recipients.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	12.3	8.0	10.4	10.2	-
Regional CRC-P	2.8	2.4	0.4	0.2	-
Securing Raw Materials Program – Round 1	5.3	0.6	0.0	0.0	-
Securing Raw Materials Program – Round 2	4.2	5.0	10.0	10.0	-

Key stakeholders

- Regional universities or other regional research organisations
- Eligible business planning to relocate to regions
- Business Grants Hub
- Regional communities

Eligibility, application and decision process

- Matched funds were available to businesses who relocated or expanded from capital cities to regional areas. SRMP Round 2 expanded eligibility to businesses in regional areas who expand from one regional area to a different regional area.
- Applicants must partner with a regional university or other regional research organisation.
- Assessment decisions were made by the delegate, following eligibility and assessment completed by the Business Grants Hub and relevant Assessment Committees. For assessments made to date, the Minister for Regionalisation, Regional Communications and Regional Education has been the delegate for the SRMP, and the Minister for Industry, Science and Technology was the delegate for RCRC-P.

Program facts and examples

The RCRC-P is providing \$3 million for a project to support the establishment of a research centre in Gippsland, Victoria, to develop processes to manufacture rocket boosters, and \$2.8 million for a project to develop processes for manufacturing novel plant-based meat alternatives in Goulburn, New South Wales.

The SRMP funds projects such as the project to convert grape waste into compostable plastics in the Hunter Valley, New South Wales, which received \$5 million in government funding. The benefits will include creating 10 jobs, boosting investment, and building sustainable businesses and competitive regional industries.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of our cities and regional economies including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through reforms that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional development — improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions across Australia.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 – Regional Development; Annual administered expenses.

Relevant legislation: *Industry Research and Development (Regional Decentralisation Agenda – Securing Raw Materials Program) Instrument 2021* made under section 33 of the Industry Research and Development Act 1986.

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Karly Pidgeon

Assistant Secretary, Program Implementation and Drought

Karly.Pidgeon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7931 s47F



Building Resilient Regional Leaders

Outcome 3.1: Regional development

The Building Resilient Regional Leaders Initiative (BRRLI) will support current and emerging regional leaders to further develop their leadership and resilience skills, enabling them to become strong local voices who can help sustain regional Australia's recovery from COVID-19, bushfires, floods and other crises, and contribute to their region's long-term resilience.

Status

The \$5 million Building Resilient Regional Leaders Initiative (BRRLI) was announced in the 2020–21 Budget. The program will run over two years from 2021–22 to 2022–23.

A single grant agreement with the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation (ARLF)-Regional Australia Institute (RAI) consortium to deliver the BRRLI in 10 regions across 7 states and territories was executed on 22 April 2022.

Delivery partners

The Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (DISER) Business Grants Hub (the Hub) administers the Program on behalf of the department.

Program funding

As at 31 March 2022, the BRRLI has total funding of \$5 million, and all funding remains uncontracted. s47C

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	3.0	2.0	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- ARLF and RAI
- Regional communities
- Regional leaders participating in the pilot

Eligibility, application and decision process

An Assessment Committee was established to consider short-listed applications for the BRRLI and to provide advice to the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development (the Minister), as the decision-maker on projects to be funded. The Committee comprised representatives from the Hub; the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment; and the Regional Development, Local Government and Regional Recovery Division of the department.

The Hub undertook an initial assessment for eligibility and suitability of the 167 applications that were received and provided all 26 applications that were ranked as 'highly suitable' to the Committee for further consideration.

The Committee considered the assessment criteria in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines which focused on the provision of tailored, place-based leadership training that would be co-designed with participants to support current and emerging community leaders drawn from diverse backgrounds, and the development of strong and enduring local and regional networks.

Based on the assessment of the Committee, the department recommended to the Minister the ARLF-RAI consortium be engaged to deliver the BRRLI.

Program facts and examples

The ARLF-RAI's project proposal aims to generate a groundswell of people to lead, inspire and navigate change within their regional communities. It is a collaborative and community-led initiative targeted at current and emerging leaders who will have the opportunity to: develop leadership and resilience skills to support regional development; contribute to complex and cross sector regional issues and opportunities with diverse perspectives; and establish deep leadership networks within and across regions to influence transformational change. The pilot will be delivered in 10 regions.

s47C

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional Development, northern Australia and Cities – Improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions including northern Australia.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.1 – Regional Development.

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Nattey

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development,
Local Government and Regional Recovery

Sarah.Nattey@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7479 s47F



Local Government Financial Assistance Act

Outcome 3.2: Local government

\$3.5 billion will be provided in 2021-22 to assist councils to meet their local priorities.

Status

Start date: 1974–75 (ongoing)

Delivery partners

Funding under the Financial Assistance Grant program is paid through state governments to local governments. State grants commissions determine the intrastate distribution of the grants between local governments. Both funding components are untied and can be spent according to each local government's own priorities.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	3,505.0	704.4	2,927.3	3,048.2	3,169.5

In the 2022-23 Budget handed down on 29 March 2022, the Australian Government announced its decision to bring forward \$2.1 billion of the 2022-23 Financial Assistance Grant estimates for pre-payment in 2021-22.

While decisions to bring forward funding are a welcome cash flow relief for councils, they may also result in budgeting and cash flow complexities in future years. The Commonwealth works closely with local government grants commissions to negotiate any issues that may arise in relation to the administration of the Financial Assistance Grant program.

In addition to Financial Assistance Grant payments, for most of the period since 2004-05, South Australian councils have been allocated \$255.4 million in supplementary funding for local roads. This includes \$40 million over 2 years provided in the 2021-22 Budget.

South Australia manages more than 11 per cent of local roads (by length), but receives less than 6 per cent of the local roads component of the Financial Assistance Grant funding. This additional funding addresses an inequity in the original jurisdictions' road component distributions. It is a separate budget measure but is considered part of the Financial Assistance Grant program.

Key stakeholders

- 546 local governing bodies
- Commonwealth and State Local Government Grants Commissions

Eligibility, application and decision process

Every local governing body as defined under the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* (the Act) receives funding. There are 546 local governing bodies in 2021–22.

Local government grants commissions in each state and the Northern Territory recommend the distribution of funding in their jurisdiction in accordance with the Act. Funding is subject to the Minister’s satisfaction that the state has adopted its local government grants commission recommendations. The Australian Capital Territory receives funding through the program as it maintains local government functions.

The grant is paid in equal quarterly instalments to state and territory governments for immediate distribution to local governing bodies as untied funds. The quantum of the funding changes annually in line with population estimates and the Consumer Price Index.

Program facts and examples

The Financial Assistance Grant program will provide \$3.5 billion this year in untied funding to local government. The grant is provided under the Act. The Act allows for two components of funding:

- a general purpose component which is distributed between the states and territories according to population (that is, on a per capita basis).
- an identified local road component which is distributed between the states and territories according to fixed historical shares.

Both components of the grant are untied allowing councils to spend the funds according to local priorities.

Funding under the Financial Assistance Grant is provided to every local governing body in Australia to spend on local priorities.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia’s cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance.

Purposes: Regional Development, Northern Australia and Cities – improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions including northern Australia.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 3.2 – Local Government.

Relevant legislation: *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 **\$47F**

Sarah Nattey

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development,

Local Government and Regional Recovery

Sarah.Nattey@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7479 **\$47F**



Our North – Our Future: Northern Australia Grant Programs

Outcome 3.4: Growing a stronger Northern Australian economy

Matched grants and a supporting advisory service to assist businesses and community organisations in northern Australia scale up, diversify and create employment opportunities.

Status

The \$80 million in combined grant funding under the Northern Australia Development Program (NADP) and the Northern Australia Business and Community Growth Program (NABCG) has been fully allocated. Both programs closed on 8 April 2022, following the first assessment tranche. All applicants have been notified of the program outcomes with grant negotiations to commence shortly with the 30 successful applicants.

As at 31 March 2022, the combined NADP and NABCG has total funding of \$79.6 million, of which:

- \$79.6 million has been allocated to proponents, of which nil has been contracted.
- Nil has been paid to recipients.
- Nil remains unallocated.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 30 grants approved under the program, zero have been completed; zero are contracted and are underway; 30 have not commenced; and none have been withdrawn or terminated.

The \$20.6 million Strengthening Northern Australia Business Advisory Service (the advisory service) complements the NADP grants. The advisory service aims to support capability development of businesses in northern Australia and to maximise the effectiveness of grant support. Departmental funding of \$11.3 million is supporting implementation of grants and the advisory service.

Delivery partners

- Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources: Business Grants Hub to administer the grants, AusIndustry and their contracted facilitators to deliver the advisory service.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	30.8	30.8	30.8	4.1	4.1

As at 31 March 2022, \$84.8 million in administered funds (\$79.6 million in grants, \$5.2 million for advisory services) was committed and nil expended. A movement of funds will be required as part of the 2022-23 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook, to match the funding profile that will be developed based on milestone payments in grant agreements (once finalised).

Key stakeholders

- Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (DISER)
 - Business Grants Hub
 - AusIndustry
- Other Australian Government agencies
- Regional peak industry and government organisations including the Regional Development Australia – Northern Alliance
- Northern Australia communities and businesses
- Northern Australia state and territory governments

Eligibility, application and decision process

- Eligibility for the NADP was open to small to large trading corporations with an ABN. Two streams of grants were available:
 - Business Development Grants for small to medium sized business (\$50,000 to \$2 million).
 - Industry Transformation grants for medium to large businesses (\$3 million to \$10 million).
- Eligibility for the NABCG was open to incorporated associations and not-for-profit organisations, sole traders, partnerships, non-distributive co-operatives and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Corporations registered under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* with an ABN. Grants between \$50,000 and \$2 million were available under this program.
- The broad range of eligible activities available under the NADP and NABCG included purchasing plant and equipment and new infrastructure, relevant training and skills development, feasibility studies, business planning, marketing activities, process design and engineering, environment approval costs and scaling up activities related to the business opportunity.
- The Northern Australia Grants Programs were run as open, non-competitive programs. Applications were lodged through the Business Grants Hub portal and assessed by the Business Grants Hub and an external assessment committee against published assessment criteria.
- The Minister for Agriculture and Northern Australia (or another minister acting as an alternate decision maker where required), made the funding decisions. The 30 projects funded were the projects recommended for funding by the external assessment committee.

Program facts and examples

The NADP received 196 applications for first tranche assessment. There was a strong pipeline of applications prior to the program's closure, with 52 submitted after first tranche assessment deadline and 312 incomplete/draft applications.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Program 3.4 Growing a Stronger Northern Australia Economy.

Purposes: *Our North, Our Future: 2021-2026 – Targeted Growth* is the Government's next five-year strategic plan for developing northern Australia. From 2021-2026 the Government will invest in transformational and enabling projects through a whole-of-government approach, in partnership with state and territory governments.

Nature of appropriation: Funding for the NADP was announced in the 2021-22 Budget. Funding transferred from Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources to this department as part of the Administrative Arrangements Order on 2 July 2021 and which took effect on 2 September 2021.

Relevant legislation: The NADP is prescribed under the *Industry Research and Development Act 1986*. The NABCG is prescribed at Item 534, of Part 4, Schedule 1AB of the *Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997*.

Contacts

Marisa Purvis-Smith

Deputy Secretary, Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia

Marisa.Purvis-Smith@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6271 7457 s47F

Stephanie Werner

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia

Stephanie.Werner@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6271 7630 s47F



ACT Government – National Capital Functions

Outcome 4.1: Services to Territories

The National Capital Functions (NCF) program provides funding to the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Government to compensate for costs associated with providing services on behalf of the Australian Government to fulfil diplomatic, treaty and other obligations.

Status

The department provides funding to the ACT Government through service agreements negotiated between the department and relevant ACT Government directorates, through the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate. The total committed funds for 2021-22 was \$1.8 million. These are longstanding arrangements and commenced with ACT self-government in 1988.

Delivery Partners

- ACT Education and Training Directorate
- Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1

Key stakeholders

- ACT residents
- ACT Government
- Diplomats and their families residing in the ACT

Program facts and examples

History

Section 59(1) of the *Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988* provides for the ACT to be equal to the states and the Northern Territory (NT) in its financial relations with the government, particularly regarding the special circumstances arising from the existence of the national capital and the seat of government of the Commonwealth in the Territory. The department allocates funding for the following 5 services provided by the ACT Government:

Treaty obligations

- ACT Education and Training Directorate – French Australia School – provide teaching services to the Telopea Park School in line with Australia's treaty obligations with the French Republic.
- ACT Education and Training Directorate – International Baccalaureate (IB) – provide IB services to Narrabundah College in line with Australia's treaty obligations with the French Republic.

Diplomatic services

- Access Canberra – Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate – register diplomatic vehicles and driver's licences for Diplomatic Agents on behalf of the Australian Government.
- Access Canberra – Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate – maintain a register of overseas deaths and some marriages occurring either in consular premises in Australia or marriages of Australian Defence Force personnel performed overseas.

Management of Commonwealth assets

- Cultural Facilities Corporation – Canberra Museum and Gallery – provide curatorial services for the management of the Sidney Nolan Collection.

Program administration

Outcome: Good governance in Australian Territories including through the maintenance and improvement of the laws and services for non-self-governing territories, and the overarching legislative framework for self-governing territories.

Purposes: Providing governance frameworks and services in the territories.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 4.1 – Services to Territories; Appropriation Acts 1/3.

Relevant legislation: *Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988.*

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Vandenbroek

First Assistant Secretary, Territories

Sarah.Vandenbroek@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8222 s47F



Territories Asset Management

Outcome 4.1: Services to Territories

The department currently manages an asset base of \$2.4 billion (insured value) across the Indian Ocean Territories, Norfolk Island, and Jervis Bay Territory. This supports the delivery of critical services to a satisfactory level of reliability and performance.

Status

The Asset Management Framework (AMF) informs the department's Capital Works Program (CWP) by providing a structured process to allow assets and capital projects, either initiated or continuing, to be assessed for risk/criticality and then prioritised for funding.

For the financial years 2021-22 to 2025-26, the Territories CWP has a total funding of \$230.4 million, of which:

- \$150.4 million is allocated to New Policy Proposals funded projects, of which \$31 million has been committed.
- \$80 million available to Administered Capital Budget funded projects, of which \$4.8 million has been committed.

Delivery partners

The department is currently delivering in excess of 60 capital works projects. All projects are delivered through a range of stakeholders from local government to major mainland construction companies and local business. Where possible the department endeavours to utilise the local workforce within these communities to support the local economy.

Program funding

	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	49.2	90.7	41.9	32.6	16.0

Key stakeholders

- Department of Defence
- Australian Border Force
- Local Business Communities
- Local Councils
- Communities
- State Government Partners

Eligibility, application and decision process

To receive funding from the Territories CWP, the project must be assessed against a set of criticality and risk assessment criteria such as lifecycle, safety, service delivery, condition, financial, reputational etc.

Each financial year, in consultation with key stakeholders, a funding bid process is undertaken to identify a list of prioritised projects based on criticality and risk rating. Projects are assessed, moderated and ranked in order of priority with the highest allocated funding from the budget. A governance board, consisting of senior executives, oversee the approvals process and monitors the ongoing progress of the CWP and the allocation of funding.

Program facts and examples

The AMF was introduced in November 2020 and has comprehensively identified all known assets and assessed the current condition, expected lifecycle, and estimated replacement values of each asset. The AMF consists of:

- A Strategic Asset Management Plan for each Territory, which assess options and identifies the optimal (prudent and cost-effective) approach to manage the assets.
- 24 Asset Management Plans for nominated classes of assets owned by the department in the Territories, which provide prioritised work/project schedules and cost estimates for asset management activity in the Territories.
- Asset Management Business Processes.
- An interim Asset Management Software System (soon to be upgraded).

The current Territories Administered Capital Budget of \$15.5 million per annum represents less than 1 per cent of the Territories asset replacement value. A broad range of these assets are ageing which pose challenges in the context of safely continuing to deliver essential services and complying with statutory requirements.

To offset these risks, in 2020-21 the Australian Government approved an additional \$58 million over the forward estimates to fund capital projects that were considered high priority and shovel ready. The department is developing a costed 10-year capital works plan to address critical risks to our highest priority assets which include port facilities, hospitals and rock fall mitigation.

Program administration

Outcome 4: Good governance and service delivery in the Australian Territories including through the maintenance and improvement of services for non-self-governing Territories, and the overarching legislative framework for self-governing Territories.

Purposes: Providing governance frameworks and services to support communities in the Territories.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 4.1 – Services to Territories; Appropriation Acts 1/3.

Relevant Legislation: Nil.

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Vandenbroek

First Assistant Secretary, Territories

Sarah.Vandenbroek@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 7996 s47F



Services to the Indian Ocean Territories

Outcome 4.1: Services to Territories

The department, on behalf of the Australian Government, administers Christmas Island (CI) and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands (CKI), providing state-type services.

Status

The department delivers state-type services through three primary mechanisms:

- Service Delivery Arrangements with the Western Australian Government (as at 31 March 2022, 39 state agencies provided 51 services to the Indian Ocean Territories).
- Direct service provision by the Australian Government. The department, through the Indian Ocean Territories Administration, delivers a range of services including health, power generation and distribution (CI), community infrastructure, magistrates courts, Collector of Public Money, employee and public housing maintenance and management, motor vehicle registry (CI) and land management.
- Contracts with the private sector for specialised services, including: airport management (Toll), air services (Virgin Australia Regional Airlines) and port management (Linx).

The department is currently undertaking a Strategic Assessment of Christmas Island under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* with support from the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment. The assessment will provide a blueprint for future development, support economic activity and diversification, and protect the island's unique environment.

Delivery partners

- Western Australian Government and agencies
- Shires of Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Appropriation Act 1 (at 2022-23 Budget)	128.6	97.9	100.2	102.5	104.0
Indian Ocean Territories Special Account (forecast receipts)	17.0	17.5	17.8	17.9	17.1

A yearly appropriation and revenue collected into the Indian Ocean Territories Special Account supports services to the Indian Ocean Territories. The Special Account allows for the collection of revenues from services provided in the territories by the Australian Government or a third party on the Australian Government's behalf. These funds are then utilised to offset the expenses associated with the provision of those services. Revenues collected from these accounts in 2020-21 totalled \$17.3 million for the Indian Ocean Territories Special Account.

Key stakeholders

- Shires of Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands
- Western Australian Government
- Phosphates Resources Limited
- Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment
- Island Communities
- Department of Defence
- Department of Home Affairs
- Mrs Natasha Griggs, Administrator of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands

Eligibility, application and decision process

The ongoing services to the Indian Ocean Territories Program manage the Australian Government's regional interests and delivers governance and services for communities in the territories comparable with mainland communities. As additional service requirements are identified, the department develops delivery options either through the Western Australian Government, direct delivery options or through contract arrangements.

Program facts and examples

Mrs Natasha Griggs currently holds the statutory position of administrator of the Territories of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Island. The administrator is a representative, facilitator and advocacy role, and exercises some ministerial delegations. Mrs Griggs' current two-year appointment expires on 4 October 2022.

The department manages a portfolio of territory assets¹ and delivers major infrastructure projects to enable the delivery of critical services to a satisfactory level of reliability and performance. The department has identified all known assets, assessed the respective condition, expected lifecycle, and estimated replacement values.

The provision of effective and efficient services and infrastructure benefits all residents of the Indian Ocean Territories, estimated at 2,519 people (as at 2016).

Program administration

Outcome 4: Good governance and service delivery in the Australian territories including through the maintenance and improvement of the laws and services for non-self-governing territories, and the overarching legislative framework for self-governing territories.

Purposes: Providing governance frameworks and services to support communities in the territories.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 4.1 — Services to Territories; Appropriation Acts 1/3.

Relevant legislation: *Christmas Island Act 1958*; *Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955*; Schedule 1AA of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997.

Indian Ocean Territories Special Account legislation - Indian Ocean Territories: *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*; (Indian Ocean Territories Special Account 2014 — Establishment) Determination 02.

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Vandenbroek

First Assistant Secretary, Territories

Sarah.Vandenbroek@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8222 s47F

¹ Refer to Programs administered by the department — Territories Asset Management



Services to Norfolk Island

Outcome 4.1: Services to Territories

The department, on behalf of the Australian Government, administers Norfolk Island, providing state-type services.

Status

On 26 October 2021, the Australian government and the Queensland (QLD) government entered into an Inter-Governmental Agreement securing QLD as the new state partner for Norfolk Island. Delivery of education and health support services by QLD commenced on 1 January 2022. The agreement with QLD establishes an enduring partnership and allows for the extension of state services beyond health and education. The agreement in place with the New South Wales (NSW) Government for the delivery of state-type services on Norfolk Island concluded on 31 December 2021.

The department has a Service Delivery Agreement (SDA) in place with the Norfolk Island Regional Council (NIRC) under which the NIRC delivers a range of state and local government services. On 6 December 2021, the councillors of the NIRC were formally dismissed. Mr Michael Colreavy was appointed as administrator of the Council for a period of 3 years until 2024.

Mr Eric Hutchinson currently holds the statutory position of Norfolk Island Administrator. The administrator is a representative, facilitator and advocacy role that has a range of statutory powers and functions. Mr Hutchinson's current appointment expires on 31 March 2023.

The provision of effective and efficient services and infrastructure benefits all residents of Norfolk Island, estimated at 1,748 people (as of 2016).

Delivery partners

- Queensland Government
- St John Ambulance NSW
- Key Assets (child and family wellbeing service)
- Gallagher Bassett Services Pty Ltd (workers compensation scheme)
- NIRC
- Australian Federal Police
- Norfolk Island Police
- Norfolk Island Health and Residential Aged Care Service (NIHRACS)

Program funding

Norfolk Island-Commonwealth administration	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2

Services to Norfolk Island	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	88.6	81.6	73.1	71.0	62.3

Key stakeholders

- Norfolk Island Community
- Norfolk Island Council of Elders
- Mr Eric Hutchinson, Administrator of Norfolk Island
- Mr Michael Colreavy, NIRC administrator

Program facts and examples

The department manages the funding and delivery of services to Norfolk Island through a network of providers (including the ongoing services to Norfolk Island program), manages the Australian Government's regional interests and delivers governance and services for communities in the Territories comparable with mainland communities. As additional service requirements are identified, the department develops delivery options either through the QLD Government, direct delivery options or through contract arrangements.

The department manages a portfolio of Territory assets¹ and delivers major infrastructure projects to enable the delivery of critical services to a satisfactory level of reliability and performance. The Australian Government has provided \$31.1 million to enable the handling and delivery of containerised freight to Norfolk Island, to upgrade the Norfolk Island electricity grid and to develop designs for a new wastewater treatment plant and urgent upgrades to the sewer system.

Qantas is contracted to deliver government-underwritten airline services to Norfolk Island. Toll Remote is contracted to deliver regular underwritten air freight services. St John Ambulance NSW has been contracted to provide a volunteer-based ambulance service on Norfolk Island.

Program administration

Outcome 4: Good governance and service delivery in the Australian territories including through the maintenance and improvement of the laws and services for non-self-governing territories, and the overarching legislative framework for self-governing territories.

Purposes: Providing governance frameworks and services to support communities in the territories.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 4.1 — Services to Territories.

Relevant legislation: *Norfolk Island Act 1979*; Schedule 1AA of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997.

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Vandenbroek

First Assistant Secretary, Territories

Sarah.Vandenbroek@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8222 s47F

¹ Refer to Programs administered by the department – Territories Asset Management



Norfolk Island – Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area

Outcome 4.1: Services to Territories

The department, on behalf of the Australian Government, manages the Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area (Kingston), providing support to the Norfolk Island community and the economy through tourism.

Status

The Australian Government has provided funding for Kingston since at least 1973, protecting and conserving unique Polynesian, convict and Pitcairn cultural heritage, and World Heritage listed buildings and landscapes.

The management and improvement of the site includes mitigating Work Health and Safety (WHS) risks and key activities including:

- Delivery of a prioritised maintenance program that includes the preservation of heritage buildings which are at high risk of degradation, rehabilitation of heritage buildings and landscapes which are in poor condition, and the enhancement of community assets such as roads and recreational facilities.
- Drawing the recent heritage studies of the site together into a Site Master Plan to define future management and enhancement of Kingston.
- Delivering interpretation projects based on the Interpretation Plan created in 2018–19.
- Engaging Polynesian cultural expertise to enable the story of the first inhabitants of the site to be told.
- Improving the tourist offering by enhancing the facilities of the several museums on site.
- Supporting the Kingston Advisory Committee and the Kingston Community Advisory Group.
- Developing new governance arrangements to improve transparency and sustainability of site management.

Funding from other programs, including the Administered Capital Budget and the Services to Norfolk Island Budget¹ also contributes to the effective management of Kingston.

Delivery partners

- Norfolk Island Regional Council (NIRC)

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.9

Key stakeholders

- Norfolk Island community
- NIRC
- Tourism operators
- Kingston leaseholders

¹ Refer to Programs administered by the department – Services to Norfolk Island

Program facts and examples

The Kingston site was initially occupied by the seafaring Polynesians between c1150 CE and c1450 CE before being used by the British as a convict settlement between 1788–1814 and 1825–1855. In 1856, the people of Pitcairn Island, a community of descendants of the HMS Bounty mutineers and Tahitians, were resettled on Norfolk Island.

The Kingston site was included on the Norfolk Island Heritage Register in 2003, Australia’s National Heritage List and the Commonwealth Heritage List in 2007, and added to the World Heritage List in 2010 as one of 11 places that comprise the Australian Convict Sites World Heritage listing.

Prior to 2016, the Kingston site was managed jointly by the Australian Government and the former Norfolk Island Government under a Memorandum of Understanding. On 1 July 2016, the Australian Government assumed overall responsibility for funding and managing the site, guided by a Heritage Management Plan completed in 2016 and an Advisory Committee comprising of community and expert members.

The Australian Government is the custodian of two collections of museum artefacts which are housed and displayed at Kingston; the HMS Sirius collection, made up of approximately 300 artefacts recovered from the wreck of the HMS Sirius which is on the reef at Slaughter Bay; and the Kingston collection, made up of over 14,000 artefacts recovered from Kingston.

Program administration

Outcome 4: Good governance and service delivery in the Australian territories including through the maintenance and improvement of the laws and services for non-self-governing territories, and the overarching legislative framework for self-governing territories.

Purposes: Providing governance frameworks and services in the territories.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 4.1 — Services to Territories; Appropriation Acts 1/3.

Relevant legislation *Norfolk Island Act 1979*; Schedule 1AA of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997.

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Vandenbroek

First Assistant Secretary, Territories

Sarah.Vandenbroek@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8222 s47F



Services to the Jervis Bay Territory (JBT)

Outcome 4.1: Services to Territories

The department, on behalf of the Australian Government, provides state-type services to the Jervis Bay Territory (JBT).

Status

The department is responsible for providing essential infrastructure and state-type services in the JBT, including healthcare, utilities and Crown land management. The department has service delivery arrangements in place with the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Government for the provision of state-type services in the JBT. These include education, community, and justice and corrections services.

The New South Wales (NSW) Government provides health and emergency services in the JBT through the Illawarra-Shoalhaven Local Health District and the NSW Rural Fire Service. A number of municipal services are provided by the Shoalhaven City Council and the Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council. The Australian Federal Police (AFP) is responsible for providing policing services in the JBT.

The provision of effective and efficient services and infrastructure benefits all residents of JBT, estimated at 391 people (as of 2016).

Delivery partners

- ACT Government
- NSW Government
- Shoalhaven City Council
- Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Appropriation Budget (at 2022–23 Budget)	6.9	7.2	7.4	5.8	5.9
JBT Special Account 2014 (at 2022–23 Budget)	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2

A yearly appropriation and revenue collected into the Jervis Bay Territory Special Account supports services to the JBT. The Special Account allows for the collection of revenues for services provided in the territories by the Australian Government or a third party on the Australian Government's behalf. These funds are then utilised to offset the expenses associated with the provision of those services. Revenues collected from these accounts in 2020–21 totalled \$1.2 million for the Jervis Bay Territory Special Account.

Key stakeholders

- JBT community, including Crown leaseholders
- Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council
- The ACT and NSW Governments
- Shoalhaven City Council
- Parks Australia
- Department of Defence
- AFP and NSW Police
- Private and non-government service providers
- NSW Rural Fire Service
- NSW State Emergency Service

Program facts and examples

The department has staff in the JBT to provide a range of ACT Government shopfront services to residents, such as motor vehicle registry and receiving applications for various licenses and Working with Vulnerable People cards. JBT residents also draw on services from neighbouring NSW Shoalhaven Local Government, such as hospital and secondary education. This enables more efficient service delivery and the ability to access some local services in the surrounding Shoalhaven region given the small population base and facilities in the JBT.

The department, in partnership with relevant stakeholders, has responsibility for managing the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. A State of Emergency has been in place since March 2020, together with a Public Health Emergency Declaration and Public Health Direction. An Emergency Management Committee, comprising representatives from key agencies and stakeholders is chaired by the department, and coordinates responses to emergencies in the JBT when declared.

The department manages a portfolio of Territory assets¹ and delivers major infrastructure projects to enable the delivery of critical services to a satisfactory level of reliability and performance. The Australian Government has provided \$15.8 million over four years (2022-23 to 2025-26) for the Jervis Bay Territory Water Security project that will ensure contaminate free water supply to the community.

The applied law regime in the JBT is ACT law, supplemented by several JBT ordinances. An ordinance is a form of delegated legislation, which usually applies only in a certain local area.

Program administration

Outcome 4: Good governance and service delivery in the Australian territories including through the maintenance and improvement of the laws and services for non-self-governing territories, and the overarching legislative framework for self-governing territories.

Purposes: Providing governance frameworks and services to support communities in the territories.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 4.1 – Services to the Territories

Relevant legislation: *Jervis Bay Territory Acceptance Act 1915*; Schedule 1AA of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997, *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act* (Jervis Bay Territory Special Account 2014 – Establishment) Determination 03.

Contacts

Dr Rachel Bacon

Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories

Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 6181 s47F

Sarah Vandenbroek

First Assistant Secretary, Territories

Sarah.Vandenbroek@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6274 8222 s47F

¹ Refer to Programs administered by the department – Territories Asset Management

Portfolio legislation

This directory is current and as such may not match the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) created on 18 March 2021. It includes acts which have received royal assent, and excludes acts which have been repealed since the AAO was last amended on 2 July 2021. Should the AAO change, the department will advise you of changes to your legislative role.

Program 3.2 – Local Government

Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995

Urban and Regional Development (Financial Assistance) Act 1974

Program 3.4 – Growing a Stronger Northern Australia Economy

Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016

Program 4.1 – Services to Territories

A.C.T. Self-Government (Consequential Provisions) Act 1988

Ashmore and Cartier Islands Acceptance Act 1933

Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988

Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988

Canberra Water Supply (Googong Dam) Act 1974

Christmas Island Act 1958

Christmas Island Agreement Acts

Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955

Coral Sea Islands Act 1969

Jervis Bay Territory Acceptance Act 1915

Norfolk Island Act 1979

Northern Territory Acceptance Act 1910

Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978

Parliament Act 1974

Removal of Prisoners (Territories) Act 1923

Seat of Government Acceptance Act 1909

Seat of Government (Acceptance) Act 1922

Seat of Government Act 1908

Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910

Territories Law Reform Act 2010

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Program 3.2: Local Government

Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995

Purpose	<p>The Act is to provide for financial assistance for local government purposes by means of grants to the States, the ACT and the NT, and for related purposes. This includes improving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the financial capacity of local governing bodies• the capacity of local governing bodies to provide their residents with an equitable level of services• the certainty of funding for local governing bodies• the efficiency and effectiveness of local governing bodies• the provision by local governing bodies of services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• provide written notice as per the statisticians estimate setting out the population of the state and the total population of all of the states to the Treasurer• give to the relevant state minister of each state other than the ACT and to a body or bodies representative of local government a copy of any instrument formulating principles and a copy of any instruments that revoke or vary any of those principles• before the start of each year, make a written estimate of the base figure for the year immediately preceding the current year and the additional previous year funding amount in relation to each state for the relevant year• provide the Treasurer of each state with a copy of the written notice of the estimated and final escalation factor provided by the Treasurer• approve the recommendations provided by state grants commissions through the relevant state minister allocating amounts among local governing bodies in each state• if a decision is made to adjust an amount payable to a state in respect of a year, (subsection 10 (6B), or subsection 13(4B)), notify the Treasurer of a state in writing• cause a report to be prepared about the operation of the Act for each year and table the report in both Houses of Parliament. <p>Additionally, you may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• on the advice of the state minister and by notice published in the Gazette, declare bodies to be local governing bodies for the purpose of receiving funding under the Act; and/or• by notice published in the Gazette, declare a body to be the Local Government Grants Commission of a state for the purposes of this Act.
Contact	<p>Michael Gregory, Acting Assistant Secretary, Regional Intelligence and Local Government Branch Regional Development, Local Government and Regional Recovery Division; 02 6274 7153 s47F</p>

Urban and Regional Development (Financial Assistance) Act 1974

Purpose

The Act is to enable the Commonwealth to provide financial assistance to the states for urban and regional development and is linked to the implementation of the growth centres policy of the early 1970s.

In the context of this Act, regional development is defined as: urban expansion and re-development (which may include sewerage and water supply); area improvement, being urban and regional improvement and rehabilitation; sewerage; water supply; and flood mitigation.

The Act enables the Commonwealth minister responsible for regional development to provide loans to the states for regional development.

Your role and responsibilities

No payments have been received under the Act since 2016. Section 8 of the Act provides that you shall present any agreement made under this Act, including every amending agreement, to each House of the Parliament within 15 sitting days of the House after the date on which the agreement was made.

Contact

Michael Gregory, Acting Assistant Secretary, Regional Intelligence and Local Government Branch
Regional Development, Local Government and Regional Recovery Division; 02 6274 7153 | **s47F**



Program 3.4: Growing the Northern Australian Economy

Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016

Purpose	<p>The Act establishes the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF), which provides financial assistance to states, territories and other entities for the purpose of developing economic infrastructure in northern Australia.</p> <p>The NAIF Act was amended in May 2021 to extend the NAIF's investment window to 30 Jun 2026, enable the NAIF to make equity investments, and refine NAIF governance arrangements.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	See Chapter on Portfolio Entities – NAIF.
Contact	Marisa Purvis-Smith, Deputy Secretary, Water Infrastructure & Northern Australia/CEO National Water Grid Authority; 02 6271 7457 s47F

Program 4.1: Services to Territories

ACT Self-Government (Consequential Provisions) Act 1988

Purpose	The Act makes certain transitional provisions and amends certain acts in consequence of the enactment of the <i>ACT (Self-Government) Act 1988</i> and amendments made to that Act. Its object is to ensure the normal business of government and existing rights enjoyed by residents and staff continue during the transition of functions from the Australian Capital Territory until the territory enacts its own laws or chooses to amend the transitional provisions in this Act.
Your role and responsibilities	You have no functions or powers under this Act.
Contact	Jane Christie, Assistant Secretary, Mainland Territories Branch, Territories Division; 02 6274 7664 s47F

Ashmore and Cartier Islands Acceptance Act 1933

Purpose	<p>The Act provides for the acceptance of Ashmore and Cartier Islands as a Territory of the Commonwealth (section 5), having been placed under the authority of the Commonwealth of Australia by the United Kingdom.</p> <p>The Act also provides for the government of the territory, by applying the laws of the Northern Territory (NT) to the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier (section 6), and providing that the Governor-General may make ordinances for the peace, order and good government of the territory (section 9). Applied laws may be amended or repealed by an ordinance (section 7).</p> <p>The Act also provides that the courts of the NT have jurisdiction in and in relation to the territory (section 12).</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You must support and approve ordinances and amendments of applied laws of the territory. You are also vested with the powers and functions ordinarily vested in a person or authority (except a court) under applied NT laws in force in the territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands (subsection 11(1)). You may delegate these powers and functions (section 11).</p> <p>You may also make agreements with the appropriate ministers of the NT for the exercise of powers and performance of functions under laws in force in the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands by officers and employees of the NT Government and authorities or the NT (section 11A).</p>
Contact	Aaron O'Neill, Assistant Secretary, Indian Ocean Territories Branch, Territories Division; 02 6274 7988 s47F

Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988

Purpose	The Act repealed the <i>National Capital Development Commission Act 1957</i> and made provision for the planning and land management of the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) upon self-government. The Act, in conjunction with the <i>Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act</i>
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1988, establishes governance and land management frameworks for the ACT post self-government. Under the Act, the Commonwealth retained responsibility for national capital planning through a new planning authority (now known as the National Capital Authority) and the National Capital Plan (NCP). The NCP ensures that Canberra is planned and developed in accordance with its national significance.

Your role and responsibilities

You will:

- table a copy of the NCA's Annual Report in each House of Parliament. The report must be tabled within 15 sitting days of each House after the day you receive the report from the Authority.

You may:

- give the NCA general directions in writing as to the performance of its functions
- declare specified areas of land in the ACT to be National Land
- appoint a person to act as a full-time or part-time non-executive member of the Authority when there is a vacancy in the office of that member
- grant a full-time member of the Authority leave of absence or a part-time member leave to be absent from a meeting/s of the Authority
- grant a full-time member approval to engage in paid employment outside his or her duties
- direct a part-time member to cease paid employment that conflicts with his or her duties
- convene a meeting of the Authority at any time
- appoint committees to give advice to the Authority.

Contact

Jane Christie, Assistant Secretary, Mainland Territories Branch, Territories Division;
02 6274 7664 | s47F

Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988

Purpose

The Act provides for self-government for the Australian Capital Territory (ACT). In conjunction with the *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988*, the Act provides for the governance of the ACT, including the establishment of the ACT Legislative Assembly, and the framework for the Commonwealth's interest in the ACT as the national capital and seat of the government.

Your role and responsibilities

You will:

- specify a polling day if the ACT Legislative Assembly has been dissolved by the Governor-General
- cause a Statement of Reasons for the dissolution to be tabled in Parliament and published in the Commonwealth Gazette
- convene a meeting of the Legislative Assembly if the presiding officer is unable, refuses or fails to call a meeting within seven days of the result of a general election
- exercise the powers of the Executive until a Chief Minister is elected where all the ministerial offices have become vacant
- ensure polling day is not a polling day for the Senate or House of Representatives.

Contact

Jane Christie, Assistant Secretary, Mainland Territories Branch, Territories Division;
02 6274 7664 | s47F

Canberra Water Supply (Googong Dam) Act 1974

Purpose	<p>The Act provided for the construction of a dam on the Queanbeyan River in New South Wales (NSW) and the supply of water from that dam for use in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT).</p> <p>An agreement, dated 18 October 1909, between the Commonwealth and NSW, provided for the surrender of land by NSW for the establishment of the ACT. The agreement reserved for NSW residents the rights to the use and control of the waters of the Queanbeyan and Molonglo rivers and their tributaries. The agreement also enabled the construction of a dam and other works for the storage and conveyance of waters of the Queanbeyan River to ensure an adequate supply of water to the ACT.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>The Commonwealth may enter into an agreement with NSW in relation to the supply and conveyance of water from the Googong Dam Area for use in a place other than the ACT. In such an agreement, you may authorise the ACT Executive to exercise the rights of the Commonwealth.</p>
Contact	<p>Jane Christie, Assistant Secretary, Mainland Territories Branch, Territories Division; 02 6274 7664 s47F</p>

Christmas Island Act 1958

Purpose	<p>The Act provides for the acceptance of Christmas Island as a territory of the Commonwealth (section 5). The Act also provides for the government of the territory by enabling the Governor-General to make ordinances for the peace, order and good government of the territory (section 9), and applying the laws of Western Australia (WA) to the territory (section 8A). Applied laws may be amended, suspended or repealed by ordinance (section 8A). The Act enables the Commonwealth to enter arrangements with the WA Government to ensure that applied laws can be effectively administered (section 8H).</p> <p>The Act stipulates that trials on indictment for offences against territory laws will be heard by a jury, and makes provisions on related matters (Part IV A). The Act also provides that WA Courts and court officers have jurisdiction in and in relation to the territory (section 15AAB).</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You must support and approve ordinances and amendments of applied laws of the territory.</p> <p>You must table lists of new WA laws in force in the territory in both Houses of Parliament every six months (section 8B).</p> <p>You are also vested with the powers, functions and duties ordinarily vested in a person (except a court officer), an authority (except a court), a Minister or the state Governor under applied WA laws in force in the territory (section 8G). You may delegate some of these powers and functions (section 8G).</p>
Contact	<p>Aaron O'Neill, Assistant Secretary, Indian Ocean Territories Branch, Territories Division; 02 6274 7988 s47F</p>

Christmas Island Agreement Acts

Purpose	<p>The <i>Christmas Island Agreement Act 1958</i> approves an agreement made between the Government of Australia and the Government of New Zealand relating to the extraction and production of phosphate, and access to timber, on Christmas Island (section 6). The Act also</p>
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makes provision for the continuance of the Christmas Island Phosphate Commission (section 7). The agreement referred to is included in Schedule 1 of the Act. Amendments to this agreement were made by the *Christmas Island Agreement Act 1976*.

Later amendments to the Act (*Christmas Island Agreement Act 1981* and *Christmas Island Agreement Amendment Act 1983*) inserted a second agreement (at Schedule 2) between the two governments made in 1983, which provided that the earlier 1958 agreement would end when the Christmas Island Phosphate Commission ceased to function. This second agreement also provided that the Commission would cease to function as soon as practicable after the 1983 agreement was made.

Your role and responsibilities You have no functions or powers under this Act.

Contact Aaron O'Neill, Assistant Secretary, Indian Ocean Territories Branch, Territories Division; 02 6274 7988 | s47F

Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955

Purpose The Act provides for the acceptance of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands as a territory of the Commonwealth (section 5). The Act also provides for the government of the territory, by enabling the Governor General to make ordinances for the peace, order and good government of the territory (section 12), and applies the laws in force in Western Australia (WA) to the Territory (section 8A). Applied laws may be amended, suspended or repealed by ordinance (section 8A). The Act enables the Commonwealth to enter arrangements with the WA Government to ensure that applied laws can be effectively administered (section 8H).

The Act stipulates that trials on indictment for offences against territory laws will be heard by a jury, and makes provisions on related matters (Part IV A). The Act also provides that WA Courts and court officers have jurisdiction in and in relation to the territory (section 15AAB).

Your role and responsibilities You must support and approve ordinances and amendments of applied laws of the territory.

You must table lists of new WA laws in force in the territory in both Houses of Parliament every six months (section 8B).

You are also vested with the powers, functions and duties ordinarily vested in a person (except a court officer), an authority (except a court), a WA Minister or the state Governor under applied WA laws in force in the territory (section 8G). You may delegate some of these powers and functions (section 8G).

Contact Aaron O'Neill, Assistant Secretary, Indian Ocean Territories Branch, Territories Division; 02 6274 7988 | s47F

Coral Sea Islands Act 1969

Purpose The Act acquires the islands in the area described by the Act for the Commonwealth, and declares these islands as the Coral Sea Islands Territory (section 3).

The Act provides for the government of the territory, as the Governor-General may make ordinances for the peace, order and good government of the territory (section 5). The Act also

provides that Commonwealth Acts are not in force in the territory, except where specific Acts express that they extend to the territory (section 6).

The Act also provides that the courts of Norfolk Island have jurisdiction in and in relation to the territory (section 8).

Your role and responsibilities You must support and approve any ordinances for the territory.

Contact Jim Baldwin, Assistant Secretary (A/g), Norfolk Island Branch, Territories Division;
02 6274 7405 | s47F

Jervis Bay Territory Acceptance Act 1915

Purpose The purpose of the Act is for the Commonwealth to accept the territory surrendered by New South Wales (NSW), and to define the limits of the Jervis Bay Territory. The Act provides for the application of Australian Capital Territory (ACT) laws and provides that the Supreme Court of the ACT has jurisdiction in the territory. The Act empowers the Governor-General to make ordinances for the peace, order and good government of the Jervis Bay Territory.

Your role and responsibilities Section 4E provides authority to you for the supply of water and electricity from the Jervis Bay Territory to persons outside the Jervis Bay Territory. Under section 4B(2), the Governor-General issued a Direction that you may appoint special magistrates for the territory under the *Magistrates Courts Act 1930* (ACT).

Contact Jane Christie, Assistant Secretary, Mainland Territories Branch, Territories Division;
02 6274 7664 | s47F

Norfolk Island Act 1979

Purpose The Act provides for the Government of the Territory of Norfolk Island. The Act enables the Governor-General to make ordinances for the peace, order, and good governance of the territory (section 19A). It establishes an applied laws regime for Norfolk Island by providing that laws which are in force in an applied law jurisdiction from time to time are also in force in Norfolk Island from 1 July 2016 (section 18A). An applied law jurisdiction includes New South Wales (NSW) and any state or self-governing territory when prescribed by Regulations. As of 1 January 2022, Queensland laws apply to Norfolk Island to support the delivery of state-type services (such as health and education) by the Queensland Government on behalf of the Commonwealth Government. The Act enables the Commonwealth to enter into arrangements with the Queensland Government, as an applied law jurisdiction, to ensure that applied laws can be effectively administrated on Norfolk Island.

Since 2015 significant reforms have been made to the Norfolk Island Act. The *Norfolk Island Legislation Amendment Act 2015* abolished self-government and established the Norfolk Island Regional Council.

The majority of NSW laws have been suspended in operation until 1 July 2023 by the Norfolk Island Applied Laws Ordinance 2016 made under section 18A of the Act. The Act also continues existing laws of Norfolk Island (section 16 and section 16A) which may be amended or repealed by a section 19A Ordinance or a law made under a section 19A Ordinance.

Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have a range of powers concerning ordinances and the operation of applied laws under the Act.</p> <p>You must approve ordinances and transitional rules made under the Act.</p> <p>You can enter into arrangements with a state government for assistance in the administration of applied laws and other laws in force in the territory, including the performance of functions and provision of services by state government agencies on behalf of the Commonwealth (section 18C).</p> <p>Powers vested under applied state laws in a state Minister, the state Governor, the Governor-in-Council of the state, or other person or authority (other than a state court officer or court)) are instead vested in you as the responsible Commonwealth minister (subsections 18B (1) and (2)). You may delegate those powers to a specified person, or direct that such power is also vested in a specified person or authority (subsection 18(3)).</p> <p>Where a government of the applied law jurisdiction and the Commonwealth Government have agreed to enter into an arrangement for the application and administration of one or more applied state laws (under section 18C), you are taken to have directed that certain non-judicial powers are vested in certain state government officers, employees or authorities. This provision obviates the need for you to specifically vest a potentially diverse range of powers to officers or authorities of the applied law jurisdiction. However, you or your delegate may still validly exercise a power under an applied law, even if you or your delegate would not be ordinarily qualified to exercise that power under the applied state law as in force in the applied law jurisdiction (subsection 18B(9)).</p> <p>You can make grants or other dispositions of Crown land in the territory in accordance with section 62 of the Act.</p>
Contact	<p>Jim Baldwin, Assistant Secretary (A/g), Norfolk Island Branch, Territories Division; 02 6274 7405 s47F</p>

Northern Territory Acceptance Act 1910

Purpose	<p>The Act provides for the acceptance of the Northern Territory (NT) as a territory under the authority of the Commonwealth, and for the establishment of an agreement for the surrender and acceptance for the NT.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have no functions or powers under this Act.</p>
Contact	<p>Jane Christie, Assistant Secretary, Mainland Territories Branch, Territories Division; 02 6274 7664 s47F</p>

Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978

Purpose	<p>The Act provides for self-government for the Northern Territory (NT). The Act provides for the establishment of the NT Legislative Assembly, separate political, representative and administrative institutions in the NT and gives the NT control over its own Treasury.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You will issue instructions to the NT Administrator, if and as required.</p> <p>You may arrange with the Administrator for the territory to perform functions on behalf of the Commonwealth or for the Commonwealth to perform functions on behalf of the territory.</p>

Contact Jane Christie, Assistant Secretary, Mainland Territories Branch, Territories Division;
02 6274 7664 | s47F

Parliament Act 1974

Purpose The Act provides for the location of the site for the new and permanent Parliament House in Canberra within the Australian Capital Territory. The Act defines the Parliamentary Zone and prohibits building within the Parliamentary Zone unless the Minister or other Parliamentary representatives specified in the Act had a proposal for the building work approved by each House of Parliament.

Your role and responsibilities You must ensure no works are carried out in the Parliamentary Zone unless the proposal has been approved by resolution of each House of Parliament.

Contact Jane Christie, Assistant Secretary, Mainland Territories Branch, Territories Division;
02 6274 7664 | s47F

Removal of Prisoners (Territories) Act 1923

Purpose The Act provides for the circumstances and manner in which certain prisoners may be removed from a territory under the authority of the Commonwealth, and taken to another territory or state to serve their sentence or its remainder.

The Act applies to all territories (Australian Capital Territory, Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Norfolk Island) with the exception of Jervis Bay Territory and some exceptions applying to the Northern Territory.

Your role and responsibilities You may provide advice to the Governor-General with respect to a decision on the release of criminal lunatics (section 10A), and on licences for prisoners to be held at large (section 8A), with respect to territories and matters for which you are responsible under the Administrative Arrangement Orders (some responsibilities under this Act rest with the Attorney-General).

Contact Mainland Territories
Jane Christie, Assistant Secretary, Mainland Territories Branch, Territories Division;
02 6274 7664 | s47F

Indian Ocean Territories

Aaron O'Neill, Assistant Secretary, Indian Ocean Territories Branch, Territories Division;
02 6274 7988 | s47F

Norfolk Island

Jim Baldwin, Assistant Secretary (A/g), Norfolk Island Branch, Territories Division;
02 6274 7405 | s47F

Seat of Government Acceptance Act 1909

Purpose The Act provides for the Agreement between the Commonwealth and New South Wales for the surrender and acceptance of the territory for the seat of government of the Commonwealth to be confirmed and ratified.

Your role and responsibilities	You have no functions or powers under this Act.
Contact	Jane Christie, Assistant Secretary, Mainland Territories Branch, Territories Division; 02 6274 7664 s47F

Seat of Government (Acceptance) Act 1922

Purpose	The Act provides for approval, confirmation and ratification of a variation to the agreement for the surrender and acceptance of the territory for the seat of government of the Commonwealth. This variation corrects errors and misdescriptions in clause 5 of the Agreement.
Your role and responsibilities	You have no functions or powers under this Act.
Contact	Jane Christie, Assistant Secretary, Mainland Territories Branch, Territories Division; 02 6274 7664 s47F

Seat of Government Act 1908

Purpose	The Act provides for the seat of government of the Commonwealth to be in the district of Yass-Canberra in NSW and to be not less than 900 square miles and have access to the sea.
Your role and responsibilities	You have no functions or powers under this Act.
Contact	Jane Christie, Assistant Secretary, Mainland Territories Branch, Territories Division; 02 6274 7664 s47F

Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910

Purpose	The Act provides for the provisional government of the territory for the seat of government of the Commonwealth.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• give notice in the Commonwealth Gazette of any Ordinance made under the Act• lay a determination of fees and charges made by the Minister under an Ordinance before both Houses of Parliament within 15 sitting days of that House after the day on which the determination is made. <p>You may delegate to any person all or any of his or her powers or functions under any Ordinance made under the Act</p>
Contact	Jane Christie, Assistant Secretary, Mainland Territories Branch, Territories Division; 02 6274 7664 s47F

Territories Law Reform Act 2010

Purpose

The Act provides for amendments to be made to laws relating to Norfolk Island, Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

Due to amendments made to the *Norfolk Island Act 1979*, the *Christmas Island Act 1958*, and the *Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955* amendments made by this Act are redundant and this Act may be repealed.

Norfolk Island

The primary purpose of the Act is to make amendments to a range of Commonwealth Acts to improve Norfolk Island's governance arrangements. This included amendments to strengthen the accountability of the then Norfolk Island Government, however, the Norfolk Island Legislative Assembly and Executive Council has since been abolished, hence some of those provisions are no longer applicable.

The Act also amends:

- the *Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1975* to enable merits review jurisdiction to be conferred on the Administrative Appeals Tribunal for specified decisions made under the authority of Norfolk Island enactments
- the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988* to extend the application of those Acts to information held by the Norfolk Island Government and Administration
- the *Ombudsman Act 1976* and Norfolk Island Act to make the Commonwealth Ombudsman the Ombudsman for Norfolk Island

Indian Ocean Territories

The Act amends the Christmas Island Act and the Cocos (Keeling) Act to provide a revised vesting mechanism for powers and functions under Western Australian (WA) laws applied in the Indian Ocean Territories (IOT). This will lead to greater efficiency in the administration of service delivery arrangements.

Your role and responsibilities

Norfolk Island

You have overall responsibility for the formulation of Australian Government policy for the territory of Norfolk Island and a defined role to play in its governance. In essence, you are responsible for assisting the Australian Government meets its responsibility for Norfolk Island's good governance, including compliance with Australia's obligations under international treaties and conventions to which Australia is a signatory. Your powers are contained in the Norfolk Island Act.

Indian Ocean Territories

The Act introduces a number of provisions regarding the vesting of powers. In particular, subsection 8G(1) ensures the powers of a WA Minister and the WA Governor remain vested in you and are not subject to automatic vesting or delegation. Your powers are contained in Christmas Island Act and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act.

Contact

Mainland Territories

Jane Christie, Assistant Secretary, Mainland Territories Branch, Territories Division;
02 6274 7664 | s47F

Indian Ocean Territories

Aaron O'Neill, Assistant Secretary, Indian Ocean Territories Branch, Territories Division;
02 6274 7988 | s47F

Norfolk Island

Jim Baldwin, Assistant Secretary (A/g), Norfolk Island Branch, Territories Division;
02 6274 7405 | s47F

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Administrative Arrangements Order (2021)

The responsibilities described in this portfolio overview, as well as the department's current organisational arrangements, are based on the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) dated 2 July 2021. These arrangements will be updated in accordance with any new AAOs produced by your government.

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

Matters dealt with by the department

Infrastructure planning and co-ordination

Transport safety, including investigations

Land transport

Civil aviation and airports

Maritime transport including shipping

Major projects, including implementation of all non-Defence development projects

Administration of the Jervis Bay Territory, the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Territory of Christmas Island, the Coral Sea Islands Territory, the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands, and Norfolk Island

Constitutional development of the Northern Territory

Constitutional development of the Australian Capital Territory

Delivery of regional and territory specific services and programmes

Planning and land management in the Australian Capital Territory

Regional development

Matters relating to local government

Regional policy and co-ordination

National policy on cities

Broadband policy and programmes

Postal and telecommunications policies and programmes

Spectrum policy management

Broadcasting policy

Content policy relating to the information economy

Cultural affairs, including movable cultural heritage and support for the arts

Classification

Copyright

Northern Australia policy and coordination

Legislation administered by the minister

A.C.T. Self-Government (Consequential Provisions) Act 1988

Adelaide Airport Curfew Act 2000

Air Accidents (Commonwealth Government Liability) Act 1963

Air Navigation Act 1920

Air Navigation Legislation (Validation and Interpretation) Act 1982

Air Services Act 1995

Aircraft Noise Levy Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Treasurer

Aircraft Noise Levy Collection Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Treasurer

Airports Act 1996

Airports (On-Airport Activities Administration) Validation Act 2010

Airspace Act 2007

Airspace (Consequential and Other Measures) Act 2007
Ashmore and Cartier Islands Acceptance Act 1933
Assistance for Severely Affected Regions (Special Appropriation) (Coronavirus Economic Response Package) Act 2020
AUSSAT Repeal Act 1991
Australia Council Act 2013
Australia Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2013
Australian Airlines (Conversion to Public Company) Act 1988
Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983
Australian Broadcasting Corporation (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1983
Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988, except to the extent administered by the Minister for Finance
Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988
Australian Communications and Media Authority Act 2005
Australian Communications and Media Authority (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2005
Australian Film, Television and Radio School Act 1973
Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990
Australian National Maritime Museum Act 1990
Australian National Railways Commission Sales Act 1997
Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989
Aviation Fuel Revenues (Special Appropriation) Act 1988
Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Broadcasting Reform) Act 2017
Broadcasting Services Act 1992
Broadcasting Services (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1992
Canberra Water Supply (Googong Dam) Act 1974
Carriage of Goods by Sea Act 1991
Christmas Island Act 1958
Christmas Island Agreement Acts
Circuit Layouts Act 1989
Civil Aviation Act 1988
Civil Aviation (Carriers' Liability) Act 1959
Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment Act 1995
Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Minister for Indigenous Australians
Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012
Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Act 2012
Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955
Commercial Broadcasting (Tax) Act 2017
Competition and Consumer Act 2010, Parts X, XIB and XIC
Copyright Act 1968
Coral Sea Islands Act 1969
Damage by Aircraft Act 1999
Do Not Call Register Act 2006
Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015
Enhancing Online Safety for Children (Consequential Amendments) Act 2015
Enhancing Online Safety (Non-consensual Sharing of Intimate Images) Act 2018
Infrastructure Australia Act 2008

Interactive Gambling Act 2001
International Air Services Commission Act 1992
International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Act 2013
Jervis Bay Territory Acceptance Act 1915
Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims Act 1989
Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995
Marine Navigation Levy Act 1989
Marine Navigation Levy Collection Act 1989
Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Act 1991
Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Collection Act 1991
Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Act 2012
Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law (Consequential Amendments) Act 2012
Maritime Legislation Amendment Act 2007
Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989
National Broadband Network Companies Act 2011
National Film and Sound Archive of Australia Act 2008
National Gallery Act 1975
National Land Transport Act 2014
National Library Act 1960
National Museum of Australia Act 1980
National Portrait Gallery of Australia Act 2012
National Portrait Gallery of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2012
National Transmission Network Sale Act 1998
National Transport Commission Act 2003
Navigation Act 2012
Norfolk Island Act 1979
Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016
Northern Territory Acceptance Act 1910
Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978, except sections 69 and 70
Parliament Act 1974
Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act 1946
Postal and Telecommunications Commissions (Transitional Provisions) Act 1975
Port Statistics Act 1977
Protection of Cultural Objects on Loan Act 2013
Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986
Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage) Act 2008
Protection of the Sea (Harmful Anti-fouling Systems) Act 2006
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—Customs) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—Excise) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—General) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Oil Pollution Compensation Funds) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Powers of Intervention) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Act 1983
Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy Collection) Act 1981
Public Lending Right Act 1985

Qantas Sale Act 1992, Part 3, sections 7 to 13 inclusive
Radiocommunications Act 1992
Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Act 1983
Radiocommunications (Spectrum Licence Tax) Act 1997
Radiocommunications Taxes Collection Act 1983
Radiocommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1992
Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Act 1983
Removal of Prisoners (Territories) Act 1923, insofar as it relates to the Northern Territory (except to the extent administered by the Attorney-General) and to Norfolk Island, the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Territory of Christmas Island, the Coral Sea Islands Territory, and the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands
Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act 2009
Road Charges Legislation Repeal and Amendment Act 2008
Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – General) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – Customs) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – Excise) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2018
Screen Australia Act 2008
Screen Australia and the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2008
Screen Australia (Transfer of Assets) Act 2011
Seat of Government Acceptance Acts
Seat of Government Act 1908
Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910
Shipping Reform (Tax Incentives) Act 2012
Shipping Registration Act 1981
Spam Act 2003
Special Broadcasting Service Act 1991
Special Recreational Vessels Act 2019
Submarine Cables and Pipelines Protection Act 1963
Sydney Airport Curfew Act 1995
Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997
Telecommunications Act 1997
Telecommunications and Postal Services (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1989
Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer) Act 2020
Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act 1997
Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999
Telecommunications (Industry Levy) Act 2012
Telecommunications (Numbering Charges) Act 1997
Telecommunications (Regional Broadband Scheme) Charge Act 2020
Telecommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1991
Telecommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1997
Telstra Corporation Act 1991
Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Act 2005
Territories Law Reform Act 2010
Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003
Urban and Regional Development (Financial Assistance) Act 1974



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications



INCOMING GOVERNMENT BRIEFING

Portfolio Overview

Northern Australia

May 2022

Image credits

Top left. Getty Images, TED MEAD

Bottom left. Mango Farm, Mareeba, QLD_Mareeba.
Office of Northern Australia, Rob Blake

Right. Outback Way, Alice Springs, Northern Territory.
Office of Northern Australia, Jess Wright

Portfolio Overview

▶ About your portfolio

A high-level summary of the responsibilities of your portfolio, as well as information about the structure and function of the department.

▶ About the department

An overview of the department's work, values, programs and projects, budget, people, and key contacts.

▶ Portfolio entity

An overview of the Commonwealth entity in your portfolio, including information on each entity's purpose, governance, functions and funding profile.

▶ Program administered by the department

Information on your government's established programs and those announced in the 2022-23 Budget, including the status of each program, delivery partners and stakeholders, governance arrangements, funding, key facts and program administration details.

▶ Portfolio legislation

An up-to-date list of legislation relevant to the work of the department and portfolio entities.

▶ Administrative Arrangements Order

Administrative Arrangements Orders formally allocate executive responsibility among ministers. They set out which matters and legislation are administered by which department or portfolio.

- o Leadership team
- o Organisational structure
- o Establishing your office and ministerial support services

- o Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility

- o Our North, Our Future - Next five year plan for northern Australia

- o Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016

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About your portfolio

This portfolio overview contains a high-level summary of the responsibilities of your portfolio, as well as information about the structure and function of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. The responsibilities described below, as well as the department's current organisational arrangements, are based on the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) dated 2 July 2021. These arrangements will be updated in accordance with any new AAOs produced by your government.

Portfolio entities

In addition to the department, your portfolio comprises one corporate Commonwealth entity, the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF), which is subject to the obligations and accountabilities of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. The portfolio's entity contributes to the well-being of all Australians through outcomes delivered on behalf of the Australian Government.

More detailed information on your role and responsibilities with regard to the NAIF, including in relation to board appointments, is provided in the chapter on portfolio entities, along with information on the NAIF's purpose, governance, functions and funding profile.

Portfolio legislation

You are responsible for one piece of portfolio legislation, the *Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016*.

Further information on your role is provided in the chapter on portfolio legislation.

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About the department

Northern Australia portfolio roles and activities

The department's work spans a broad range of matters, supporting the government in the effective development and delivery of programs, policies and regulations that enrich the lives of all Australians and connect communities.

The department's values of being respectful, informed, collaborative, accountable and adaptive will be applied in support of you and your office, and we will adapt our roles and activities to support you to deliver your agenda this term.

The department works to achieve 6 outcomes across our budget programs, one of which relates to your portfolio. These outcomes form the legal basis for the appropriation of funding, and therefore any change to outcomes involves a formal process requiring legal advice and approval from the Minister for Finance. The names of budget programs can be changed more easily, where these are not set out in legislation.



Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia's cities and regions including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in water infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance

Program 3.4 Growing the Northern Australia Economy – 'Our North, Our Future: 2021-2026 – Targeted Growth' is the government's next five-year strategic plan for developing northern Australia. From 2021-2026 the government will invest in transformational and enabling projects through a whole-of-government approach, in partnership with state and territory governments.

Programs administered by the department

The chapter on programs administered by the department sets out the status of the Northern Australia Grant Programs, including delivery partners and stakeholders, governance arrangements including your role with regard to decision-making, program funding, key facts and program administration details.

Program funding outlined in these briefs reflects the 2022-23 Budget and the program expenditure figures are as at 31 March 2022. Updated expenditure figures as at 30 April 2022 will be provided to you and your office in early briefings.

Budget

For the 2022-23 financial year, the department will administer \$19.0 billion in agency resourcing, comprised of \$0.7 billion in departmental and \$18.3 billion in administered (i.e. program) funding. Administered funding includes \$2.4 billion in payments to portfolio bodies. Agency resourcing increased by \$2.7 billion between the 2021-22 and 2022-23 financial years, primarily due to additional support provided through the 2022-23 Budget to regional Australia and pandemic economic recovery measures.

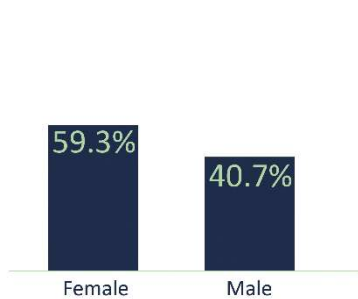
Of the departmental funding, \$479.3 million is in departmental operating funding and \$10.2 million in departmental capital budget. The remainder of the \$164.1 million represents prior year appropriation available to the department, funding in existing special accounts (reserved for specific purposes) and own-source revenue. The department's Average Staffing Level (ASL) for the 2022-23 Budget has increased by 56 ASL from the 2021-22 estimated ASL of 1,708 to 1,764.

A further \$17.6 billion in 2022-23 (\$64.7 billion across 4 years) is provided to states and territories through various National Partnership Payments.

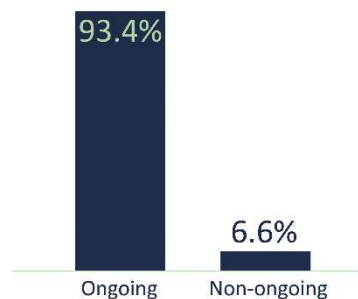
People

At 31 March 2022, the department had a total employee headcount of 1,934 people. Just over 93 per cent are ongoing, close to 60 per cent are female, and while the majority of employees are located in the ACT, the department has staff in all other states and territories, plus Norfolk Island, Jervis Bay Territory, the Indian Ocean Territories and internationally. Further information is provided in the graphics below.

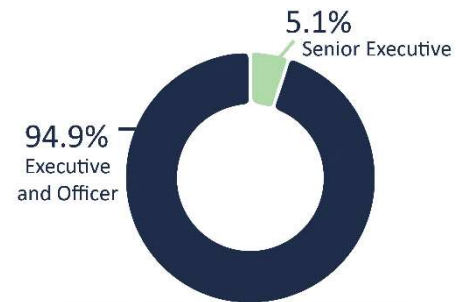
Staff by gender



Staff by employment status



Staff by classification



Non-Senior Executive Service (non-SES) employees are employed under the Enterprise Agreement which came into effect from 28 March 2016. From 2 December 2021, a new one year section 24(1) determination continued the terms and conditions of the Enterprise Agreement. The determination provided a 1.9 per cent pay increase from 28 March 2022 to all non-SES employees covered by the department's Enterprise Agreement.

SES employees are employed under a separate instrument.

The department's non-APS workforce consists of 267 labour hire and fee-for-service employees who primarily undertake roles in specialist data and program positions, IT and non-ongoing administrative functions.

Leadership team

The department's executive comprises the Secretary and 7 Deputy Secretaries. Deputy Secretaries support the Secretary and carry out a wide-ranging brief across the portfolio's policy, regulatory and operational responsibilities as well as overseeing the work of business divisions.

Simon Atkinson



Secretary

Simon Atkinson was appointed Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications on 1 February 2020. He was previously Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development.

Prior to his appointment as Secretary, Mr Atkinson served as Deputy Secretary, Fiscal Group at the Treasury.

Since joining the Australian Public Service as a graduate, he has held senior roles in many Australian Government portfolios, including Infrastructure and Regional, Finance, Defence, and Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Mr Atkinson has held leadership roles delivering major policy reforms, including the establishment of Infrastructure Australia in 2007, the 2009 Defence White Paper and 24 Commonwealth economic updates. He has overseen the largest infrastructure investment in the Commonwealth's history including transformational projects such as the Western Sydney Airport and led the successful stewardship of aviation, shipping, freight, telecommunications and the arts through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr Atkinson is an alumnus of the University of Queensland with bachelor degrees in Science and Law. He is a barrister and solicitor of the Federal Court and the Supreme Court of NSW. Mr Atkinson holds a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

02 6274 7573 s47F
Simon.Atkinson@infrastructure.gov.au

Marisa Purvis-Smith



Deputy Secretary Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia Group CEO of the National Water Grid Authority

Marisa is the Deputy Secretary of Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia and the CEO of the National Water Grid Authority within the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. This role includes responsibility for the Office of Northern Australia.

Marisa brings a wealth of experience, including a strong understanding of regional and community issues, including as First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development, Local Government and Regional Recovery. Prior to that, Marisa worked in the federal Treasury in a range of roles, including tax policy and Commonwealth-State relations. Marisa is also the department's representative on the Australian Maritime Safety Authority Board.

02 6274 7884 s47F
Marisa.Purvis-Smith@infrastructure.gov.au

Rachel Bacon



Deputy Secretary Regional, Cities and Territories Group

Dr Rachel Bacon is currently Deputy Secretary of the Regional, Cities and Territories Group at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

Prior to this Rachel worked in the Department of Environment and Energy, running the Policy Analysis and Implementation Division and as Deputy Chief Executive Officer with the Northern Territory Government's Department of the Chief Minister.

Rachel previously led a number of taskforces based in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) working to deliver whole of government priorities in areas such as environment regulation reform and Australia's engagement with Asia.

02 6274 6181 s47F
Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

Diane Brown



Deputy Secretary Transport Group

Diane Brown commenced as Deputy Secretary at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications in May 2021. Diane joined the Department in August 2020 as First Assistant Secretary of Communications Infrastructure Division. Prior to that, Diane spent 7 years at the Australian Treasury, in the Markets Group with various responsibilities predominantly relating to financial markets and corporate regulation.

Prior to joining the public service, Diane held senior roles in the private sector and in the corporate regulator, the Australian Securities and Investment Commission. She commenced her career as an economist at the Reserve Bank and has practised law at a national law firm in Sydney.

Diane holds bachelor degrees (with honours) in economics and law from the University of Sydney and a masters degree (with honours) in economics from the University of New South Wales.

02 6274 7515 s47F
Diane.Brown@infrastructure.gov.au

Dave Hallinan



**Deputy Secretary
Infrastructure Group**

Dave Hallinan is the Deputy Secretary of the Infrastructure Group of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, with two decades of public sector experience and well over a decade in senior leadership roles across the Australian Public Service.

Dave is values driven, enjoys linking complex practical implementation issues with nationally significant agendas, and working collaboratively with complex stakeholder groups to solve challenging policy, program and regulatory issues to support the best outcomes for the Australian community.

Dave has spent his career working across policy development, and program and regulatory delivery across the Health, Infrastructure and Finance portfolios. Dave's key content areas include infrastructure financing and delivery, Australian Government budget management and advice, and rural health, primary care financing and delivery, health workforce management and regulation, aged care, and health and related systems integration.

02 6274 7302 s47F
David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

Richard Windeyer



**Deputy Secretary
Communications and Media Group**

Richard has held Deputy Secretary roles in the communications portfolio since 2018. Richard joined the Australian Public Service 23 years ago. The majority of his career has been in the communications portfolio. He had held numerous roles in the departments responsible for communications and has also spent time in the offices of communications portfolio ministers. Other roles have included working on homeland security policy in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and on transport security policy.

The Communications and Media group has responsibility for broadband, telecommunications, media and digital platform industry policy, infrastructure investment and consumer policy, radio-communications policy, online safety as well as oversight of the government's shareholding interests in Australia Post and the National Broadband Network. The group is also responsible for policy and regulatory advice around public interest communications issues relating to provision of emergency calls, access to communications services by people with disabilities, and communications network resilience.

02 6274 7882 s47F
Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au

Stephen Arnott



Deputy Secretary Creative Economy and the Arts Group

Stephen Arnott is the Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy and the Arts in the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. Stephen has more than 20 years' experience in the Australian Public Service in arts, screen, creative industries, communications and technology policy areas. He has also worked as a ministerial adviser.

Stephen was promoted to the Senior Executive Service in 2009. He was awarded a Public Service Medal in 2005 for his work reforming Australia's symphony orchestras. Previously Stephen helped run a small business providing data security services to corporate clients in Sydney. Stephen has a Doctorate in French Philosophy from the University of New England where he lectured in both philosophy and psychology for a number of years.

02 6274 7883 s47F
Stephen.Arnott@arts.gov.au

Maree Bridger



Acting Chief Operating Officer

Maree Bridger is currently the acting Chief Operating Officer at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

Maree has worked in the Australian Public Service for 14 years across a range of policy, program, corporate and service delivery areas in the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, Services Australia, the Department of Immigration and Border Protection and the Australian Customs Service.

Maree's current responsibilities include leading a wide variety of corporate functions including: human resources, property, finance, IT, legal, governance, assurance and communications.

Prior to Maree's time in the APS she had 17 years in the private sector and held roles at the Shell Company of Australia, Osborne Computers Corporation and Austar United Communications. Prior to her transition in to the public sector, Maree worked as a consultant for 8 years, with a specific focus on organisational change, strategic planning, maximising competitive advantage and building organisational capability.

Maree has a Bachelor of Economics from ANU, an Executive MBA from the Australian Graduate School of Management at UNSW and is a Certified Practising Accountant.

02 6274 7029 s47F
Maree.Bridger@infrastructure.gov.au



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

Portfolio
Strategy
Taskforce
FAS: Julia
Pickworth



Secretary
Simon Atkinson
Chief of Staff
Louise Rawlings

* Denotes acting
Taskforce
Organisational structure
current as at 20 May 2022

GROUP (Deputy Secretary)

 Deputy Secretary Creative Economy and the Arts Stephen Amott	 Chief Operating Officer Maree Bridger*	 Deputy Secretary Transport Diane Brown	 Deputy Secretary Infrastructure David Hallinan	 Deputy Secretary Communications and Media Richard Windeyer	 Deputy Secretary Regional, Cities and Territories Rachel Bacon	 Deputy Secretary Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia / CEO National Water Grid Authority Purvis-Smith
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DIVISION (First Assistant Secretary / SES Band 2)

Office for the Arts Greg Cox	Data, Analytics and Policy Philip Smith	People, Governance, Regulatory and Communication Ruth Wall	Finance and IT Brad Medland	Legal Services Chris Burke	Domestic Aviation and Reform Programs Janet Quigley	International Aviation, Transport and Services Richard Wood	Surface Transport Policy Andrew Madson*	Road and Vehicle Safety Lisa La France	Infrastructure and Partnerships David Mackay	Major Transport and Infrastructure Projects Jessica Hall	Significant Projects Infrastructure Delivery Office Diana Hallam	Online Safety, Media and Platforms Pauline Sullivan	Communications Infrastructure Matthew Brine	Communications Consumer and Protection Polersson	Regional Development, Local Government and Recovery Sarah Nalley*	Territories and Vanuatu Van der Brink	Cities Matthew Roper	Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia / CEO National Water Grid Werner*
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BRANCH (Assistant Secretary / SES Band 1)

Arts Development and Investment Alicia Todd	Arts Recovery and Response Leanne Holloway	Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport David Mitchell*	Human Resources and Property Stephanie Bourne	Finance Carol Cate	Communications and Arts Stuart Kerr*	Aviation Programs Ben Vincent	Safety and Future Technology Nao Opoku	Land Transport Policy Paula Stagg	Vehicle Safety Policy and Partnerships Arlene Langford	Program, Policy and Budget Benjamin McGarr*	WSI - Program and Infrastructure James Savage*	Project Inception and Delivery Stephen Sorella	Classification Andrew Hyles	NBN Nicole Power*	Regional Communications Philip Smaithwaite*	Regional Policy and Recovery Jo Neuling*	Indian Ocean Territories Aaron O'Neill	Deals (TAS, NT, WA and Melbourne) and Cities Policy Tiffany Karlsson	Science, Policy and Engagement Malcolm Sainswell
Collectives and Participation Ain Campbell	Creative Industries Anna-Louise Dowse	Bureau of Communications, Arts and Cultural Research Justin Lu	Communications Susan Charles	Digital Initiatives Marlene Peters (DCO)	Infrastructure and Regional Development (Commercial) Nicola Whitney	Domestic Policy and Reform Dymowski	International Technology Jim Wolfe	Maritime and Shipping Andrew Jansson	Office of Infrastructure Regulatory Gabby O'Neill	North West Infrastructure Development Steno Rosenberg	Island Rail Development Mitch Pile	Project Identification and Establishment Bill Brummitt	Media Industry and Safety Adam Caron	Spectrum Sparaboom*	Post, International Telecommunications and ACMA Daniel Caruso	Regional Intelligence and Local Government Michael Gregory*	Mainland Territories Jane Christie	Deals (NSW, VIC, QLD, SA) Alex Wilson*	Infrastructure, Framework and Delivery Karina Kendall*
Access and Participation Marie Gannell*	Content Jenna Priestly	Strategic and Economic Policy Projects Kai Everist*	Governance, Ministerial and Parliamentary Services Rebecca Bush	IT Services Anthony Cusker (CIO)	Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Joanna Piva	Regional Policy and Environment Clare Chapple	Western Sydney Airport Regulatory Policy David Jansen	Transport Market Reform and Technology Mike Makin	Vehicle Safety Operations Michael Cole	NSW, ACT and Targeted Roads Robyn Legg	Island Rail Stakeholder and Regional Delivery Andrew Bourne	Project Identification and Establishment Bill Brummitt	Online Safety Bridget Gannon	Telecommunications Market Policy Tristan Kohuge	Consumer Safety Kathleen Sallen	Program Implementation and Drought Karyl Pidgeon	Norfolk Island Jim Baldwin*	Office of Northern Australia Linda Lee	

PORTFOLIO ENTITY

Australian National Maritime Museum	National Gallery of Australia	Screen Australia	Australia Council	Airservices Australia	Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd	Australian Broadcasting Corporation	Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility
Bundanon Trust	National Library of Australia	Australian Film, Television and Radio School	National Film and Sound Archive	Australian Transport Safety Bureau	WSA Co Ltd	Special Broadcasting Services Corporation	North QLD Water Infrastructure Authority
Creative Partnerships Australia Ltd	National Museum of Australia	National Portrait Gallery of Australia	National Transport Commission	Civil Aviation Safety Authority	National Frater Rail Agency	eSafety Commissioner	National Capital Authority
						Australian Communications and Media Authority	
						NBN Co Ltd	

Establishing your office and ministerial support services

The department provides a range of services to support you and the effective establishment and operation of your office. Services to ministers typically provided by departments include provision of information and communications technology support, support for ministers' cabinet roles, media and communications assistance, and departmental liaison officers to manage the flow of briefing and correspondence between your office and the department. These are in addition, and separate, to services provided by the Department of Parliamentary Services at Parliament House and the support provided by the Department of Finance and the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

The Prime Minister's Office agrees staffing levels in ministers' offices including the number of departmental liaison officers. In the interim, the department will support the transition of your office to full operation, particularly in the first 3 months while staff are being appointed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* (see Department of Finance's Ministerial and Parliamentary Services for further advice and information).

In circumstances where ministers may hold a number of portfolios, there will be discussions across relevant agencies and with the Department of Parliamentary Services and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet regarding how best to service your office, including which agency will take a lead role with regard to support.

Senior staff will be in contact with you and your office as soon as possible to commence discussions regarding your immediate support requirements. We will have close engagement with you over the coming weeks to bed down our service offering. Your incoming Chief of Staff will be provided with an overview of our services in order to commence those discussions.

The department's primary points of contact on these matters are listed below.

Rebecca Rush

Assistant Secretary
Governance, Ministerial and Parliamentary Services
Rebecca.Rush@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6271 1153 s47F

Julia Pickworth

First Assistant Secretary
Transition Lead
Julia.Pickworth@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 7565 s47F



Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility

Purpose

The Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) is a \$5 billion special investment facility to finance economic infrastructure projects across northern Australia. An additional \$2 billion has been previously approved by the Australian Government but it has yet to be legislated. The definition of northern Australia is defined in the *Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016* (NAIF Act).

The NAIF was established to accelerate infrastructure investments and drive transformational growth in northern Australia. The innovative financing options available through NAIF seek to de-risk private sector participation in the financing of northern Australia's infrastructure needs, and facilitate sustainable Indigenous economic outcomes through procurement and employment opportunities. NAIF projects generate public benefit and encourage sustainable growth in the economy and population of northern Australia.

The NAIF is a corporate Commonwealth entity established by the NAIF Act and given direction by the responsible ministers through the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Investment Mandate Direction 2021.

Your roles and responsibilities

In summary, you are responsible for:

- Considering all proposals seeking NAIF financial assistance. The legislative framework provides you with a power of veto over NAIF investment decisions on 3 grounds – where providing financial assistance would:
 - Be inconsistent with the objectives and policies of the Commonwealth government; or
 - Have adverse implications for Australia's national or domestic security; or
 - Have an adverse impact on Australia's international reputation or foreign relations.
- Issuing the NAIF Investment Mandate which provides directions to the NAIF on its provision of financial assistance (jointly with the Minister for Finance). Directions could include, but are not limited to, eligibility criteria for financial assistance, objectives the NAIF is to pursue through providing financial assistance, and loan characteristics. For example, the current Investment Mandate includes: that the proposed project will be of public benefit; that if it is an equity investment it will generate a positive return through comprehensive modelling; and that the project proponent must provide an Indigenous engagement strategy.
- The governance of the NAIF board, including appointment of the NAIF chair and board members. An individual board member appointment term is a maximum of 3 years and each member is appointed on a part-time basis.
- Undertaking a review of the NAIF Act as soon as possible after 30 June 2024 and tabling a report of the review to the Parliament within 15 sittings days after receipt.
- Issuing a statement of expectations, which outlines expectations, priorities and guidance for the NAIF board to consider in discharging its responsibilities, to shape the NAIF's delivery of its responsibilities.

Board

Name	Position	Current expiry dates
Ms Tracey Hayes	Chair	30 June 2024
Ms Kate George	Member	30 June 2024
Mr Steven Margetic	Member	30 June 2024
Mr Mark Gray	Member	30 November 2024
Mr Grant Cassidy	Member	30 November 2024
Ms Lisa Hewitt	Member	20 November 2024
Ms Shirley In't Veld	Member	20 November 2024
Secretary of department with policy responsibility for northern Australia (or nominated SES alternate).	Ex-officio	Not applicable

Mr Craig Doyle has been formally appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the NAIF, and will be based in Cairns, with his term of appointment from 20 June 2022 to 30 June 2026 (the final date under the current NAIF Act in which the NAIF can make any investment decisions). Mr Doyle has significant experience in industry and government, specialising in operations and project management including international greenfield and brownfield projects. He is currently the CEO of the Coal Network Pty Ltd and has previously held the roles of CEO of Mackay Regional Council, CEO of Gladstone Ports Corporation, and Executive General Manager of Wilmar Sugar.

The acting CEO of the NAIF is Mr Mark Darrough, appointed from 24 March 2022 to 19 June 2022. Mr Darrough is an experienced senior leader who has worked in numerous roles across the Australian Public Service including the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, and the Department of Finance. He has taken leave from his Australian Public Service role as Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Framework and Delivery Branch within the National Water Grid Authority of the department.

Governance and functions

The NAIF Act establishes the NAIF as a corporate Commonwealth entity (CCE) under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2014* (PGPA Act). As such, the NAIF is independent of government but must observe the whole of government accountability standards prescribed in the PGPA Act related to CCEs. The NAIF is required to prepare a statement of corporate intent, corporate plan and annual report.

Under the NAIF Act, the NAIF's function is to work with stakeholders to identify and develop transformational projects which demonstrate significant public benefit.

The NAIF is governed by the NAIF board. The board is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of the NAIF's functions. The board is required to consist of the Chair, the Secretary and no less than 4 and no more than 6 other members.

NAIF board members are identified as a significant appointment under the Cabinet Handbook (s116b). All significant appointments are considered by the responsible minister and Prime Minister, and at their discretion Cabinet, as required prior to formal appointment.

In line with s22A of the NAIF Act, the Secretary of the department has nominated SES staff as alternates to attend NAIF board meetings on his behalf. Any conflicts of interest in the ex-officio member's duties are managed in line with NAIF board policies, including recusing themselves from discussions or votes where a conflict of interest arises. This includes both conflicts of interest from their role as a public official, as well as any conflicts of interests that arise from material personal interests.

The NAIF board functions include responsibility for making investment decisions in alignment with the directions outlined in the investment mandate and your statement of expectations, and to ensure the proper, efficient and effective performance of NAIF's functions and all other functions conferred on the board by the NAIF Act.

While the NAIF board independently makes investment decisions, the legislative framework provides you with a power of veto over NAIF investment decisions.

The NAIF is a portfolio entity under the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio. The department has an oversight role in relation to the NAIF and supports the minister in such things as making significant appointments of the board and CEO, advising on proposal notices issued by the NAIF, and your responsibilities under the NAIF Act.

Funding profile

NAIF is not directly appropriated as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, which are then paid to NAIF and are considered 'departmental' for all purposes.

As at 2022–23 Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government – Appropriations	19.0	20.9	21.1	21.3	21.6
Other Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total Resourcing	19.0	20.9	21.1	21.3	21.6
Average Staffing Level ^(a)	1	1			

(a) The ASL estimate represents the CEO of NAIF. Total staffing for NAIF is 36.2 full time equivalents as at January 2022. The additional staff for NAIF include specialist staff engaged under contract.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Ms Tracey Hayes Chair (Darwin) s47F	Stephanie Werner Acting First Assistant Secretary, Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia Stephanie.Werner@infrastructure.gov.au s47F
Mr Mark Darrough Acting Chief Executive Officer s47F	

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Our North – Our Future: Northern Australia Grant Programs

Outcome 3.4: Growing a stronger Northern Australian economy

Matched grants and a supporting advisory service to assist businesses and community organisations in northern Australia scale up, diversify and create employment opportunities.

Status

The \$80 million in combined grant funding under the Northern Australia Development Program (NADP) and the Northern Australia Business and Community Growth Program (NABCG) has been fully allocated. Both programs closed on 8 April 2022, following the first assessment tranche. All applicants have been notified of the program outcomes with grant negotiations to commence shortly with the 30 successful applicants.

As at 31 March 2022, the combined NADP and NABCG has total funding of \$79.6 million, of which:

- \$79.6 million has been allocated to proponents, of which nil has been contracted.
- Nil has been paid to recipients.
- Nil remains unallocated.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 30 grants approved under the program, zero have been completed; zero are contracted and are underway; 30 have not commenced; and none have been withdrawn or terminated.

The \$20.6 million Strengthening Northern Australia Business Advisory Service (the advisory service) complements the NADP grants. The advisory service aims to support capability development of businesses in northern Australia and to maximise the effectiveness of grant support. Departmental funding of \$11.3 million is supporting implementation of grants and the advisory service.

Delivery partners

- Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources: Business Grants Hub to administer the grants, AusIndustry and their contracted facilitators to deliver the advisory service.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	30.8	30.8	30.8	4.1	4.1

As at 31 March 2022, \$84.8 million in administered funds (\$79.6 million in grants, \$5.2 million for advisory services) was committed and nil expended. A movement of funds will be required as part of the 2022-23 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook, to match the funding profile that will be developed based on milestone payments in grant agreements (once finalised).

Key stakeholders

- Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (DISER)
 - Business Grants Hub
 - AusIndustry
- Other Australian Government agencies
- Regional peak industry and government organisations including the Regional Development Australia – Northern Alliance
- Northern Australia communities and businesses
- Northern Australia state and territory governments

Eligibility, application and decision process

- Eligibility for the NADP was open to small to large trading corporations with an ABN. Two streams of grants were available:
 - Business Development Grants for small to medium sized business (\$50,000 to \$2 million).
 - Industry Transformation grants for medium to large businesses (\$3 million to \$10 million).
- Eligibility for the NABCG was open to incorporated associations and not-for-profit organisations, sole traders, partnerships, non-distributive co-operatives and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Corporations registered under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* with an ABN. Grants between \$50,000 and \$2 million were available under this program.
- The broad range of eligible activities available under the NADP and NABCG included purchasing plant and equipment and new infrastructure, relevant training and skills development, feasibility studies, business planning, marketing activities, process design and engineering, environment approval costs and scaling up activities related to the business opportunity.
- The Northern Australia Grants Programs were run as open, non-competitive programs. Applications were lodged through the Business Grants Hub portal and assessed by the Business Grants Hub and an external assessment committee against published assessment criteria.
- The Minister for Agriculture and Northern Australia (or another minister acting as an alternate decision maker where required), made the funding decisions. The 30 projects funded were the projects recommended for funding by the external assessment committee.

Program facts and examples

The NADP received 196 applications for first tranche assessment. There was a strong pipeline of applications prior to the program's closure, with 52 submitted after first tranche assessment deadline and 312 incomplete/draft applications.

Program administration

Outcome 3: Program 3.4 Growing a Stronger Northern Australia Economy.

Purposes: *Our North, Our Future: 2021-2026 – Targeted Growth* is the Government's next five-year strategic plan for developing northern Australia. From 2021-2026 the Government will invest in transformational and enabling projects through a whole-of-government approach, in partnership with state and territory governments.

Nature of appropriation: Funding for the NADP was announced in the 2021-22 Budget. Funding transferred from Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources to this department as part of the Administrative Arrangements Order on 2 July 2021 and which took effect on 2 September 2021.

Relevant legislation: The NADP is prescribed under the *Industry Research and Development Act 1986*. The NABCG is prescribed at Item 534, of Part 4, Schedule 1AB of the *Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997*.

Contacts

Marisa Purvis-Smith

Deputy Secretary, Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia

Marisa.Purvis-Smith@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6271 7457 s47F

Stephanie Werner

Acting First Assistant Secretary, Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia

Stephanie.Werner@infrastructure.gov.au

02 6271 7630 s47F

Portfolio legislation

This directory is current and as such may not match the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) created on 18 March 2021. It includes legislation which has received royal assent, and excludes legislation which has been repealed since the AAO was last amended on 02 July 2021. Should the AAO change, the department will advise you of changes to your legislative role.

Program 3.4: Growing the Northern Australia Economy

Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016

Purpose	<p>The <i>Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016</i> (NAIF Act) establishes the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF), which provides financial assistance to states, territories and other entities for the purpose of developing economic infrastructure in northern Australia.</p> <p>The NAIF Act was amended in May 2021 to extend the NAIF's investment window to 30 Jun 2026, enable the NAIF to make equity investments, and refine NAIF governance arrangements.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	See chapter on portfolio entities – Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility
Contact	Marisa Purvis-Smith, Deputy Secretary, Water Infrastructure & Northern Australia/CEO National Water Grid Authority; 02 6271 7457 s47F

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Administrative Arrangements Order (2021)

The responsibilities described in this portfolio overview, as well as the department's current organisational arrangements, are based on the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) dated 2 July 2021. These arrangements will be updated in accordance with any new AAOs produced by your government.

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

Matters dealt with by the department

Infrastructure planning and co-ordination

Transport safety, including investigations

Land transport

Civil aviation and airports

Maritime transport including shipping

Major projects, including implementation of all non-Defence development projects

Administration of the Jervis Bay Territory, the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Territory of Christmas Island, the Coral Sea Islands Territory, the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands, and Norfolk Island

Constitutional development of the Northern Territory

Constitutional development of the Australian Capital Territory

Delivery of regional and territory specific services and programmes

Planning and land management in the Australian Capital Territory

Regional development

Matters relating to local government

Regional policy and co-ordination

National policy on cities

Broadband policy and programmes

Postal and telecommunications policies and programmes

Spectrum policy management

Broadcasting policy

Content policy relating to the information economy

Cultural affairs, including movable cultural heritage and support for the arts

Classification

Copyright

Northern Australia policy and coordination

Legislation administered by the minister

A.C.T. Self-Government (Consequential Provisions) Act 1988

Adelaide Airport Curfew Act 2000

Air Accidents (Commonwealth Government Liability) Act 1963

Air Navigation Act 1920

Air Navigation Legislation (Validation and Interpretation) Act 1982

Air Services Act 1995

Aircraft Noise Levy Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Treasurer

Aircraft Noise Levy Collection Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Treasurer

Airports Act 1996

Airports (On-Airport Activities Administration) Validation Act 2010

Airspace Act 2007

Airspace (Consequential and Other Measures) Act 2007
Ashmore and Cartier Islands Acceptance Act 1933
Assistance for Severely Affected Regions (Special Appropriation) (Coronavirus Economic Response Package) Act 2020
AUSSAT Repeal Act 1991
Australia Council Act 2013
Australia Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2013
Australian Airlines (Conversion to Public Company) Act 1988
Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983
Australian Broadcasting Corporation (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1983
Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988, except to the extent administered by the Minister for Finance
Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988
Australian Communications and Media Authority Act 2005
Australian Communications and Media Authority (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2005
Australian Film, Television and Radio School Act 1973
Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990
Australian National Maritime Museum Act 1990
Australian National Railways Commission Sales Act 1997
Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989
Aviation Fuel Revenues (Special Appropriation) Act 1988
Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Broadcasting Reform) Act 2017
Broadcasting Services Act 1992
Broadcasting Services (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1992
Canberra Water Supply (Googong Dam) Act 1974
Carriage of Goods by Sea Act 1991
Christmas Island Act 1958
Christmas Island Agreement Acts
Circuit Layouts Act 1989
Civil Aviation Act 1988
Civil Aviation (Carriers' Liability) Act 1959
Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment Act 1995
Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Minister for Indigenous Australians
Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012
Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Act 2012
Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955
Commercial Broadcasting (Tax) Act 2017
Competition and Consumer Act 2010, Parts X, XIB and XIC
Copyright Act 1968
Coral Sea Islands Act 1969
Damage by Aircraft Act 1999
Do Not Call Register Act 2006
Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015
Enhancing Online Safety for Children (Consequential Amendments) Act 2015
Enhancing Online Safety (Non-consensual Sharing of Intimate Images) Act 2018
Infrastructure Australia Act 2008

Interactive Gambling Act 2001
International Air Services Commission Act 1992
International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Act 2013
Jervis Bay Territory Acceptance Act 1915
Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims Act 1989
Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995
Marine Navigation Levy Act 1989
Marine Navigation Levy Collection Act 1989
Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Act 1991
Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Collection Act 1991
Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Act 2012
Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law (Consequential Amendments) Act 2012
Maritime Legislation Amendment Act 2007
Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989
National Broadband Network Companies Act 2011
National Film and Sound Archive of Australia Act 2008
National Gallery Act 1975
National Land Transport Act 2014
National Library Act 1960
National Museum of Australia Act 1980
National Portrait Gallery of Australia Act 2012
National Portrait Gallery of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2012
National Transmission Network Sale Act 1998
National Transport Commission Act 2003
Navigation Act 2012
Norfolk Island Act 1979
Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016
Northern Territory Acceptance Act 1910
Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978, except sections 69 and 70
Parliament Act 1974
Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act 1946
Postal and Telecommunications Commissions (Transitional Provisions) Act 1975
Port Statistics Act 1977
Protection of Cultural Objects on Loan Act 2013
Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986
Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage) Act 2008
Protection of the Sea (Harmful Anti-fouling Systems) Act 2006
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—Customs) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—Excise) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—General) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Oil Pollution Compensation Funds) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Powers of Intervention) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Act 1983
Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy Collection) Act 1981
Public Lending Right Act 1985

Qantas Sale Act 1992, Part 3, sections 7 to 13 inclusive
Radiocommunications Act 1992
Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Act 1983
Radiocommunications (Spectrum Licence Tax) Act 1997
Radiocommunications Taxes Collection Act 1983
Radiocommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1992
Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Act 1983
Removal of Prisoners (Territories) Act 1923, insofar as it relates to the Northern Territory (except to the extent administered by the Attorney-General) and to Norfolk Island, the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Territory of Christmas Island, the Coral Sea Islands Territory, and the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands
Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act 2009
Road Charges Legislation Repeal and Amendment Act 2008
Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – General) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – Customs) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – Excise) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2018
Screen Australia Act 2008
Screen Australia and the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2008
Screen Australia (Transfer of Assets) Act 2011
Seat of Government Acceptance Acts
Seat of Government Act 1908
Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910
Shipping Reform (Tax Incentives) Act 2012
Shipping Registration Act 1981
Spam Act 2003
Special Broadcasting Service Act 1991
Special Recreational Vessels Act 2019
Submarine Cables and Pipelines Protection Act 1963
Sydney Airport Curfew Act 1995
Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997
Telecommunications Act 1997
Telecommunications and Postal Services (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1989
Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer) Act 2020
Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act 1997
Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999
Telecommunications (Industry Levy) Act 2012
Telecommunications (Numbering Charges) Act 1997
Telecommunications (Regional Broadband Scheme) Charge Act 2020
Telecommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1991
Telecommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1997
Telstra Corporation Act 1991
Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Act 2005
Territories Law Reform Act 2010
Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003
Urban and Regional Development (Financial Assistance) Act 1974



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications



INCOMING GOVERNMENT BRIEFING

Portfolio Overview

Communications

May 2022

Image credits

Top left. Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

Bottom left. Getty Images, Stephen Gibson / EyeEm

Right. Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

Portfolio Overview

About your portfolio

A high-level summary of the responsibilities of your portfolio, as well as information about the structure and function of the department.

About the department

An overview of the department's work, values, programs and projects, budget, people, and key contacts.

Portfolio entities

An overview of the Commonwealth entities and companies in your portfolio, including information on each entity's purpose, governance, functions and funding profile.

Other boards and structures

An overview of the purpose, governance, and functions of other boards and structures related to your portfolio.

Significant ministerial roles

A summary of your participation in significant ministerial meetings and other functions.

Programs administered by the department

Information on the status of each program in your portfolio, its delivery partners and stakeholders, governance arrangements, including your role with regard to decision-making, program funding, key facts and program administration details.

Portfolio legislation

An up-to-date list of legislation relevant to the work of the department and portfolio entities.

Administrative Arrangements Order

Administrative Arrangements Orders formally allocate executive responsibility among ministers. They set out which matters and legislation are administered by which department or portfolio.

- o Leadership team
- o Organisational structure
- o Establishing your office and ministerial support services

- o NBN Co Limited
- o Australian Broadcasting Corporation
- o Australian Postal Corporation
- o Special Broadcasting Service Corporation
- o Australian Communications and Media Authority
- o Office of the eSafety Commissioner

- o International Telecommunication Union and related organisations
- o Universal Postal Union and Asian-Pacific Postal Union
- o Australian Broadband Advisory Committee

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Commonwealth loan to NBN Coo Regional Broadband Schemeo Universal Service Obligationo Upgrade of NBN fixed wireless and satellite connectionso Mobile Black Spot Programo Regional Connectivity Programo Other public interest services (emergency call service and NBN voice-only migration)o National Relay Serviceo Community Broadcasting Programo Australian 5G Innovation Initiativeo Public Interest News Gathering Programo Regional Broadcasting Programo Regional Backbone Blackspots Program | <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Contribution to International Telecommunication Union and Asia-Pacific Telecommunityo Cell Broadcast National Messaging Systemo Peri Urban Mobile Programo Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasterso Amplifying Australia's Voice Programo Consumer Representation Grants Programo Journalist Fundo Cadetship and Scholarship Programo Audio description initiativeo Supporting Under-represented Sportso Spectrum Pricing Transitional Support Programo Regional Tech Hubo Electromagnetic Energy Programo Alternative Voice Services Trials |
|---|--|

Portfolio Overview

▶ About the department

- o Leadership team
- o Organisational structure
- o Establishing your office and ministerial support services

▶ Portfolio entities

- o NBN Co Limited
- o Australian Broadcasting Corporation
- o Australian Postal Corporation
- o Special Broadcasting Service Corporation
- o Australian Communications and Media Authority
- o Office of the eSafety Commissioner

▶ Significant ministerial roles

- o International Telecommunication Union and related organisations
- o Universal Postal Union and Asian-Pacific Postal Union
- o Australian Broadband Advisory Committee

▶ Programs administered by the department

- | | |
|--|--|
| o Commonwealth loan to NBN Co | o Cell Broadcast National Messaging System |
| o Regional Broadband Scheme | o Peri Urban Mobile Program |
| o Universal Service Obligation | o Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters |
| o Upgrade of NBN fixed wireless and satellite connections | o Amplifying Australia's Voice Program |
| o Mobile Black Spot Program | o Consumer Representation Grants Program |
| o Regional Connectivity Program | o Journalist Fund |
| o Other public interest services (emergency call service and NBN voice-only migration) | o Cadetship and Scholarship Program |
| o National Relay Service | o Audio description initiative |
| o Community Broadcasting Program | o Supporting Under-represented Sports |
| o Australian 5G Innovation Initiative | o Spectrum Pricing Transitional Support Program |
| o Public Interest News Gathering Program | o Regional Tech Hub |
| o Regional Broadcasting Program | o Electromagnetic Energy Program |
| o Regional Backbone Blackspots Program | o Alternative Voice Services Trials |
| o Contribution to International Telecommunication Union and Asia-Pacific Telecommunity | |



About your portfolio

This portfolio overview contains a high-level summary of the responsibilities of your portfolio, as well as information about the structure and function of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. The responsibilities described below, as well as the department's current organisational arrangements, are based on the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) dated 2 July 2021. These arrangements will be updated in accordance with any new AAOs produced by your government.

Responsibilities

Broadband policy and programs	Broadcasting policy	Classification
Content policy relating to the information economy	Spectrum policy management	Postal and telecommunications policies and programmes

Portfolio entities

In addition to the department, the portfolio comprises 5 Commonwealth entities and companies (portfolio entities) that are subject to the obligations and accountabilities of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. The portfolio entities deliver outcomes on behalf of the Australian Government.

A summary of the Commonwealth entities within your portfolio is provided below. More detailed information on your role and responsibilities with regard to these entities, including in relation to board appointments, is provided in the chapter on portfolio entities, along with information on each entity's purpose, governance, functions and funding profile.

Commonwealth company	NBN Co Limited		
Corporate Commonwealth entity	Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)	Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS)	Australian Postal Corporation
Non-corporate Commonwealth entity	Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA)		

Other boards and structures

Separate to the portfolio entities, there are a number of other boards and structures related to the business of the portfolio. A list of higher-profile bodies (for example the Classification Board and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation Advisory Council) is provided in the chapter on other boards and structures.

A number of these bodies are government appointed boards. Appointments made by the Australian Government (through the Prime Minister, Cabinet, Governor-General advised by the Federal Executive Council, ministers and chairs of portfolio boards) to bodies such as these are a significant activity for the Australian Government and attract a level of public scrutiny.

The department provides support for the effective functioning of government-appointed boards and structures within your portfolio. This includes administration of appointment processes, management of reporting requirements including on gender balance, and the maintenance of a register of members, terms and appointment requirements. Further information on these functions will be provided to your office separately by the department as needed to meet appointment and reporting timeframes.

Significant ministerial roles

You have a key liaison role with international counterparts, including through the International Telecommunication Union and the Universal Postal Union.

This function advances issues that affect the economy and all Australian communities, and enables international collaboration on policy challenges and reform opportunities.

The department supports the effective operation of each of these functions and your role.

Further information is provided in the chapter on significant ministerial roles.

Portfolio legislation

You are responsible for a considerable body of legislation relevant to the work of the department and portfolio entities, for example the *Telecommunications Act 1997*, the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* and the *Online Safety Act 2021*.

Further information on your role is provided in the chapter on portfolio legislation.

About the department

Communications roles and activities

The department's work spans a broad range of matters, supporting the government in the effective development and delivery of programs, policies and regulations that enrich the lives of all Australians and connect communities.

The department's values of being respectful, informed, collaborative, accountable and adaptive will be applied in support of you and your office, and we will adapt our roles and activities to support you to deliver your agenda this term.

The department works to achieve 6 outcomes across our budget programs, with the subset that relates to your portfolio listed below. These outcomes form the legal basis for the appropriation of funding, and therefore any change to outcomes involves a formal process requiring legal advice and approval from the Minister for Finance. The names of budget programs can be changed more easily, where these are not set out in legislation.



Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services

Program 5.1 Digital Technologies and Communications Services – To provide an environment in which all Australians can access and benefit from digital technologies and communications services, supporting inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Programs administered by the department

The department is responsible for administering a large number of budget programs under the department's budget outcomes.

The chapter on programs administered by the department sets out the status of each program, its delivery partners and stakeholders, governance arrangements including your role with regard to decision-making, program funding, key facts and program administration details.

Program funding outlined in these briefs reflects the 2022-23 Budget and the program expenditure figures are as at 31 March 2022. Updated expenditure figures as at 30 April 2022 will be provided to you and your office in early briefings.

Budget

For the 2022-23 financial year, the department will administer \$19.0 billion in agency resourcing, comprised of \$0.7 billion in departmental and \$18.3 billion in administered (i.e. program) funding. Administered funding includes \$2.4 billion in payments to portfolio bodies. Agency resourcing increased by \$2.7 billion between the 2021-22 and 2022-23 financial years, primarily due to additional support provided through the 2022-23 Budget to regional Australia and pandemic economic recovery measures.

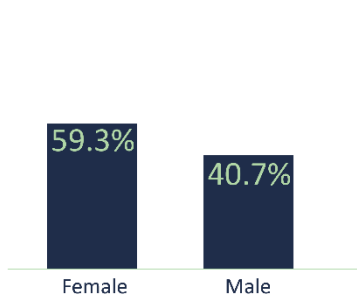
Of the departmental funding, \$479.3 million is in departmental operating funding and \$10.2 million in departmental capital budget. The remainder of the \$164.1 million represents prior year appropriation available to the department, funding in existing special accounts (reserved for specific purposes) and own-source revenue. The department's Average Staffing Level (ASL) for the 2022-23 Budget has increased by 56 ASL from the 2021-22 estimated ASL of 1,708 to 1,764.

A further \$17.6 billion in 2022-23 (\$64.7 billion across 4 years) is provided to states and territories through various National Partnership Payments.

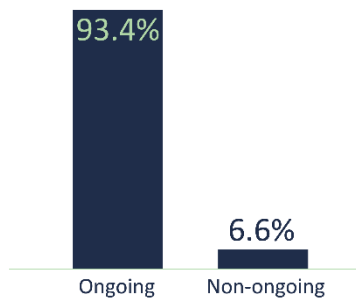
People

At 31 March 2022, the department had a total employee headcount of 1,934 people. Just over 93 per cent are ongoing, close to 60 per cent are female, and while the majority of employees are located in the ACT, the department has staff in all other states and territories, plus Norfolk Island, Jervis Bay Territory, the Indian Ocean Territories and internationally. Further information is provided in the graphics below.

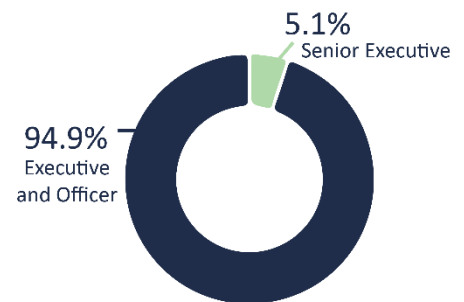
Staff by gender



Staff by employment status



Staff by classification



Non-Senior Executive Service (SES) employees are employed under the Enterprise Agreement which came into effect from 28 March 2016. From 2 December 2021, a new one year section 24(1) determination continued the terms and conditions of the Enterprise Agreement. The determination provided a 1.9 per cent pay increase from 28 March 2022 to all non-SES employees covered by the department's Enterprise Agreement.

SES employees are employed under a separate instrument.

The department's non-APS workforce consists of 267 labour hire and fee-for-service employees who primarily undertake roles in specialist data and program positions, IT and non-ongoing administrative functions.

Leadership team

The department's executive comprises the Secretary and 7 Deputy Secretaries. Deputy Secretaries support the Secretary and carry out a wide-ranging brief across the portfolio's policy, regulatory and operational responsibilities as well as overseeing the work of business divisions.

Simon Atkinson



Secretary

Simon Atkinson was appointed Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications on 1 February 2020. He was previously Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development.

Prior to his appointment as Secretary, Mr Atkinson served as Deputy Secretary, Fiscal Group at the Treasury.

Since joining the Australian Public Service as a graduate, he has held senior roles in many Australian Government portfolios, including Infrastructure and Regional, Finance, Defence, and Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Mr Atkinson has held leadership roles delivering major policy reforms, including the establishment of Infrastructure Australia in 2007, the 2009 Defence White Paper and 24 Commonwealth economic updates. He has overseen the largest infrastructure investment in the Commonwealth's history including transformational projects such as the Western Sydney Airport and led the successful stewardship of aviation, shipping, freight, telecommunications and the arts through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr Atkinson is an alumnus of the University of Queensland with bachelor degrees in Science and Law. He is a barrister and solicitor of the Federal Court and the Supreme Court of NSW. Mr Atkinson holds a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

(02) 6274 7573 **s47F**
Simon.Atkinson@infrastructure.gov.au

Richard Windeyer



Deputy Secretary Communications and Media Group

Richard Windeyer has held Deputy Secretary roles in the communications portfolio since 2018. Richard joined the Australian Public Service 23 years ago. The majority of his career has been in the communications portfolio.

Richard has held numerous roles in the departments responsible for communications and has also spent time in the offices of communications portfolio ministers. Other roles have included working on homeland security policy in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and on transport security policy.

The Communications and Media group has responsibility for broadband, telecommunications, media and digital platform industry policy, infrastructure investment and consumer policy, radio-communications policy, online safety as well as oversight of the government's shareholding interests in Australia Post and the National Broadband Network. The group is also responsible for policy and regulatory advice around public interest communications issues relating to provision of emergency calls, access to communications services by people with disabilities, and communications network resilience.

(02) 6274 7882 **s47F**
Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au

Stephen Arnott



Deputy Secretary Creative Economy and the Arts Group

Stephen Arnott is the Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy and the Arts in the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. Stephen has more than 20 years' experience in the Australian Public Service in arts, screen, creative industries, communications and technology policy areas. He has also worked as a ministerial adviser.

Stephen was promoted to the Senior Executive Service in 2009. He was awarded a Public Service Medal in 2005 for his work reforming Australia's symphony orchestras. Previously Stephen helped run a small business providing data security services to corporate clients in Sydney. Stephen has a Doctorate in French Philosophy from the University of New England where he lectured in both philosophy and psychology for a number of years.

(02) 6274 7883 s47F
Stephen.Arnott@arts.gov.au

Diane Brown



Deputy Secretary Transport Group

Diane Brown commenced as Deputy Secretary at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications in May 2021. Diane joined the Department in August 2020 as First Assistant Secretary of Communications Infrastructure Division. Prior to that, Diane spent 7 years at the Australian Treasury, in the Markets Group with various responsibilities predominantly relating to financial markets and corporate regulation.

Prior to joining the public service, Diane held senior roles in the private sector and in the corporate regulator, the Australian Securities and Investment Commission. She commenced her career as an economist at the Reserve Bank and has practised law at a national law firm in Sydney.

Diane holds bachelor degrees (with honours) in economics and law from the University of Sydney and a masters degree (with honours) in economics from the University of New South Wales.

(02) 6274 7515 s47F
Diane.Brown@infrastructure.gov.au

Dave Hallinan



**Deputy Secretary
Infrastructure Group**

Dave Hallinan is the Deputy Secretary of the Infrastructure Group of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, with two decades of public sector experience and well over a decade in senior leadership roles across the Australian Public Service.

Dave is values driven, enjoys linking complex practical implementation issues with nationally significant agendas, and working collaboratively with complex stakeholder groups to solve challenging policy, program and regulatory issues to support the best outcomes for the Australian community.

Dave has spent his career working across policy development, and program and regulatory delivery across the Health, Infrastructure and Finance portfolios. Dave's key content areas include infrastructure financing and delivery, Australian Government budget management and advice, and rural health, primary care financing and delivery, health workforce management and regulation, aged care, and health and related systems integration.

(02) 6274 7302 **s47F**
David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

Rachel Bacon



**Deputy Secretary
Regional, Cities and Territories Group**

Dr Rachel Bacon is currently a Deputy Secretary for the Regional, Cities and Territories Group at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

Prior to this Rachel worked in the Department of Environment and Energy, running the Policy Analysis and Implementation Division and as Deputy Chief Executive Officer with the Northern Territory Government's Department of the Chief Minister.

Rachel previously led a number of taskforces based in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) working to deliver whole of government priorities in areas such as environment regulation reform and Australia's engagement with Asia.

(02) 6274 6181 **s47F**
Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

Marisa Purvis-Smith



Deputy Secretary Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia Group CEO of the National Water Grid Authority

Marisa is the Deputy Secretary of Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia and the CEO of the National Water Grid Authority within the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. This role includes responsibility for the Office of Northern Australia.

Marisa brings a wealth of experience, including a strong understanding of regional and community issues, including as First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development, Local Government and Regional Recovery. Prior to that, Marisa worked in the federal Treasury in a range of roles, including tax policy and Commonwealth-State relations. Marisa is also the department's representative on the Australian Maritime Safety Authority Board.

(02) 6274 7884 s47F
Marisa.Purvis-Smith@infrastructure.gov.au

Maree Bridger



Acting Chief Operating Officer

Maree Bridger is currently the acting Chief Operating Officer at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

Maree has worked in the Australian Public Service (APS) for 14 years across a range of policy, program, corporate and service delivery areas in the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, Services Australia, the Department of Immigration and Border Protection and the Australian Customs Service.

Maree's current responsibilities include leading a wide variety of corporate functions including: human resources, property, finance, IT, legal, governance, assurance and communications.

Prior to Maree's time in the APS she had 17 years in the private sector and held roles at the Shell Company of Australia, Osborne Computers Corporation and Austar United Communications. Prior to her transition in to the public sector, Maree worked as a consultant for 8 years, with a specific focus on organisational change, strategic planning, maximising competitive advantage and building organisational capability.

Maree has a Bachelor of Economics from ANU, an Executive MBA from the Australian Graduate School of Management at UNSW and is a Certified Practicing Accountant.

(02) 6274 7029 s47F
Maree.Bridger@infrastructure.gov.au



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

Portfolio
Strategy
Taskforce
FAS: Julia
Pickworth



Secretary
Simon Atkinson

Chief of Staff
Louise Rawlings

* Denotes acting
Taskforce

Organisational structure
current as at 20 May 2022

GROUP (Deputy Secretary)

Deputy Secretary
Creative Economy
and the Arts

Stephen
Arnott

Chief
Operating
Officer

Maree
Bridger*

Deputy
Secretary
Transport

Diane
Brown

Deputy
Secretary
Infrastructure

David
Hallinan

Deputy Secretary
Communications
and Media

Richard
Windeyer

Deputy Secretary
Regional, Cities
and Territories

Rachel
Bacon

Deputy Secretary
Water Infrastructure
and Northern Australia
/ CEO National Water
Grid Authority

Marisa
Purvis-Smith

DIVISION (First Assistant Secretary / SES Band 2)

Office for the Arts Greg Cox	Data, Analytics and Policy Philip Smith	People, Governance, and Parliamentary Communication Ruth Wall	Finance and IT Brad Medland	Legal Services Chris Burke	Domestic Aviation and Reform Janet Quigley	International Aviation, Technology and Services Richard Wood	Surface Transport Policy Andrew Madsen*	Road and Vehicle Safety Lisa La Rance	Infrastructure Investment David Mackay	Major Transport and Infrastructure Projects Jessica Hall	Significant Projects Investment Delivery Office Diana Hallam	Online Safety, Media and Platforms Pauline Sullivan	Communications Infrastructure Matthew Brine	Communications Services and Consumer Lachlann Paterson	Regional Development, Local Government and Regional Recovery Sarah Nattay*	Territories Sarah Vandenbroek	Cities Matthew Roper	Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia Stephanie Werner*

BRANCH (Assistant Secretary / SES Band 1)

Arts Development and Investment Alison Todd	Arts Recovery and Response Leonie Holloway	Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics David Mitchell*	Human Resources and Property Stephanie Bourke	Finance Carol Cote	Communications and Arts Stuart Kerr*	Aviation Programs Ben Vincent	Safety and Future Technology Naa Opoku	Land Transport Policy Paula Staggs	Vehicle Safety Policy and Partnerships Anita Langford	Program, Policy and Budget Benjamin Meagher*	WSI - Program and Infrastructure James Savage*	Project Inception and Delivery Stephen Sorbello	Classification Andrew Hyles	NBN Nicolle Power*	Regional Communications Philip Smurthwaite*	Regional Policy and Recovery Jo Neuling*	Indian Ocean Territories Aaron O'Neill	Deals (TAS, NT, WA and Melbourne) and Cities Policy Tiffany Karlsson	Science, Policy and Engagement Malcolm Southwell
Collections and Cultural Heritage Ann Campton	Creative Industries Anne-Louise Dawes	Bureau of Communications, Arts and Regional Research Justin lu	Communications Susan Charles	Digital Initiatives Maxine Ewens (CDO)	Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Piccolo Willoughby	Domestic Policy and Reform Jason Dymowski	International Aviation Jim Wolfe	Maritime and Shipping Andrew Johnson	Office of Road Safety Gabby O'Neill	North West Infrastructure Investment Shona Rosengren	Inland Rail Operations Mitch Pirie	Project Identification and Establishment Bill Brummitt	Media Industry and Sustainability Adam Carlon	Spectrum Shayn Sparreboom*	Post, International Telecommunications and ACMA Daniel Caruso	Regional Intelligence and Local Government Michael Gregory*	Mainland Territories Jane Christie	Deals (Geelong, NSW, Albury-Wodonga, QLD, SA) Alex Wilson*	Infrastructure, Framework and Delivery Katrina Kendall*
Access and Participation Marie Gunnell*	Content and Copyright Jenna Priestly	Strategic and Economic Policy Projects Kai Everist*	Governance, Ministerial and Parliamentary Services Rebecca Rush	IT Services Anthony Castley (CIO)	Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development (Commercial) Joanna Piva	Airports Phil McClure	Western Sydney Airport Regulatory Policy David Jansen	Transport Market Reform and Technology Mike Makin	Vehicle Safety Operations Mitchell Cole	NSW, ACT and Targeted Roads Robyn Legg	Inland Rail Stakeholder and Regional Delivery Andrew Bourne	Project Identification and Establishment Andreas Bleich*	Online Safety Bridget Gannon	Telecommunications Market Policy Tristan Kathage	Consumer Safeguards Kathleen Sillieri	Program Implementation and Drought Karly Pidgeon	Norfolk Island Jim Baldwin*	Infrastructure, Framework and Delivery Katrina Kendall*	Office of Northern Australia Linda Lee

Australasian National Maritime Museum	National Gallery of Australia	Screen Australia	Australia Council	Airservices Australia	Sustainable Transport and Maritime Safety Review Catherine Gladman	VIC, TAS and SA Robert Bradley	Platform and News Kerstin Wijeyewardene	Productivity and Technology Jason Ashurst	Universal Services Branch Philip Mason	Regional Programs Meghan Hibbert	Regional Policy and Drought Karly Pidgeon	Mainland Territories Jane Christie	Indian Ocean Territories Aaron O'Neill	Deals (TAS, NT, WA and Melbourne) and Cities Policy Tiffany Karlsson	Science, Policy and Engagement Malcolm Southwell	Infrastructure, Framework and Delivery Katrina Kendall*	Office of Northern Australia Linda Lee	Creative Partnerships Australia Ltd	National Museum of Australia	National Library of Australia	Australian Film, Television and Radio School	National Film and Sound Archive	Australasian National Maritime Museum	Bundanon Trust	Creative Partnerships Australia Ltd	National Portrait Gallery of 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Policy Tristan Kathage	Consumer Safeguards Kathleen Sillieri	Post, International Telecommunications and ACMA Daniel Caruso	Regional Intelligence and Local Government Michael Gregory*	Mainland Territories Jane Christie	Indian Ocean Territories Aaron O'Neill	Deals (TAS, NT, WA and Melbourne) and Cities Policy Tiffany Karlsson	Science, Policy and Engagement Malcolm Southwell	Infrastructure, Framework and Delivery Katrina Kendall*	Office of Northern Australia Linda Lee	Creative Partnerships Australia Ltd	National Museum of Australia	National Library of Australia	Australian Film, Television and Radio School	National Film and Sound Archive	Airservices Australia	Sustainable Transport and Maritime Safety Review Catherine Gladman	VIC, TAS and SA Robert Bradley	Inland Rail Stakeholder and Regional Delivery Andrew Bourne	Project Identification and Establishment Andreas Bleich*	Online Safety Bridget Gannon	Telecommunications Market Policy Tristan Kathage	Consumer Safeguards Kathleen Sillieri	Post, 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Establishing your office and ministerial support services

The department provides a range of services to support you and the effective establishment and operation of your office. Services to ministers typically provided by departments include provision of information and communications technology support, support for ministers' cabinet roles, media and communications assistance, and departmental liaison officers to manage the flow of briefing and correspondence between your office and the department. These are in addition, and separate, to services provided by the Department of Parliamentary Services at Parliament House and the support provided by the Department of Finance and the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

The Prime Minister's Office agrees staffing levels in ministers' offices including the number of departmental liaison officers. In the interim, the department will support the transition of your office to full operation, particularly in the first 3 months while staff are being appointed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* (see Department of Finance's Ministerial and Parliamentary Services for further advice and information).

In circumstances where ministers may hold a number of portfolios, there will be discussions across relevant agencies and with the Department of Parliamentary Services and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet regarding how best to service your office, including which agency will take a lead role with regard to support.

Senior staff will be in contact with you and your office as soon as possible to commence discussions regarding your immediate support requirements. We will have close engagement with you over the coming weeks to bed down our service offering. Your incoming Chief of Staff will be provided with an overview of our services in order to commence those discussions.

The department's primary points of contact on these matters are listed below.

Rebecca Rush

Assistant Secretary

Governance, Ministerial and Parliamentary Services

Rebecca.Rush@infrastructure.gov.au

(02) 6271 1153 s47F

Julia Pickworth

First Assistant Secretary

Transition Lead

Julia.Pickworth@infrastructure.gov.au

(02) 6274 7565 s47F

International engagement

The department is responsible for delivering a range of domestic policy outcomes that are critical to the prosperity and well-being of Australians. Most of these outcomes can only be fully realised through the international engagement activities we undertake alongside the strategy and policy advice, fit-for-purpose regulation and program delivery services provided by the department to the Australian Government.

Our international engagement activities seek to achieve 3 objectives:

- Influence international agreements and standards and align international and Australian interests across transport, communications and the arts.
- Build capability and learn from international experience in order to provide informed advice on the portfolio's policy and programs.
- Ensure Australia meets international obligations with regard to the portfolio's areas of responsibility, and contributes to Australian foreign policy and trade initiatives.

Information on key international stakeholders and bodies that the department works with to achieve its international engagement objectives will be provided via separate briefing.

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NBN Co Limited

Purpose

NBN Co Limited (NBN Co) was established in 2009 to build and operate the National Broadband Network (NBN). The company operates at arm's length from government as a wholly owned Commonwealth company. The Commonwealth's shareholder interests are represented by the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Communications.

NBN Co's primary purpose is to operate the NBN and to provide ongoing access to fast broadband for all Australian premises. The network is required to be wholesale access only and be available on equivalent terms to all access seekers. Steps that must occur prior to a sale of NBN Co are set out in the *NBN Companies Act 2011*.

NBN Co is a company established under the *Corporations Act 2001* and has its own constitution. As a government business enterprise (GBE), the governance and oversight arrangements for NBN Co are set out in the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) and in the GBE Guidelines. These Guidelines establish the reporting, accountability and financial governance arrangements for NBN Co and its Board.

Your roles and responsibilities

- You and the Minister for Finance are shareholder ministers who may communicate government policy to NBN Co by issuing a policy statement, writing a letter to the company, passing a shareholder resolution or updating the Statement of Expectations. The Statement of Expectations sets the government's objectives for the NBN and provides direction to NBN Co on the implementation and ongoing expectations. The current Statement of Expectations was published on 31 August 2021.
- Shareholder ministers make appointments to the NBN Board. Each appointment is for a term of 3 years. The next board member term set to expire is Mr Drew Clarke on 21 August 2023.
- You are not able to issue a direction to the Board. However, should it be necessary, you can issue a shareholder direction under the company constitution.
- Subject to consultation with shareholder ministers, the Board may appoint a CEO in accordance with the company constitution. However, the Cabinet Handbook requires that a CEO appointment also be considered by Cabinet.

Board Chair & Key Executive Contacts

Name	Position	Contact details
Ms Kate McKenzie	Chair	s47F [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Mr Stephen Rue	Chief Executive Officer	s47F [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Ms Kate McKenzie	Chair	31 December 2024
Mr Stephen Rue	Chief Executive Officer & Executive Director	31 August 2023
Mr Michael Malone	Director	19 April 2025
Mr Andrew Dix	Director	6 April 2024
Mr Drew Clarke AO PSM	Director	21 August 2023
Ms Elisha Parker	Director	7 December 2024
Ms Nerida Caesar	Director	31 December 2024
Ms Nicole Lockwood	Director	18 March 2025
Ms Pam Bains	Director	18 March 2025

Governance and functions

- As a shareholder minister, you are responsible for NBN Co delivering on the government's objectives for the company through established legislation and the Statement of Expectations. In doing so, you review and monitor:
 - operational and investment plans of the company, including business decisions that can have a significant impact on the ability of NBN Co to meet its objectives, such as return on capital investment and debt raisings; and
 - financial performance, compliance with legislative and contractual obligations, and customer experience.
- The NBN Co Board is responsible for managing the company to achieve its objectives and to comply with applicable laws. NBN Co, like other GBEs, has to operate within the PGPA Act, GBE Guidelines, and government policy. Coupled with the Corporations Act, these require disclosure for NBN Co to the standards of a large corporate.
- The Board is required to keep shareholder ministers informed of certain actions, such as new debt and significant changes in business operations – not dissimilar to matters that the ASX Listing Rules for listed companies. NBN Co is also required to prepare an annual corporate plan for shareholder minister review, and an annual report.
- When NBN Co entered debt markets, the government agreed to NBN Co's request to limit its publication of forward looking financial information, including in its Corporate Plan. NBN Co is still required to provide full forward-looking forecasts to shareholder ministers on a regular basis.
- The Commonwealth's loan to NBN Co is managed by the department through a loan agreement. The company is subject to scrutiny from a number of Australian and international financial institutions along with a number of bond holders, as well as a credit rating scrutiny from two agencies, Moody's and Fitch.
- The department provides advice to assist you in your role of jointly exercising strategic control consistent with accountability to the Parliament and the public. The department works closely with the Department of Finance. Shareholder departments manage the relationship with the company. s47/s47G

Funding profile

- NBN Co is funded by a mix of Commonwealth equity, Commonwealth loan, private debt, smaller grants and a levy contribution. In its current corporate plan, NBN Co is projecting to be self-funding from the financial year 2024.
 - *Equity*: The government provided \$29.5 billion in equity funding to the company, concluding in September 2017.
 - *Commonwealth loan*: In 2016, the government entered into a loan agreement with NBN Co for the Commonwealth to provide \$19.5 billion on commercial terms, to be repaid in full by 30 June 2024. NBN Co's loan obligations are managed under the Loan Facility Agreement administered by the department. The loan balance outstanding is \$6.4 billion as at 14 April 2022.
 - *Private Debt*: NBN Co has \$10.4 billion in long term capital markets debt and a further \$8 billion in bank facilities.
 - *Grant funding*: In March 2022, the government announced that it would contribute \$480 million in the 2021–22 financial year towards the upgrade of the NBN fixed wireless network. The department is to administer the grant agreement.
 - *Levy contributions*: NBN Co receives annual funding through the Regional Broadband Scheme levy. This industry levy provides a contribution to cover NBN Co's net losses in regional areas.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Grants	502.9	12.5	-	-	-
Equity injection	-	-	-	-	-
Total Australian Government Funding	502.9	12.5	-	-	-
Dividends returned to Australian Government	-	-	-	-	-

As at 30 June 2021, NBN Co had 4,951 employees.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Felicity Ross Chief Corporate Affairs Officer s47F	Matthew Brine First Assistant Secretary Communications Infrastructure Matthew.Brine@communications.gov.au (02) 6271 7997 s47F

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Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Purpose

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) is an independent statutory authority and a body corporate under the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983* (ABC Act). It is also classified as a corporate Commonwealth entity under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act).

The ABC's primary purpose is set out in its charter, contained in section 6 of the ABC Act. It requires the ABC to:

- Provide, within Australia, innovative and comprehensive broadcasting services of a high standard as part of the Australian broadcasting system, including broadcasting programs that contribute to a sense of national identity, inform, entertain and reflect the cultural diversity of the Australian community, and broadcasting programs of an educational nature.
- Transmit to countries outside Australia broadcasting programs of news, current affairs, entertainment and cultural enrichment that will encourage awareness of Australia and an international understanding of Australian attitudes to world affairs, and enable Australian citizens living or travelling outside Australia to obtain information about Australian affairs and Australian attitudes on world affairs.
- Provide digital media services.
- Encourage and promote the musical, dramatic and other performing arts in Australia.

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the ABC Act:

- You recommend, to the Governor-General, candidates for appointment, including reappointments, to the positions of chair, deputy chair and non-executive director on the ABC Board (the Board). You make recommendations as vacancies arise on the Board, following consideration of the recommendations made to you by the Nomination Panel, which has statutory responsibility for running a merit-based selection process for Board vacancies. Under the Cabinet Handbook, these are considered significant appointments and require you to seek approval from the Prime Minister (or that of the Cabinet).
- There is no statutory role provided to you in the appointment, including reappointment, of a managing director to the Board, as the Board is responsible for making that appointment. However, the ABC Act should be read alongside the Cabinet Handbook, which states that where a board selects a full-time chief executive officer, the government should be consulted and you should not signify agreement without obtaining the Prime Minister's approval. You raise the Board's proposed appointment with the Prime Minister as a vacancy arises.
- You must determine selection criteria for the appointment of the chair and non-executive directors on the Board.
- You may grant leave to the chair of the Board to be absent from a meeting of the Board upon such conditions as to remuneration or otherwise as you think fit.
- If you are of the opinion that the broadcast of a particular matter or the provision of particular content is in the national interest, you may give directions to the ABC to broadcast that matter or provide that content.
- You may direct the Australian Communications and Media Authority to conduct an investigation into the degradation of the ABC's signal quality.
- You have other powers relating to specific operational and financial dealings of the ABC, including, but not limited to, the ability to approve places at which the ABC may provide studios for the performance of its functions, issue directions with respect to the disposal of the ABC's interest in a prescribed company that ceases to be a prescribed company, specify that certain ABC subscription broadcasting services, subscription narrowcasting services or open narrowcasting services as defined in the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* must broadcast daily regular sessions of news and information relating to current events within and outside of Australia, and set, revoke or vary guidelines for the purpose of the ABC's power to enter into or deal with hedging contracts.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Ms Ita Buttrose AC OBE	Chair	6 March 2024
Mr Peter Tonagh	Deputy Chair and non-executive Director	12 May 2026
Mr David Anderson	Managing Director	2 May 2024
Dr Jane Connors	Staff-elected Director	30 April 2023
Mr Joseph Gersh AM	Non-executive Director	9 May 2023
Ms Georgina Somerset AM	Non-executive Director	22 February 2027
Mr Peter Lewis	Non-executive Director	1 October 2024
Mr Mario D’Orazio	Non-executive Director	12 May 2026
Ms Fiona Balfour	Non-executive Director	12 May 2026

Governance and functions

The ABC is governed by an independent board, under the name of the ABC Board. The Board is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of the ABC’s functions. It is to consist of a chair, deputy chair, managing director, staff-elected director, and not fewer than 4 nor more than 6 non-executive directors.

The ABC acts in accordance with the ABC Act, PGPA Act and the *Equal Employment Opportunity (Commonwealth Authorities) Act 1987* (EEO Act).

Under the PGPA Act, the ABC is required to prepare an annual report on its activities during each reporting period, which must include annual performance statements and financial statements.

The PGPA Act also requires the ABC to prepare a corporate plan at least once each reporting period. A copy of the corporate plan must be given to you and to the Finance Minister (after it is prepared and before it is published on the ABC website) but there is no requirement that you approve the plan.

The EEO Act requires relevant authorities, including the ABC, to design programs that promote equal opportunity employment for women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people from non-English speaking backgrounds and people with a disability. The EEO Act requires the ABC to prepare an annual report on the development and implementation of its equal opportunity employment programs, and provide you with the report within 3 months after the end of the reporting period.

In February 2022, the Communications Minister issued a Statement of Expectations to the ABC regarding reporting in relation to a number of key activities, including its rural and regional activities, and a National Broadcasters Reporting Framework for Australian content. As the ABC has statutory independence, the Statement of Expectations is not a direction to the ABC.

The department provides advice to you and the government regarding the funding, legislation and performance of the ABC. It also provides governance support to the ABC, including for the tabling of the above reports and plans and for board appointments.

The independent Nomination Panel for ABC and SBS Appointments is established under the ABC Act. The Nomination Panel is required to conduct a merit based selection process and recommend candidates for all ABC board vacancies. The Panel consists of a Chair and at least 2, but no more than 3, members. The current chair and one member will conclude their terms on 21 May 2022. Members are appointed by the Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. A new Chair and up to 2 members are expected to be appointed shortly after the outcome of the election is known.

Funding profile

The department receives appropriations which are then paid annually to the ABC as a corporate Commonwealth entity. Since 1988, ABC Budget appropriations have been determined for 3-year periods (trienniums), comprising 2 components: base operational funding to support delivery of services, and transmission and distribution funding for transmission infrastructure (under contract with BAI). The ABC received \$3.2 billion during the current triennium and will receive \$3.3 billion during the next triennium, commencing 1 July 2022. This includes \$2.7 billion in operational funding and \$586 million in transmission funding.

Approximately 94 per cent of ABC's total revenue is from the Australian Government. The remainder is generated by the ABC, primarily from online merchandise sales.

As at 2022–23 Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government	1,070.1	1,077.7	1,100.0	1,117.8	1,122.2
Other Revenue	65.4	71.5	73.9	76.1	78.9
Total Revenue	1,135.5	1,149.3	1,173.8	1,194.0	1,201.1
Average Staffing Level	4,130	4,130			

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Ms Ita Buttrose AC OBE Board Chair s47F	Pauline Sullivan First Assistant Secretary Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division pauline.sullivan@communications.gov.au (02) 6271 1913 s47F
Mr David Anderson Managing Director s47F	

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Australian Postal Corporation

Purpose

The Australian Postal Corporation (Australia Post) is wholly owned by the Commonwealth represented by two shareholder ministers, the Communications Minister and the Finance Minister.

Australia Post's purpose is to provide postal services for Australian businesses and consumers consistent with its commercial and community service obligations. Under the *Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989* (APC Act), Australia Post has the exclusive right to carry small ordinary letters and issue postage stamps, and must supply a letter service that is reasonably accessible to all people across Australia at a uniform rate.

Your roles and responsibilities

- Shareholder ministers issue Australia Post with a statement of expectations and Commercial Freedom Framework which provide guidance on the purpose, role and limits on Australia Post's activities, and set out your expectations for how Australia Post will engage with the government.
- While you are the responsible minister under the APC Act, the Finance Minister is the joint shareholder minister. Consistent with other government businesses, current practice is that many actions are undertaken jointly with the Finance Minister (including approving dividends, appointments and tabling annual reports).
- You are required to table annually in Parliament a report by the Auditor-General on Australia Post's compliance with its prescribed performance standards, which by convention is included in Australia Post's annual report.
- You may disapprove a determination by the Australia Post Board to increase the basic postage rate. You may direct the ACCC to prepare or publish a report analysing Australia Post's reserved services pricing.
- You may direct the Board in the performance of Australia Post's functions as you consider necessary in the public interest, to vary its Corporate Plan, and to return mail to a foreign post. Such a direction must be tabled in Parliament.
- You may either approve the Board's recommended dividend payment (including an interim dividend), or direct the payment of a different amount.
- You may make nominations to the Governor-General for Board appointments following Cabinet processes.
- You may directly appoint an acting Deputy Chairperson or acting Director.
- While the Board appoints the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) under the APC Act, as the CEO position is considered a significant appointment under the Cabinet Handbook, you are expected to consult the Prime Minister on the proposed appointment.

Governance and functions

Australia Post is an independent government business enterprise, both legally and financially separate from the Government. Australia Post's day to day operations are the responsibility of its board and management.

The governance framework for Australia Post as a Corporate Commonwealth Entity is set out under the APC Act, the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and the Commonwealth's GBE Governance and Oversight Guidelines, which ensure that Australia Post performs its functions in a manner that is proper, efficient and consistent with sound commercial practice.

Regulations prescribe performance standards for letter delivery speed and accuracy, frequency of mail deliveries, accessibility of post offices and the number of street posting boxes.

Australia Post is expected to follow the principles outlined in the *Performance Bonus Guidance: Principles governing performance bonus use in Commonwealth entities and companies* issued by the Australian Public Service Commission.

Australia Post's operations are also subject to oversight by the Postal Industry Ombudsman to provide an external complaints resolution process for customers.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date (as at 31 March 2022)
Mr Lucio Di Bartolomeo	Chair	21 November 2022
Ms Andrea Staines OAM	Deputy Chair	26 July 2023
Mr Bruce McIver AO	Acting Director	30 June 2022
Mr Tony Nutt AO	Director	1 March 2024
The Hon Michael Ronaldson	Acting Director	30 June 2022
Ms Jan West AM	Director	29 May 2022
Ms Deidre Willmott	Director	26 June 2023
Dr Richard Dammary	Director	29 September 2024
Ms Lorna Inman	Director	29 May 2025
Mr Paul Graham (appointed by Board on 24 September 2021)	Group Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director	

Funding profile

Australia Post is currently self-funded, including in relation to investment in its business and providing dividend payments. In the most recent financial year, Australia Post derived 73 per cent of its revenue from parcels and other services (e.g. financial services) and the remaining revenue from its traditional letters business.

Dividends are currently paid out as 65 per cent of adjusted group profit after tax, with an interim dividend paid in April and a final dividend in October. This was agreed by the shareholder ministers in 2017, in consultation with Australia Post.

Australia Post's dividend payment has reduced from \$427.8 million in 2008-09 to \$46.2 million in 2020-21 reflecting the significant long-term decline in letter volumes and competitive operating environment in parcel delivery.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Lucio Di Bartolomeo Chair s47F	Lachlann Paterson First Assistant Secretary Communication Services and Consumer Division Lachlann.Paterson@infrastructure.gov.au (02) 6271 1372 s47F
Paul Graham Group CEO and Managing Director s47F	Daniel Caruso Assistant Secretary Post, International Telecommunications and ACMA Branch Daniel.Caruso2@infrastructure.gov.au (02) 6271 7063 s47F



Special Broadcasting Service Corporation

Purpose

The Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) is an independent statutory authority and a body corporate under the *Special Broadcasting Service Act 1991* (SBS Act). It is also classified as a corporate Commonwealth entity under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act).

The SBS's primary purpose is set out in its charter, contained in section 6 of the SBS Act. It requires the SBS to provide multilingual and multicultural broadcasting and digital media services that inform, educate and entertain all Australians, and, in doing so, reflect Australia's multicultural society.

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the SBS Act:

- You recommend, to the Governor-General, candidates for appointment, including reappointments, to the positions of Chair, Deputy Chair and non-executive Director on the SBS Board (the Board). You make recommendations as vacancies arise on the Board, following consideration of the recommendations made to you by the Nomination Panel, which has statutory responsibility for running a merit-based selection process for Board vacancies. Under the Cabinet Handbook, these are considered significant appointments and require you to seek approval from the Prime Minister (or that of the Cabinet).
- There is no statutory role provided to you in the appointment, including reappointment, of a Managing Director to the Board, as the Board is responsible for making that appointment. However, the SBS Act should be read alongside the Cabinet Handbook, which states that where a Board selects a full-time Chief Executive Officer, the government should be consulted and you should not signify agreement without obtaining the Prime Minister's approval. You raise the Board's proposed appointment with the Prime Minister as a vacancy arises.
- You must determine selection criteria for the appointment of the chair and non-executive directors to the Board.
- You may grant leave to the chair to be absent from a meeting of the Board upon such conditions as to remuneration or otherwise as you see fit.
- You may, after consultation with the Board, direct the Board in relation to the performance of the SBS's functions as appear necessary in the public interest.
- If you are of the opinion that the broadcast of a particular matter or the provision of particular content is in the national interest, you may give directions to the SBS to broadcast that matter or provide that content.
- You may direct the Australian Communications and Media Authority to conduct an investigation into the degradation of the SBS's signal quality.
- You have other powers relating to specific operational and financial dealings of the SBS, including, but not limited to, the ability to issue directions with respect to the disposal of the SBS's interest in a prescribed company that ceases to be a prescribed company, and set, revoke or vary guidelines for the purpose of the SBS's power to enter into or deal with hedging contracts.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr George Savvides AM	Chair	8 July 2025
Ms Christine Zeitz	Deputy Chair and non-executive Director	9 May 2023
Mr James Taylor	Managing Director	21 October 2023
Mr Peeyush Gupta AM	Non-executive Director	15 October 2024
Mr Vic Alhadeff	Non-executive Director	29 September 2026
Mr William Lenehan	Non-executive Director	7 November 2022
Mr Nyunggai Warren Stephen Mundine AO	Non-executive Director	28 October 2025
Ms Dorothy West	Non-executive Director	7 November 2022
Ms Katrina Rathie	Non-executive Director	30 March 2027

Governance and functions

The SBS is governed by an independent board, under the name of the SBS Board. The Board is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of the SBS's functions. It is to consist of a chair, deputy chair, managing director and not fewer than 3 nor more than 7 non-executive directors.

The SBS acts in accordance with the SBS Act, PGPA Act and the *Equal Employment Opportunity (Commonwealth Authorities) Act 1987* (EEO Act).

Under the PGPA Act, the SBS is required to prepare an annual report on its activities during each reporting period, which must include annual performance statements and financial statements.

The PGPA Act also requires the SBS to prepare a corporate plan at least once each reporting period. A copy of the corporate plan must be given to you and to the Finance Minister (after it is prepared and before it is published on the SBS website), but there is no requirement that you approve the plan.

The EEO Act requires relevant authorities, including the SBS, to design programs that promote equal opportunity employment for women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people from non-English speaking backgrounds and people with a disability. The EEO Act requires the SBS to prepare an annual report on the development and implementation of its equal opportunity employment programs, and provide you with the report within 3 months after the end of the reporting period. The SBS currently includes this in its Annual Report.

In February 2022, the Communications Minister issued a Statement of Expectations to the SBS regarding a National Broadcasters Reporting Framework for Australian content. As the SBS has statutory independence, the Statement of Expectations is not a direction to the SBS.

The department provides advice to you and the government regarding the funding, legislation and performance of the SBS. It also provides governance support to the SBS, including for the tabling of the above reports and plans and for board appointments.

The independent Nomination Panel for ABC and SBS Appointments is established under the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983*. The Nomination Panel is required to conduct a merit based selection process and recommend candidates for all SBS Board vacancies. The Panel consists of a chair and at least 2, but no more than 3, members. The current chair and one member will conclude their terms on 21 May 2022. Members are appointed by the Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. A new chair and up to 2 members are expected to be appointed shortly after the outcome of the election is known.

Funding profile

The department receives appropriations which are then paid annually to the SBS as a corporate Commonwealth entity. Since 1988, SBS budget appropriations have been determined for 3-year periods (trienniums) comprising 2 components: base operational funding to support delivery of services, and transmission and distribution funding for transmission infrastructure (under contract with BAI). The SBS received \$897 million during the current triennium and will receive \$959 million during the next triennium, commencing 1 July 2022. This includes \$740 million in operational funding and \$219 million in transmission funding.

Approximately 70 per cent of SBS's total revenue is from the Australian Government. The remainder is generated by the SBS, primarily from advertising.

As at 2022–23 Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government	310.0	316.8	322.6	319.6	325.0
Other Revenue	145.3	151.8	149.9	150.1	150.1
Total Revenue	455.3	468.6	472.4	469.7	475.1
Average Staffing Level	1,238	1,267			

s47

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Mr George Savvides AM Board Chair s47F	Pauline Sullivan First Assistant Secretary Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division pauline.sullivan@communications.gov.au (02) 6271 1913 s47F
Mr James Taylor Managing Director s47F	

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Australian Communications & Media Authority

Purpose

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) regulates aspects of telecommunications, broadcasting, radiocommunications, unsolicited communications, and certain online content.

Your roles and responsibilities

- You may give written directions to the ACMA in relation to the performance of its functions, including what matters are to be included in a corporate plan. However, these directions can only be of a general nature if they relate to the ACMA's broadcasting and content functions.
- You issue a statement of expectations to provide clarity about government policies relevant to the ACMA in line with its statutory objectives, and the priorities you expect it to observe. The ACMA responds with a statement of intent identifying how it will deliver on your expectations. This is consistent with the approach to regulators across government.
- You are required to table the ACMA's annual report in Parliament.
- You make nominations to the Governor-General for appointments to the ACMA following relevant Cabinet process. You may make acting appointments to the ACMA and appoint as many associate members to the ACMA as you see fit.
- You approve the ACMA's Cost Recovery Implementation Statement.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Ms Nerida O'Loughlin PSM	Chair (Full time) – cross-appointed as an associate member of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC)	13 October 2022
Ms Creina Chapman	Deputy Chair (Full time)	10 June 2023
Mr James Cameron	Member (Full time)	4 August 2023
Mr Christian Jose	Member (Full time)	30 April 2023
Ms Fiona Cameron	Member (Full time)	22 July 2023
Ms Anita Jacoby	Associate Member (Part time)	4 August 2023
Ms Delia Rickard	Associate Member (Part time) - ACCC cross appointment – consumer protection	3 April 2024
Ms Anna Brakey	Associate Member (Part time) - ACCC cross appointment – infrastructure regulation	5 May 2026

Members of the Authority, including the Chair, are subject to a transparent and merit-based selection process under the Australian Public Service Commission's Merit and Transparency policy.

Governance and functions

The ACMA is an independent statutory authority established under the *Australian Communications and Media Authority Act 2005*, with specific responsibilities also set out under 4 principal acts and a range of other acts. The ACMA's responsibilities include:

- regulating telecommunications and broadcasting services, some internet content, interactive gambling and datacasting services
- managing allocation of and access to spectrum for all spectrum uses, including telecommunications, broadcasting and satellite sectors
- regulating compliance with licence conditions, codes of practice, standards, service guarantees and other safeguards
- providing information to Australians to promote informed decisions about communications products and services
- reporting on matters relating to the communications industry, including its performance and
- collecting taxes and charges of around \$919.3 million in 2020-21 on behalf of the Australian Government which are returned to the Budget, including the Regional Broadband Scheme charge (\$324.8 million in 2020-21), the Telecommunication Industry Levy (\$244.1 million in 2021-22) and radiocommunications apparatus licence taxes (\$258.1 million in 2020-21).

The ACCC also has a significant regulatory role in the telecommunications sector, including promoting competition, monitoring and reporting on prices and competition, and investigating breaches of consumer law. Cross-appointments are in place to promote information sharing and co-ordination between the two agencies to better inform regulatory decisions. Current cross-appointments are summarised in the Board composition table above.

The Chair is the Accountable Authority for the purposes of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) and responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of the ACMA's functions. The ACMA acts in accordance with the PGPA Act and related regulations and rules including annual reports and corporate plans.

The ACMA Chair is the Accountable Authority for the eSafety Commissioner and delivers corporate functions, including accommodation, human resources and financial operations. These governance arrangements were established when the Commissioner's predecessor, the Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner, was established within the ACMA in 2015.

Funding profile

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Appropriation - Departmental	136.4	135.0	103.0	103.9	104.9
Appropriation - Administered	9.3	8.6	6.4	2.3	2.4
Total Australian Government Funding	145.7	143.5	109.4	106.2	107.3
Other Revenue	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total Resourcing	145.8	143.6	109.5	106.3	107.4
Average Staffing Level	518	520			

Notes: As outlined above, the ACMA collects a significant amount of revenue on behalf of the Government with the revenue excluded from the table above as it is returned to Budget.

The ACMA's appropriation includes funding for the Office of the eSafety Commissioner

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Nerida O'Loughlin Chair/Agency Head s47F	Lachlann Paterson First Assistant Secretary Communications Services and Consumer Division Lachlann.Paterson@infrastructure.gov.au (02) 6271 1372 s47F
Creina Chapman Deputy Chair/Chief Executive Officer s47F	Daniel Caruso Assistant Secretary Post, International Telecommunications and ACMA Daniel.Caruso2@infrastructure.gov.au (02) 6271 7063 s47F



eSafety Commissioner

Purpose

The eSafety Commissioner (the Commissioner) is Australia's independent regulator and educator for online safety.

The Commissioner's primary purpose is to improve and promote online safety for Australians, to coordinate the Commonwealth's online safety related activities, and to administer the online content scheme and complaints systems for child cyberbullying material, cyber-abuse material and non-consensual intimate images.

The Commissioner is an independent statutory office holder first established by the *Enhancing Online Safety for Children Act 2015*, and currently under the *Online Safety Act 2021* (Online Safety Act).

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the Online Safety Act:

- You are responsible for appointing the Commissioner by written instrument for a period not exceeding 5 years.
- You may give directions by written instrument to the Commissioner about the performance of their duties or exercise of their powers. These directions must be of a general nature only.
- You have power to determine rules relevant to the Commissioner's administration of the Online Safety Act, including the power to determine the Basic Online Safety Expectations for social media services, relevant electronic services and designated internet services.

Position holder

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Ms Julie Inman Grant	Commissioner	15 January 2027

Governance and functions

The Commissioner and their office (eSafety) have unusual and complex governance arrangements reflecting their origins as part of the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) as the Children's eSafety Commissioner. The Commissioner's remit and office have grown since 2015, and they continue to mature as both an organisation and regulator.

The Commissioner is an independent statutory office holder. For the purposes of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, the Commissioner is an official of the ACMA. Under the Online Safety Act, the ACMA is required to assist the Commissioner to perform functions and exercise powers to such extent as the Commissioner reasonably requires, making available resources, facilities and staff. The ACMA Chair is the accountable authority, and the ACMA administers an Online Safety Special Account (special account) containing funds appropriated for the Commissioner's use. However, the Commissioner may not be directed by an official of the ACMA in the performance of their functions, exercise of their powers or expenditure from the special account.

The ACMA delivers the corporate functions for eSafety including accommodation, human resources and financial operations. Noting that in some cases, eSafety has established its own capability where it has particular requirements separate to the ACMA, e.g. IT requirements.

The Commissioner is required under the Online Safety Act to prepare an annual report. On 18 December 2021, the Communications Minister issued a Statement of Expectations to which the Commissioner responded with a public Statement of Intent. Under their current Statement of Intent, issued 16 March 2022, the Commissioner has committed to developing a corporate plan outlining their priorities for the year ahead. The Commissioner has not previously completed a corporate plan.

The department provides oversight of the Commissioner’s governance arrangements and performance.

Funding profile

eSafety’s ongoing base funding is \$10.3 million per annum, with the bulk of its funding coming from non-ongoing programs. There will be a significant decline in the Commissioner’s funding from 2023–24, when terminating programs end. The department will brief you separately on eSafety’s funding.

As an independent statutory office holder within the ACMA, funds for eSafety are not directly appropriated. Instead, funds are appropriated directly to the ACMA. Under the Online Safety Act, specified departmental and administered funds are credited to the special account. The special account is administered by the ACMA, however, any amount debited from the account requires the Commissioner’s approval.

As at 2022–23 Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government	53.6	51.0	20.5	17.5	18.0
Total Revenue	53.6	51.0	20.5	17.5	18.0
Average Staffing Level^(a)	104				

(a) As at 28 February 2022 the total staffing level for the OeSC is 104 ASL and 68 contractors, 2021–22 ASL cap average of 133.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Julie Inman Grant Commissioner s47F	Pauline Sullivan First Assistant Secretary Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division pauline.sullivan@communications.gov.au (02) 6271 1913 s47F

Other boards and structures

Body	Description	Established by/under	Appointed by
ABC Advisory Council	The Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) Advisory Council advises the board on matters relating to the ABC's broadcasting programs.	Section 11 of the <i>Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983</i>	ABC Board
Australia Post Stakeholder Council	Australia Post's Stakeholder Council is an external advisory group of 10 individuals whose role is to help Australia Post's communication and engagement with stakeholders.	Entity Executive authority	Australia Post
Australian Children's Television Foundation Board	The Australian Children's Television Foundation is a non-profit company funded by the Commonwealth Government and the governments of all states and territories of Australia. The board is responsible for the performance of the company and its development and production of television programs for children.	Not-for-profit company	The Commonwealth Government appoints 3 board members, each State and Territory that contributes to the ACTF appoints one Board member and the Board may elect up to 3 independent board members. The board elects the chair and deputy chair from among its members.
Classification Board	The Board is an independent statutory body that classifies films, computer games and certain submittable publications.	Section 45 of the <i>Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995</i>	Governor-General in Council; temporary members may be appointed by the minister
Classification Review Board	The Classification Review Board is an independent statutory body. It is a part time board comprised of a convenor, deputy convenor and other members to review decisions of the Classification Board, upon application.	Section 72 of the <i>Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995</i>	Governor-General in Council; acting members may be appointed by the minister

Body	Description	Established by/under	Appointed by
eSafety Advisory Committee	<p>The eSafety Advisory Committee was formed in early 2020 to replace the Online Safety Consultative Working Group.</p> <p>The Committee has the important role of providing technical and policy expertise, research data, coordination and other assistance to eSafety. The Committee is attended by key representatives from industry, government, civil society organisations and academia.</p>	Entity Executive discretion	eSafety Commissioner
Nomination Panel for ABC and SBS Board Appointments	The Nomination Panel for ABC and SBS Board Appointments conducts a merit-based appointment process for appointments to the ABC and SBS Boards in accordance with the ABC and SBS Acts.	Section 24A of the <i>Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983</i>	Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Regional Telecommunications Independent Review Committee	A Regional Telecommunications Independent Review Committee is established approximately every 3 years to conduct reviews into the adequacy of telecommunications services in regional, rural and remote parts of Australia. The Committee is to prepare a report and provide this report to the minister, at which point the review is deemed to have been completed. This must occur within 3 years of the completion of the previous review. The report must also be tabled in Parliament.	Part 9B of the <i>Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999</i>	Minister
SBS Community Advisory Committee	The Community Advisory Committee generally meets 3 times a year to discuss issues of relevance to the Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS) and to give advice, raise community concerns and provide feedback on programming and projects to the SBS Board.	Section 50 of the <i>Special Broadcasting Service Act 1991</i>	SBS Board

International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and related organisations

Description	<p>The ITU is the United Nations specialised agency responsible for information and communications technologies. The ITU is a treaty-level forum that provides an opportunity to influence radio frequency spectrum management, satellite orbital positions, international development and international telecommunication standards.</p> <p>Strong engagement in the standards work of the ITU is of key strategic interest, for example to protect an open, free, safe and secure internet. This increasingly involves engagement across government. In particular, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has a role in cyber and critical technology, and the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources is increasing its involvement in international standards development organisations, including the ITU.</p> <p>Related organisations include the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (the Asia-Pacific regional grouping for the ITU).</p>
Current status	<p>Australia is currently campaigning for re-election to the ITU Council, the main governance body of the ITU. The campaign is contested with 15 countries vying for 13 positions in our region, s33 [REDACTED].</p> <p>The quadrennial, treaty-level, Plenipotentiary Conference will be held in September 2022 in Bucharest, Romania. This is the ITU's top policy-making body and decides on the work program and elects the ITU senior management team and the ITU Council for the next 4-year period.</p> <p>The ITU Radiocommunications sector will hold the quadrennial, treaty-level, World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) in 2023. This Conference sets worldwide regulation on the use, allocation and harmonisation of spectrum and satellite orbits.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You may wish to write introductory letters to important international Ministerial counterparts. Where relevant, these letters could also seek support for Australia's ITU Council candidacy.</p> <p>s47C, s33 [REDACTED]</p> <p>Your agreement will be sought to a negotiating mandate, including Australia's continued ITU financial support, in July 2022.</p>
Resourcing / funding information	<p>Australia provides an annual financial contribution of 4,725,000 Swiss Francs to the ITU (approximately A\$6,000,000) and A\$256,000 to the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity.</p>
Contact	<p>Lachlann Paterson, First Assistant Secretary, Communications Services and Consumer Division; (02) 6271 1372 s47F [REDACTED]</p> <p>Matthew Brine, First Assistant Secretary, Communications Infrastructure Division; (02) 6271 7997 s47F [REDACTED]</p>

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Universal Postal Union and Asian-Pacific Postal Union

Description	<p>The Universal Postal Union (UPU) is the United Nations technical agency responsible for international postal services. Australia is one of 192 UPU member countries and a signatory to its Treaties, with Australia Post Australia's designated operator under the UPU Treaties.</p> <p>The UPU Treaties impose obligations on member countries to provide basic postal services, and set standards for exchanging international postal items (letters and parcels), including remuneration for some items. The UPU provides development and technical assistance to postal operators. The UPU is designed around traditional national postal operators, like Australia Post, with commercial operators like FedEx locked out.</p> <p>The full UPU membership meets every 4 years (Congress) to determine its work program and elect new leadership. There are two subsidiary councils, the Council of Administration (CA) and Postal Operations Council (POC), which meet twice yearly. Australia is an elected POC member. Australia was a CA member for 2012–2021, but was ineligible for re-election for a third-term in 2021. The department actively monitors the CA and recommends Australia seek election to both councils in 2025.</p> <p>Australia is a member of the Asian-Pacific Postal Union (APPU), a Treaty-level Restricted Union of the UPU that meets annually and focuses on development of the postal sector in the region.</p>
Current status	<p>The postal sector is rapidly changing due to digital disruption and growth in eCommerce, with commercial operators rather than national postal operators now delivering the majority of international parcels. These trends have left the UPU financially vulnerable and its role as the preeminent global postal sector body is eroding. In response, the UPU will hold an Extraordinary Congress in the second half of 2023 to consider opening up the UPU to the wider postal sector, including to commercial operators like Fedex and Amazon, and partner entities like airlines. An open UPU has advantages for businesses and consumers, including through greater global interoperability, but traditional national postal operators will want to ensure they are not commercially disadvantaged.</p> <p>s47C [REDACTED]</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You are responsible for Australia's involvement in the UPU and APPU, including agreeing to the priorities Australia will pursue.</p> <p>You may wish to attend the 2023 Extraordinary Congress or the next regular Congress in Dubai in 2025. There will also be opportunities for you to grow Australia's influence through bilateral engagement, and potentially by Australia hosting an APPU Executive Council meeting.</p>
Resourcing / funding information	<p>Australia Post pays Australia's mandatory annual contribution (approximately A\$1.3 million). Australia is seeking to enhance its influence through increased Pacific engagement within existing funds.</p>
Contact	<p>Lachlann Paterson, First Assistant Secretary, Communications Services and Consumer Division; (02) 6271 1372 s47F [REDACTED]</p>

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Australian Broadband Advisory Council

Description	<p>The Australian Broadband Advisory Council (the Council) was established in July 2020 to provide advice to government on ways to maximise the economic and social benefits of ubiquitous broadband connectivity in key sectors of the economy through increased take-up and use of NBN and 5G networks. Key sectors of the economy examined by the Council include agriculture, health, construction and the creative industries.</p> <p>The Council is made up of eminent Australians, appointed by the Communications Minister, based on their expertise in innovation, connectivity and key sectors of the economy.</p>
Current status	<p>The Council is set to conclude on 10 July 2022.</p> <p>The Council had focused its work on examining key sectors within the Australian economy that would benefit from improved connectivity and digitalisation. To date, the Council has published reports and recommendations on the agricultural and health sector, a scoping study on the use of digital technologies across the construction sector, and a position paper for the creative industries. A project manager has been engaged to progress work on scoping three potential digital hubs or platforms that could showcase and facilitate innovation and collaboration across the creative industries.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>The instruments of appointment for Council members are due to expire on 10 July 2022. The Council has played a useful role in exploring the barriers and opportunities to drive further connectivity and take up of digital technologies, noting that the work has a natural end with the expiry of the terms of the members. The department is well-positioned to continue further work of this type. Noting that there is no funding attached to implement the Council's recommendations, consideration could also be given to the option of embedding any further work in the digital economy portfolio.</p>
Resourcing / funding information	<p>The 2020–21 Budget announced that the department will absorb costs of \$1.4 million over two years from 2020-2021 to support the Council. These are predominantly departmental staffing costs, as well as consultancy, travel, accommodation, catering and remuneration of Council members.</p>
Contact	<p>Matthew Brine, First Assistant Secretary, Communications Infrastructure Division; (02) 6271 7997 s47F</p>

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Programs administered by the department

For completeness, programs outlined in this chapter include those announced in the 2022-23 Budget. s47C

Outcome 5: Communications

NBN Co Loan
Regional Broadband Scheme
Universal Service Obligation
NBN Fixed Wireless and Satellite Upgrades
Mobile Black Spot Program
Regional Connectivity Program
Other Public Interest Services
National Relay Service
Community Broadcasting
Australian 5G Innovation Initiative
Public Interest News Gathering
Regional Broadcasting Program
Regional Backbone Blackspots Program
International Organisation Contributions
Cell Broadcast National Messaging System
Peri Urban Mobile Program
Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters
Amplifying Australia's Voice
Consumer Representation Grants Program
Journalist Fund
Cadetship and Scholarship Program
Audio Description
Supporting Under- represented Sports
Spectrum Pricing Transitional Support
Regional Tech Hub
Electromagnetic Energy Program
Alternative Voice Services Trials

Revenue programs¹

In relation to its communications functions, the department collects Australia Post dividends on behalf of the Australian Government.

¹ Separate briefing can be provided on request.

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Commonwealth loan to NBN Co

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Australian Government's funding to NBN Co Limited (NBN Co) to support rolling out the National Broadband Network (NBN) included a loan on commercial terms for \$19.5 billion with a termination date of 30 June 2024. The loan was fully drawn in July 2020. NBN Co has made significant progress in repaying the Commonwealth loan by refinancing with private bank debt and public debt capital markets.

Status

NBN Co funding from the Commonwealth comprises \$29.5 billion in Commonwealth Equity, \$19.5 billion from a Commonwealth loan on commercial terms and most recently a \$480 million grant funding to upgrade its fixed wireless network. The Commonwealth loan supported NBN Co in rolling out the scale build of the NBN, which was declared built and fully operational on 11 December 2020 by the Communications Minister.

The department manages the Commonwealth loan to NBN Co on behalf of the Commonwealth. The loan has a fixed interest rate of 3.96 per cent per annum, with interest paid monthly on the outstanding loan balance. NBN Co is not yet producing positive free cash flows, so principal repayments of the Commonwealth loan have been made by refinancing with private bank debt and public debt capital markets.

NBN Co is also raising debt funding to finance \$4.5 billion in new investments announced in September 2021. Peak debt is expected to be \$27.5 billion by June 2024. As at 31 March 2022, the outstanding balance on the Commonwealth's loan was \$7.4 billion. A further repayment of \$1 billion was made by NBN Co on 14 April 2022 which reduced the loan balance to \$6.4 billion. NBN's total debt as at 30 April 2022 was \$27.3 billion.

Program funding

Program funding under the loan ceased July 2020

Key stakeholders

- NBN Co
- Minister for Finance (as joint shareholder minister)

NBN Co Loan agreement

NBN Co is an unlisted public company limited by shares, incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001*. It is also a Commonwealth company and government business enterprise for the purposes of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. NBN Co has only fully paid ordinary shares on issue, all of which are owned by the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth has a loan agreement on commercial terms with NBN Co for the \$19.5 billion Commonwealth loan facility, with a termination date of 30 June 2024. The terms of the Commonwealth loan agreement allow NBN Co to borrow private sector debt to support the company to refinance the Commonwealth loan. The Commonwealth loan to NBN Co is recorded in the department's financial statements.

Facts and background

History

Established in April 2009, NBN Co was funded from \$29.5 billion in equity payments up to 2017. The loan agreement between the Commonwealth and NBN Co was signed in 2016 to provide a commercial loan of up to \$19.5 billion. The loan agreement was signed by shareholder ministers on behalf of the Commonwealth and subsequently amended in 2019, 2020 and 2022.

The government approved NBN Co to obtain public credit ratings from Moody's (A1) and Fitch (AA) and NBN Co's approach to private sector debt markets 2020. These ratings were affirmed by the two agencies in October 2021.

Other Issues

Under the loan agreement, NBN Co is required to submit a finance plan to the Commonwealth for approval each quarter. The plan sets out the company's strategy to borrow money from private sector debt markets to repay the \$19.5 billion Commonwealth loan by the termination date of 30 June 2024. The plan also lays out the company's strategy to obtain debt financing for the \$4.5 billion new network investments announced in September 2020.

When NBN Co entered debt markets, the government agreed to NBN Co's request to limit its publication of forward looking financial information, including in its corporate plan. This was to limit potential liability to NBN Co if forecasts were deemed to be misleading or inaccurate by potential investors. NBN Co is still required to provide full forward looking forecasts to shareholder ministers on a regular basis.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purposes: Communications connectivity — enabling all Australians to connect to effective communications services and technologies, for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 — Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: N/A

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary
Communications and Media Group
Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au

s47F

Matthew Brine

First Assistant Secretary
Communications Infrastructure Division
Matthew.Brine@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F



Regional Broadband Scheme

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Regional Broadband Scheme (RBS) is designed to provide a transparent and sustainable funding arrangement for NBN Co's non-commercial fixed wireless and satellite networks. It makes transparent NBN Co's internal cross-subsidy and provides for competing fixed-line networks to contribute as part of an industry cross-subsidy.

Status

The RBS was established as part of the Telecommunications Reform Package, which was passed by Parliament in May 2020. The RBS is designed to provide a transparent and sustainable funding arrangement for NBN Co Limited's (NBN Co) non-commercial fixed wireless and satellite networks. The RBS commenced on 1 January 2021.

The RBS works by charging carriers a monthly levy (currently \$7.10) on every premises on their network with an active high-speed superfast broadband service over a local access line. The charge comprises a base component to cover the net losses of NBN Co constructing and operating the NBN fixed wireless and satellite networks and an administrative cost component to cover the costs incurred by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) in administering the RBS.

All carriers responsible for active fixed-lines capable of providing designated broadband services (that are not exempt) must report to the ACMA by 31 October on their chargeable premises, potential concessional premises and recently connected greenfields premises, for the previous financial year. The first eligible financial year was 2020-2021, however carriers were only required to contribute to the RBS from 1 January 2021. The secretary of the department is responsible for disbursing funds under the RBS to NBN Co as the only eligible funding recipient by the end of each financial year.

The RBS includes a number of concessions to assist smaller carriers to transition to the scheme. The first 5 years of the RBS include a concession period that exempts the first 25,000 residential and small business chargeable premises on each carrier's network, or the first 55,000 'recently connected greenfield premises' on their network from the charge.

Under the RBS, funds are contributed by carriers and disbursed to NBN Co in the financial year after the charge liability accrues. ACMA assessed that the total liability for carriers for the 6 months of 2020-21 was \$339.2 million, of which:

- \$338.7 million was for the base component of the charge.
- \$0.5 million was for the administrative cost component of the charge.

All non-NBN carriers have now paid their contributions in relation to the 2020-21 year to the ACMA. NBN Co is able to apply to offset its base component contribution against the funding it will receive as the eligible funding recipient and has done so for this financial year.

Delivery partners

- NBN Co is currently the only eligible funding recipient

Program funding

	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	700.1	737.4	767.9	799.0	854.2

Key stakeholders

- NBN Co (contributor and recipient under the RBS)
- Consumers on NBN fixed wireless or satellite services
- ACMA
- Non-NBN carriers offering active broadband services over fixed-lined technology (contributors under the RBS)
- ACCC

Eligibility, application and decision process

The RBS legislation sets the processes around the collection and distribution of funds. At present NBN Co is the only eligible funding recipient under the RBS. The amount provided to NBN Co depends on the amounts assessed and collected by the ACMA. The secretary of the department sets out the base component amount to be provided to NBN Co in a funding financial year in a Nominal Funding Entitlement Certificate (NFEC). The NFEC reflects the charge assessment by the ACMA (and hence contributions to the RBS Special Account by non-NBN carriers).

The legislation requires the ACCC to review the charge amounts every 5 years, with the first review due by May 2025. You have powers as minister under section 12 and 16 of the *Telecommunications (Regional Broadband Scheme) Charge Act 2020* to alter the base component and administrative cost components of the RBS, based on advice from the ACCC, provided the total of these charges is less than the combined component cap (\$7.10 CPI-indexed) set in legislation.

Program facts and examples

The first NFEC was signed by the Secretary on 30 March 2022 in the amount of \$338.7 million. The Secretary also signed a Charge Offset Certificate for NBN Co on 30 March 2022, enabling the company to offset its base component contribution to the RBS in the amount of \$327.7 million. Under the Commonwealth's RBS contract with NBN Co, the company must invoice the balance of the amount due by 30 May 2022. The department will then pay the balance before 30 June 2022.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purposes: Communications Connectivity – Enabling people in Australia to connect to effective, safe communications services and enabling investment in communications technologies, for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: *Telecommunications (Regional Broadband Scheme) Charge Act 2020*; *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999* (as amended by *Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer) Act 2020*).

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au

s47F

Matthew Brine

First Assistant Secretary

Communications Infrastructure Division

Matthew.Brine@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F



Universal Service Obligation

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Universal Service Obligation (USO) is a long-standing consumer safeguard providing access to voice and payphone services nationally, with a long-term contract involving \$270 million payments annually to Telstra. There is significant industry interest in [REDACTED] \$47C [REDACTED], and consumer interest in better technology, but also consumer concerns about change.

Status

The USO is a requirement to supply voice services to premises nationally on reasonable request and ensure that payphones are reasonably accessible. Guaranteed access to voice services is generally of greater significance and benefit to people living in rural and remote areas.

As at 31 March 2022:

- \$5.4 billion in total program funding has been allocated and contracted to 2031-32
- \$2.43 billion has been paid and
- \$2.97 billion remains payable.

Delivery partners

- Telstra

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	270.0	270.0	270.0	270.0	270.0

Key stakeholders

- Consumers, particularly regional consumers, and their advocates
- Contributors to associated levy arrangements (i.e. Optus, TPG Group, NBN Co)
- Telstra
- Australian Communications and Media Authority

Eligibility, application and decision process

The USO is set out in the *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999* (TCPSS Act). It would be possible to determine different providers under the Act, but to date, Telstra remains the only provider designated in the statute. The legislation is supported by the Telstra Universal Service Obligation Performance Agreement (the TUSOPA). The TUSOPA runs for 20 years from 2012 to 2032, although Telstra may terminate the USO voice component of the TUSOPA from 2027 with two years' prior notice.

Barring changes to the contract being mutually agreed, Telstra is the only contracted entity and recipient of funding. You have limited involvement in day to day contract management. The Secretary of the department has statutory responsibilities to maintain a register setting out key details of contracts/grants (including for the USO), to monitor the

performance of contractors/grant recipients and report each financial year to you (via the department's annual report) on significant matters relating to Telstra's performance.

Annual payments to Telstra for the USO are made after the end of each financial year, based on a departmental assessment, including against a pre-defined set of high-level targets relating to telephone connections, repairs and payphone operation.

Program facts and examples

The TUSOPA requires Telstra to maintain its copper network outside the NBN fixed line footprint to support voice services, unless customers agree otherwise or there are exceptional circumstances. Telstra provides around \$45 voice services nationally (primarily over the NBN fixed line network). While most USO services are provided via fixed lines, Telstra provides voice services outside the NBN fixed-line footprint via a mix of technologies. This includes fixed line copper (\$45 – of which around \$45 have ADSL broadband), wireless (\$45), satellite (\$45), and fibre (\$45). Telstra also has around 14,800 payphones nationally.

USO payments to Telstra are made from the Public Interest Telecommunications Services Special Account (PITSSA). The PITSSA is funded from two sources – an annual Commonwealth appropriation of \$100 million and annual receipts from the Telecommunications Industry Levy (TIL). The levy is around \$240 million annually depending on actual expenditure on public interest contracts and grants other than the USO. Telstra and other carriers (such as Optus, TPG and NBN Co) contribute to the TIL.

Since 2015, reform of the USO has been a focus of attention, particularly to determine if the significant funding involved can be used to deliver voice services using mobile and broadband technologies more in line with consumer preferences. As it is a contractual obligation, it can only be amended if both Telstra and the Commonwealth agree.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services

Purposes: Communications connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999* and *Telecommunications (Industry Levy) Act 2012*

Contacts

Richard Windeyer
Deputy Secretary
Communications and Media Group
Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au
\$47F

Lachlann Paterson
First Assistant Secretary
Communication Services and Consumer
lachlann.paterson@infrastructure.gov.au
\$47F



Upgrade of NBN fixed wireless and satellite connections

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The NBN Fixed Wireless and Satellite Upgrade program will significantly improve broadband services available to over one million premises in regional, remote and peri-urban areas in the NBN fixed wireless and satellite footprints by the end of 2024.

Status

The NBN Fixed Wireless and Satellite Upgrade program was announced on 22 March 2022 by the Communications Minister, as part of the 2022–23 Budget. The program has a total of \$480 million in administered funding in the 2021–22 financial year. NBN Co Limited (NBN Co) was announced as the successful grant recipient on 22 March 2022.

The full \$480 million will be provided to NBN Co through a grant process. While this amount was included in the Budget, there is not currently an appropriation for the program. Arrangements for this will need to be made as soon as possible - with the department to enter into a funding agreement with NBN Co on behalf of the Commonwealth to facilitate provision of all program funds during the 2021–22 financial year. The upgrade is scheduled to commence in mid-2022 and to be completed by 31 December 2024.

Delivery partners

- NBN Co

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	480.0	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- NBN Co
- Telecommunications carriers
- Regional communities
- People with access to the NBN via fixed wireless or satellite
- Operators of other fixed wireless networks
- Regional businesses

Eligibility, application and decision process

As NBN Co is the government business enterprise tasked with providing wholesale fixed broadband services to every premises in Australia – and has already completed the volume rollout of the NBN – the grant opportunity was only open to operators of the NBN fixed wireless and satellite networks. NBN Co was therefore the only applicant invited to apply.

Ministerial approval was provided for:

- the department to run a closed non-competitive grant opportunity for the program
- the Grant Opportunity Guidelines for the program and
- the commitment of grant funding of \$480 million to NBN Co.

The department will enter into the funding arrangement with NBN Co on behalf of the Commonwealth.

Program facts and examples

The program is a one-off grant to leverage the existing NBN rollout and enable NBN Co to offer improved services to all one million premises in the NBN fixed wireless and satellite footprints. The upgrade of the fixed wireless network will enable 120,000 premises currently able to access satellite services to then access fixed wireless services. Around 750,000 premises in the expanded fixed wireless footprint will be able to access services with peak wholesale download speeds of up to 100 Megabits per second (Mbps) and upload speeds of up to 20 Mbps (compared to the highest speed product currently available with a peak wholesale maximum speed of 75 Mbps download and 10 Mbps upload).

NBN Co will also develop a further higher speed tier offering peak wholesale speeds of up to 250 Mbps to 85 per cent of the fixed wireless footprint. The upgraded fixed wireless footprint will offer typical wholesale download busy period speeds of at least 50 Mbps (compared to the current design minimum of at least 6 Mbps during the busy hour).

The program provides funding for a single grant of \$480 million to NBN Co. The total cost of the upgrade is \$750 million, with the remaining \$270 million being contributed by NBN Co.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purposes: Communications Connectivity – Enabling people in Australia to connect to effective, safe communications services and enabling investment in communications technologies, for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: N/A

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au

s47F

Matthew Brine

First Assistant Secretary

Communications Infrastructure Division

Matthew.Brine@communications.gov.au

s47F



Mobile Black Spot Program

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The government has committed \$380 million to the Mobile Black Spot Program (MBSP) to improve mobile coverage and competition across Australia. To date (through Rounds 1-5A), this commitment has generated a total investment of more than \$875.8 million (GST inclusive), to deliver 1,296 new mobile base stations.

Status

The Commonwealth's commitment to the program of \$380 million since 2015-16 comprises:

- \$271.2 million contractually committed (as at 31 March 2022) to deliver 1,296 new mobile base stations across the first 6 rounds of the program (Rounds 1, 2 and 3 'Priority Locations' and Rounds 4, 5 and 5A) of which \$189.0 million has been incurred.
- \$79.1 million of administered funding allocated to Round 6 which is uncommitted.
- \$14.4 million has been allocated towards the Mobile Network Hardening Program under Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters (STAND)¹.
- \$10.7 million has been allocated towards the Peri-urban Mobile Program (PUMP)².
- \$2.5 million departmental funding to administer the program.
- \$2.0 million has been allocated towards the New South Wales Central Coast trains mobile coverage and Wi-Fi project, which is scheduled for completion by 30 June 2022.
- \$0.7 million has been allocated towards the North West Tasmania communications upgrade project – completed.

An additional \$0.2 million 2021-22 Budget appropriation has been allocated towards improving mobile coverage in Cherry Gardens, South Australia, with the project scheduled for completion by 30 June 2022.

The Connecting Northern Australia initiative is providing an additional \$68.5 million to improve telecommunications services, including mobile coverage across northern Australia through Round 2 of the Regional Connectivity Program.

As at 31 March 2022, construction of 1,008 base stations has been completed, with 200 base stations due by 30 June 2022, 67 by 30 June 2023 and 21 base stations being removed from the program. Some base stations are at risk of delay or not being delivered due to certain site issues such as the need to acquire landowner agreement and/or to obtain the required state, territory or local government approvals.

Delivery partners

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Telstra | • Optus |
| • TPG Telecom (formerly Vodafone) | • Field Solutions Group |

¹ Refer to Programs administered by the department – Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters

² Refer to Programs administered by the department – Peri-urban Mobile Program

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	57.9 ^(a)	115.1	– ^(b)	–	–

(a) Includes \$0.2 million for Cherry Gardens project.

(b) There is currently no MBSP funding in forward estimates beyond 2022-23. However, a Movement of Funds request will seek to move funding to 2023-24 – primarily for Rounds 5A and 6 of the program.

Key stakeholders

- Mobile network operators and infrastructure providers
- State, territory and local governments
- Regional, rural and remote communities
- People living, working and travelling in regional Australia

Eligibility, application and decision process

The MBSP uses a competitive grants process where mobile network operators and infrastructure providers are asked to come forward with proposals to build new mobile infrastructure in regional, rural and remote areas of Australia. These proposals are competitively assessed by a departmental evaluation committee against stated assessment criteria in the program’s published grant guidelines. As the Minister, you are the decision maker for this program. Your agreement is required to remove sites from the program where they are unable to be built.

Program facts and examples

The program is based on a partnership model and is supported by co-contributions from state and local governments, mobile network operators, businesses and local communities. A breakdown of funding is in the following table.

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Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purposes: Communications connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au

s47F

Lachlann Paterson

First Assistant Secretary

Communications Services and Consumer Division

Lachlann.Paterson@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F

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Regional Connectivity Program

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Regional Connectivity Program is providing funding to deliver 'place-based' telecommunications infrastructure projects to improve digital connectivity across regional, rural and remote Australia.

Status

The program is addressing local regional priorities to maximise economic opportunities and social benefits for communities and businesses, leveraging financial co-contributions from industry and state and local governments. Round 2 includes \$65.5 million of dedicated funding to telecommunications infrastructure projects in Northern Australia, funded under the Connecting Northern Australia initiative.

Two rounds of the program have been conducted to date – Round 1 in 2021 and Round 2 in 2022 – both of which were over-subscribed. As at 31 March 2022, \$19.4 million of the \$107 million committed to the 131 Round 1 projects has been expended – with three projects now completed. Contracts for the \$127 million allocated to the 93 projects under Round 2 are yet to be executed.

Delivery partners

Round 1

- Ace Internet Services Pty Ltd
- BullRoarer Networks Pty Ltd
- Comscentre WA Pty Ltd
- Country Broadband Network Pty Ltd
- Dreamtilt Pty Ltd (Gladstone Auto Club)
- FortyTwo 24 Pty Ltd
- Pivotal Mobile Pty Ltd
- TasmaNET Pty Ltd
- Wi-Sky NSW Pty Ltd
- Australian Private Networks Pty Ltd
- CiFi Pty Ltd
- Connected Farms Pty Ltd
- CRISP Wireless Pty Ltd
- Field Solutions Group Pty Ltd
- NBN Co Limited
- Queensland Capacity Network Pty Ltd
- Telstra Corporation Limited
- Wi-Sky Queensland Pty Ltd

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
RCP Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	86.8	65.8	16.7	-	-
Connecting Northern Australia (NPA) Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	22.0	44.4	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Regional communities and consumers
- State and territory governments
- Local governments
- Remote Indigenous communities
- Mobile and broadband network operators
- Agriculture and tourism sectors

Eligibility, application and decision process

- Eligible applications must be outside of the NBN fixed-line footprint and major urban areas.
- Applicants can be either individual or joint organisations, with at least one entity either a licensed telecommunications carrier, or owner or intended owner of the proposed solution infrastructure who holds or intends to hold a Nominated Carrier Declaration (which is an alternative to a carrier licence).
- A departmental assessment committee undertakes a competitive assessment process to determine which projects to recommend to the decision maker for funding, in accordance with the merit criteria set out in the program guidelines.
- You are the decision maker for approving grant funding in accordance with the *Public Governance Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act).

Program facts and examples

The program provides funding for mobile, broadband and backhaul projects which are tailored specifically to the needs of local communities to improve their digital connectivity. For example, Telstra received \$2.8 million under Round 1 to upgrade core transmission equipment across East Arnhem Land and increase existing backhaul capacity between Darwin and Nhulunbuy.

The Commonwealth's investment in Rounds 1 and 2 will leverage an additional \$209.2 million from applicants and a further \$88.3 million from state and territory governments. It will also leverage an additional \$14.8 million from other third parties – mostly local councils and community groups. Of the 130 projects funded under Round 1, 38 projects are in Western Australia, 32 in Victoria, 25 in Queensland, 19 in New South Wales, 6 in Tasmania, and 5 projects each in South Australia and 4 in the NT. There is also one funded project on Christmas Island.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services

Purposes: Communications Connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: PGPA Act, *Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997*

Contacts

Richard Windeyer
Deputy Secretary
Communications and Media Group
Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au
s47F

Lachlann Paterson
First Assistant Secretary
Communications Services and Consumer Division
Lachlann.Paterson@communications.gov.au
s47F



Other public interest services (emergency call service and NBN voice-only migration)

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Other Public Interest Services Program is made up of two components. The first component is the Emergency Call Service, which connects people dialling Triple Zero with emergency service organisations. The second is Voice-Only Customer Migration, which provides people migrating voice-only services to the National Broadband Network (NBN) with in-home cabling assistance.

Status

These programs are delivered by Telstra under the Telstra Universal Service Obligation Performance Agreement (TUSOPA), which commenced on 1 July 2012. The Emergency Call Service contract runs until 2032, while it is expected that the voice-only migration arrangements will end in 2023 as the migration to the NBN is completed.

The Emergency Call Service program has a total funding of \$400 million. As at 31 March 2022:

- \$20 million per annum has been allocated for program costs, up to 2032.
- \$157.2 million has been paid to Telstra since 2012.

The Voice-Only Migration program has total funding of \$150 million. As at 31 March 2022:

- \$117.1 million has been paid to Telstra since 2012.
- \$32.9 million is available for completion of the program.

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The majority of funding is levied from telecommunications service providers under the Telecommunications Industry Levy.

Delivery partners

These programs are delivered by Telstra under contract.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	51.2	39.1	22.3	22.3	22.3

Key stakeholders

- The community
- Telstra
- Telecommunications Industry Levy contributors
- Emergency service organisations
- State and Territory emergency service management bodies

Eligibility, application and decision process

Telstra provides the Emergency Call Service via contract in order to fulfil certain regulatory requirements under the Emergency Call Services Determination. While funding for the management and delivery of the Emergency Call Service is capped at \$20 million per annum, there is the ability for Telstra to submit a claim for payment for major upgrades to its Emergency Call Service platforms and systems. These claims are assessed by the department on a case-by-case basis, in line with the applicable contractual provisions set out in the TUSOPA.

To date, such upgrades have included the introduction of tools, processes and applications to facilitate the automatic provision of geographic location information of mobile callers to Triple Zero. Other upgrades have focused on the provision of enhanced hardware to ensure the continued resiliency and reliability of the Emergency Call Service as a whole. The department will engage with you prior to approving future system upgrades.

Program facts and examples

The Emergency Call Service program answered 9.8 million calls in 2020-21, of which 75 per cent originated from a mobile service. The department and Telstra continue to work together to identify future improvements to the service, s47F

Since 2012 more than 361,000 voice-only customers across Australia have received in-home cabling assistance to help facilitate their transition from the legacy copper network to the NBN.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purposes: Communications connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999*

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

Richard.Windeyer@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F

Lachlann Paterson

First Assistant Secretary

Communications Services and Consumer Division

Lachlann.Paterson@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F



National Relay Service

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The National Relay Service (NRS) allows people who are deaf, hard of hearing and/or have a speech impairment to make and receive phone calls. The service provides a relay officer to pass a conversation between a registered user of the service and a third party.

Status

The NRS is provided under contract with Concentrix and funded from the Public Interest Telecommunications Services Special Account (PITSSA). The PITSSA funds a range of public interest telecommunication programs and is financed by the Telecommunications Industry Levy (TIL), along with \$100 million per year of Commonwealth Budget funding. The TIL is collected annually from eligible telecommunications carriers.

Concentrix is contracted to deliver the NRS for a period of three years with a maximum amount payable by the Commonwealth of \$60 million. The original contract term is October 2019 to September 2022 with the option to extend for an additional two years.

As at 31 March 2022:

- \$60 million is contracted to Concentrix for delivery of the NRS for 3 years
- Ongoing funding of \$20 million per annum is required for the NRS to fulfil the requirement under the TCPSS Act and
- The department has exercised the option to extend the term for an additional 2 years.

The Commonwealth pays a monthly fixed amount of \$1.2 million to Concentrix for the provision of the NRS. The contract also provides for additional variable costs to be paid to Concentrix in months where total call duration exceeds 392,502 minutes. As of March 2022, no month has exceeded this volume.

Concentrix must meet contracted service level requirements relating to call answer times and call abandonment rates. In the event Concentrix does not meet its service level requirements, the Commonwealth may reduce a monthly payment by up to 10 percent. **s47E**

The contract also allows for the Commonwealth to request additional services from Concentrix. The department has engaged Concentrix to undertake user consultation surveys and programs of work to implement technical and operational improvements to respond to user feedback. The funding for these additional services is drawn from unused funds within the \$60 million allocated to the NRS.

Delivery partners

Concentrix is the contracted NRS provider. Concentrix has call centres in Ballarat and Brisbane as well as staff who work from home in other locations. For 2022-23, Concentrix has 126 full time equivalent relay officers and 6 full time equivalent Helpdesk staff.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	\$20.0

Key stakeholders

- Australians who are deaf, hard of hearing and/or have a speech impairment
- Deaf Australia and other disability advocacy groups
- Concentrix
- Telstra and other telecommunication providers

Eligibility, application and decision process

The current provider, Concentrix, was selected to deliver the service following a competitive tender process which assessed value for money against strict procurement guidelines.

Anyone can register to use the NRS, free of charge. Registration requires users to complete a form and provide proof of identity and attest that they need to use the service.

Program facts and examples

The Australian Government has overseen the delivery of the NRS since 1995. Concentrix has been the NRS provider since 2019, following a competitive tender process. The NRS is available 24/7, with the exception of the video relay call channel, which operates from 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday, excluding national holidays.

Compulsory user registration was introduced in May 2021 to provide more information about use of the service and to prevent abuse of the service such as scam calls. As of 31 March 2022 there were 4,903 registered users, with approximately half the total registered users using the service each month. The NRS averages approximately 34,000 outbound calls and 250,000 call minutes per month.

The NRS has 6 different call channel types, including options to 'type and read', 'speak and read', 'type and listen' and a video relay option for Auslan users. Users can access the NRS via computers, smart phones and teletypewriters.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purposes: Communications connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: *Telecommunications (Consumer Protections and Service Standards) Act 1999*

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

Richard.Windeyer@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F

Lachlann Paterson

First Assistant Secretary

Communications Services and Consumer Division

Lachlann.Paterson@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F



Community Broadcasting Program

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Community Broadcasting Program supports a diverse, innovative and resilient community broadcasting sector. Successful delivery of the program will increase media diversity and social inclusion through investment in the community broadcasting sector.

Status

The program provides core funding to the Community Broadcasting Foundation (CBF), an independent non-profit body that seeks, secures and distributes funding to support community broadcasting in Australia. The government's investment allows development of content, training for workers, transmission infrastructure, online services and the broadcasting of Australian music. Funding also ensures the production of content for Indigenous and ethnic channels and for Australians with a print disability.

Funding under the previous grant agreement (2017 to 2021) concluded on 30 June 2021. A new funding agreement was entered into with the CBF on 8 November 2021 for a further 4 years (to 30 June 2025), following the completion of a grant application assessment in accordance with the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines and ministerial approval.

Delivery partners

Community Broadcasting Foundation

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	20.1	20.5	16.8	17.2	17.5

Key stakeholders

- Community Broadcasting Foundation
- Community Broadcasting Association of Australia
- Community radio and television stations

Eligibility, application and decision process

All program funds are paid to the CBF for distribution to the community broadcasting sector through grants processes.

The \$74.6 million funding allocation for the 4 years breaks down across the community broadcasting sector as follows:

- \$20.7 million is available to all stations for general transmission and support services
- \$16.9 million is for ethnic community broadcasting
- \$5.5 million is for Radio for the Print Handicapped
- \$5.1 million is for First Nations Media
- \$13.8 million is for digital radio
- \$12.6 million is for sector development activities including public interest news, training, enhancing the online presence of stations and the Australian Music Radio Airplay Project.

Under its funding agreement, the CBF submits performance reports to the department every 6 months. These reports include information on how CBF has performed against its projected outputs for the reporting period, including funding allocations and reporting on administrative costs. The CBF is also required to submit annual Audited Financial Statements and Expenditure Forecast Reports.

Program facts and examples

The 450 community radio stations broadcasting across Australia are eligible to receive funding through the program. According to the 2021 CBF Annual Report, the community broadcasting sector, including volunteer efforts, contributed \$692 million annually to the economy. Community radio stations play an important role in the diversity of Australia's media and broadcasting sector and draw on the skills and expertise of thousands of paid employees and volunteers.

Ongoing funding from the CBF is allocated to identifiable groups, such as print handicapped groups, to assist in meeting transmission requirements and training, and for special projects, such as the Australian Music Radio Airplay Project, an initiative aimed at promoting Australian music.

The government's investment allows development of content, training for workers, transmission infrastructure, online services and the broadcasting of Australian music. Funding also ensures the production of content for Indigenous and ethnic channels and for Australians with a print disability.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purpose: Communications Connectivity— enabling all Australians to connect to effective communications services and technologies, for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 - Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997, Schedule 1AA—Arrangements, Grants and Programs Regulation 16, Section 405.007 - Community Broadcasting Program.

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

richard.windeyer@communications.gov.au

s47F

Pauline Sullivan

First Assistant Secretary

Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division

pauline.sullivan@communications.gov.au

s47F



Australian 5G Innovation Initiative

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Australian 5G Innovation Initiative (the Initiative) provides \$40 million in grant funding to support private sector investment in 5G through case studies and trials. The Initiative will demonstrate the productivity-boosting applications of 5G and for businesses to understand how they can use 5G.

Status

The Initiative consists of two open competitive grant opportunities, administered by the Business Grants Hub. The duration of the Initiative is from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2025.

Round 1 funded 19 projects commencing from December 2021 for a 12-month period. The grant opportunity guidelines for Round 2 were released on 28 February 2022. The round opened for applications on 9 March 2022 and closed on 11 April 2022.

As at 31 March 2022, the Initiative has total funding of \$40 million, of which:

- \$19.5 million has been allocated and contracted for Round 1, of which \$9.3 million has been paid to recipients and
- \$20.5 million remains unallocated and intended for Round 2.

Delivery partners

- Business Grants Hub – Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (DISER)
- Nova Systems Australia – Technical Advice

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	15.0	13.0	8.0	4.0	0.0

Key stakeholders

- Government agencies
- Relevant sectoral industry organisations
- Round 2 applicants
- The 19 grant recipients and unsuccessful applicants in Round 1

Eligibility, application and decision process

The department undertook public consultation to inform the design of both Round 1 and Round 2. The grant opportunity guidelines were developed with the Business Grants Hub, approved by the Department of Finance and agreed to by the Communications Minister.

Round 1 applications were assessed in line with the grant selection process outlined in the grant opportunity guidelines. The department and Business Grants Hub undertook eligibility and merit assessments. The assessment committee then assessed applications against the assessment criteria, against other applications and whether it provided value for money.

Program facts and examples

The Initiative's objectives are to support innovative, emerging and commercial use cases of 5G technology in key industry sectors, to demonstrate the value of 5G to businesses in Australia, and support private sector investment in 5G trials.

The intended program outcomes are:

- boosting productivity and creating jobs with 5G technology, responding to the needs of different industries
- bringing forward the potential 5G economic and productivity benefits to the Australian economy by demonstrating 5G applications and
- encouraging the more rapid deployment of 5G in Australia, in turn supporting increased investment in telecommunications infrastructure and jobs.

Through Round 1, the Initiative has so far funded 19 projects across key sectors of the economy, including agriculture, construction, manufacturing, transport, education and training. The trials will take place across Australia, in 5 different states and in a mix of urban and regional areas. The organisations involved in projects include businesses, educational institutions, and local governments.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purposes: Enabling people in Australia to connect to effective, safe communications services and enabling investment in communications technologies, for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services.

Relevant legislation: Legislative authority is provided by item 469 in Schedule 1AB to the FFSP Regulations.

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au

s47F

Matthew Brine

First Assistant Secretary

Communications Infrastructure Division

Matthew.Brine@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F



Public Interest News Gathering Program

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The \$70 million Public Interest News Gathering (PING) program supported 107 regional broadcasters and publishers, and the Australian Associated Press (AAP) to provide public interest journalism in regional areas during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Status

The PING program provided grants to 107 regional broadcasters and publishers, and AAP. The program commenced on 7 May 2020 and is scheduled to end by 30 June 2023 upon acceptance of the final acquittal report from the AAP.

The majority of funds have now been paid to grantees. The department is currently assessing final acquittal reports submitted by grantees. A final payment of \$7.5 million will be made to AAP in June 2022. No more funding rounds will be conducted.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	7.5	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Regional publishers
- Regional commercial radio broadcasters
- AAP Newswire service
- Regional commercial television broadcasters
- Regional consumers

Eligibility, application and decision process

The initial \$50 million program was open to regional commercial broadcasters and regional publishers in Australia. The grant opportunity was established using a demand-driven process whereby applicants were required to meet a set of eligibility criteria, including the provision of services to regional areas. Regional areas were defined as radio broadcast licence areas that are not metropolitan licence areas. 'Metropolitan licence area' means a metropolitan licence area as defined in section 61AA of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*.

Grants were allocated based on the 2018–19 certified revenue of grantees. This approach was selected as it facilitated the urgent release of funds during the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant opportunity was undertaken in compliance with the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines.

An additional \$20 million in funding was allocated to AAP to support its provision of public interest journalism in regional areas. The funding was provided using a closed, non-competitive grant process. The AAP was ineligible for the original PING Program, as wire services did not meet the definition of a 'regional publisher'.

Program facts and examples

On 15 April 2020, the Australian Government announced a package of short-term measures to support Australian media businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. This included the \$50 million PING program. Applications opened on 7 May 2020 and successful grantees were announced on 29 June 2020.

On 18 September 2020, the government announced that \$5 million would be provided to the AAP to support their provision of public interest journalism in regional areas. As part of the 2021–22 Budget, the government announced that the AAP would receive an additional \$15 million.

The program helped regional and remote Australian communities stay connected and informed with news and information that is accurate, assessable and relevant to local audiences. PING grantees provided news services to over 730 regional communities across Australia. PING grantees employed 140 new journalists and launched 19 new mastheads in regional Australia.

The AAP's content is available to over 250 regional media outlets. The AAP Newswire is using the funding for a range of activities to support the provision of its newswire service to regional areas, including reopening its Darwin and Townsville bureaus.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purpose: Communications Connectivity - enabling all Australians to connect to effective communications services and technologies, for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 - Digital Technologies and Communications Services.

Relevant legislation: Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997; *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* (to determine broadcasting service eligibility) and the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (to exclude foreign owned publications).

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

richard.windeyer@communications.gov.au

s47F

Pauline Sullivan

First Assistant Secretary

Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division

pauline.sullivan@communications.gov.au

s47F



Regional Broadcasting Program

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Regional Broadcasting Program provides grant funding to support the delivery of free-to-air television services in television blackspots.

Status

The Regional Broadcasting Program includes funding for the Viewer Access Satellite Television (VAST) platform, which provides free-to-air television services over satellite for areas of Australia where terrestrial television transmission is not available. VAST commenced in 2010 as part of the switchover to digital television and funding was originally allocated for a 10 year period (2009-10 to 2019-20). Funding for VAST was extended and is currently allocated to 30 June 2024.

The program also includes funding to improve terrestrial television transmission in Stroud NSW, which has been affected by interference since the digital switchover. Upgrades to television transmission infrastructure are due for completion by 30 June 2022.

As at 31 March 2022, the program has total funding of \$161.1 million since 2009-10. As at 31 March 2022:

- \$125.2 million has been paid to providers since 2009-10
- \$28.4 million has been contracted across 2022-23 and 2023-24
- \$7.5 million represents the total funding that was not expended in an allocated year and these funds were, where possible, moved to the next financial year to cover any additional expenses or returned to consolidated revenue if there was not a movement of funds.

As part of the 2022-23 Budget, additional funding of \$3.5 million was announced to maintain the VAST service. This funding is contractually committed across 2021-22 to 2023-24, reflecting the increased costs that regional broadcasters are facing in delivering the VAST service. This funding comprises uncommitted funds in 2020-21 and 2021-22 from VAST and the Spectrum Pricing Transitional Support Program. As at 31 March 2022, there are three grant agreements to support the program (Eastern VAST, Western VAST and Stroud).

Delivery partners

- WA Satco (a joint venture between WIN and Prime)
- Regional Broadcasters Australia Holdings (RBAH)
- Eastern Australia Satellite Broadcasters (a joint venture between Imparja Television and Southern Cross Austereo)

Program funding

	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	14.5	14.1	14.3	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Over 250,000 households with VAST direct-to-home satellites and 30,000 premises receive television from a terrestrial tower that is fed by VAST
- WIN, Prime, Southern Cross Austereo, Imparja, ABC and SBS
- Optus (owns the satellite that transmits VAST)
- Australian Communications and Media Authority

Eligibility, application and decision process

The extension of the VAST grant agreements to 30 June 2024 followed a closed non-competitive process. The provision of commercial free-to-air television services on VAST is limited to WA Satco and Eastern Australia Satellite Broadcasters as the requisite licence holders under the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* (the BSA). The BSA sets out requirements for commercial free-to-air television broadcasting over satellite. The grant agreements enables the broadcasters to claim funding in arrears for eligible expenses, such as satellite transmission. A cap is set for each financial year.

Funding to improve terrestrial television transmission reception at Stroud NSW was awarded to RBAH following an ad hoc grant process. RBAH is an entity formed by the commercial regional broadcasters to manage and operate terrestrial television transmission sites, including existing television infrastructure at Stroud NSW. Under the grant agreement RBAH receives milestone payments for costs incurred to improve terrestrial television transmission services at Stroud NSW.

You are responsible for funding decisions regarding the program.

Program facts and examples

Over 220,000 premises and 30,000 travellers rely on VAST through a direct-to-home satellite service. There are no subscription or ongoing costs, however viewers are responsible for purchasing a certified VAST set-top box and satellite installation costs. The number of premises that rely on VAST continues to increase each year.

There are around 120 television transmission towers located in regional and remote Australia that receive an input feed from the VAST satellite signal and retransmit the service terrestrially. These towers are not funded under the VAST grant agreements and are the responsibility of the commercial television broadcasters or tower owner (such as local councils).

The grant funding supports the delivery of commercial free-to-air services on VAST (3 primary channels and 6 multichannels) as well as 20 dedicated regional news channels on the Eastern VAST service. ABC and SBS provide television and radio channels on VAST with funding from their respective budget appropriations.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purposes: Communications Connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: *Broadcasting Services Act 1992, Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013, Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997*

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

Richard.Windeyer@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F

Lachlann Paterson

First Assistant Secretary

Communications Services and Consumer Division

Lachlann.Paterson@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F



Regional Backbone Blackspots Program

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The fibre network links built under the Regional Backbone Blackspots Program are a Commonwealth asset that support high capacity data connectivity in regional locations.

Status

The Australian Government invested \$250 million in the Regional Backbone Blackspots Program (RBBP) from 2009-10 to 2012-13 for 6,000 km of backhaul infrastructure (fibre optic cable) in underserved regional locations. The asset is recorded on the department's balance sheet. It is valued, for accounting purposes, at \$122.2 million in 2020-21.

The RBBP links are used by NBN Co, Vocus, government agencies and Australia's Academic and Research Network (AARNet) under long term lease agreements (Indefeasible Rights of Use (IRUs)) issued by the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth also holds IRUs for two segments of the RBBP links that are owned by Vocus and AusNet Services. The Commonwealth does not make any money from the IRUs.

The department contracts Vocus for the operation and maintenance (O&M) of the RBBP links. IRU holders are responsible for paying the O&M costs.

Delivery partners

Vocus operates and maintains the RBBP links on behalf of the Commonwealth. NBN Co is responsible for paying the Commonwealth's share of the O&M fees.

Program funding

	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9

Note: Expenses reported in the Portfolio Budget Statements since 2012-13 relate to non-cash depreciation of the asset.

Key stakeholders

- Vocus
- NBN Co
- AusNet Services
- Government agencies that use the network
- AARNet

Eligibility, application and decision process

Access to the RBBP links are limited to IRU holders. This access supports connectivity for public interest outcomes including high-speed broadband, education and research, and competitive wholesale backhaul services.

The Commonwealth owns the passive network infrastructure (pits, pipes and optical fibre cables). Vocus, as the contracted O&M provider, owns the active network equipment (amplifiers and optical line termination equipment). The IRU holders are responsible for paying the O&M costs. You are responsible for decisions relating to the RBBP asset.

Program facts and examples

The Commonwealth's stated policy objectives at the establishment of the program were to:

- Address a lack of competitive backbone services to priority locations.
- Provide an immediate economic stimulus.
- Deliver higher quality and lower cost services for regional customers.
- Put in place key infrastructure for the roll-out of the National Broadband Network.

The RBBP links were built between the following locations:

- **Darwin:** Darwin (NT) to Toowoomba (Qld) (Vocus owns a segment of this link)
- **Broken Hill:** Broken Hill (NSW) to Mildura (Vic) and extending to Shepparton (Vic) and Gawler (SA)
- **Geraldton:** Perth (WA) to Geraldton (WA)
- **South West Gippsland:** Sale (Vic) to Wonthaggi (Vic)
- **Victor Harbor:** Old Noarlunga (SA) to Mt Barker (SA).

The links do not connect to individual premises but facilitate the provision of high-speed digital connectivity services between points of interconnection across regional Australia. For example, AARNet relies on the RBBP link at Geraldton (WA) to support connectivity for the Square Kilometre Array Telescope which is an international technology and research program supported by the Australian Government.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services

Purposes: Communications connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: *Telecommunications Act 1997, Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

Richard.Windeyer@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F

Lachlann Paterson

First Assistant Secretary

Communications Services and Consumer Division

Lachlann.Paterson@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F



Contribution to International Telecommunication Union and Asia-Pacific Telecommunity

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Australia's financial contributions to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) ensure we can influence international telecommunication standards in line with our national interests and democratic values (defined in the Foreign Policy White Paper and International Cyber and Critical Technology Engagement Strategy), and support development activities in the Asia-Pacific.

Status

Australia has provided membership contributions to the ITU since 1903, and to the APT since 1979.

Australia pays an annual contribution to the ITU of 4.7 million Swiss Francs (CHF) (around A\$6.9 million). This consists of a membership contribution of 4.1 million CHF (around A\$6.1 million) for membership fees, and an extra-budgetary contribution of 591,000 CHF (around A\$840,000) that supports telecommunications capacity-building activities in the Asia-Pacific. This arrangement has been in place since 2002. Australia recommit funds to the ITU every four years at its Plenipotentiary Conference (the next conference is in September 2022). These fees are fully cost-recovered from our radiocommunications and telecommunications industries by the Australian Communications and Media Authority through annual carrier licence charges under the *Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act 1997*.

Australia pays an annual contribution to the APT of A\$256,000. This comprises a membership contribution of US\$51,400 (around A\$70,000), with the balance of funds provided as an extra-budgetary contribution to support telecommunications capacity-building activities in the Asia-Pacific. Australia recommit funds to the APT every 3 years at the APT General Assembly. The next assembly is in 2023.

As at 31 March 2022, the department has paid Australia's contributions to the ITU and APT for the 2022 calendar year (paid in the 2021–22 financial year), a total payment of A\$7.2 million, of which:

- \$7.2 million has been paid to the APT and the ITU.
- \$34,000 remains unallocated from the program funding due to currency fluctuations.

Australia is in discussions with the ITU and APT on the design and delivery of the next tranche of development projects.

Delivery partners

The department manages Australia's administered funding to the ITU and APT. The ITU's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the APT develop and deliver Australian-funded projects in close coordination with the department.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.0	6.9

Key stakeholders

- ITU
- APT
- Australian industry
- Australian Government telecommunications, radiocommunications, standards and development policy advisors and regulators

Eligibility, application and decision process

Australia's annual membership payments to the ITU and APT contribute to the organisations' annual budgets. Australia influences the direction of the organisation through our elected position on the ITU Council (the ITU's main governing body), to which we are seeking re-election in September 2022.

Australia's extra-budgetary contribution to the ITU is governed by an annual Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU specifies that these funds be used to implement telecommunications capacity-building projects, mutually determined by the department and the ITU. All projects align with the Asia-Pacific regional initiatives agreed within ITU and are governed by a project document developed and agreed to by the department and the ITU.

Australia's extra-budgetary contribution to the APT is allocated to projects in close consultation with the APT Secretariat, based on the forward work program established by the APT's Management Committee. Activities are approved by exchange of official letters.

Program facts and examples

Australia partnered with the ITU in 2020 to deliver an Australian-funded project to develop digital skills programs, strengthen national cybersecurity capabilities, and develop emergency telecommunications response plans for natural disasters in the Asia-Pacific region. The project has delivered 10 training courses for girls and young women to strengthen their digital skills, and two missions have been undertaken to support the implementation of Smart Islands in Vanuatu. Ongoing project activities also include the development of a National Emergency Telecommunication Plan for Fiji and a digital transformation policy and strategy for Samoa. Project activities are ongoing and will be concluded in 2022, with Australia having provided US\$596,525 towards the project.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purpose: Communications connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: *Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act 1997*

Contacts

Richard Windeyer
Deputy Secretary
Communications and Media Group
Richard.Windeyer@infrastructure.gov.au
s47F

Lachlann Paterson
First Assistant Secretary
Communications Services and Consumer Division
Lachlann.Paterson@infrastructure.gov.au
s47F



Cell Broadcast National Messaging System

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Cell Broadcast National Messaging System (CBNMS) will enable the Australian Government, and state and territory governments, to send timely and targeted messages to the community in relation to unfolding emergencies or disaster events, including events of national significance.

Status

CBNMS addresses the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements findings regarding current warning systems limitations. CBNMS offers a number of benefits not provided by the aging Emergency Alert system, including:

- CBNMS messages are not subject to, and do not contribute to network congestion.
- Messages reach all targeted mobiles, regardless of who the carrier is, at the same time, and are scalable to quickly reach large, national populations.
- Messages are deliberately intrusive, arriving with a unique internationally recognised ring tone and vibration, and can be broadcast in multiple languages.

As at 12 April 2022, the department and Department of Home Affairs are conducting an approach to market to obtain tender quality prices for implementation of the system. A request for tender evaluation is underway s47. Subject to the outcomes of the evaluation, negotiations with tenderers will then commence. CBNMS was earmarked in the 2022–23 Budget as part of the Emergency Management and National Resilience Package.

Delivery partners

- Mobile handset operating system compatibility will be undertaken by Apple and Google.
- Service contracts or other arrangements as appropriate will be developed with agreed suppliers.
- CBNMS is a joint agency initiative of the department and the Department of Home Affairs (Emergency Management Australia). These agencies are responsible for delivery.

Program funding

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Program funding is not for publication so as not to prejudice contract negotiations.

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Key stakeholders

- Commonwealth government agencies, primarily in the emergency response, health, defence, security and communications sectors.
- Members of the community, as the recipients of CBNMS messages.
- State and Territory governments, primarily their emergency services organisations.
- Mobile network operators – Optus, Telstra and TPG Telecom.

Program facts and examples

CBNMS will be able to deliver messages to mobile phones, locally, regionally and nationally, in near real time.

The system has two main components:

- the Cell Broadcast Entity which is the user interface, where messages are composed and authorised, and where the geographic area for messages to be sent is determined and
- a Cell Broadcast Centre which initiates the broadcast of the authorised messages via the mobile carrier network. In Australia, three Cell Broadcast Centres will be necessary, one in each carrier network.

A cell broadcast capability will provide Commonwealth, state and territory governments with an improved capability to more effectively respond to and manage a range of hazard events. This is because CBNMS messages can be sent nationally or be geo-fenced to be region specific, including targeting of flood, fire and cyclone impacted areas.

By way of example, CBNMS would allow travellers in regional Australia to receive a warning message when they enter a specified zone, alerting them to potential flash flooding and the need to find an alternate route.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purposes: Communications Connectivity - Enabling people in Australia to connect to effective, safe communications services and enabling investment in communications technologies, for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: *Telecommunications Act 1997*

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au

s47F

Matthew Brine

First Assistant Secretary

Communications Infrastructure Division

Matthew.Brine@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F



Peri Urban Mobile Program

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Peri-Urban Mobile Program (PUMP) provides grant funding to mobile network operators and infrastructure providers to deliver new and improved mobile coverage in the bushfire-prone peri-urban fringes of Australia's major cities.

Status

PUMP was announced as part of the Digital Economy Strategy in the 2021-22 Budget. As at 31 March 2022, the program has total funding of \$25.7 million from 2021-22 to 2023-24, of which:

- \$25.7 million has been allocated to projects, of which none has yet been contracted; and
- \$23,000 remains unallocated.

As at 31 March 2022, none of the 66 committed projects have been contracted.

Delivery partners

- Telstra
- TPG Telecom
- Optus

Program funding

	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	2.5	15.7	7.5	-	-

Note: In March 2022, the Regional Communications Minister agreed to reallocate \$10.7 million in uncommitted funding from Round 5 of the Mobile Black Spot Program in 2022-23 to support additional projects which were considered value for money by the assessment committee and on the merit list but for which there was no remaining funding.

Key stakeholders

- Mobile network operators and mobile network infrastructure providers
- Local councils and communities
- State governments

Eligibility, application and decision process

The program uses a competitive assessment process to award funding for solutions that improve mobile coverage and competition in peri-urban areas (where the bush often directly interfaces with the suburbs, creating bushfire risks for those who live and work in those areas). Under this process, mobile network operators and mobile network infrastructure providers are asked to come forward with proposals to deliver improved mobile coverage in eligible areas.

These proposals are assessed and ranked on a solution by solution basis by a departmental assessment committee, using the assessment criteria in the program guidelines. The assessment committee makes recommendations to the minister, who decides which grants to approve taking into account the availability of funds.

Program facts and examples

The program has awarded funding to deploy 66 new base stations at 50 locations on the peri-urban fringe of Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Hobart, Sydney and Brisbane. The new base stations are located in the bushfire prone fringe that borders the major-urban areas of these cities. They will significantly improve coverage in areas with poor reception and localised black spots, this includes improving in-premises coverage for many residences.

A key objective of the program was to encourage funded sites that support more than one provider. The program is funding a second provider (mobile network provider) to co-locate at 16 of the 50 funded locations.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purposes: Communications Connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au

s47F

Lachlann Paterson

First Assistant Secretary

Communications Services and Consumer Division

Lachlann.Paterson@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F



Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

This program has increased the resilience of Australia's telecommunications in disaster prone areas so that communities can stay connected for longer during emergencies.

Status

The Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters (STAND) program commenced on 1 July 2020 and will terminate on 30 June 2023. As at 31 March 2022, total administered funding for STAND is \$38.2 million¹ and departmental funding of \$3.25 million. Funding is split across 4 complementary initiatives that will prevent, mitigate, and manage telecommunications outages. These initiatives are:

Mobile Network Hardening Program (MNHP) - \$21.9 million

- The MNHP provides funding to increase the resilience of mobile communication networks against power outages. Over 1,000 projects have been funded through the 2 stages of the MNHP, including the installation of permanent power generators, increased battery reserves and other site hardening measures.
- Successful projects under Stage 1 were announced in December 2020. A total of 461 base stations have received battery upgrades. The remaining 6 base stations are scheduled to be upgraded by 30 December 2022. As at 31 March 2022, \$8.39 million had been paid to Stage 1 recipients.
- Stage 2 projects were announced in March 2022, supporting 544 additional resilience projects at a cost of \$9.9 million, including \$4.37 million from unallocated Mobile Black Spot Program (MBSP) funding under Round 5A. MNHP Stage 2 projects are not yet contracted.

Skymuster Satellite Services Deployment Program - \$7.0 million

- This program is funding NBN Co to install up to 2,000 NBN Sky Muster satellite services at locations nominated by state and territory governments across Australia (although only 1,087 locations were nominated).
- As at 31 March 2022, \$7 million has been allocated to the program, all of which has been contracted and \$2.8 million has been paid to NBN Co. No funding is unallocated. This is funded through to 30 June 2023.
- 1,087 locations have been nominated, with 628 satellite services installed as at 27 April 2022. Of the total nominations, 120 'large' sites which include additional power resiliency (i.e. an uninterrupted power supply and the inclusion of solar panels) have been identified with 63 installed as at 27 April 2022.

Temporary Telecommunications Infrastructure Program - \$9.37 million

- This program is funding NBN Co, Telstra, Optus and TPG Telecom to purchase temporary telecommunications infrastructure assets, which can be deployed to provide temporary coverage during outages. As at 31 March 2022, \$9.37 million has been allocated, of which \$9.33 million has been contracted, \$6.44 million has been paid and \$0.04 million remains unallocated. This program is funded through to 30 June 2022.
- The \$9.33 million is split across two components: (i) an ad hoc grant to NBN Co (\$1.7 million), and (ii) a competitive grants process for other temporary facilities (\$7.63 million). Grants awarded under the competitive process are covering 50 per cent of the capital costs of the projects. As at 31 March 2022, the ad hoc grant with NBN Co is complete with the remaining four competitive grants being in progress. The following assets have already been delivered under the program: 12 portable satellite fly-away kits, 5 NBN road muster trucks, 40 NBN hybrid power

¹ At the time STAND was first announced in May 2020, the value of STAND was \$37.1 million (\$33.86 in administered funding, \$3.25 in departmental funding). Following a reallocation of \$4.37 million in administered funding from the Mobile Black Spots Program in March 2022, the total value of STAND as at 31 March 2022 is now \$41.5m, with \$38.2 being administered funds. The remaining \$3.25m is departmental funding is for the Communications and coordination program, Grants Hub expenses and Mobile Network Hardening Program implementation and contractor costs.

cubes, 2 network on wheels trailers, 2 wireless mast trailers, 12 multi-technology trailers. Some of these assets were used following recent natural disasters.

Communications and coordination program - \$2.1 million

- As at 31 March 2022, \$2.1 million has been allocated to improve the community's knowledge of how telecommunications may be impacted during a natural disaster and the importance of having multiple communication options in place. Various media resources have been created. The department is coordinating with other government agencies, emergency service organisations and the telecommunications industry to align key messaging. This work is funded via departmental funding (not administered funds).

Delivery partners

- The Business Grants Hub in the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources will administer the Skymuster Program grant and the Temporary Telecommunications Infrastructure grants until 30 June 2022.
- MNHP is administered by the department and is delivered by mobile network operators (Optus, Telstra and TPG Telecom). Co-funding for Stage 2 projects is being provided by the Western Australian and Victorian Governments.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	17.7	7.4	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Disaster prone communities
- Telcos - NBN Co, Telstra, Optus, TPG.
- The Department of Home Affairs
- The National Recovery and Resilience Agency

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purposes: Enabling people in Australia to connect to effective, safe communications services and enabling investment in communications technologies, for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: Federal Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997 – Part 3, item 420

Contacts

Richard Windeyer
Deputy Secretary
Communications and Media Group
Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au
s47F

Matthew Brine
First Assistant Secretary
Communications Infrastructure Division
Matthew.Brine@infrastructure.gov.au
s47F



Amplifying Australia's Voice Program

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Amplifying Australia's Voice Program enables broadcast rights to Australian television content to be made available to Pacific broadcast partners.

Status

The Amplifying Australia's Voice Program (known to participants as PacificAus TV) was announced in the 2018–19 Budget as a 3-year program (commencing on 13 November 2019). It was extended for one year in the 2022–23 Budget. Funding is provided to Free TV Australia (the commercial television industry body) which purchases the content distribution rights from Australia's commercial television broadcasters and negotiates the content delivery to Pacific broadcasters.

The program makes a variety of Australian television programs available to audiences in 9 Pacific Island countries via 14 free to air Pacific broadcast partners. The program complements a range of initiatives to enhance Australia's engagement in the Pacific. The program's objectives include promoting Australia and Australia's values in the Pacific region, s33

Delivery partners

Free TV Australia

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	5.7	5.7	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Pacific partner broadcasters

Eligibility, application and decision process

The program was established as a one-off grant to Free TV Australia. The grant was dependent on Free TV Australia developing a content package drawing on the breadth of content available across the commercial broadcasting sector.

Free TV Australia was selected as the appropriate delivery partner, leveraging its comprehensive commercial television network member base and role as the central repository of commercial industry content knowledge. s47C

An annual list of television programs to be broadcast is selected by Free TV Australia after consultation with Pacific broadcaster partners. Free TV Australia then submits an Annual Program Plan to the department for its approval. In order to be approved, the Annual Program Plan must demonstrate how the list of programs is appropriate for Pacific audiences and was developed in consultation with Pacific broadcasters.

Program facts and examples

Ongoing consultation with Pacific broadcasters by Free TV Australia continues to assist in understanding Pacific nation audience's interest in genres/titles of Australian television content subject to availability of suitable television content over the program period and within funding parameters.

Audience feedback on the content being delivered through this program showed that in 2020, around two-thirds of the additional Australian programming was put to air by local broadcasters in Papua New Guinea and Fiji, much of it in prime time. The same survey showed strong support for more Australian content in most of the target countries.

The department will undertake an evaluation of the program in the second half of 2022.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purpose: Communications Connectivity — enabling all Australians to connect to effective communications services and technologies, for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 - Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

richard.windeyer@communications.gov.au

s47F

Pauline Sullivan

First Assistant Secretary

Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division

pauline.sullivan@communications.gov.au

s47F



Consumer Representation Grants Program

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Consumer Representation Grants Program (CRGP) provides funding to a consumer representative group enabling it to represent consumer interests for telecommunications issues. The ongoing recipient of this grant is the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN).

Status

The CRPG is enabled under section 593 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997*. Funding for the program is recovered under the Annual Carrier Licence Charge collected by the Australian Communications and Media Authority. The multi-year funding agreement initially provided annual funding to ACCAN for financial years 2017-18 to 2021-22. This agreement was extended to 2026-27 in early 2022. Under the agreement, funding to ACCAN is indexed annually by the percentage of annual change in the Wage Price Index.

Under the current multi-year funding agreement, ACCAN receives a maximum of \$2,261,000 per annum, subject to indexation. ACCAN is forecast to receive \$13.5 million (GST inclusive) over the period to 2026-27.

ACCAN was formed in 2009 to address a widely-held concern that there was a fragmented consumer representation sector with competition between consumer representative bodies, not only for funds but also in terms of input to industry and government processes. Since its formation, ACCAN has been the sole recipient of program funding allocation. Its formation has also led to more consolidated and coherent advice on consumer views.

Delivery partners

- ACCAN

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7

Key stakeholders

- Consumers
- Broadcasting sector
- Research organisations
- ACCAN
- Telecommunications sector
- Consumer advocacy organisations (such as the Consumer Action Law Centre)

Eligibility, application and decision process

By ministerial decision, the program is currently established as a closed, non-competitive grant.

Program facts and examples

Under the funding agreement, ACCAN is required to undertake 6 activities:

- Represent the views and interests of telecommunications consumers
- Provide funding for representation projects and/or conduct research into the social, economic, environmental or technological implications of developments relating to telecommunications
- Educate consumers and organisations on telecommunications issues
- Develop and maintain effective and productive relationships with stakeholders
- Establish sound governance and reporting arrangements and
- Proactively and positively engage with the media.

These 6 activities are linked to key performance indicators that ACCAN reports against quarterly. ACCAN also represents the interest of consumers in broader matters relating to communications services.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services

Purposes: Communications connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: *Telecommunications Act 1997*

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

Richard.Windeyer@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F

Lachlann Paterson

First Assistant Secretary

Communications Services and Consumer Division

Lachlann.Paterson@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F



Journalist Fund

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Journalist Fund (the Fund) is designed to support regional news businesses to hire new cadet journalists and to upskill existing journalists.

Status

The objective of the Fund is to employ and upskill journalists to produce locally relevant core news content in regional areas and to maintain capacity for the creation of this content by regional media organisations.

The Fund was announced on 7 February 2022 by the Communications Minister as part of the Media Policy Statement. The Fund will provide \$10 million over 2 years from 2021–22.

The Fund is split into two separate streams: \$8 million has been allocated to a Cadetships stream and \$2 million has been allocated to a Training stream. Guidelines for the Cadetships stream were released on 21 March 2022 and closed on 20 April 2022. Guidelines for the Training stream are expected to be released in July 2022.

As at 31 March 2022, no funds have been committed or contracted.

Delivery partners

The program is administered by the department.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	5.0	5.0	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Eligible regional media organisations
- Regional consumers of news media
- Peak industry bodies

Eligibility, application and decision process

You have responsibility for approving applications from eligible regional media organisations on recommendations provided by the department. Eligible organisations include regional print and online publishers, regional commercial radio and television broadcasters and Indigenous media corporations with average annual turnover less than \$30 million.

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An Advisory Panel was established by the Communications Minister to provide advice on the department's assessment of applications. The department will provide advice to you on the outcomes of the Advisory Panel's assessment to allow you to make decisions on the Cadetship applications in June 2022.

Successful grant recipients will be able to use the funds for eligible activities, including the selection and employment of a new cadet journalist, the development and delivery of training programs, and mentoring support. Grant recipients will be able to use the funds for eligible expenditure, including cadets' salary, superannuation, on-boarding and hiring costs, relevant travel costs and training.

Guidelines for the Training stream are expected to be released in July 2022, with applications commencing shortly after.

Program facts and examples

Funding will be allocated across the two streams as follows:

- Stream 1 Cadetships – will support selected regional media organisations to employ new cadet journalists with a package of up to \$150,000 per cadet for a 2-year cadetship, under a co-contribution arrangement. If the program is fully subscribed and all organisations take up the maximum funding amount, approximately 76 cadets will be funded.
- Stream 2 Training – will support training to upskill existing journalists. Funding may be used to develop and/or deliver new training material and courses, or to expand access to existing training opportunities.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purpose: Communications Connectivity - enabling all Australians to connect to effective communications services and technologies, for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 - Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

richard.windeyer@communications.gov.au

s47F

Pauline Sullivan

First Assistant Secretary

Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division

pauline.sullivan@communications.gov.au

s47F



Cadetships and Scholarships

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Regional and Small Publishers Cadetship Program assisted small and regional publishers to support early career journalists by providing financial assistance for new cadets for at least 12 months. The Regional Journalism Scholarships Program assists emerging journalists to acquire the skills and knowledge needed to operate in the contemporary news media industry and be job-ready upon the completion of their studies.

Status

The Regional and Small Publishers Jobs and Innovation Package was designed to help small metropolitan and regional publishers adapt to the challenges facing the contemporary media environment, create employment opportunities for cadet journalists and support regional students to study journalism.

The package was worth \$60.4 million over 3 years and consisted of 3 programs:

- Regional and Small Publishers Cadetship Program (Cadetships) - \$8 million (December 2018–September 2020)
- Regional Journalism Scholarships Program (Scholarships) - \$2.4 million (December 2018–January 2024)
- Regional and Small Publishers Innovation Fund - \$50 million.

The \$60.4 million has been fully allocated with underspends being re-allocated to the Public Interest News Gathering Program. The department manages the Cadetships and Scholarships programs, while the Australian Communications and Media Authority managed the now-concluded Regional and Small Publishers Innovation Fund. A total of \$10.4 million was made available under the fund for Cadetships and Scholarships, however, due to under subscription and other issues, not all funds were allocated. An additional grant funding round for the Cadetships program did not proceed, with remaining funding being reallocated to the Public Information News Gathering Program.

The programs have been well received by both the sector and higher education communities as providing critical support during periods of drought and bushfires, along with the initial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	-	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Small metropolitan publishers
- Universities
- Regional and small publishers

Eligibility, application and decision process

The programs were established as open competitive grants by ministerial decision. The department adopted a merit based and transparent system for the award of grant funding under the Cadetships and Scholarships programs in accordance with the Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines, and an assessment and probity plan for each program.

Program facts and examples

Cadetships:

At the commencement of the program, approximately \$1.8 million was awarded to 41 different media organisations from 2018 to 2020 with Commonwealth contributions of up to \$40,000 per journalism cadet.

Scholarships:

This program currently has a total of 16 funding recipients providing 63 scholarships to tertiary students studying an eligible journalist course and who meet the eligibility criteria set out in the program guidelines. Funding recipients comprise of universities offering eligible courses of study as set out in the program guidelines.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purpose: Communications Connectivity - enabling all Australians to connect to effective communications services and technologies, for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 - Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Richard Windeyer
Deputy Secretary
Communications and Media Group
richard.windeyer@communications.gov.au
s47F

Pauline Sullivan
First Assistant Secretary
Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division
pauline.sullivan@communications.gov.au
s47F



Audio description initiative

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The audio description initiative provides funding to our national television broadcasters to assist with their delivery of audio description services to enable people who are blind or have impaired vision to access television.

Status

As at 31 March 2022, \$2 million in grant funding has been allocated for the initiative to each national broadcaster (Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) and Special Broadcasting Service (SBS)) to assist with the introduction of audio description services over the period 2020–21 to 2021–22.

In addition, \$1 million per annum has been allocated to ABC and SBS in direct funding as part of triennium funding to assist with the provision of audio description services over the period 2022–23 to 2024–25.

Delivery partners

- National broadcasters (ABC and SBS)

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	2.0	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Blind and vision impaired citizens
- Blind Citizens Australia
- Australian Communications Consumer Action Network
- Centre for Inclusive Design
- ABC and SBS
- Royal Blind Society
- Vision Australia

Eligibility, application and decision process

The grants program for the years 2020–21 to 2021–22 was open to the two national broadcasters. Grant guidelines were approved by the Communications Minister and funding approval decisions have been delegated to a senior departmental officer.

Program facts and examples

Audio description is a verbal commentary that complements the underlying soundtrack of a television program. During gaps in dialogue, the visual elements such as scenes, settings, actions and costumes are verbally described to make screen content more accessible for blind and vision impaired people.

As part of its grant agreement, the ABC undertook to provide a minimum of 728 hours of audio description in 2020–21 (average of 14 hours per week) and 800 hours of audio description in 2021–22 (average of 15.4 hours per week).

SBS undertook to provide a minimum of 728 hours of audio description in 2020–21 (average of 14 hours per week) and 936 hours of audio description in 2021–22 (average of 18 hours per week).

Both national broadcasters have exceeded these requirements. In 2020–21, the ABC provided an average of 45.8 hours per week and SBS provided an average of 24.8 hours per week of audio description services in 2020–21.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services

Purposes: Communications connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

Richard.Windeyer@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F

Lachlann Paterson

First Assistant Secretary

Communications Services and Consumer Division

Lachlann.Paterson@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F



Supporting under-represented sports

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Supporting Under-represented Sports Program supports coverage of sports that receive low or no broadcast exposure, providing a foundation to boost engagement, participation and commercial opportunities.

Status

The Supporting Under-represented Sports Program commenced on 11 December 2017, and will end on 31 August 2022. This program provided \$40 million to Foxtel from 2017–18 to 2022–23 to increase coverage of sports that receive low or no broadcast exposure, such as women's sports, niche sports, and sports that command high levels of community involvement and participation.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	3.0	2.0	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Foxtel
- Women's/niche sporting bodies
- Participants in women's/niche sports
- Audiences of women's/niche sports

Eligibility, application and decision process

This program was established as a one-off grant to Foxtel. This decision was made specifically due to Foxtel's expertise in sports coverage and broadcasting. The government provided an additional \$10 million in July 2020 to continue the program for another year (to August 2022).

The government funding agreement with Foxtel sets out the specific performance targets and milestones that Foxtel must meet to receive grant funding. The department assesses Foxtel's performance against yearly reports, including the performance report, the Chief Financial Officer statement and the forward work plan (or 'strategic roadmap').

Program facts and examples

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Hours of under-represented sports content broadcast	4,800	5,850	4,888	4,700
Hours of live sports content broadcast	1,600	1,600	1,167	1,400
Number of different sports supported	42	43	36	25

Market research highlighted that two-thirds of Australians are now watching women's sport, and 69 per cent of that group have increased their consumption of women's sports since 2020.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purpose: Communications Connectivity — enabling all Australians to connect to effective communications services and technologies, for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 - Digital Technologies and Communications Services.

Relevant legislation: Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997.

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

richard.windeyer@communications.gov.au

s47F

Pauline Sullivan

First Assistant Secretary

Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division

pauline.sullivan@communications.gov.au

s47F



Spectrum Pricing Transitional Support Program

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Spectrum Pricing Transitional Support payments totalling \$4.8 million per year were provided to 19 commercial television and radio broadcasters over 5 years from 2017-18 to 2021-22. These payments have provided certainty to the industry and ensured that no broadcaster was worse off due to the transition to new spectrum pricing fees as part of the 2017 Media Reform Package.

Status

The Spectrum Pricing Transitional Support Program commenced on 1 July 2017 and will terminate on 30 June 2022.

As at 31 March 2022, the program has total funding of \$6.2 million, of which:

- \$4.8 million has been paid to recipients and
- \$1.4 million remains unallocated.

As at 31 March 2022, all of the 19 eligible recipients under this program have received their final transitional support payments. The remaining \$1.4 million will not need to be allocated under the program.

On 7 February 2022, the Communications Minister announced that the support for eligible broadcasters would be extended for a further 2 years, but would be delivered as a rebate of the Commercial Broadcasting Tax instead of a payment. The rebate is estimated to decrease revenue by \$9.5 million over 2 years from 2022-23. The rebate amounts will be equivalent to the transitional support arrangements established in 2017.

Program funding

	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	6.2	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

Commercial television and radio broadcasters have an interest in the program, with certain broadcasters receiving transitional support payments.

Eligibility, application and decision process

There was no application process for this program. Eligible recipients were determined during consultation for the 2017 Media Reform Package to ensure that individual broadcasters were no worse off as a consequence of the introduction of measures in the reform package. The 19 payment recipients and annual payment amounts are listed in *the Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Broadcasting Reform) Act 2017* (Broadcasting Reform Act).

Payments to eligible broadcasters were subject to the conditions that the licensee:

- was listed as a recipient in the Broadcasting Reform Act
- was the holder of a broadcasting service licence for the full financial year
- gave the Secretary of the department a written statement within 28 days of the end of the financial year that it spent the payment in connection with the provision of broadcasting services during that financial year.

If a company did not fulfil these conditions, the Secretary may require it to repay its transitional support payment.

Program facts and examples

The *Commercial Broadcasting (Tax) Act 2017* introduced a new spectrum pricing fee for the use of broadcast spectrum that more accurately reflects the value of its use and simultaneously abolished broadcasting licence fees and datacasting charges.

The program provided for no broadcaster being financially worse off as a result of this transition. Transitional support payments were made as soon as practicable after 1 July of each financial year from 2017-18 to 2021-22.

The Commercial Broadcasting Tax is imposed on the transmitter licences held by the commercial broadcasters, with the amount of tax paid varying based on the type of broadcasting service (AM radio, FM radio or television), the population density of the area in which the transmitter is located, and the maximum power of the transmitter.

The smallest annual payment amount was \$2,000. There are 4 recipients that received annual payments over \$70,000:

- Australian Capital Television Pty Ltd (\$1.4 million annually)
- WIN Television NSW Pty Ltd (\$1.3 million annually)
- Prime Television (Southern) Pty Ltd (\$945,000 annually)
- Network Investments Pty Ltd (\$819,000 annually).

The new rebate arrangements continue to provide the same amount of support to eligible recipients as was provided under the program.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purposes: Communications connectivity — enabling all Australians to connect to effective, safe communications services and enabling investment in communications technologies for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services.

Relevant legislation: *Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Broadcasting Reform) Act 2017*; *Commercial Broadcasting (Tax) Act 2017*.

Contacts

Richard Windeyer
Deputy Secretary
Communications and Media Group
Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au
s47F

Matthew Brine
First Assistant Secretary
Communications Infrastructure Division
Matthew.Brine@infrastructure.gov.au
s47F



Regional Tech Hub

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Regional Tech Hub provides independent and factual information to help people in regional and rural Australia get connected and stay connected more easily.

Status

As at 31 March 2022, the Regional Tech Hub has total funding of \$3 million, of which \$1.3 million has been expended and a further \$0.7 million contracted. The remaining \$1 million is available in 2022/23 should the option of a one year extension be exercised under the current contract.

Delivery partners

The Regional Tech Hub is being delivered under contract with the National Farmers' Federation (NFF).

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	1.0	2.1*	1.0	1.0	1.0

*Reflects prior Regional Connectivity Program funding and injection of new funding in 2022–23 Budget

Key stakeholders

- Telecommunications industry
- Regional, rural and remote consumers
- Other consumer advocacy groups, including the Isolated Children's Parents' Association, Better Internet for Regional, Rural and Remote and the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network
- NFF

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Regional Tech Hub was funded through the Regional Connectivity Program as part of the government's response to the 2018 Regional Telecommunications Review. The Hub is managed by the NFF as the successful applicant under an open and unrestricted competitive tender process conducted in 2020.

Program facts and examples

Following its establishment in December 2020, the Regional Tech Hub has received more than 34,000 user visits to its website. For example, the helpdesk located in Holbrook NSW has fielded more than 1,600 separate user enquiries.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purposes: Communications connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*

Contacts

Richard Windeyer

Deputy Secretary

Communications and Media Group

Richard.Windeyer@infrastructure.gov.au

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Lachlann Paterson

First Assistant Secretary

Communications Services and Consumer Division

Lachlann.Paterson@infrastructure.gov.au

s47F



Electromagnetic Energy Program

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The Electromagnetic Energy (EME) Program is an \$8.9 million program delivered over 4 years, of which the department received \$1.8 million (over 4 years) to undertake communication activities to build public confidence in the safety of telecommunications networks, including 5G, and to address misinformation about EME emissions which has caused some concern in parts of the community.

Status

The program commenced in December 2020 and will operate to 30 June 2023. The department received \$1.8 million over 4 years to undertake communication activities to provide information to the Australian public on the research, regulation and safety of EME from telecommunications through digital and social media channels linking back to the department's dedicated EME website.

The remaining funds (\$7.1 million over 4 years) have been allocated to the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) for international engagement, research, and to procure equipment to assess evidence about the safe use of radiofrequency EME and any health effects. The department will seek government approval for a digital advertising package in the first quarter of the 2022-23 financial year.

The Enhanced EME program is a renewal of the long-standing EME Program established by the Australian Government in 1997. As at 31 March 2022, the Enhanced EME Program has total funding of \$0.527 million for the 2021-22 financial year, of which:

- \$0.241 million has been contracted and
- \$0.285 million remains unallocated.

As at 31 March 2022, business as usual activities including creative services and attitudinal research had not yet commenced.

Delivery partners

The department established an EME Working Group in 2020 with representatives from the following Commonwealth agencies to collaborate on the development and execution of a coordinated communication strategy implemented by the department.

- Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA)
- Department of Health
- ARPANSA

Program funding

	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	0.527	0.531	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Commonwealth government agencies
- Telecommunications industry and retail sectors

Eligibility, application and decision process

The department has developed a communication strategy that has, to date, relied upon business as usual activities, including content development and the release of material on the department's website and social media channels. The communication strategy for the remainder of 2021-22 proposes a mix of communication activities, including creative services and attitudinal research to inform the last phase of the communications strategy in 2022-23.

Program facts and examples

The Enhanced EME program is funded through appropriations to the Health and Communications Portfolios from consolidated funds and received funding from FY2019-20 to FY2022-23 for the following functions:

- ARPANSA to take over the research function from the National Health and Medical Research Council so that research can be targeted at matters of concern to the public, including environmental studies, and procure new equipment to undertake this work
- The Communications portfolio to take over the public communications function to help deliver more accessible information to the public about telecommunications and EME.

As with the original program, the appropriations will continue to be offset through taxation measures on radiocommunications licence holders. Under changes to the *Radiocommunications (Spectrum Licence Tax) Determination 2021*, an additional \$1.6 million will be collected each year (a total of \$2.6 million) until the 2022-23 financial year as an EME component of the overall tax amount. This will reduce to an additional \$0.9 million (total of \$1.9 million) from the 2023-24 financial year, indexed.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services.

Purposes: Communications connectivity - Enabling people in Australia to connect to effective, safe communications services and enabling investment in communications technologies, for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.2 – Program Support for Outcome 5

Relevant legislation: Legislative authority is provided by sections 4 and 7 of the *Radiocommunications (Spectrum Licence Tax) Act 1997*.

Contacts

Richard Windeyer
Deputy Secretary
Communications and Media Group
Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au
s47F

Matthew Brine
First Assistant Secretary
Communications Infrastructure Division
Matthew.Brine@infrastructure.gov.au
s47F



Alternative Voice Services Trials

Outcome 5.1: Digital Technologies and Communications Services

The \$2 million Alternative Voice Services Trials (AVST) program is assessing new ways and new providers to deliver fixed voice services in rural and remote Australia. The trials aim to help to develop better ways to deliver the Universal Service Guarantee (USG).

Status

The AVST is a component of the Stronger Regional Digital Connectivity package announced in May 2019. That package included \$60 million for a new Regional Connectivity Program (RCP). \$2 million of the RCP was allocated to the AVST.

The AVST has total remaining funding of \$0.6 million:

- All \$2 million has been allocated and committed to 6 contracted grant recipients.
- \$1.4 million has been paid to recipients (\$1 million in the 2020–21 financial year, and \$0.4 million in the 2021–22 financial year).
- \$0.6 million remains contracted but not yet paid in the 2021–22 financial year.

The AVST will end on 30 June 2022. The 6 grant recipients are delivering trial services across Australia, using mobile, fixed wireless or satellite technologies. There are around 540 triallists. Trial services are free for triallists, though some may purchase additional services or equipment from grant recipients.

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A Stakeholder Reference Group with four members nominated by the Regional, Rural and Remote Communications Coalition (RRRCC) provides feedback on the AVST and a communications channel to the rural and remote community.

Delivery partners

- Concerotel
- NBN Co
- Optus Satellite
- Pivotel
- Telstra
- Zetifi

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	1.0	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Regional consumers and their representatives, including the RRRCC
- Six grant recipients
- AVST Stakeholder Reference Group

Eligibility, application and decision process

Grants were available to carriage service providers, or consortia including a carriage service provider, for projects in rural and remote areas of Australia outside NBN Co's fixed-line footprint. There was a single application process in 2020. Applicants had to identify trial locations, the technical solutions they would trial, their financial contributions and the grants sought. All applications were considered against the criteria specified in the published guidelines, including value for money, with support of an independent technical adviser. The department made recommendations to the Regional Communications Minister. Funding was capped by the \$2 million available. There are no further funding rounds.

Program facts and examples

All grant recipients deliver free voice services to triallists, and provide data on the performance of the services. The department has also contracted an independent survey company, Lonergan Research, that surveys triallists monthly and provides information on service performance and reception.

Concerotel has trial services on the Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Norfolk Island, and softphone applications designed to improve the quality of voice services that depend on satellite transmission for backhaul. NBN Co provides services across Australia using three different technology platforms – Sky Muster Plus, standard fixed wireless and a new low-band fixed wireless platform. NBN Co is also trialling a universal power supply battery back-up and a SpeedMate device that monitors the quality and performance of trial services.

Optus is operating 15 trial services in New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland and is testing three different solutions – 4G mobile small cells and local area Wi-Fi connected to satellite backhaul, and direct-to-home solutions. Pivotel is providing trial services at locations in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Norfolk Island. Triallists download a softphone application that allows them to exchange voice calls and messages over any data connection. Fixed data connections are provided using the standard Sky Muster platform for backhaul.

Telstra is trialling 4G fixed voice and five direct-to-home satellite services across Australia. On the 4G network, Telstra is providing battery back-up and external antennas needed to provide effective connectivity. Zetifi has triallists in regional and rural New South Wales and Victoria. It installs equipment, including an antenna, transmitter and battery back-up, at farms or other rural locations to extend Wi-Fi coverage.

The 2021 Regional Telecommunication Review criticised the AVST for failing to attract more innovative solutions and more triallists in remote locations. However, the trials were dependent on the solutions and triallists that came forward.

Program administration

Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services

Purposes: Communications connectivity

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services

Relevant legislation: *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*

Contacts

Richard Windeyer
Deputy Secretary
Communications and Media Group
Richard.Windeyer@infrastructure.gov.au
s47F

Lachlann Paterson
First Assistant Secretary
Communications Services and Consumer Division
Lachlann.Paterson@infrastructure.gov.au
s47F

Portfolio legislation

This directory is current and as such may not match the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) created on 18 March 2021. It includes acts which have received royal assent, and excludes acts which have been repealed since the AAO was last amended on 2 July 2021. Should the AAO change, the department will advise you of changes to your legislative role.

Program 5.1 - Communications

AUSSAT Repeal Act 1991¹

Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983

Australian Broadcasting Corporation (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1983²

Australian Communications and Media Authority Act 2005

Australian Communications and Media Authority (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2005

Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989

Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Broadcasting Reform) Act 2017

Broadcasting Services Act 1992

Broadcasting Services (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1992

Circuit Layouts Act 1989

Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Minister for Indigenous Australians

Commercial Broadcasting (Tax) Act 2017

Competition and Consumer Act 2010, XIB and XIC

Copyright Act 1968

Do Not Call Register Act 2006

Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015²

Enhancing Online Safety for Children (Consequential Amendments) Act 2015

Enhancing Online Safety (Non-consensual Sharing of Intimate Images) Act 2018³

Interactive Gambling Act 2001

National Broadband Network Companies Act 2011

National Transmission Network Sale Act 1998

Online Safety Act 2021

Online Safety (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 2021

Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act 1946

Postal and Telecommunications Commissions (Transitional Provisions) Act 1975

Radiocommunications Act 1992

Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Act 1983

Radiocommunications (Spectrum Licence Tax) Act 1997

Radiocommunications Taxes Collection Act 1983

Radiocommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1992

Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Act 1983

Spam Act 2003

Special Broadcasting Service Act 1991

Telecommunications Act 1997

¹ No brief provided on this Act as it is a repealed Act.

² No brief provided on this Act as it has limited ongoing effect.

³ No brief provided on this Act as it is spent Act.



Telecommunications Act 1997

Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer) Act 2020

Telecommunications and Postal Services (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1989

Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act 1997

Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999

Telecommunications (Industry Levy) Act 2012

Telecommunications (Numbering Charges) Act 1997

Telecommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1991¹

Telecommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1997²

Telecommunications (Regional Broadband Scheme) Charge Act 2020

Telstra Corporation Act 1991

Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Act 2005¹

¹ No brief provided on this Act as it is a repealed act.

² No brief provided on this Act as it has limited ongoing effects.

Program 5.1: Digital technologies and communication services

Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983

Purpose	The Act establishes the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), and sets out the ABC's functions in the Charter, including the requirement to provide radio and television broadcasting services in and outside Australia, provide digital media services, and encourage and promote the musical, dramatic and performing arts in Australia. The ABC may also provide datacasting services. The Act also confirms the independence of the ABC from government direction, and sets out the ABC's management arrangements, including the establishment of the ABC Board (the Board) and the ABC Advisory Council.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>Your primary role under the Act is to recommend to the Governor-General, candidates for appointment, including reappointment, to the positions of Chair, Deputy Chair and non-executive Director on the Board. Under the Cabinet Handbook (the Handbook), these positions are considered to be significant government appointments. You must seek the Prime Minister's (or at their discretion, Cabinet's) approval of your recommended candidate for appointment. The Nomination Panel has statutory responsibility for running a merit-based selection process for Board vacancies. You must also determine selection criteria for the appointment of the Chair and non-executive Directors on the Board.</p> <p>You do not have a statutory role in the appointment, including reappointment, of a Managing Director to the Board, as the Board is responsible for making that appointment. However, the Act should be read alongside the Handbook, which states that where a board selects a full-time Chief Executive Officer, the government should be consulted and you should not signify agreement without obtaining the Prime Minister's approval. You raise the Board's proposed appointment with the Prime Minister as a vacancy arises.</p> <p>The Act also provides you with other powers relating to specific operational and financial dealings of the ABC, including, but not limited to, the ability to direct the ABC to broadcast a particular matter or provide particular content if you are of the opinion that it is in the national interest to do so. Following the exercise of such a directions power, you would need to arrange for the particulars and reasons for the direction to be laid before Parliament. The ABC is not otherwise subject to direction by the government.</p>
Contact	Adam Carlon, Assistant Secretary, Media Industry and Sustainability Branch, Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division; (02) 6271 7922 s47F

Australian Communications and Media Authority Act 2005

Purpose	<p>The Act establishes the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) as an independent statutory authority and establishes its governance and regulatory functions in relation to telecommunications, spectrum management and broadcasting.</p> <p>Legislation to amend the Act was introduced into the Parliament through the Regulator Performance Omnibus Bill 2022 but the bill lapsed when the Parliament was prorogued. Proposed amendments include repealing outdated provisions relating to Divisions of the ACMA, which were originally intended to improve efficiency of decision making by the Authority. The second amendment would require the Minister to have regard to the collective expertise and balance of the Authority membership.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	See chapter on Portfolio Entities – Australian Communications and Media Authority.
Contact	Lachlann Paterson, First Assistant Secretary, Communications Services & Consumer Division; (02) 6271 1372 s47F

Australian Communications and Media Authority (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2005

Purpose	The Act includes transitional provisions related to the creation of the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA), including the transfer of assets and liabilities of the Australian Broadcasting Authority and the Australian Communications Authority and the continuing operation of certain instruments and proceedings.
Your role and responsibilities	You have no functions or powers under this Act.
Contact	Lachlann Paterson, First Assistant Secretary, Communications Services & Consumer Division; (02) 6271 1372 s47F

Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989

Purpose	<p>The Act establishes the Australian Postal Corporation (Australia Post) as a Commonwealth entity and establishes its governance, financial and performance functions. Under the Act, Australia Post:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• has the exclusive right to carry ordinary small letters and issue postage stamps.• must act in a commercially sound manner (as far as practicable) and consistently with government policy orders and Australia's treaty obligations.• has Community Service Obligations to supply a letter service that is reasonably accessible to all people across Australia at a uniform rate – regulations prescribe performance standards for letter delivery speed, frequency and accuracy, and accessibility of post offices and street posting boxes.• can undertake activities incidental to providing postal services (such as financial services).• can inspect, open and destroy mail, in specific circumstances such as for border clearance (the department is working with Australia Post and border agencies to modernise provisions relating to screening of international mail). <p>The Act allows for monitoring by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on consumer safeguards and other matters.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	See chapter on Portfolio Entities – Australia Post.
Contact	Lachlann Paterson, First Assistant Secretary, Communications Services & Consumer Division; (02) 6271 1372 s47F

Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Broadcasting Reform) Act 2017

Purpose	The Act enables transitional support payments to be made to 19 broadcasters made worse off due to the transition to spectrum fees introduced as part of 2017 media reforms.
Your role and responsibilities	There are no current responsibilities. Your role related to a review of spectrum fee arrangements, which was tabled in Parliament on 22 June 2021.
Contact	Shanyn Sparreboom, Acting Assistant Secretary, Spectrum Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division; (02) 6271 7972 s47F

Broadcasting Services Act 1992

Purpose	<p>The Act regulates the delivery of television and radio programs (broadcasting services) by licensing the provision of these services. The Act also regulates certain gambling promotional content provided online in conjunction with live sporting events. The Act does not cover the provision of broadcasting like services delivered over the internet.</p> <p>The Act sets out various categories of broadcasting services and the regulatory framework under which they must operate. It provides for the ACMA to plan licence areas and the channels to be used by analogue and digital radio and digital television services. The Act establishes media control and ownership rules that are designed to protect media diversity and requires the provision of material of local significance (including local news) in regional commercial radio and television markets. The Act also provides a framework for the development of co-regulatory industry codes, which govern aspects of program content, advertising and other matters, and for the ACMA to determine industry standards.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have the power to make legislative instruments in relation to a range of matters covered by the Act. The Act also enables you to give directions to the ACMA on a range of matters.</p>
Contact	<p>Adam Carlon, Assistant Secretary, Media Industry and Sustainability Branch, Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division; (02) 6271 7922 s47F</p>

Circuit Layouts Act 1989

Purpose	<p>The Act protects the original layout plans or designs of integrated circuits used in electronic devices (also referred to as computer chip designs or semi-conductor chips). The Act gives the owner of the plans certain exclusive rights, including the right to make an integrated circuit from the plans.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have no functions or powers under this Act.</p>
Contact	<p>Stephen Arnott, Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts; s47F</p>

Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995

Purpose	<p>The Act forms part of a co-operative scheme, between the Commonwealth and state and territory governments, for classifying publications, films and computer games before being provided for sale. The Australian Government is responsible for classification of content and the states and territories are responsible for regulating a range of matters in relation to classifiable content including sale, hire, exhibition and advertising.</p> <p>The Act establishes the Classification Board (the Board), an independent statutory body responsible for making classification decisions, and the Classification Review Board (the Review Board) which is responsible for reviewing certain decisions of the Board, upon application.</p> <p>The Act sets out the matters to be considered in making a classification decision and provides for a National Classification Code (the Code) and classification guidelines which are also applied when classifying content.</p> <p>Part 10 of the Act relates to material prohibited in certain areas in the Northern Territory and gives the Indigenous Affairs Minister certain powers in relation to such material. Note this Part is due to sunset on 16 July 2022 as part of wider sunseting elements of the Stronger Futures legislation introduced in 2012.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You may determine classification guidelines. Amendments to the classification guidelines and the Code require the agreement of state and territory government ministers responsible for classification.</p> <p>You may make rules, determinations and legislative instruments in relation to a range of matters such as conditional cultural exemptions, advertising of unclassified material, authorised industry assessor schemes and markings for the display of classification information.</p> <p>You may approve classification tools to be used by industry to self-classify content. Members of the Board and the Review Board are recommended by you to the Governor-General.</p> <p>You may waive fees for classification in certain instances such as if it is in the public interest to do so for public health or educational reasons.</p>
Contact	<p>Andrew Hyles, Assistant Secretary, Classification Branch, Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division; (02) 6271 7707 s47F</p>

Commercial Broadcasting (Tax) Act 2017

Purpose	<p>The purpose of the Act is to introduce a tax for transmitter licences issued under section 102 of the <i>Radiocommunications Act 1992</i>, which are associated with commercial broadcasting licences issued under Part 4 of the Broadcasting Services Act.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have certain powers to make legislative instruments on rebates, amounts of individual transmitter licence tax payable, and the termination of the tax.</p>
Contact	<p>Shanyn Sparreboom, Acting Assistant Secretary, Spectrum Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division; (02) 6271 7972 s47F</p>

Competition and Consumer Act 2010, Parts XIB and XIC

Purpose	<p>Part XIB ('11 B') of the Act regulates anti-competitive conduct in the telecommunications industry. This regime applies in addition to Part IV of that Act, which regulates anti-competitive trade practices in general.</p> <p>Under Part XIB if a telecommunications carrier or carriage service provider engages in anti-competitive conduct, there are two consequences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) can issue competition notices in relation to the prohibited conduct, essentially reversing the onus of the burden of proof on the party to whom the notice is issued. This carries significant punitive penalties. • Any person adversely affected by the conduct may institute proceedings for damages and/or an injunction irrespective of whether a competition notice has been issued by the ACCC. <p>Part XIB also allows the ACCC to impose record keeping and disclosure rules designed to make relevant conduct in telecommunications markets more transparent. It also allows for the authorisation of certain conduct by NBN Co Limited (NBN Co), which would otherwise be considered anti-competitive.</p> <p>Part XIC ('11 C') of the Act sets out an access regime for the telecommunications industry, which provides for the declaration of carriage services and related services by the ACCC. Once declared, standard access obligations apply to carriers or carriage service providers supplying those services, unless exempted.</p> <p>Part XIC of the Act also set out special rules that apply to the provision of services by NBN Co and its subsidiaries: all services supplied by NBN Co and its subsidiaries are subject to the Part XIC access regime, and must also be supplied on a non-discriminatory basis. The requirement for non-discrimination also applies to certain other owners of superfast carriage networks.</p> <p>The terms and conditions of access on which providers (including NBN Co) are set out in one of (in order of priority):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a commercial agreement with an access seeker • a special access undertaking from the relevant access provider that has been accepted by the ACCC • an instrument made by the ACCC (an 'access determination' or, in limited circumstances, 'binding rules of conduct').
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have certain powers under Part XIB to direct the ACCC to make record keeping rules and to produce reports. You have certain powers under Part XIC to set out principles dealing with price-related terms and conditions relating to the standard access obligations.</p>
Contact	<p>Tristan Kathage, Assistant Secretary, Telecommunications Market Policy Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division; (02) 6271 1951 s47F</p>

Copyright Act 1968

Purpose	This Act protects original literary, musical, dramatic and artistic works, and subject-matter other than works, including sound recordings, cinematograph films, broadcasts and performances. The Act gives copyright owners certain exclusive economic rights, including the right to publish the material, control copying, perform the work and make the material available online, while also providing certain exceptions and limitations to allow reasonable access to, and dissemination of, creative content in the public interest. The Act also provides creators with certain non-economic rights known as moral rights such as the right of attribution of authorship.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>Your powers and responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making and revoking the declaration of collecting societies for the educational and free-to-air television retransmission statutory licences, or referring these matters to the Copyright Tribunal (sections 113V, 113X, 135ZZT, 135ZZU, 135ZZZO and 135ZZZP). • Tabling declared collecting societies' annual reports in Parliament (sections 113Z, 135ZZV, 135ZZZQ and 183D). • Appointing the Registrar of the Copyright Tribunal (section 170) – Tribunal members themselves are appointed by the Governor-General (section 139). • Approving an agreement or licence fixing the terms upon which others may use copyright material if done for the services of the Commonwealth (section 183). • Making recommendations to the Governor-General to make, vary or revoke regulations under the Act in relation to technological protection measures (section 249) and the extension or restriction of application of the Act to other countries and international organisations (sections 184, 185, 186, 248U and 248V). • Prescribing requirements for the delivery of legal deposit material to the National Library of Australia (sections 195CD and 195CE) and a scheme of penalties for non-compliance (section 195CG). • Declaring online search engine providers exempt from being specified in Federal Court applications for injunctions by copyright owners to require carriage service providers to disable access to websites (section 115A).
Contact	Stephen Arnott, Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts; s47F

Do Not Call Register Act 2006

Purpose	The Act provides a scheme to enable people to opt out of receiving unsolicited telemarketing calls and marketing faxes. The Act provides for the establishment of the Do Not Call Register on which individuals, businesses, government and organisations are able to register their telephone, mobile and fax numbers. If a telemarketer calls or sends a marketing fax to a number on the Do Not Call Register without consent, they may face penalties for breach of the Act. The Act provides for the ACMA to manage the Register or to outsource its management to a third party.
Your role and responsibilities	The Act is administered by the ACMA. You have limited functions under the Act.
Contact	Lachlann Paterson, First Assistant Secretary, Communications Services & Consumer Division; (02) 6271 1372 s47F

Enhancing Online Safety for Children (Consequential Amendments) Act 2015

Purpose	The Act deals with consequential matters arising from the enactment of the <i>Enhancing Online Safety for Children Act 2015</i> . While the <i>Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015</i> has been repealed, this Act remains in place because it contains transitional provisions relating to the ACMA that still have potential ongoing and operative effect.
Your role and responsibilities	You have no functions or powers under this Act.
Contact	Bridget Gannon, Assistant Secretary, Online Safety Branch, Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division; (02) 6271 7079 s47F

Interactive Gambling Act 2001

Purpose	The Act regulates interactive gambling services (online gambling). The Act creates an offence for providing or advertising a prohibited or unlicensed interactive gambling service to customers in Australia; and providing a prohibited Australian-based interactive gambling service to customers in designated countries. The Act also establishes the National Self-Exclusion Register for online wagering and associated offence provisions, for example, for providing licensed interactive wagering services to individuals on the Register. The Act does not provide a framework to allow online gambling services to operate. Any operator must be licensed by a state or territory.
Your role and responsibilities	You have the power to make various legislative instruments under the Act, for example, to determine one or more conditions for a service to be an excluded wagering service, or to determine a class of exempt services.
Contact	Adam Carlon, Assistant Secretary, Media Industry and Sustainability Branch, Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division; (02) 6271 7922 s47F

National Broadband Network Companies Act 2011

Purpose	<p>The Act sets out operational and ownership arrangements for NBN Co Limited (NBN Co) as well as any other 'NBN Corporations' (subsidiaries of NBN Co). The NBN Companies Act provides that NBN Corporations must be wholesale-only (with limited exceptions for supply to utilities and similar bodies) and must not supply non-communications goods or services. The Act provides that the Commonwealth must retain ownership of NBN Co (and its subsidiaries) until:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• in the opinion of the minister, the NBN should be treated as built and fully operational (this occurred on 11 December 2020);• the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Ownership of NBN Co has reported to both Houses of the Parliament on the report of a Productivity Commission inquiry into the ownership of NBN Co and certain other matters; and• the Minister for Finance has tabled a declaration that, in their opinion, conditions are suitable for the Commonwealth to sell all or part of its equity in NBN Co which has been not been disallowed by either House of Parliament.
Your role and responsibilities	See chapter on Portfolio Entities– NBN Co Limited.
Contact	<p>Tristan Kathage, Assistant Secretary, Telecommunications Market Policy Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division; 02 6271 1951 s47F</p> <p>Nicolle Power, Acting Assistant Secretary, NBN Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division; (02) 6271 1109 s47F</p>

National Transmission Network Sale Act 1998

Purpose	<p>The Act facilitated the sale of the National Transmission Network (NTN), a nationwide network of broadcasting transmission facilities, and set in place a regulatory framework for the provision of national broadcasting and other transmission services after the sale.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>Your approval is required for the transfer of original NTN assets and subsequent transfers. You can only refuse a transfer if you have reason to believe that the transfer might jeopardise continued access to nominated services by a nominated customer. You also have the power to exempt assets from required ongoing approval by way of legislative instrument.</p>
Contact	<p>Shanyn Sparreboom, Acting Assistant Secretary, Spectrum Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division; (02) 6271 7972 s47F</p>

Online Safety Act 2021

Purpose	<p>The Act establishes the eSafety Commissioner as an independent statutory office assisted by the ACMA.</p> <p>The Commissioner administers complaints systems for: cyber-bullying material targeted at an Australian child, cyber-abuse targeted at an Australian adult, non-consensual sharing of intimate images and the online content scheme. The Commissioner may issue removal notices and seek civil penalties for non-compliance. The Commissioner also has a code and standard making function as part of the online content scheme. The Commissioner may request or require internet service providers to block access to sites depicting, promoting, inciting or instructing in abhorrent violent conduct. The Act also establishes Basic Online Safety Expectations – a legislative mechanism requiring industry to report to the eSafety Commissioner on what it is doing to keep users safe from online harms.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have the power to appoint the eSafety Commissioner and to direct the Commissioner in the exercise of functions or exercise of powers of a general nature. You also may make a legislative instrument to establish Basic Online Safety Expectations.</p>
Contact	<p>Bridget Gannon, Assistant Secretary, Online Safety Branch, Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division; (02) 6271 7079 s47F</p>

Online Safety (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 2021

Purpose	<p>The Act deals with transitional and consequential matters arising from the enactment of the <i>Online Safety Act 2021</i>, and for other purposes. It repeals the <i>Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015</i>. It also increased the criminal penalties under the <i>Criminal Code Act 1995</i> for using a carriage service to menace, harass or offend.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have no functions or powers under this Act.</p>
Contact	<p>Bridget Gannon, Assistant Secretary, Online Safety Branch, Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division; (02) 6271 7079 s47F</p>

Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act 1946

Purpose	<p>The Act provides for the broadcasting, recording, and re-broadcasting of the proceedings of the houses of Parliament by the ABC. It also provides for the formation of the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings that consider the conditions for such broadcasting.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have no functions or powers under this Act.</p>
Contact	<p>Adam Carlon, Assistant Secretary, Media Industry and Sustainability Branch, Online Safety and Media Platforms Division; (02) 6271 7922 s47F</p>

Postal and Telecommunications Commissions (Transitional Provisions) Act 1975

Purpose	<p>The Act abolished the Postmaster-General's Department and facilitated the establishment of the Australian Post Commission and the Australian Telecommunications Commission.</p> <p>The Act continues in force as it includes savings provisions that could still be necessary in regards to Australia Post, for example employment entitlements.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>Your functions under the Act regarding postal service annual reports are no longer exercised, with those arrangements now found in the <i>Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989</i> and <i>Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013</i>.</p>
Contact	<p>Lachlann Paterson, First Assistant Secretary, Communications Services & Consumer Division; (02) 6271 1372 s47F</p>

Radiocommunications Act 1992

Purpose	<p>The Act establishes a regime for planning and managing use of the radiofrequency spectrum. It provides for the ACMA to allocate spectrum to be used under certain types of licence (spectrum, apparatus or class licence), to licence the operation of certain equipment, to manage interference between services and to ensure industry compliance with mandatory standards.</p> <p>The Act was amended by the <i>Radiocommunications Legislation Amendment (Reform and Modernisation) Act 2020</i>, with the reforms commencing in June 2021. Key changes included clarifying the object of the Radiocommunications Act, and the roles of the minister and ACMA, streamlining spectrum allocation processes, improving flexibility and reducing regulatory barriers between licence types, and introducing a modernised compliance and enforcement regime.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>Under the Act, you have the power to issue ministerial policy statements to specify a policy of the government that is to apply in relation to the performance of ACMA's spectrum management functions or the exercise of ACMA's spectrum management powers. Any such statement takes the form of a notifiable instrument, and ACMA must have regard to any relevant statements in performing its spectrum management functions and exercising its spectrum management powers. You must also be consulted on the ACMA's yearly work program.</p> <p>You also have specific powers to direct ACMA under the Act; for example, you can direct ACMA in relation to Spectrum Access Charges and in relation to the imposition of allocation limits. You have the power to designate a part of the spectrum to be the broadcasting services bands. You are also empowered to make restrictive orders during periods of emergency in relation to the prohibition or regulation of transmitters within a specified area.</p>
Contact	<p>Shanyn Sparreboom, Acting Assistant Secretary, Spectrum Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division; (02) 6271 7972 s47F</p>

Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Act 1983

Radiocommunications (Spectrum Licence Tax) Act 1997

Radiocommunications Taxes Collection Act 1983

Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Act 1983

Purpose The *Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Act 1983*, *Radiocommunications (Spectrum Licence Tax) Act 1997*, *Radiocommunications Taxes Collection Act 1983* and *Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Act 1983* impose taxes on the issue of licences under the *Radiocommunications Act 1992*.

Your role and responsibilities You have no functions or powers under these Acts.

Contact Shanyn Sparreboom, Acting Assistant Secretary, Spectrum Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division; (02) 6271 7972 | **s47F**

Radiocommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1992

Purpose The Act establishes transitional arrangements related to spectrum management. It ensures that standards, guidelines, declarations and other similar arrangements that were made under the repealed *Radiocommunications Act 1983* will continue to operate as if they were made under the *Radiocommunications Act 1992*.

Your role and responsibilities You have no functions or powers under this Act.

Contact Shanyn Sparreboom, Acting Assistant Secretary, Spectrum Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division; (02) 6271 7972 | **s47F**

Spam Act 2003

Purpose The Act provides a scheme for regulating the sending of commercial electronic messages ('spam'). The Act is aimed at reducing Australia as a source of spam and, minimising spam for Australian end-users. It is administered and enforced by the ACMA.

Your role and responsibilities You have no powers or functions under this Act.

Contact Lachlann Paterson, First Assistant Secretary, Communications Services & Consumer Division; (02) 6271 1372 | **s47F**

Special Broadcasting Service Act 1991

Purpose	The Act establishes the Special Broadcasting Service (SBS), and sets out the SBS's functions in the Charter, including the provision of multilingual and multicultural radio and television services. The SBS may also provide digital media services, datacasting services, and broadcast advertisements within prescribed limits. The Act also confirms the independence of the SBS from government direction, and sets out the SBS's management arrangements, including the establishment of the SBS Board (the Board) and the SBS Community Advisory Committee.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>Your primary role under the Act is to recommend to the Governor-General, candidates for appointment, including reappointment, to the positions of Chair, Deputy Chair and non-executive Director on the Board. Under the Cabinet Handbook (the Handbook), these positions are considered to be significant government appointments. You must seek the Prime Minister's (or at their discretion, Cabinet's) approval of your recommended candidate for appointment. The Nomination Panel has statutory responsibility for running a merit-based selection process for Board vacancies. You must also determine selection criteria for the appointment of the Chair and non-executive Directors on the Board.</p> <p>You do not have a statutory role in the appointment, including reappointment, of a Managing Director to the Board, as the Board is responsible for making that appointment. However, the Act should be read alongside the Handbook, which states that where a board selects a full-time Chief Executive Officer, the government should be consulted and you should not signify agreement without obtaining the Prime Minister's approval. You raise the Board's proposed appointment with the Prime Minister as a vacancy arises.</p> <p>The Act also provides you with other powers relating to specific operational and financial dealings of the SBS, including, but not limited to, the ability to direct the SBS to broadcast a particular matter or provide particular content if you are of the opinion that it is in the national interest to do so. Following the exercise of such a directions power, you would need to arrange for the particulars and reasons for the direction to be laid before Parliament. The SBS is not otherwise subject to direction by the Government.</p>
Contact	Adam Carlon, Assistant Secretary, Media Industry and Sustainability Branch, Online Safety, Media and Platforms Division; (02) 6271 7922 s47F

Telecommunications Act 1997

Purpose	<p>The Act, together with the <i>Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999</i>, establishes the regulatory framework for the telecommunications industry. The main object of these Acts is to provide a regulatory framework that promotes: the long-term interests of end-users of carriage services or services supplied by means of carriage services, the efficiency and international competitiveness of the Australian telecommunications industry, and the availability of accessible and affordable carriage services that enhance the welfare of Australians. Note that there is a separate brief on the Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act.</p> <p>The Act provides for the regulation of carriers, and service providers. A carrier is a person that owns a network unit (i.e. telecommunications infrastructure). A carrier must hold a carrier licence in order for that network unit to be used to supply carriage services to the public. Service providers include carriage service providers (entities that supply carriage services over the infrastructure of a carrier, such as Coles Mobile for example) and content service providers (entities that supply content services, such as broadcasting services, or on-line entertainment services etc. – note however that whilst the Act defines content service providers to date no</p>
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obligations have been imposed on content service providers, including through service provider rules).

Carriers and service providers must comply with the Act, and with carrier licence conditions or service provider rules, respectively.

The Act also, among other things:

- provides the framework under which Telstra has undertaken to implement structural separation.
- provides for the ACMA to register industry codes (developed by the telecommunications industry) or develop its own industry standards applying to sections of the telecommunications industry.
- sets out special wholesale-only rules that apply to owners of superfast (i.e. NBN-equivalent) telecommunications networks installed or upgraded after 1 January 2011 (with some exceptions).
- creates a statutory infrastructure provider regime so that premises can be connected to networks that support delivery of 25/5 Mbps broadband speeds.
- regulates the installation of some telecommunications infrastructure in new developments.
- imposes obligations on carriers, service providers and the ACMA with regard to national interest matters (such as assisting authorities to enforce the criminal law and safeguard national security).
- requires the ACMA to make a plan (called the 'numbering plan') for the allocation and use of telephone numbers in Australia.
- governs the tower access framework.
- gives carriers powers and immunities to install specified telecommunications facilities.

The *Telstra Corporation and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2021* was prepared in anticipation of Telstra's restructure and rests on the basis of an overarching principle of 'regulatory equivalence'. This means as far as reasonably possible the regulatory regime which applied to Telstra should equally apply to and bind the appropriate restructured Telstra entities. In addition, amendments closes a loophole in the tower access framework that applies to Telstra under Schedule 1 of the Telecommunications Act that allows it to continue to apply after the proposed restructure. The *Telstra Corporation and Other Legislation Amendment Act* includes amendments to Telecommunications Act, the Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act and the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*, amongst others.

Your role and responsibilities

You have a broad range of decision-making powers and responsibilities under the Act.

Contact

Tristan Kathage, Assistant Secretary, Telecommunications Market Policy Branch,
Communications Infrastructure Division; (02) 6271 1951 | s47F

Telecommunications and Postal Services (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1989

Purpose	<p>The Act was made in consequence of the enactment of the <i>Telecommunications Act 1989</i>, <i>Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989</i> and <i>Australian Telecommunications Corporation Act 1989</i>.</p> <p>Redundant provisions were repealed in 2014 but the Act continues in force as it includes transitional and savings provisions that could still be necessary, for example the imposition of income tax and state and territory taxes and charges, and employment entitlements.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	You have no functions or powers under this Act.
Contact	Lachlann Paterson, First Assistant Secretary, Communications Services & Consumer Division; (02) 6271 1372 s47F

Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999

Purpose	<p>The Act provides for various telecommunications consumer protection measures. This includes establishing a universal service obligation (USO) to ensure that all people in Australia should have reasonable access to standard telephone services (STS) and payphones. The Act imposes other obligations on telecommunications carriers and carriage service providers relating to untimed local calls; the Customer Service Guarantee (CSG) scheme; the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman (TIO) scheme; and to support access to emergency call services. The Act also outlines a framework for conducting independent reviews of regional telecommunications.</p> <p>Some of the matters dealt with by the Act are known as public interest telecommunications services. These are the USO, the emergency call service and the National Relay Service – a communications service for people who are deaf or have a hearing and/or speech impairment. They also are dealt with under contractual arrangements required under the Act and administered by the Secretary. After Telstra’s corporate restructure is finalised, it will have obligations to notify the department, and if required, provide copies of relevant contracts or agreements relating to delivery of the USO or emergency call service.</p> <p>Part 2 of the Act provides operational arrangements for assessment of the Telecommunications Industry Levy (TIL), which is paid by carriers to help support delivery of these public interest services. The Act was amended in May 2020 to provide operational arrangements for the Regional Broadband Scheme (RBS), a levy paid by eligible carriers for each active high-speed broadband service operated over fixed-line technology. The Australian Communications and Media Authority undertakes detailed assessments under the TIL and RBS schemes, and is responsible for enforcement and compliance activities in relation to the Act.</p>
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Your role and responsibilities	<p>The Act provides that you are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determine the USO provider. • put in place rules, including standards and benchmarks in relation to USO and the CSG. • determine standards, rules and benchmarks in relation to public interest telecommunications services or under the RBS to be complied with by contractors and grant recipients. • determine rules to be complied with by the Secretary in entering into contracts or grants relating to the RBS. • make some rules that clarify the operation of the TIL and the RBS. • determine price control arrangements that apply to Telstra or in relation to access to emergency call services. • determine standards for the purpose of the TIO scheme. <p>You are responsible for arranging independent reviews of regional telecommunications to be conducted every 3 years, and ensuring a policy review of the RBS occurs by May 2024.</p>
Contact	Lachlann Paterson, First Assistant Secretary, Communication Services & Consumer Division; (02) 6271 1372 s47F

Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act 1997

Telecommunications (Numbering Charges) Act 1997

Purpose	<p>The <i>Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act 1997</i> and <i>Telecommunications (Numbering Charges) Act 1997</i> impose charges in the nature of taxes on carriers and some carriage service providers.</p> <p>The annual carrier licence charge enables the Commonwealth to recoup costs incurred by the ACMA and the ACCC in regulating the telecommunications industry.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	Under the Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act, you may determine through an instrument additions to the carrier licence charges for funding consumer representation and research in relation to telecommunications
Contact	<p>Tristan Kathage, Assistant Secretary, Telecommunications Market Policy Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division; 02 6271 1951</p> <p>Kath Silleri, Assistant Secretary, Consumer Safeguards Branch, Communication Services & Consumer Division; (03) 9097 8305 s47F</p>

Telecommunications (Industry Levy) Act 2012

Purpose	<p>The Act imposes and creates liability for persons to pay a levy determined by the ACMA under the <i>Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999</i>.</p> <p>Carriers with annual eligible revenue of \$25 million or more contribute proportionally to the Telecommunications Industry Levy. The levy helps fund the provision of public interest telecommunications safeguards including the Universal Service Obligation, the National Relay Service and the delivery of emergency call services.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have no specific roles or responsibilities under this Act. However, under the <i>Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999</i>, you have related powers to determine the eligible revenue threshold, and exempt types of persons from the levy arrangements. You could also extend levy arrangements beyond carriers, such as to include carriage service providers or other types of persons.</p>
Contact	<p>Lachlann Paterson, First Assistant Secretary, Communication Services & Consumer Division; (02) 6271 1372 s47F</p>

Telecommunications (Regional Broadband Scheme) Charge Act 2020

Purpose	<p>The Act imposed a charge to support the transparent and sustainable funding of essential fixed wireless broadband and satellite broadband services. The Regional Broadband Scheme (RBS) provides funding to cover the net losses from NBN Co constructing and operating fixed wireless and satellite networks that are part of the National Broadband Network that provides access to broadband services for all premises in Australia.</p> <p>The Act sets the initial levy of the two components of the charge: the base component and the administrative cost component. The base component is initially set at \$7.09 and is CPI indexed. The administrative cost component is set in the legislation for the first five years of operation of the RBS. At least once in every 5-year period the ACCC provides advice to the minister on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the level of the base component of the charge required in order to cover the reasonable losses incurred in operating fixed wireless and satellite broadband services. The level of the administrative costs related to the RBS (to cover the ACMA and ACCC costs related to administration of the RBS).
Your role and responsibilities	<p>You have the power to determine the base component and administrative cost component amounts for the charge based on the 5-yearly advice from the ACCC, provided the amounts determined are within the overall combined component cap set out in the legislation.</p>
Contact	<p>Nicolle Power, Acting Assistant Secretary, NBN Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division (02) 6271 1109 s47F</p>



Telstra Corporation Act 1991

Purpose	The Act permitted the Commonwealth to sell its remaining equity interest in Telstra. The Act also continues to impose limits on the foreign ownership of Telstra, and applies certain Commonwealth legislation to Telstra, given its previous status as a government-owned entity.
Your role and responsibilities	You have certain powers to require Telstra to report on the state of its ownership, and to apply to the courts to have any unacceptable foreign ownership remedied.
Contact	Tristan Kathage, Assistant Secretary, Telecommunications Market Policy Branch, Communications Infrastructure Division; (02) 6271 1951 s47F

Administrative Arrangements Order (2021)

The responsibilities described in this portfolio overview, as well as the department's current organisational arrangements, are based on the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) dated 2 July 2021. These arrangements will be updated in accordance with new AAOs produced by your government.

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

Matters dealt with by the department

Infrastructure planning and co-ordination

Transport safety, including investigations

Land transport

Civil aviation and airports

Maritime transport including shipping

Major projects, including implementation of all non-Defence development projects

Administration of the Jervis Bay Territory, the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Territory of Christmas Island, the Coral Sea Islands Territory, the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands, and Norfolk Island

Constitutional development of the Northern Territory

Constitutional development of the Australian Capital Territory

Delivery of regional and territory specific services and programmes

Planning and land management in the Australian Capital Territory

Regional development

Matters relating to local government

Regional policy and co-ordination

National policy on cities

Broadband policy and programmes

Postal and telecommunications policies and programmes

Spectrum policy management

Broadcasting policy

Content policy relating to the information economy

Cultural affairs, including movable cultural heritage and support for the arts

Classification

Copyright

Northern Australia policy and coordination

Legislation administered by the minister

A.C.T. Self-Government (Consequential Provisions) Act 1988

Adelaide Airport Curfew Act 2000

Air Accidents (Commonwealth Government Liability) Act 1963

Air Navigation Act 1920

Air Navigation Legislation (Validation and Interpretation) Act 1982

Air Services Act 1995

Aircraft Noise Levy Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Treasurer

Aircraft Noise Levy Collection Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Treasurer

Airports Act 1996

Airports (On-Airport Activities Administration) Validation Act 2010

Airspace Act 2007

Airspace (Consequential and Other Measures) Act 2007
Ashmore and Cartier Islands Acceptance Act 1933
Assistance for Severely Affected Regions (Special Appropriation) (Coronavirus Economic Response Package) Act 2020
AUSSAT Repeal Act 1991
Australia Council Act 2013
Australia Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2013
Australian Airlines (Conversion to Public Company) Act 1988
Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983
Australian Broadcasting Corporation (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1983
Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988, except to the extent administered by the Minister for Finance
Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988
Australian Communications and Media Authority Act 2005
Australian Communications and Media Authority (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2005
Australian Film, Television and Radio School Act 1973
Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990
Australian National Maritime Museum Act 1990
Australian National Railways Commission Sales Act 1997
Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989
Aviation Fuel Revenues (Special Appropriation) Act 1988
Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Broadcasting Reform) Act 2017
Broadcasting Services Act 1992
Broadcasting Services (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1992
Canberra Water Supply (Googong Dam) Act 1974
Carriage of Goods by Sea Act 1991
Christmas Island Act 1958
Christmas Island Agreement Acts
Circuit Layouts Act 1989
Civil Aviation Act 1988
Civil Aviation (Carriers' Liability) Act 1959
Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment Act 1995
Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Minister for Indigenous Australians
Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012
Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Act 2012
Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955
Commercial Broadcasting (Tax) Act 2017
Competition and Consumer Act 2010, Parts X, XIB and XIC
Copyright Act 1968
Coral Sea Islands Act 1969
Damage by Aircraft Act 1999
Do Not Call Register Act 2006
Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015
Enhancing Online Safety for Children (Consequential Amendments) Act 2015
Enhancing Online Safety (Non-consensual Sharing of Intimate Images) Act 2018
Infrastructure Australia Act 2008

Interactive Gambling Act 2001
International Air Services Commission Act 1992
International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Act 2013
Jervis Bay Territory Acceptance Act 1915
Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims Act 1989
Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995
Marine Navigation Levy Act 1989
Marine Navigation Levy Collection Act 1989
Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Act 1991
Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Collection Act 1991
Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Act 2012
Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law (Consequential Amendments) Act 2012
Maritime Legislation Amendment Act 2007
Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989
National Broadband Network Companies Act 2011
National Film and Sound Archive of Australia Act 2008
National Gallery Act 1975
National Land Transport Act 2014
National Library Act 1960
National Museum of Australia Act 1980
National Portrait Gallery of Australia Act 2012
National Portrait Gallery of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2012
National Transmission Network Sale Act 1998
National Transport Commission Act 2003
Navigation Act 2012
Norfolk Island Act 1979
Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016
Northern Territory Acceptance Act 1910
Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978, except sections 69 and 70
Parliament Act 1974
Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act 1946
Postal and Telecommunications Commissions (Transitional Provisions) Act 1975
Port Statistics Act 1977
Protection of Cultural Objects on Loan Act 2013
Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986
Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage) Act 2008
Protection of the Sea (Harmful Anti-fouling Systems) Act 2006
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—Customs) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—Excise) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—General) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Oil Pollution Compensation Funds) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Powers of Intervention) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Act 1983
Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy Collection) Act 1981
Public Lending Right Act 1985

Qantas Sale Act 1992, Part 3, sections 7 to 13 inclusive
Radiocommunications Act 1992
Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Act 1983
Radiocommunications (Spectrum Licence Tax) Act 1997
Radiocommunications Taxes Collection Act 1983
Radiocommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1992
Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Act 1983
Removal of Prisoners (Territories) Act 1923, insofar as it relates to the Northern Territory (except to the extent administered by the Attorney-General) and to Norfolk Island, the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Territory of Christmas Island, the Coral Sea Islands Territory, and the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands
Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act 2009
Road Charges Legislation Repeal and Amendment Act 2008
Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – General) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – Customs) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – Excise) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2018
Screen Australia Act 2008
Screen Australia and the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2008
Screen Australia (Transfer of Assets) Act 2011
Seat of Government Acceptance Acts
Seat of Government Act 1908
Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910
Shipping Reform (Tax Incentives) Act 2012
Shipping Registration Act 1981
Spam Act 2003
Special Broadcasting Service Act 1991
Special Recreational Vessels Act 2019
Submarine Cables and Pipelines Protection Act 1963
Sydney Airport Curfew Act 1995
Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997
Telecommunications Act 1997
Telecommunications and Postal Services (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1989
Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer) Act 2020
Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act 1997
Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999
Telecommunications (Industry Levy) Act 2012
Telecommunications (Numbering Charges) Act 1997
Telecommunications (Regional Broadband Scheme) Charge Act 2020
Telecommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1991
Telecommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1997
Telstra Corporation Act 1991
Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Act 2005
Territories Law Reform Act 2010
Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003
Urban and Regional Development (Financial Assistance) Act 1974



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications



INCOMING GOVERNMENT BRIEFING

Portfolio Overview

Arts and Culture

May 2022

Image credits

Top left. National Library of Australia during the Enlighten Festival.
Image courtesy NLA

Bottom left. Joel Ngallametta, *Thapa Yongk - Law Poles*, 2008, Natural
earth pigments on milkwood, Artbank Collection purchased 2010

Right. Artbank's Senior Registrar, Rod Palmer in the Artbank Sydney
Collection Store. Photo by Tom Ferguson, courtesy of Artbank

Portfolio Overview

About your portfolio

A high-level summary of the responsibilities of your portfolio, as well as information about the structure and function of the department.

About the department

An overview of the department's work, values, programs and projects, budget, people, and key contacts.

Portfolio entities

An overview of the Commonwealth entities and companies in your portfolio, including information on each entity's purpose, governance, functions and funding profile.

Other boards and structures

An overview of the purpose, governance, and functions of other boards and structures related to your portfolio.

Programs administered by the department

Information on your government's established programs and those announced in the 2022-23 Budget, including the status of each program, delivery partners and stakeholders, governance arrangements, funding, key facts and program administration details.

Portfolio legislation

An up-to-date list of legislation relevant to the work of the department and portfolio entities.

Administrative Arrangements Order

Administrative Arrangements Orders formally allocate executive responsibility among ministers. They set out which matters and legislation are administered by which department or portfolio.

- o Leadership team
- o Organisational structure
- o Establishing your office and ministerial support services

- o Australia Council
- o Australian Film, Television and Radio School
- o Australian National Maritime Museum
- o Bundanon Trust
- o Creative Partnerships Australia Ltd
- o National Film and Sound Archive
- o National Gallery of Australia
- o National Library of Australia
- o National Museum of Australia
- o National Portrait Gallery of Australia
- o Screen Australia

- o COVID-19 Arts Sustainability Fund
- o Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund
- o Ausfilm
- o Australian Children's Television Foundation
- o Digital Economy Strategy - Digital Games Tax Offset
- o Location and Post Digital and Visual Effects
- o Location Incentive (for international screen productions)
- o Temporary Interruption Fund
- o Indigenous Languages and Arts Programs
- o Indigenous Repatriation Special Account
- o Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support - Program
- o Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support - Visual Arts and Craft Strategy
- o Art Rental Special Account (Artbank)
- o Australian Government International Exhibitions Insurance Program
- o Australian Museums and Galleries Association - Culture, Heritage and Arts Regional Tourism (CHART) Program
- o Australian Museums and Galleries Association - National Conference Bursaries Program
- o Australian National Maritime Museum - Maritime Museums of Australia Project Support Scheme
- o Cultural Gifts Program
- o National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach Programs
- o National Cultural Heritage Account
- o National Library of Australia - Community Heritage Grants
- o Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act and Scheme
- o Supporting Cinemas' Retention Endurance and Enhancement of Neighbourhoods (SCREEN) Fund
- o Visions of Australia regional touring program
- o Australian Arts and Culture Fund
- o Australian Music Industry Package
- o Festivals Australia
- o International Cultural Diplomacy Arts Fund
- o National Performing Arts Training Organisations
- o Regional Arts Fund
- o Register of Cultural Organisations
- o Prime Minister's Literary Awards
- o Public and Educational Lending Rights Schemes

Portfolio Overview

About the department

- o Leadership team
- o Organisational structure
- o Establishing your office and ministerial support services

Portfolio entities

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Australia Councilo Australian Film, Television and Radio Schoolo Australian National Maritime Museumo Bundanon Trusto Creative Partnerships Australiao National Film and Sound Archive | <ul style="list-style-type: none">o National Gallery of Australiao National Library of Australiao National Museum of Australiao National Portrait Gallery of Australiao Screen Australia |
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Programs administered by the department

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">o COVID-19 Arts Sustainability Fundo Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fundo Ausfilmo Australian Children's Television Foundationo Digital Economy Strategy - Digital Games Tax Offseto Location and Post Digital and Visual Effectso Location Incentive (for international screen productions)o Temporary Interruption Fundo Indigenous Languages and Arts Programso Indigenous Repatriation Special Accounto Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support - Programo Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support - Visual Arts and Craft Strategyo Art Rental Special Account (Artbank)o Australian Government International Exhibitions Insurance Programo Australian Museums and Galleries Association - Culture, Heritage and Arts Regional Tourism (CHART) Programo Australian Museums and Galleries Association - National Conference Bursaries Program | <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Australian National Maritime Museum - Maritime Museums of Australia Project Support Schemeo Cultural Gifts Programo National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach Programso National Cultural Heritage Accounto National Library of Australia - Community Heritage Grantso Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act and Schemeo Supporting Cinemas' Retention Endurance and Enhancement of Neighbourhoods (SCREEN) Fundo Visions of Australia regional touring programo Australian Arts and Culture Fundo Australian Music Industry Packageo Festivals Australiao International Cultural Diplomacy Arts Fundo National Performing Arts Training Organisationso Regional Arts Fundo Register of Cultural Organisationso Prime Minister's Literary Awardso Public and Educational Lending Rights Schemes |
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About your portfolio

This portfolio overview contains a high-level summary of the responsibilities of your portfolio, as well as information about the structure and function of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. The responsibilities described below, as well as the department's current organisational arrangements, are based on the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) dated 2 July 2021. These arrangements will be updated in accordance with any new AAOs produced by your government.

Responsibilities

Cultural affairs, including movable cultural heritage and support for the arts

Copyright

Portfolio entities

In addition to the department, your portfolio comprises 11 Commonwealth entities and companies (portfolio entities) that are subject to the obligations and accountabilities of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. The portfolio entities contribute to outcomes delivered on behalf of the Australian Government.

A summary of the Commonwealth entities within your portfolio is provided below. More detailed information on your role and responsibilities with regard to these entities, including in relation to board appointments, is provided in the chapter on portfolio entities, along with information on each entity's purpose, governance, functions and funding profile.

Commonwealth company	Creative Partnerships Australia Ltd	Bundanon Trust	
Corporate Commonwealth entity	Australia Council	Australian Film, Television and Radio School	Australian National Maritime Museum
	National Film and Sound Archive of Australia	National Gallery of Australia	National Library of Australia
	National Museum of Australia	National Portrait Gallery of Australia	Screen Australia
Non-corporate Commonwealth entity			

Other boards and structures

Separate to the portfolio entities, there are a number of other boards and structures related to the business of the portfolio. A list of higher-profile bodies (for example, the Advisory Committee for Indigenous Repatriation and the National Cultural Heritage Committee) is provided in the chapter on other boards and structures.

A number of these bodies are government appointed boards. Appointments made by the Australian Government (through the Prime Minister, Cabinet, Governor-General advised by the Federal Executive Council, ministers and chairs of portfolio boards) to bodies such as these are a significant activity for the Australian Government and attract a level of public scrutiny.

The department provides support for the effective functioning of government-appointed boards and structures within your portfolio. This includes administration of appointment processes, management of reporting requirements including on gender balance, and the maintenance of a register of members, terms and appointment requirements. Further information on these functions will be provided to your office separately by the department as needed to meet appointment and reporting timeframes.

Portfolio legislation

You are responsible for a considerable body of legislation relevant to the work of the department and portfolio entities, for example the *Copyright Act 1968*, *Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986*, and *Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act 2009*. In addition, each national collecting institution has its own initiating legislation.

Further information on your role is provided in the chapter on portfolio legislation.

About the department

Arts roles and activities

The department's work spans a broad range of matters, supporting the government in the effective development and delivery of programs, policies and regulations that enrich the lives of all Australians and connect communities.

The department's values of being respectful, informed, collaborative, accountable and adaptive will be applied in support of you and your office, and we will adapt our roles and activities to support you to deliver your agenda this term.

The department works to achieve 6 outcomes across our budget programs, a subset of which relate to your portfolio, listed below. These outcomes form the legal basis for the appropriation of funding, and therefore any change to outcomes involves a formal process requiring legal advice and approval from the Minister for Finance. The names of budget programs can be changed more easily, where these are not set out in legislation.



Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Program 6.1 Arts and Cultural Development – To provide an environment in which all Australians can access and benefit from creative experiences and culture, supporting inclusiveness and growth in Australia's creative sector, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture.

Programs administered by the department

The department is responsible for administering a large number of budget programs under the department's budget outcomes.

The chapter on programs administered by the department sets out the status of each program, its delivery partners and stakeholders, governance arrangements including your role with regard to decision-making, program funding, key facts and program administration details.

Program funding outlined in these briefs reflects the 2022-23 Budget and the program expenditure figures are as at 31 March 2022. Updated expenditure figures as at 30 April 2022 will be provided to you and your office in early briefings.

Budget

For the 2022-23 financial year, the department will administer \$19 billion in agency resourcing, comprised of \$0.7 billion in departmental and \$18.3 billion in administered (i.e. program) funding. Administered funding includes \$2.4 billion in payments to portfolio bodies. Agency resourcing increased by \$2.7 billion between the 2021-22 and 2022-23 financial years, primarily due to additional support provided through the 2022-23 Budget to regional Australia and pandemic economic recovery measures.

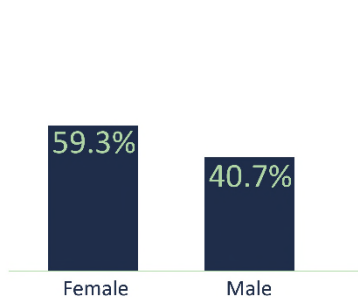
Of the departmental funding, \$479.3 million is in departmental operating funding and \$10.2 million in departmental capital budget. The remainder of the \$164.1 million represents prior year appropriation available to the department, funding in existing special accounts (reserved for specific purposes) and own-source revenue. The department's Average Staffing Level (ASL) for the 2022-23 Budget has increased by 56 ASL from the 2021-22 estimated ASL of 1,708 to 1,764.

A further \$17.6 billion in 2022-23 (\$64.7 billion across four years) is provided to states and territories through various National Partnership Payments.

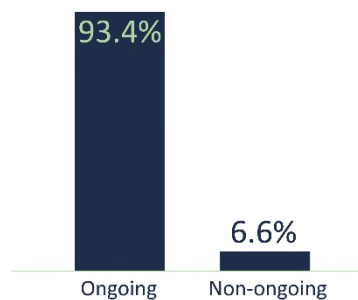
People

At 31 March 2022, the department had a total employee headcount of 1,934 people. Just over 93 per cent are ongoing, close to 60 per cent are female, and while the majority of employees are located in the ACT, the department has staff in all other states and territories, plus Norfolk Island, Jervis Bay Territory, the Indian Ocean Territories and internationally. Further information is provided in the graphics below.

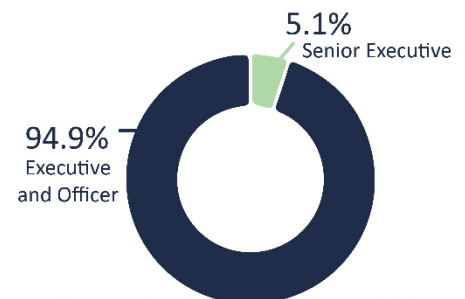
Staff by gender



Staff by employment status



Staff by classification



Non-Senior Executive Service (SES) employees are employed under the Enterprise Agreement which came into effect from 28 March 2016. From 2 December 2021, a new one year section 24(1) determination continued the terms and conditions of the Enterprise Agreement. The determination provided a 1.9 per cent pay increase from 28 March 2022 to all non-SES employees covered by the department's Enterprise Agreement.

SES employees are employed under a separate instrument.

The department's non-APS workforce consists of 267 labour hire and fee-for-service employees who primarily undertake roles in specialist data and program positions, IT and non-ongoing administrative functions.

Leadership team

The department's executive comprises the Secretary and 7 Deputy Secretaries. Deputy Secretaries support the Secretary and carry out a wide-ranging brief across the portfolio's policy, regulatory and operational responsibilities as well as overseeing the work of business divisions.

Simon Atkinson



Secretary

Simon Atkinson was appointed Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications on 1 February 2020. He was previously Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development.

Prior to his appointment as Secretary, Mr Atkinson served as Deputy Secretary, Fiscal Group at the Treasury.

Since joining the Australian Public Service as a graduate, he has held senior roles in many Australian Government portfolios, including Infrastructure and Regional, Finance, Defence, and Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Mr Atkinson has held leadership roles delivering major policy reforms, including the establishment of Infrastructure Australia in 2007, the 2009 Defence White Paper and 24 Commonwealth economic updates. He has overseen the largest infrastructure investment in the Commonwealth's history including transformational projects such as the Western Sydney Airport and led the successful stewardship of aviation, shipping, freight, telecommunications and the arts through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr Atkinson is an alumnus of the University of Queensland with bachelor degrees in Science and Law. He is a barrister and solicitor of the Federal Court and the Supreme Court of NSW. Mr Atkinson holds a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

02 6274 7573 s47F
Simon.Atkinson@infrastructure.gov.au

Stephen Arnott



Deputy Secretary Creative Economy and the Arts Group

Stephen Arnott is the Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy and the Arts in the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. Stephen has more than 20 years' experience in the Australian Public Service in arts, screen, creative industries, communications and technology policy areas. He has also worked as a ministerial adviser.

Stephen was promoted to the Senior Executive Service in 2009. He was awarded a Public Service Medal in 2005 for his work reforming Australia's symphony orchestras. Previously Stephen helped run a small business providing data security services to corporate clients in Sydney. Stephen has a Doctorate in French Philosophy from the University of New England where he lectured in both philosophy and psychology for a number of years.

02 6274 7883 s47F
Stephen.Arnott@arts.gov.au

Richard Windeyer



**Deputy Secretary
Communications and Media Group**

Richard has held Deputy Secretary roles in the communications portfolio since 2018. Richard joined the Australian Public Service 23 years ago. The majority of his career has been in the communications portfolio. He had held numerous roles in the departments responsible for communications and has also spent time in the offices of communications portfolio ministers. Other roles have included working on homeland security policy in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and on transport security policy.

The Communications and Media group has responsibility for broadband, telecommunications, media and digital platform industry policy, infrastructure investment and consumer policy, radio-communications policy, online safety as well as oversight of the Government's shareholding interests in Australia Post and the National Broadband Network. The group is also responsible for policy and regulatory advice around public interest communications issues relating to provision of emergency calls, access to communications services by people with disabilities, and communications network resilience.

02 6274 7882 **s47F**
Richard.Windeyer@communications.gov.au

Diane Brown



**Deputy Secretary
Transport Group**

Diane Brown commenced as Deputy Secretary at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications in May 2021. Diane joined the Department in August 2020 as First Assistant Secretary of Communications Infrastructure Division. Prior to that, Diane spent 7 years at the Australian Treasury, in the Markets Group with various responsibilities predominantly relating to financial markets and corporate regulation.

Prior to joining the public service, Diane held senior roles in the private sector and in the corporate regulator, the Australian Securities and Investment Commission. She commenced her career as an economist at the Reserve Bank and has practised law at a national law firm in Sydney.

Diane holds bachelor degrees (with honours) in economics and law from the University of Sydney and a masters degree (with honours) in economics from the University of New South Wales.

02 6274 7515 **s47F**
Diane.Brown@infrastructure.gov.au

Dave Hallinan



**Deputy Secretary
Infrastructure Group**

Dave Hallinan is the Deputy Secretary of the Infrastructure Group of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, with two decades of public sector experience and well over a decade in senior leadership roles across the Australian Public Service.

Dave is values driven, enjoys linking complex practical implementation issues with nationally significant agendas, and working collaboratively with complex stakeholder groups to solve challenging policy, program and regulatory issues to support the best outcomes for the Australian community.

Dave has spent his career working across policy development, and program and regulatory delivery across the Health, Infrastructure and Finance portfolios. Dave's key content areas include infrastructure financing and delivery, Australian Government budget management and advice, and rural health, primary care financing and delivery, health workforce management and regulation, aged care, and health and related systems integration.

02 6274 7302 **s47F**
David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au

Rachel Bacon



**Deputy Secretary
Regional, Cities and Territories Group**

Dr Rachel Bacon is currently a Deputy Secretary for the Regional, Cities and Territories Group at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

Prior to this Rachel worked in the Department of Environment and Energy, running the Policy Analysis and Implementation Division and as Deputy Chief Executive Officer with the Northern Territory Government's Department of the Chief Minister.

Rachel previously led a number of taskforces based in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) working to deliver whole of government priorities in areas such as environment regulation reform and Australia's engagement with Asia.

02 6274 6181 **s47F**
Rachel.Bacon@infrastructure.gov.au

Marisa Purvis-Smith



Deputy Secretary Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia Group CEO of the National Water Grid Authority

Marisa is the Deputy Secretary of Water Infrastructure and Northern Australia and the CEO of the National Water Grid Authority within the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. This role includes responsibility for the Office of Northern Australia.

Marisa brings a wealth of experience, including a strong understanding of regional and community issues, including as First Assistant Secretary, Regional Development, Local Government and Regional Recovery. Prior to that, Marisa worked in the federal Treasury in a range of roles, including tax policy and Commonwealth-State relations. Marisa is also the department's representative on the Australian Maritime Safety Authority Board.

02 6274 7884 **s47F**
Marisa.Purvis-Smith@infrastructure.gov.au

Maree Bridger



Acting Chief Operating Officer

Maree Bridger is currently the acting Chief Operating Officer at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

Maree has worked in the Australian Public Service for 14 years across a range of policy, program, corporate and service delivery areas in the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, Services Australia, the Department of Immigration and Border Protection and the Australian Customs Service.

Maree's current responsibilities include leading a wide variety of corporate functions including: human resources, property, finance, IT, legal, governance, assurance and communications.

Prior to Maree's time in the APS she had 17 years in the private sector and held roles at the Shell Company of Australia, Osborne Computers Corporation and Austar United Communications. Prior to her transition in to the public sector, Maree worked as a consultant for eight years, with a specific focus on organisational change, strategic planning, maximising competitive advantage and building organisational capability.

Maree has a Bachelor of Economics from ANU, an Executive MBA from the Australian Graduate School of Management at UNSW and is a Certified Practising Accountant.

02 6274 7029 **s47F**
Maree.Bridger@infrastructure.gov.au



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

Portfolio
Strategy
Taskforce
FAS: Julia
Pickworth



Secretary
Simon Atkinson

Chief of Staff
Louise Rawlings


* Denotes acting
Taskforce

Organisational structure
current as at 20 May 2022


GROUP (Deputy Secretary)




Deputy Secretary
Creative Economy
and the Arts
Stephen
Arnott




Chief
Operating
Officer
Maree
Bridger*




Deputy
Secretary
Transport
Diane
Brown



Deputy
Secretary
Infrastructure
David
Hallinan



Deputy Secretary
Communications
and Media
Richard
Windeyer



Deputy Secretary
Regional, Cities
and Territories
Rachel
Bacon



Deputy Secretary
Water Infrastructure
and Northern Australia
/ CEO National Water
Grid Authority
Marisa
Purvis-Smith

DIVISION (First Assistant Secretary / SES Band 2)



Office for the Arts
Greg Cox

Data, Analytics
and Policy
Philip Smith

People,
Governance,
and
Parliamentary and
Communication
Ruth Wall

Finance
Brad Medland

Legal Services
Chris Burke

Domestic Aviation
and Reform
Janet Quigley

International
Aviation,
Technology
and Services
Richard Wood

Surface
Transport Policy
Andrew
Madsen*

Road and
Vehicle Safety
Lisa La Rance

Infrastructure
Investment
David Mackay

Major Transport
and Infrastructure
Projects
Jessica Hall

Significant
Projects
Investment
Delivery Office
Diana Hallam

Online Safety,
Media and
Platforms
Pauline Sullivan

Communications
Infrastructure
Matthew Brine

Communications
Services and
Consumer
Lachlann
Paterson

Regional
Development, Local
Government and
Regional Recovery
Sarah Nattay*

Territories
Sarah
Vandenbroek

Cities
Matthew Roper

Water
Infrastructure and
Northern Australia
Stephanie
Werner*

BRANCH (Assistant Secretary / SES Band 1)

Arts Development
and Investment
Alison Todd

Arts Recovery
and Response
Leonie
Holloway

Bureau of
Infrastructure
and Transport
Research
Economics
David Mitchell*

Arts Development
and Investment
Alison Todd

Collections and
Cultural Heritage
Ann Campton

Creative Industries
Anne-Louise
Dawes

Bureau of
Communications,
Arts and Regional
Research
Justin lu

Creative Industries
Anne-Louise
Dawes

Access and
Participation
Marie Gunnell*

Content
and Copyright
Jenna Priestly

Strategic and
Economic Policy
Projects
Kai Everist*

Content
and Copyright
Jenna Priestly

Human Resources
and Property
Stephanie
Bourke

Communications
Susan Charles

Communications,
Arts and Regional
Research
Justin lu

Communications
Susan Charles

Finance
Carol Cote

Digital Initiatives
Maxine Ewens
(CDO)

IT Services
Anthony
Castley (CIO)

Digital Initiatives
Maxine Ewens
(CDO)

Communications
and Arts
Stuart Kerr*

Infrastructure,
Transport and
Regional
Development
Piccolo
Willoughby

Infrastructure,
Transport and
Regional
Development
(Commercial)
Joanna Piva

Infrastructure,
Transport and
Regional
Development
Piccolo
Willoughby

Aviation
Programs
Ben Vincent

Domestic Policy
and Reform
Jason
Dymowski

Airports
Phil McClure

Domestic Policy
and Reform
Jason
Dymowski

Safety and Future
Technology
Naa Opoku

International
Aviation
Jim Wolfe

Western Sydney
Airport
Regulatory Policy
David Jansen

International
Aviation
Jim Wolfe

Land Transport
Policy
Paula Staggs

Maritime
and Shipping
Andrew
Johnson

Transport Market
Reform and
Technology
Mike Makin

Maritime
and Shipping
Andrew
Johnson

Vehicle Safety
Policy and
Partnerships
Anita Langford

Office of
Road Safety
Gabby O'Neill

Vehicle Safety
Operations
Mitchell Cole

Office of
Road Safety
Gabby O'Neill

Program, Policy
and Budget
Benjamin
Meagher*

North West
Infrastructure
Investment
Shona
Rosengren

NSW, ACT and
Targeted Roads
Robyn Legg

North West
Infrastructure
Investment
Shona
Rosengren

WSI - Program
and Infrastructure
James Savage*

Inland Rail
Operations
Mitch Pirie

Inland Rail
Stakeholder and
Regional Delivery
Andrew Bourne

Inland Rail
Operations
Mitch Pirie

Project Inception
and Delivery
Stephen
Sorbello

Project
Identification and
Establishment
Bill Brummitt

Media Industry
and Sustainability
Adam Carlon

Media Industry
and Sustainability
Adam Carlon

Classification
Andrew Hyles

Media Industry
and Sustainability
Adam Carlon

Online Safety
Bridget Gannon

Online Safety
Bridget Gannon

NBN
Nicolle Power*

Spectrum
Shayn
Sparreboom*

Telecommunications
Market Policy
Tristan Kathage

Telecommunications
Market Policy
Tristan Kathage

Regional
Communications
Philip
Smurthwaite*

Post,
International
Telecommunications
and ACMA
Daniel Caruso

Consumer
Safeguards
Kathleen Silleri

Consumer
Safeguards
Kathleen Silleri

Regional Policy
and Recovery
Jo Neuling*

Regional
Intelligence and
Local Government
Michael
Gregory*

Program
Implementation
and Drought
Karly Pidgeon

Program
Implementation
and Drought
Karly Pidgeon

Indian Ocean
Territories
Aaron O'Neill

Mainland
Territories
Jane Christie

Norfolk Island
Jim Baldwin*

Mainland
Territories
Jane Christie

Deals (TAS,
NT, WA and
Melbourne) and
Cities Policy
Tiffany Karlsson

Deals
(Geelong, NSW,
Albury-Wodonga,
QLD, SA)
Alex Wilson*

Infrastructure,
Framework
and Delivery
Katrina Kendall*

Deals
(Geelong, NSW,
Albury-Wodonga,
QLD, SA)
Alex Wilson*

Science, Policy
and Engagement
Malcolm
Southwell

Infrastructure,
Framework
and Delivery
Katrina Kendall*

Office of
Northern
Australia
Linda Lee

Infrastructure,
Framework
and Delivery
Katrina Kendall*

Australian
National
Maritime
Museum

National Gallery
of Australia

Screen
Australia

Australia
Council

Bundanon Trust

National Library
of Australia

Australian Film,
Television and
Radio School

National Film
and Sound
Archive

Creative
Partnerships
Australia Ltd

National Museum of
Australia

National Portrait Gallery
of Australia

National Museum of
Australia

Airservices
Australia

Australian
Transport
Safety Bureau

Civil Aviation
Safety
Authority

Australian
Maritime Safety
Authority

National Transport
Commission

National
Transport
Commission

Australian
Rail Track
Corporation Ltd

WSA Co Ltd

National
Intermodal
Corporation Ltd

Australian
Rail Track
Corporation Ltd

Infrastructure
Australia

National Faster
Rail Agency

Australian
Broadcasting
Corporation

Special
Broadcasting
Service
Corporation

eSafety
Commissioner

Australian Postal
Corporation

NBN Co Ltd

Australian
Communications
and Media
Authority

Northern
Australia
Infrastructure
Facility

North QLD
Water
Infrastructure
Authority

National
Capital
Authority

Establishing your office and ministerial support services

The department provides a range of services to support you and the effective establishment and operation of your office. Services to ministers typically provided by departments include provision of information and communications technology support, support for ministers' cabinet roles, media and communications assistance, and departmental liaison officers to manage the flow of briefing and correspondence between your office and the department. These are in addition, and separate, to services provided by the Department of Parliamentary Services at Parliament House and the support provided by the Department of Finance and the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

The Prime Minister's Office agrees staffing levels in ministers' offices including the number of departmental liaison officers. In the interim, the department will support the transition of your office to full operation, particularly in the first 3 months while staff are being appointed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* (see Department of Finance's Ministerial and Parliamentary Services for further advice and information).

In circumstances where ministers may hold a number of portfolios, there will be discussions across relevant agencies and with the Department of Parliamentary Services and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet regarding how best to service your office, including which agency will take a lead role with regard to support.

Senior staff will be in contact with you and your office as soon as possible to commence discussions regarding your immediate support requirements. We will have close engagement with you over the coming weeks to bed down our service offering. Your incoming Chief of Staff will be provided with an overview of our services in order to commence those discussions.

The department's primary points of contact on these matters are listed below.

Rebecca Rush

Assistant Secretary
Governance, Ministerial and Parliamentary Services
Rebecca.Rush@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6271 1153 s47F

Julia Pickworth

First Assistant Secretary
Transition Lead
Julia.Pickworth@infrastructure.gov.au
02 6274 7565 s47F

International engagement

The department is responsible for delivering a range of domestic policy outcomes that are critical to the prosperity and well-being of Australians. Most of these outcomes can only be fully realised through the international engagement activities we undertake alongside the strategy and policy advice, fit-for-purpose regulation and program delivery services provided by the department to the Australian Government.

Our international engagement activities seek to achieve three objectives:

- Influence international agreements and standards and align international and Australian interests across transport, communications and the arts.
- Build capability and learn from international experience in order to provide informed advice on the portfolio's policy and programs.
- Ensure Australia meets international obligations with regard to the portfolio's areas of responsibility, and contributes to Australian foreign policy and trade initiatives.

Information on key international stakeholders and bodies that the department works with to achieve its international engagement objectives will be provided via separate briefing.



Australia Council

Purpose

The Australia Council (the Council) is the Australian Government’s principal arts funding body.

The Council’s primary purpose is to champion and invest in Australian arts through grants and initiatives that foster and develop Australia’s arts sector and raise the profile of Australian arts nationally and internationally.

The Council is a corporate Commonwealth entity established by the *Australia Council Act 2013* (Australia Council Act).

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the Australia Council Act:

- You appoint board members for terms up to 3 years.
- You may, by legislative instrument, give directions to the board relating to the performance of functions and exercise of powers of the Council or requiring provision of reports or advice on matters relating to the Council’s functions or powers. It has been normal practice for ministers to provide an annual statement of expectations to the Council.
- You are not able to give directions to the Council in relation to decisions made by the Council on the provision of financial assistance or a guarantee.
- You are consulted prior to the board appointing a chief executive officer.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr Robert Morgan	Chair	30 June 2024
Ms Rosheen Garnon	Deputy Chair	26 July 2024
Mr Adrian Collette AM	Chief Executive Officer (<i>Ex officio</i>)	20 January 2024
Ms Christine Simpson Stokes	Member	24 February 2025
Mr Settimio (Mario) D’Orazio	Member	11 March 2025
Ms Filippina (Tina) Arena	Member	21 March 2025
Mr Stephen Found	Member	21 March 2025
Ms Marie-Louise Theile	Member	21 March 2025
The Hon Donald (Don) Harwin	Member	22 March 2025
Mr Philip Watkins	Member	30 March 2025
Ms Alexandra Dimos	Member	3 April 2025
Mr Leigh Carmichael	Member	30 June 2025

Mr Collette has served on the Australia Council Board since 1 July 2013 first as a board member and subsequently as Chief Executive Officer.

Mr D’Orazio is also a director of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation Board.

Ms Garnon is chair of the Board of Taxation, a director of the Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited Board and the Creative Partnerships Australia Board.

Governance and functions

The Council acts in accordance with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and its enabling legislation, the *Australia Council Act 2013* and is informed by your statement of expectations.

The Council is governed by the Australia Council Board. The board is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of the Council's functions. It is to consist of the chair, deputy chair, chief executive officer, plus 5 to 9 additional members. The chief executive officer is an *ex officio* member of the board.

The Council is required to prepare a corporate plan and annual report. It also prepares a statement of intent in response to a statement of expectations from you.

A senior executive from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications attends Council meetings as an observer. The department works cooperatively with the Council to contribute to the Australian Government's policy settings. The department provides oversight in relation to the governance of the Council.

Funding profile

The Council is not directly appropriated as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the department (a non-corporate Commonwealth entity), which are then paid to the Council and considered departmental for all purposes.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government – Appropriation	219.8	220.5	223.1	227.0	230.8
Other Revenue	3.2	0.5	1.1	0.5	1.1
Total Resourcing	223.0	221.0	224.2	227.5	231.9
Average Staffing Level	101	108			

Please note: Funding profile table may not total due to rounding.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Robert Morgan Chair s47F	Greg Cox First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts greg.cox1@arts.gov.au s47F
Adrian Collette AM Chief Executive Officer s47F	Alison Todd Assistant Secretary, Arts Development and Investment alison.todd@arts.gov.au s47F



Australian Film, Television and Radio School

Purpose

The Australian Film, Television and Radio School (the School) is the national institution for education, training and research for the screen and broadcast industries.

The primary purpose of the School is to provide advanced education and training to develop the skills and knowledge of talented individuals to meet the evolving needs of Australia's screen and broadcast industries.

The School is a corporate Commonwealth entity established by the *Australian Film, Television and Radio School Act 1973* (the Act) and is also required to comply with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the Act:

- The School is accountable to the Australian Government through the Minister for the Arts.
- You issue a statement of expectations annually.
- You are responsible for nominating candidates for the chief executive officer role and three council member roles, including the chair. These appointments are made by the Governor-General, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister or Cabinet. The appointments of other council members (convocation, staff and student elected) are not the responsibility of the Commonwealth.
- The Minister for Finance may give directions regarding moneys payable to the School.

Council

Name	Position	Current term (<i>and next</i>) expiry dates
Dr Nell Greenwood	Chief Executive Officer (<i>Ex officio</i> , Commonwealth Representative)	4 March 2025
Mr Russel Howcroft	Chair (Commonwealth Representative)	30 June 2023 (<i>cessation of second and final permitted term</i>)
Ms Debra Richards	Member (Commonwealth Representative)	30 March 2025
Ms Annabelle Herd	Member (Commonwealth Representative)	13 December 2023
Ms Carole Campbell	Deputy Chair (Convocation Representative)	4 April 2024 (<i>cessation of second and final permitted term</i>)
Ms Tanya Hosch	Member (Convocation Representative)	17 October 2024
Mr Chris Oliver-Taylor	Member (Convocation Representative)	30 June 2023
Dr Marty Murphy	Member (Staff Representative)	4 March 2023 (<i>cessation of second and final permitted term</i>)
Ms Cleo Baldwin	Member (Student Representative)	18 April 2022

Governance and functions

The School acts in accordance with the Act and *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, as well as your statement of expectations.

The School is governed by a council, as required by the Act. The council is responsible for strategic direction, organisational development, succession planning and resource allocation, including budget control and risk. There are 9 members of the council, as specified under the Act:

- Three members appointed by the Governor-General, on your nomination.
- Three members appointed from convocation by the council.
- Chief executive officer, *ex officio*.
- One staff member elected by staff each year.
- One student member elected by students each year.

The daily management of the School is the responsibility of the chief executive officer.

The School is required to prepare an annual statement of intent, corporate plan and annual report.

The Office for the Arts is responsible for providing briefing and policy advice regarding the School to the Minister for the Arts as required. The Office for the Arts also facilitates appointments to the council and correspondence between the Minister for the Arts and the School regarding the statement of expectations, statement of intent, corporate plan and annual report.

Funding profile

The School is not directly appropriated as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the department (a non-corporate Commonwealth entity), which are then paid to the School and considered departmental for all purposes.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government – Appropriation	22.7	23.0	23.1	23.3	23.5
Other Revenue	10.1	10.3	10.4	10.4	10.6
Total Resourcing	32.9	33.3	33.5	33.8	34.1
Average Staffing Level	145	145			

Please note: Funding profile table may not total due to rounding.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Russel Howcroft Chair, Australian Film, Television and Radio School Council s47F	Dr Stephen Arnott Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au s47F
Dr Nell Greenwood CEO, Australian Film, Television and Radio School s47F	Anne-Louise Dawes Assistant Secretary, Creative Industries Anne-louise.dawes@arts.gov.au s47F



Australian National Maritime Museum

Purpose

The Australian National Maritime Museum (the Museum) is responsible for the collection, preservation and provision of access to Australia's national maritime collection. Its purpose is to develop, preserve and maintain the national maritime collection; and exhibit the collection and other maritime historical material.

The Museum is a corporate Commonwealth entity established in 1990 under the *Australian National Maritime Museum Act 1990* (the Act) and the *Australian National Maritime Museum Regulations 2018*.

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the Act:

- You may give directions of a general nature to the Museum's Council in relation to the performance of its functions, or the exercise of its powers. This power has not been exercised by previous ministers.
- Unless a contract is for the supply of a service for the day to day operations of the Museum, you are responsible for approving the acquisition or disposal of any maritime historical material or privilege or contracts for the construction of a building worth over \$2 million or for any lease of any building exceeding 10 years.
- You may at any time convene a meeting of the Museum Council.
- You may appoint a person who is an appointed member to act as chair; appoint a person who is not a member to act as a member; and appoint a person who is not a member to act as director. With the exception of the member who is an officer of the Royal Australian Navy appointed by the Chief of the Defence Force, council members are appointed by the Governor-General.
- You may make available such areas of land (including any buildings, structures or other improvements on those areas) and relevant areas of water and other goods or equipment to the Museum; approve the director engaging in paid employment outside the duties of their office; and – subject to some exceptions – delegate your powers under the Act to the secretary of the department or a substantive or acting Senior Executive Service employee in the department.

Council

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr John Mullen AM	Chair	17 August 2022
Ms Tanya Bush	Acting Director (Outgoing – <i>Ex officio</i>)	3 July 2022*
Ms Daryl Karp AM	Director (Incoming – <i>Ex officio</i>)	16 June 2025*
Ms Alison Page	Member	28 May 2023
The Hon Ian Campbell	Member	17 February 2024
Mr John Longley AM	Member	5 May 2022
Ms Judy Potter	Member	12 May 2024
Mr Nyunggai Warren Stephen Mundine AO	Member	28 April 2024
The Hon Justice Sarah Derrington	Member	7 December 2024
Mr Stephen Coutts	Member	28 May 2023
Rear Admiral Mark Hammond AM	Member (Navy representative)	1 December 2029^
Mrs Arlene Tansey	Member	29 September 2024
Ms Gisele Kapterian	Member	9 April 2025

* Ms Karp will commence in this position on 4 July 2022 following a short period of leave which has been approved by the Chair.

^ The Navy representative's term length is arbitrary as they hold office at the pleasure of the Chief of the Defence Force.

Governance and functions

The Museum acts in accordance with directions set out in the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and its attendant rules, including around delivering annual reports for your tabling and developing corporate plans. It employs staff under the *Public Service Act 1999*.

It has been usual practice for the minister to issue a statement of expectations each year and for the Museum to respond with a statement of intent. Both of these documents are then published on the Museum's website.

The Museum is governed by the council which is the accountable authority. The council is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of the Museum's functions. The Act provides for the council to consist of the chair, the director, an officer of the Royal Australian Navy, and 6 to 9 other members. A majority of members constitute a quorum.

The Museum is an entity under the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio. The department has an oversight role in relation to the Museum, and a departmental representative (Senior Executive Service employee) is invited to attend council meetings as an observer.

Funding profile

The Museum is not directly appropriated, as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the department (a non-corporate Commonwealth entity), which are then paid to the Museum and considered departmental for all purposes. The Museum may also receive grant funding from the department from time to time.

As at 2022–23 Budget	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government – Appropriation	24.1	24.0	20.4	20.5	20.6
Equity injection	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8
Grants from Portfolio department/Payment from related entities*	2.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other Revenue/Revenue from independent sources	10.6	9.9	13.0	16.4	17.2
Total Resourcing	38.5	35.7	35.3	38.8	39.6
Average Staffing Level	125	125			

Please note: Funding profile table may not total due to rounding.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
John Mullen AM Chair s47F	Greg Cox First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts greg.cox1@arts.gov.au s47F
Tanya Bush Acting Director and CEO (until 3 July 2022) s47F	Ann Campton Assistant Secretary, Collections and Cultural Heritage ann.campton@arts.gov.au s47F
Daryl Karp AM Director and CEO (starts 4 July 2022) s47F	



Bundanon Trust

Purpose

The Bundanon Trust (Bundanon) is an Australian cultural institution and living arts centre that supports arts practice and understanding of the arts through its residency, education, exhibition and performance programs.

Gifted to the Australian people in 1993 by Arthur and Yvonne Boyd, the Bundanon property comprises 1,100 hectares of land overlooking the Shoalhaven River, near Nowra in New South Wales and a \$46 million nationally significant art collection. The site includes the heritage-listed Boyd family homestead and Arthur Boyd's art studio. The Art Museum hosts a changing program of art exhibitions and provides collection storage. The Bridge for Creative Learning has teaching spaces for arts and environment programs and offers visitor accommodation.

Your roles and responsibilities

- Bundanon is a wholly-owned Commonwealth company, limited by guarantee. The company holds the gift in charitable trust in accordance with its constitution.
- You appoint board members, after consultation with the Prime Minister, for terms of up to 3 years. The chair is appointed by you from existing directors. Directors and the chair are eligible for reappointment, with no cap on the number of terms. Under the Bundanon constitution, the maximum number of directors is 11, including the chair, and a quorum is 6 directors. Directors are not remunerated. Out-of-pocket expenses for board meetings are reimbursed.
- In accordance with Section 95 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, Bundanon provides a corporate plan to you as the responsible minister, and to the Minister for Finance.
- You are required to agree to the tabling of Bundanon's annual report in accordance with section 97 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Dr Peta Seaton AM	Chair	9 April 2025
Mr Samuel Edwards	Deputy Chair	13 December 2024
Ms Anne Flanagan	Director	21 April 2024
Ms Michelle Bishop	Director	27 April 2023
Mr Craig Laundry	Director	30 August 2023
Mr Ezekiel Solomon AM	Director	21 April 2024
Professor Patricia Davidson	Director	16 June 2024
Ms Holly Byrne	Director	9 December 2024
Hon John Sharp AM	Director	31 March 2025
Ms Catherine Livingstone AO	Director	9 April 2025
Mr Philip Bacon AO	Director	7 April 2025

Bundanon is led by chief executive officer, Ms Rachel Kent.

Governance and functions

Bundanon operates under the *Corporations Act 2001*, the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. The Bundanon constitution articulates the powers and objects of the company in line with the original gift from Arthur and Yvonne Boyd.

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Funding profile

- The Bundanon Trust is funded through an appropriation administered by the Office for the Arts and provided to Bundanon through a grant agreement.
- Funding of approximately \$1.5 million (GST exclusive) a year ongoing is provided to Bundanon for annual operating costs, capital maintenance, collection preservation costs and to support arts practice and arts understanding. This is currently provided through a 4-year funding agreement and is subject to indexation, the efficiency dividend and any other government decisions made regarding funding to government agencies. From time to time, Bundanon has also received additional support from the government for other purposes, such as additional operational support, or for ad hoc capital works.
- The former government contributed a total of \$22.5 million towards the Masterplan redevelopment of Bundanon, which included the new Art Museum and the Bridge for Creative Learning. The new facilities were officially launched on 19 March 2022.
- As part of the 2021-22 Budget, the government announced \$6 million of additional funding over two years (\$3 million in 2021-22 and \$3 million in 2022-23) in recognition of Bundanon's changed operations due to the opening of the new Art Museum and Bridge for Creative Learning. An increase to Bundanon's average staffing level cap will also be provided in 2022-23, increasing it from 23 to 34.1 average staffing level for one year. In addition, Bundanon received \$1.1 million in 2021-22 to address critical safety and maintenance issues in the Bundanon Homestead and Boyd Education Centre.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Grants	5.6	4.5	1.5	1.6	1.6
Equity injection	-	-	-	-	-
Total Australian Government Funding	5.6	4.5	1.5	1.6	1.6

Please note: Funding profile table may not total due to rounding.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contacts
Dr Peta Seaton AM Chair, Bundanon Trust Board s47F	Greg Cox First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts greg.cox1@arts.gov.au s47F
Rachel Kent Chief Executive Officer s47F	Marie Gunnell Assistant Secretary, Access and Participation Marie.Gunnell@arts.gov.au s47F



Creative Partnerships Australia Ltd

Purpose

Creative Partnerships Australia (Creative Partnerships) is the Government's primary body encouraging and facilitating private investment in the arts.

Its purpose is to foster a culture of private sector support for the arts in Australia to grow a more sustainable, vibrant and ambitious arts and cultural sector for the benefit of all Australians.

Creative Partnerships is a wholly-owned Commonwealth company operating under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and the *Corporations Act 2001*. Creative Partnerships is endorsed as a deductible gift recipient under Subdivision 30-BA of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the Creative Partnerships Constitution:

- You are able to appoint and remove directors.
- The board is responsible to you for achieving Creative Partnerships' purpose.
- Subject to consultation with you, the directors may appoint a chief executive officer.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Dr Richard Dammary	Chair	20 April 2023
Ms Natasha Bowness	Non-Executive Director	2 April 2025
Ms Sophie Dunstone	Non-Executive Director	2 April 2025
Ms Caroline Sharpen	Non-Executive Director	27 March 2025
Mr Dan Rosen	Non-Executive Director	15 December 2024
Mr Carl Dilena	Non-Executive Director	22 November 2024
Professor Susan Street AO	Non-Executive Director	4 August 2022
Ms Rosheen Garnon	Non-Executive Director	15 May 2022
Mr Leonard Vary	Non-Executive Director	14 May 2025

Creative Partnerships is led by chief executive officer Ms Fiona Menzies and the board is chaired by Dr Richard Dammary.

Ms Menzies was first appointed as Creative Partnerships chief executive officer in 2013. The chief executive officer is not a board member. Ms Menzies is also a member of the Creative Economy Taskforce.

Dr Dammary is also a non-executive director of Australia Post. Ms Natasha Bowness is also a member of the National Museum of Australia Council. Mr Rosen is also a member of the Creative Economy Taskforce. Ms Garnon is also chair of the Board of Taxation, and a director of the Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited Board and the Australia Council Board.

Governance and functions

Creative Partnerships acts in accordance with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, *Corporations Act 2001*, the Creative Partnerships Constitution and your statement of expectations.

Creative Partnerships is governed by the board of directors appointed by you. The board is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of Creative Partnerships' functions. It is to consist of the chair, plus 2 to 8 additional directors, one of which can be appointed deputy chair.

Creative Partnerships is required to prepare a statement of intent, corporate plan and annual report.

A senior executive from the Office for the Arts attends Creative Partnerships board meetings as an observer. The Office for the Arts works cooperatively with Creative Partnerships to contribute to the Australian Government's policy settings. The Office for the Arts provides oversight in relation to the governance of the company.

Funding profile

Creative Partnerships is funded by a six-year grant agreement with the Commonwealth. In addition, Creative Partnerships receives donations (other revenue) through the Australian Cultural Fund, a fundraising platform for artists and arts organisations administered by Creative Partnerships.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Grants	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.9	5.0
Equity injection	-	-	-	-	-
Total Australian Government Funding	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.9	5.0

Please note: Funding profile table may not total due to rounding.

As of 2020-21, Creative Partnerships had 18 employees.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Dr Richard Dammary Chair s47F	Greg Cox First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts greg.cox1@arts.gov.au s47F
Fiona Menzies Chief Executive Officer s47F	Alison Todd Assistant Secretary, Arts Development and Investment alison.todd@arts.gov.au s47F



National Film and Sound Archive

Purpose

The National Film and Sound Archive (the Archive) is Australia's premier audiovisual archive and a place of engagement with Australian audiovisual production, past and present. Its primary purpose is to develop and preserve a collection of significant Australian film, recorded sound and broadcast works, and to share the collection with audiences across Australia and overseas.

The Archive is a corporate Commonwealth entity established by the *National Film and Sound Archive of Australia Act 2008* (the Act) and operates in accordance with the Act and the *National Film and Sound Archive of Australia Regulations 2018*.

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the Act:

- You may give written directions of a general nature to the Archive's Board about the performance of its functions or the exercise of its powers. This power has not been exercised by previous ministers.
- Unless a contract is for the supply of a service for the day to day operations of the Archive, you are responsible for approving the acquisition or disposal of any item in the Archive's collection or property, right or privilege or contracts for the construction of a building for the Archive worth over \$2 million, or for any lease exceeding 10 years.
- You are responsible for appointment of board members. An individual board appointment term cannot exceed 3 years. A board member may not serve more than 9 years in total.
- The chief executive officer is not a board member and is appointed by the board after consultation with you. The maximum individual appointment term of a chief executive officer is 5 years but they are eligible for reappointment.
- You may appoint a person to act as a member during a vacancy in the office of such a member or during any period when such a member is absent from duty or from Australia or is, for any other reason, unable to perform the functions of his or her office.
- Subject to some exceptions, you may delegate your powers under the Act to the secretary of the department or a Senior Executive Service employee, or acting Senior Executive Service employee, in the department.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Ms Caroline Elliott	Chair	16 December 2024
Ms Toni Cody	Deputy Chair	10 August 2023
Mrs Lucinda Brogden AM	Member	16 December 2024
Mr Ewen Jones	Member	27 March 2025
Mr Stephen Peach	Member	24 March 2025
Mr Kim Ledger	Member	10 November 2023
Ms Alison Cameron	Member	2 May 2024
Mr Richard Bell	Member	2 May 2024
Ms Judith Donnelly	Member	23 July 2024

The chief executive officer of the Archive is Mr Patrick McIntyre (term of appointment expires on 17 October 2026).

Governance and functions

Under the Act, the Archive's functions are to: develop, preserve, maintain, promote and provide access to a national collection of programs and related material; support and promote the collection by others of programs and related material in Australia; support, promote or engage in the preservation and maintenance of programs and related material that are not in the national collection and in the provision of access to such programs and related material; and support and promote greater understanding and awareness in Australia of programs.

The Archive acts in accordance with directions set out in the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and its attendant rules, including around delivering annual reports for your tabling and developing corporate plans. It employs staff under the *Public Service Act 1999* as a statutory agency.

It has been usual practice for the minister to issue a statement of expectations each year and for the Archive to respond with a statement of intent. Both of these documents are then published on the Archive's website.

The Archive is governed by the board which is the accountable authority. The board is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of the Archive's functions. The Act provides for the board to consist of the chair, deputy chair, and 3 to 7 additional members. A majority of members constitute a quorum.

The Archive is an entity under the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio. The department has an oversight role in relation to the Archive, and an Office for the Arts representative (usually a Senior Executive Service employee) is invited to attend board meetings as an observer.

Funding profile

The Archive is not directly appropriated as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the department (a non-corporate Commonwealth entity), which are then paid to the Archive and considered departmental for all purposes. The Archive also receives funding from the department by way of grants and from other entities.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government – Appropriation	28.0	29.7	30.3	30.7	31.3
Equity injection	4.3	8.4	8.8	4.9	1.1
Grants from Portfolio department/Payment from related entities	1.0	1.1	0.8	-	-
Other Revenue/Revenue from independent sources	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Total Resourcing	35.1	40.9	41.6	37.3	34.1
Average Staffing Level	174	182			

Please note: Funding profile table may not total due to rounding.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Caroline Elliott Chair s47F	Greg Cox First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts greg.cox1@arts.gov.au s47F
Patrick McIntyre Chief Executive Officer s47F	Ann Campton Assistant Secretary, Collections and Cultural Heritage ann.campton@arts.gov.au s47F



National Gallery of Australia

Purpose

The National Gallery of Australia (the Gallery) is Australia's national cultural institution for the visual arts. Its primary purpose is to develop and maintain a national collection of works of art and to exhibit, or to make available for exhibition by others, in Australia or elsewhere, works of art from the national collection or works of art that are otherwise in the possession of the Gallery. At 30 June 2021, the Gallery's collection consisted of 155,950 works of art with a value of \$6.1 billion.

The Gallery is a corporate Commonwealth entity established by the *National Gallery Act 1975* (the Act) and operates in accordance with the Act and the *National Gallery of Australia Regulations 2018*.

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the Act:

- You may give written directions of a general nature to the Gallery Council about the performance of its functions or the exercise of its powers (including in relation to Gallery staff). This power has not been exercised by previous ministers.
- Unless a contract is for the supply of a service for the day to day operations of the Gallery, you are responsible for approving the acquisition or disposal of a work of art worth over \$10 million, or the acquisition or disposal of other property, right or privilege or contracts for the construction of a building worth over \$2 million, or for any lease exceeding 10 years.
- You may at any time convene a meeting of the council and may appoint a person to act as a member of the council during a vacancy or leave of absence.
- You may make available land or buildings owned by the Commonwealth to the Gallery and, where requested by the council, allow transfer of works of art or other goods or equipment owned by the Commonwealth to or from the Gallery, or approve the disposal or acquisition of property left with the Gallery.
- Subject to some exceptions, you may delegate your powers under the Act to the secretary of the department or a Senior Executive Service employee, or acting Senior Executive Service employee, in the department.

Council

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr Nick Mitzevich	Director (<i>Ex officio</i>)	1 July 2023
Mr Ryan Stokes AO	Chair	8 July 2024
Mr Michael Gannon	Deputy Chair	21 July 2022
Dr Terri Janke	Member	21 July 2022
Prof Sally Smart	Member	24 July 2022
Ms Helen Cook	Member	8 February 2023
Mr Nicholas Moore	Member	17 March 2024
Ms Alison Kubler	Member	12 May 2024
Mr Stephen Brady AO CVO	Member	16 February 2025
Ms Ilana Atlas AO	Member	30 March 2025
Hon Richard Alston AO	Member	3 April 2025

Governance and functions

The Gallery acts in accordance with directions set out in the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and its attendant rules, including around delivering annual reports for your tabling and developing corporate plans. It employs staff under the Act as opposed to the *Public Service Act 1999*.

It has been usual practice for the minister to issue a statement of expectations each year and for the Gallery to respond with a statement of corporate intent. Both of these documents are then published on the Gallery's website.

The Gallery is governed by the council which is the accountable authority. The council has a critical role in ensuring stability in the agency's operations, setting the strategic direction and developing its role as a cultural institution. The Act provides for the council to consist of up to 11 members, namely the chair, the director and no more than 9 other members. The Governor-General is responsible for appointments to the council. A deputy chair of the council is elected by the members. A majority of members constitute a quorum.

The Gallery is an entity under the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio. The department has an oversight role in relation to the Gallery, and an Office for the Arts representative (usually a Senior Executive Service employee) is invited to attend council meetings as an observer.

The National Gallery of Australian Foundation (the Foundation) was established as a subsidiary of the Gallery in 1982 with the express purpose of raising funds and encouraging gifts of works of art. The Act and *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* set out the scope of the Gallery's investment powers, including that the council may formulate an investment policy. As at 30 June 2021, the Foundation's total equity was just over \$13 million.

Funding profile

The Gallery is not directly appropriated, as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the department (a non-corporate Commonwealth entity), which are then paid to the Gallery and are considered departmental for all purposes.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government – Appropriation	49.6	48.0	45.2	45.5	45.7
Equity injection	57.8	17.0	17.2	17.4	17.5
Other Revenue/Revenue from independent sources	12.8	15.8	19.7	21.4	21.7
Total Resourcing	120.2	80.9	82.1	84.3	84.9
Average Staffing Level*	217	217			

Please note: Funding profile table may not total due to rounding.

*20 additional staff positions are privately funded until 30 Jun 2022.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Ryan Stokes AO Chair s47F	Greg Cox First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts greg.cox1@arts.gov.au s47F
Nick Mitzevich Director s47F	Ann Campton Assistant Secretary, Collections and Cultural Heritage ann.campton@arts.gov.au s47F



National Library of Australia

Purpose

The National Library of Australia's (the Library) primary purpose is to maintain, develop and make available a national collection of library material relating to Australia and the Australian people. It is also required to make available other services in relation to library matters and material as determined by the Library Council and cooperate with authorities or persons concerned with library matters.

The Library is a corporate Commonwealth entity established by the *National Library Act 1960* (the Act) and operates in accordance with the Act and the *National Library Regulations 2018*.

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the Act:

- You may give written directions of a general nature to the Library Council about the performance of its functions or the exercise of its powers. This power has not been exercised by previous ministers.
- Unless a contract is for the supply of a service for the day to day operations of the Library, you are responsible for approving the acquisition or disposal of any library material or property, right or privilege or contracts for the construction of a building for the Library worth over \$2 million, or for any lease exceeding 10 years.
- You may at any time convene a meeting of the council.
- You may appoint a person to act as a member appointed by the Governor-General or as Director-General during a vacancy in the office of such a member or during any period when such a member is absent from duty or from Australia or is unable to perform the functions of his or her office. Council members are appointed by the Governor-General, with the exception of the two members elected by the House of Representatives and the Senate respectively.
- You may, at the request of the council, make arrangements for the transfer to the Library of the ownership, use or custody of any library material, or of any equipment or goods, belonging to the Commonwealth.
- Subject to some exceptions, you may delegate your powers under the Act to the secretary of the department or a Senior Executive Service employee, or acting Senior Executive Service employee, in the department.

Council

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
The Hon Dr Brett Mason	Chair	8 August 2024
Ms Janet Hirst	Deputy Chair	4 May 2025
Dr Marie-Louise Ayres FAHA	Director-General	1 March 2027
Mr Douglas Snedden AO	Member	4 May 2025
Ms Alice Wong	Member	4 May 2025
Mr James Stevens MP (subject to the outcome of the Federal Election)	Member elected by the House of Representatives	8 February 2025
Senator Catryna Bilyk	Member elected by the Senate	31 July 2022
Dr Shane Simpson AM	Member	20 March 2025
Ms Rosalie Rotolo-Hassan	Member	3 April 2025
Dr Bennie Ng	Member	3 April 2025

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr Richard Price	Member	24 July 2022 (reappointment expires 24 July 2025)
Prof Donald Markwell	Member	27 May 2023

Governance and functions

The Library acts in accordance with directions set out in the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and its attendant rules, including around delivering annual reports for your tabling and developing corporate plans. It employs staff under the *Public Service Act 1999* as a statutory agency.

It has been usual practice for the minister to issue a statement of expectations each year and for the Library to respond with a statement of intent. Both of these documents are then published on the Library's website.

The Library is governed by the council which is the accountable authority. The council is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of the Library's functions. The Act provides for the council to consist of 12 members comprising the Director-General, one member elected by the Senate and another by the House of Representatives, and 9 members (including the chair) appointed by the Governor-General. A majority of members constitute a quorum.

The Library is an entity under the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio. The department has an oversight role in relation to the Library, and an Office for the Arts representative (usually a Senior Executive Service employee) is invited to attend council meetings as an observer.

Funding profile

The Library is not directly appropriated as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the department (a non-corporate Commonwealth entity), which are then paid to the Library and considered departmental for all purposes. The Library also receives funding from the department by way of grants and from other entities.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government - Appropriation	57.5	61.0	47.1	47.3	47.5
Equity injection	9.6	9.7	9.7	9.8	9.9
Grants from Portfolio department/Payment from related entities	3.4	1.9	2.0	0.6	0.6
Other Revenue/Revenue from independent sources	10.9	11.3	8.0	6.7	5.9
Total Resourcing*	81.3	83.8	66.7	64.3	63.8
Average Staffing Level	355	371			

* Funding profile table may not total due to rounding.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
The Hon Dr Brett Mason Chair s47F	Greg Cox First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts greg.cox1@arts.gov.au s47F
Dr Marie-Louise Ayres FAHA Director-General s47F	Ann Campton Assistant Secretary, Collections and Cultural Heritage ann.campton@arts.gov.au s47F



National Museum of Australia

Purpose

The National Museum of Australia's (the Museum) functions include developing and maintaining a national collection of historical material and increasing awareness and understanding of Australia's history and culture through exhibitions, loans from its collection, conducting research or disseminating information. The Museum is required to have a Gallery of Aboriginal Australia consisting of a collection of historical material owned by the Museum that relates to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

The Museum is a corporate Commonwealth entity established by the *National Museum of Australia Act 1980* (the Act), and operates in accordance with the Act and the *National Museum of Australia Regulations 2019*.

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the Act:

- You may give directions of a general nature to the Museum Council in relation to the performance of its functions or the exercise of its powers. This power has not been exercised by previous ministers.
- Unless a contract is for the supply of a service for the day to day operations of the Museum, you are responsible for approving the acquisition or disposal of any national historical material or privilege or contracts for the construction of a building for the Museum worth over \$2 million or for any lease of any building exceeding 10 years.
- You may at any time convene a meeting of the Museum Council.
- You may (during a period when the office is vacant, or when the incumbent is unavailable to perform their duties): appoint a person who is not a member to act as a member, but not as director, chair or deputy chair; and appoint a person to act in the place of the director. Council members are otherwise appointed by the Governor-General.
- You may make available land owned or held under lease by the Commonwealth, and any building, structure or other improvements on that land, to the Museum; grant leave of absence to the director, other than recreation leave, approve the director engaging in paid employment outside the duties of their office; and - subject to some exceptions, delegate your powers under the Act to the secretary of the department or a substantive or acting Senior Executive Service employee in the department.

Council

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
The Hon Warwick Smith AO	Chair	27 October 2024
Dr Mathew Trinca AM	Director (<i>Ex officio</i>)	17 February 2024
Dr Mike Haywood	Member	4 August 2024
Mr Peter Walker	Member	4 August 2024
Mr Benedict Maguire	Member	20 August 2024
Ms Fiona Jose	Member	11 November 2023
Ms Sarah Davies AM	Member	11 November 2023
Mr Tony Nutt AO	Member	17 March 2024
Ms Tracey Whiting AM	Member	12 May 2024
Ms Sandra Chipchase	Member	4 August 2024
Ms Natasha Bowness	Member	31 October 2024

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr Bernard Salt AM	Member	16 March 2025

Governance and functions

The Museum acts in accordance with directions set out in the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and its attendant rules, including around delivering annual reports for your tabling and developing corporate plans. It employs staff under the *Public Service Act 1999* as a statutory agency.

It has been usual practice for the minister to issue a statement of expectations each year and for the Museum to respond with a statement of intent. Both of these documents are then published on the Museum's website.

The Museum is governed by the council which is the accountable authority. The council is responsible for the conduct and control of the affairs of the Museum. The Act provides for the council to consist of the chair, the director, and 7 to 10 other members. All members are appointed by the Governor-General. A majority of members constitute a quorum.

The Museum is an entity under the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio. The department has an oversight role in relation to the Museum, and an Office for the Arts representative (usually a Senior Executive Service employee) is invited to attend council meetings as an observer.

Funding profile

The Museum is not directly appropriated as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the department (a non-corporate Commonwealth entity), which are then paid to the Museum and considered departmental for all purposes. The Museum may also receive funding from the department by way of grants and from other entities.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government - Appropriation	41.4	50.9*	38.7	38.9	39.0
Equity injection	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0
Grants from Portfolio department/Payment from related entities	0.5	2.0	-	-	-
Other Revenue/Revenue from independent sources	11.3	6.8	8.6	11.2	11.4
Total Resourcing	55.1	61.6	49.3	52.1	52.5
Average Staffing Level	216	216			

Please note: Funding profile table may not total due to rounding.

*Includes additional \$9.3 million in financial sustainability funding relating to two years from 2021-22. The NMA will not have access to this funding until the remaining 2022-23 Budget appropriation bills have been passed by Parliament.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
The Hon Warwick Smith AO Chair s47F	Greg Cox First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts greg.cox1@arts.gov.au s47F
Dr Mathew Trinca AM Director s47F	Ann Campton Assistant Secretary, Collections and Cultural Heritage ann.campton@arts.gov.au s47F



National Portrait Gallery of Australia

Purpose

The National Portrait Gallery of Australia's (the Portrait Gallery) primary purpose is to develop, preserve, maintain and promote a national collection of portraits and other works of art, and develop and engage a national audience for the collection, exhibitions, education, research, publications, and public and online programs. At 30 June 2021, the collection consisted of 3,060 portraits with a value of \$37.7 million.

The Portrait Gallery is a corporate Commonwealth entity established by the *National Portrait Gallery of Australia Act 2012* (the Act) and operates in accordance with the Act and the *National Portrait Gallery of Australia Regulations 2013*.

Your roles and responsibilities

Under the Act:

- You may give written directions of a general nature to the Portrait Gallery Board about the performance of its functions or the exercise of its powers, or require it to report or advise on these matters. This power has not been exercised by previous ministers.
- Unless a contract is for the supply of a service for the day to day operations of the Portrait Gallery, you are responsible for approving the acquisition or disposal of a work of art or property, right or privilege or contracts for the construction of a building for the Portrait Gallery worth over \$2 million, or for any lease exceeding 10 years.
- You are responsible for appointment of board members. An individual board appointment term cannot exceed 3 years. A board member may not serve more than 9 years in total.
- Subject to your written agreement, board members may appoint or remove a director (who is not a member of the board). The maximum individual appointment term of a director is 5 years but they are eligible for reappointment.
- You may make available land or buildings owned by the Commonwealth to the Portrait Gallery and, where requested by the board, allow transfer of works of art owned by the Commonwealth to or from the Portrait Gallery.
- Subject to some exceptions, you may delegate your powers under the Act to the secretary of the department or a Senior Executive Service employee, or acting Senior Executive Service employee, in the department.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mrs Penny Fowler	Chair	31 December 2024
Mr John Barrington AM	Deputy Chair	3 May 2025
Ms Yasmin Allen	Member	24 July 2022
Ms Elizabeth Dibbs	Member	31 December 2024
Hon Heidi Victoria	Member	4 November 2024
Mr Stuart Wood QC	Member	26 June 2024
Mr Hugo Michell	Member	9 April 2025
Ms Elizabeth Pakchung	Member	21 March 2025
Ms Hayley Baillie	Member	30 March 2025
Ms Jennifer Bott AO (appointed to replace Ms Allen)	Member (Incoming)	24 July 2025

The director of the Portrait Gallery is Ms Karen Quinlan AM (term of appointment expires on 9 December 2023).

Governance and functions

The Portrait Gallery acts in accordance with directions set out in the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and its attendant rules including around delivering annual reports for your tabling and developing corporate plans. It employs staff under the *Public Service Act 1999* as a statutory agency.

It has been usual practice for the minister to issue a statement of expectations each year and for the Portrait Gallery to respond with a statement of intent. Both of these documents are then published on the Portrait Gallery's website. It has been past practice for the partner of the Prime Minister to be appointed as the Chief Patron of the Portrait Gallery.

The Portrait Gallery is governed by the board which is the accountable authority. The board is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of the Portrait Gallery's functions. The Act provides for the board to consist of the chair, deputy chair and not fewer than 3, or more than 7, other members. A majority of members constitute a quorum.

The Portrait Gallery is an entity under the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications portfolio. The department has an oversight role in relation to the Portrait Gallery, and an Office for the Arts representative (usually a Senior Executive Service employee) is invited to attend board meetings as an observer.

The Portrait Gallery Foundation was established as a subsidiary of the Portrait Gallery in 2015 to support a dynamic culture of giving. The Act and *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* set out the scope of the Portrait Gallery's investment powers, including that the board may formulate an investment policy. As at 30 June 2021, the Portrait Gallery Foundation had total assets of \$23.7 million with \$22.5 million held as investments.

Funding profile

The Portrait Gallery is not directly appropriated, as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the department (a non-corporate Commonwealth entity), which are then paid to the Portrait Gallery and are considered departmental for all purposes.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government - Appropriation	12.5	12.6	11.9	12.0	12.1
Equity injection	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other Revenue/Revenue from independent sources	2.3	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.8
Total Resourcing*	14.9	15.4	14.8	15.0	15.1
Average Staffing Level	52	52			

* Funding profile table may not total due to rounding.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Penny Fowler Chair s47F	Greg Cox First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts greg.cox1@arts.gov.au s47F
Karen Quinlan AM Director s47F	Ann Campton Assistant Secretary, Collections and Cultural Heritage ann.campton@arts.gov.au s47F



Screen Australia

Purpose

The role of Screen Australia is to support and promote the development of a highly creative, innovative and commercially sustainable Australian screen production industry. It also administers the Producer Offset, part of the Australian Screen Production Incentive, and Australia's International Co-Production Program. Screen Australia's headquarters are located in Ultimo, Sydney, with offices in Melbourne.

Screen Australia is a statutory authority established by the *Screen Australia Act 2008* (Screen Australia Act). Screen Australia is also required to comply with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

Screen Australia operates at arm's length from government, but its legislation requires ministerial approval of significant decisions such as board appointments and annual corporate plans.

Your roles and responsibilities

- Under the Screen Australia Act, you are responsible for appointing members of the Screen Australia Board by written instrument in accordance with Section 11.
- You may, by legislative instrument, give written directions to the board in relation to the performance and functions of, and the exercise of powers of, Screen Australia.
- You may, by legislative instrument, give written directions to the board, requiring the provision of a report or advice on a matter that relates to any of Screen Australia's powers or functions.
- The chief executive officer is not a member of the board, although the chief executive officer may only be appointed by the board after consultation with you.
- You may, by written notice, approve the corporate plan, or request the board revise it.

Board

Name	Position	Current term expiry date
Mr Nicholas Moore	Chair	30 March 2024
Ms Megan Brownlow	Deputy Chair	21 April 2024
Ms Claudia Karvan	Member	28 August 2022
Mr Richard King	Member	23 August 2022
Mr Michael Hawkins	Member	23 August 2022
Ms Joanna Werner	Member	13 March 2023
Ms Deborah Mailman AM	Member	5 April 2025
Ms Helen Leake	Member	26 June 2024
Vacant	Member	N/A

Governance and functions

Screen Australia is governed by the Screen Australia board, in accordance with the Screen Australia Act. The members of the board are appointed by the Minister of the Arts by written instrument. The Screen Australia Act states that the board will have a chair, deputy chair and no less than three and no more than seven other members. The chief executive officer is not a member of the board.

The board is responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient performance of Screen Australia's functions.

Screen Australia is required to prepare an annual corporate plan and annual report. It also prepares a statement of intent in response to a statement of expectations from you.

The department is responsible for providing briefing and policy advice regarding Screen Australia to the Minister for the Arts as required. The department also facilitates appointments to the board and correspondence between the minister and Screen Australia regarding the statement of expectations, statement of intent, corporate plan and annual report.

Funding profile

- Screen Australia is funded through both appropriations and through a departmental grant.
- Screen Australia is not directly appropriated as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity. Appropriations are made to the department (a non-corporate Commonwealth entity), which are then paid to the Australia Council and considered departmental for all purposes.
- Additionally, Screen Australia receives administered funding through the department that was previously paid to Film Australia and the Film Finance Corporation is now directed to Screen Australia and forms part of its grant appropriation.

As at 2022-23 Budget	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Revenue from Government – Appropriation	39.5	27.8	11.6	11.7	11.9
Grants from Portfolio department	70.5	70.5	70.5	70.5	70.5
Other Revenue	5.9	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
Total Resourcing*	115.8	102.7	86.4	86.6	86.7
Average Staffing Level	97	97			

*Funding profile table may not total due to rounding.

Portfolio Entity Contact	Department Contact
Nicholas Moore Chair s47F	Dr Stephen Arnott Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au s47F
Graeme Mason Chief Executive Officer s47F	Anne-Louise Dawes Assistant Secretary, Creative Industries anne-louise.dawes@arts.gov.au s47F

Other boards and structures

Body	Description	Established by/under	Appointed by
Advisory Committee for Indigenous Repatriation	The Committee advises on policy and program issues, specifically related to the Indigenous Repatriation Program which supports the repatriation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ancestors held overseas; and domestically, the repatriation of both ancestors and secret sacred objects held in eight major Australian Museums.	Indigenous Repatriation Policy 2011	Minister, Prime Minister or Cabinet
Copyright Tribunal of Australia	<p>The Copyright Tribunal of Australia is an independent body administered by the Federal Court of Australia.</p> <p>The Tribunal consists of a President, a number of Deputy Presidents and other members as appointed by the Governor-General. A presidential member must be a judge of the Federal Court of Australia. Other members must have a knowledge of, or experience in one of the areas of expertise as set out in s. 140(2) of the <i>Copyright Act 1968</i>, which includes law, industry, public administration and economics.</p>	<i>Copyright Act 1968</i>	Governor-General in Council
Creative Economy Taskforce	The Creative Economy Taskforce was established to provide strategic advice and support to the Government on the creative economy, particularly as Australia rebuilds from the effects of COVID-19.	Ministerial authority	Minister, Prime Minister or Cabinet
Film Certification Advisory Board	The Board provides advice to the Minister for the Arts on applications to the Location and Post Digital and Visual Effects (PDV) Offsets under Division 376 of the <i>Income Tax Assessment Act 1997</i> . The Location and PDV Offset are refundable tax offsets for qualifying Australian production expenditure for film and television projects or PDV production in Australia. The Board also advises the Minister on policy issues relevant to the Offsets.	Film Certification Advisory Board Rules 2018	Minister
National Cultural Heritage Committee	The Committee advises on the operation of the <i>Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986</i> , the National Cultural Heritage Control List, and the National Cultural Heritage Account.	<i>Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986</i>	Minister

Body	Description	Established by/under	Appointed by
National Gallery of Australia Foundation	The Foundation opened in 1982 with the express purpose of raising funds and encouraging gifts of works of art for the development of Australia's national art collection. The Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation that encourages philanthropy in the community, raises funds and secures gifts of works of art to support the vision of the NGA and to develop the national art collection for all Australians.	Not-for-profit	National Gallery Board of Directors
Public Lending Right Committee	The Australian Government makes payments to eligible Australian creators and publishers under the Public and Educational Lending Right (PLR and ELR) programs as recompense for the free multiple use of their books in public and educational lending libraries. The Committee has the power to determine the eligibility of applicants under both the PLR and ELR programs and to approve payments under the PLR program.	<i>Public Lending Right Act 1985</i>	Minister

Programs administered by the department

For completeness, programs outlined in this chapter include those announced in the 2022-23 Budget. s47C

Outcome 6: Arts

COVID-19 Arts Sustainability Fund
Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund
Ausfilm
Australian Children's Television Foundation
Digital Economy Strategy – Digital Games Tax Offset
Location and Post Digital and Visual Effects
Location Incentive (for international screen productions)
Temporary Interruption Fund
Indigenous Languages and Arts Programs
Indigenous Repatriation Special Account
Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support – Program
Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support – Visual Arts and Craft Strategy
Art Rental Special Account (Artbank)
Australian Government International Exhibitions Insurance Program
Australian Museums and Galleries Association – Culture, Heritage and Arts Regional Tourism (CHART) Program
Australian Museums and Galleries Association – National Conference Bursaries Program
Australian National Maritime Museum – Maritime Museums of Australia Project Support Scheme
Cultural Gifts Program
National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach Programs
National Cultural Heritage Account
National Library of Australia — Community Heritage Grants
<i>Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act and Scheme</i>
Supporting Cinemas' Retention Endurance and Enhancement of Neighbourhoods (SCREEN) Fund
Visions of Australia regional touring program
Australian Arts and Culture Fund
Australian Music Industry Package
Festivals Australia
International Cultural Diplomacy Arts Fund
National Performing Arts Training Organisations
Regional Arts Fund
Register of Cultural Organisations
Prime Minister's Literary Awards
Public and Educational Lending Rights Schemes

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COVID-19 Arts Sustainability Fund

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The COVID-19 Arts Sustainability Fund provides direct financial assistance to support significant Australian Government funded arts organisations facing threats to ongoing viability due to the pandemic.

Status

The \$53.5 million COVID-19 Arts Sustainability Fund (the Fund), originally \$35 million, was announced on 25 June 2020 as a part of the Creative Economy COVID-19 support package and opened for applications on 31 August 2020. The Fund is open to applications until 31 May 2022, subject to the allocation of funds, and terminates on 30 June 2022.

As at 31 March 2022:

- \$51.5 million has been allocated to 16 recipients, of which \$43 million has been contracted.
- \$42.4 million has been paid to 14 recipients. \$606,000 is yet to be paid.
- \$8.5 million has been allocated to 5 organisations. The grant agreements have not yet been executed.
- \$2 million remains unallocated in 2021–22 and there are currently 2 applications being assessed.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	37.3	–	–	–	–

Key stakeholders

- Arts organisations funded by the Australian Government, through the Office for the Arts and the Australia Council, under multi-year funding programs
- Infrastructure and Project Financing Agency
- Australia Council

Eligibility, application and decision process

Eligible organisations must be currently party to, or due to enter into, a multi-year funding agreement with the Australian Government, under one or more of the following programs administered by the Australia Council or the Office for the Arts:

- National Performing Arts Partnership Framework
- Four Year Funding Program 2021–24
- Four Year Funding Program 2017–20
- Visual Arts and Craft Strategy 2016–21
- Cultural Development Program for the National Performing Arts Training Organisations.

Applications must demonstrate that their organisation is at risk of insolvency as a result of the pandemic, that they would be viable post-pandemic if support is provided, and that their continued operation would be beneficial to the arts sector and Australian audiences.

All eligible applications are competitively assessed against the criteria outlined in the program guidelines by the Office for the Arts, the Australia Council and the Infrastructure and Project Financing Agency. Applications are assessed on a rolling basis, within the timeframes listed in the program guidelines of approximately 6 to 10 weeks, and are batched for recommendation to the Minister for the Arts.

Following your decision, successful organisations enter into funding agreements with the Office for the Arts. Organisations make claims of up to the maximum grant amount. The Office for the Arts assesses claims to ensure activities are consistent with grant agreements, budgets, and will reduce the risk of insolvency identified in the initial application.

Program facts and examples

The Fund is administered through a targeted competitive grant process. It has no rounds and applications are accepted at any time between the opening and closing dates for the program. As at 31 March 2022, the Fund has received 38 eligible applications, of which 27 have been for 17 organisations: 22 grants have been executed for 16 organisations, of which 4 are complete; one grant has been terminated and 5 grants have not commenced. Currently the Fund is oversubscribed, with 2 eligible applications requesting a total exceeding the available funds.

The Fund provides ‘last resort’ operational funding to support recipients towards a pathway to recovery from the effects of the pandemic. To date, Opera Australia has received total funds of over \$10 million through 3 grants. These grants are delivering support to Opera Australia so it can retain staff, recover costs for cancelled performances and return to the stage to perform to Australian audiences. Opera Australia is a key employer of Australian artists and arts workers, employing more people than any other arts organisation. It is also the training ground of Australia's upcoming performing artists, and leading presenters of high-quality work to audiences across Australia.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia’s arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 — Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The RISE Fund is a competitive grants program that supports the arts and entertainment sector to reactivate following the impacts of the pandemic.

Status

The RISE Fund was announced on 25 June 2020 as part of the Australian Government's Creative Economy Support Package. Fund guidelines were released on 11 August 2020 and applications opened on 31 August 2020.

\$200 million has been committed, with an additional \$20 million announced in the 2022–23 budget for one final batch of funding to be committed by 30 September 2022.

As at 31 March 2022, the RISE Fund has total funding of \$220.0 million, of which:

- \$200 million has been allocated to 541 projects, supporting over 213,000 jobs and nearly 55 million in audiences.
- \$192.7 million has been contracted for 512 projects with \$179.5 million paid to 459 recipients.
- \$20 million remains unallocated.

At the time of application, the 541 RISE funded projects were projected to deliver 4,693 activities across Australia, with 2,368 in regional and remote locations.

Ongoing restrictions caused by the pandemic has to date impacted delivery of 173 projects:

- 4 cancelled completely due to COVID-19.
- 10 partially cancelled.
- 29 projects were fully rescheduled.
- 130 partially rescheduled.

Delivery partners

Projects are delivered by arts and entertainment organisations who successfully applied for RISE funding.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	100.0	20.0	–	–	–

Key stakeholders

- Creative Economy Taskforce
- Australia Council

Eligibility, application and decision process

The RISE Fund is open to organisations and artists with the primary purpose of delivering arts and entertainment activities that can demonstrate that in the absence of funding, their activity would be substantially less likely to proceed as a consequence of the pandemic. Most grant requests are between \$25,000 and \$2 million, smaller or larger grant amounts are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Applications can be submitted any time between the opening and closing dates for the fund. Applications are batched for assessment with dates advertised on the department's website and GrantConnect. There is no allocated funding amount for each assessment period, however \$20 million has been allocated for the final batch of RISE.

All applications undergo an eligibility check by the RISE Fund team at the Office for the Arts. Eligible applications proceed to assessment by a minimum of 2 experienced assessors within the Office for the Arts against the fund specific criteria outlined in the Fund guidelines.

Moderation of projects is undertaken to ensure a balance of projects across art forms and types of activity, geographic and community diversity, generation of jobs and value for money. The Australia Council is consulted on the eligible applications and high level advice is sought from the Creative Economy Taskforce, composed of external experts appointed by you. The Office for the Arts provides funding recommendations to you and you make the decision on who will receive funding.

Program facts and examples

Between 31 August 2020 and 5 December 2021, 2,801 applications were submitted to the RISE Fund. The total funding request of the 2,647 eligible applications assessed to date is \$1.16 billion. The RISE Fund has been significantly oversubscribed, 20 per cent of applications to RISE have been successful. Partial funding has been awarded to 115 of the 541 RISE funded projects.

The RISE Fund funds supports and entertainment projects in all states and territories and across all art forms such as the \$2 million grant awarded to Sculpture by the Sea which will be completed in October 2023. This project will deliver exhibitions at Bondi, NSW and Cottesloe, WA and a year-round school outreach education program. Benefits include employment opportunities for 344 artists, an anticipated audience of over 1.3 million Australians and over \$40 million in anticipated direct economic impact on allied industries.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts

Stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts

greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Ausfilm

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

Ausfilm is a government–industry partnership that works to connect the international film community with Australia’s screen incentives, talent, facilities and locations, to assist international screen producers to make their productions in Australia. The Australian Government has provided annual funding to Ausfilm since 2002.

Status

The program provides Australian Government funding to Ausfilm. Ausfilm is funded by the Australian Government and member subscription. Membership comprises Screen Australia, state and territory film agencies, and Australian film production and post–production businesses. Ausfilm’s role in attracting international production to Australia assists with generating foreign investment, creating jobs and upskilling the domestic screen industry.

Ausfilm markets the Australian Screen Production Incentive, the Location Incentive, and Australia’s locations and capabilities worldwide to assist international screen producers to make their productions in Australia.

As at 31 March 2022, Ausfilm has been paid total funding of \$1.6 million for 2021–22. The mid–year delivery requirement of a 6 monthly report was provided on 28 February 2022 and accepted on 9 March 2022. The acceptance of the report triggered the final payment of \$0.5 million for the 2021–22 financial year.

Delivery partners

Ausfilm works closely with the state and federal screen agencies, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Austrade to deliver its services to key stakeholders.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	1.6	1.6	–	–	–

Key stakeholders

- International production companies
- Domestic production companies
- Domestic post, digital and visual effects service providers
- State and federal screen agencies

Eligibility, application and decision process

Ausfilm is funded through one–off ad hoc grants.

Program facts and examples

Ausfilm was first incorporated in 1989 when a small group of Australian companies responded to an increased level of enquiries received by Austrade's Los Angeles office from Hollywood producers looking to shoot in Australia; they saw a need to create a bridge between the Australian and Hollywood film and television industries for the benefit of the whole industry. Subsequently in 1994, with the support of Austrade, the Export Film Services Association was established. In 1998 the Export Film Services Association became Ausfilm International Incorporated with locations in Sydney and Los Angeles.

Ausfilm membership comprises Screen Australia, state and territory film agencies and pre-production, production and post-production businesses, and has received annual funding from the Australian Government since 2002. Ausfilm's role is to position and market Australia world-wide as a destination for film, television, commercial and other screen production as well as post, digital and visual effects production.

Ausfilm also work closely with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to promote Australia's capabilities as a country that leads the way in the screen industry sector. Ausfilm assists international filmmakers and studios by facilitating access to the Location Incentive, the Location and Post, Digital and Visual Offsets, Australian cast and crew, Australian locations and Australian facilities and by navigating Australia's entry requirements. Ausfilm runs information and networking sessions, represents Australian film interests at industry events and develops and manages government incentive marketing campaigns. Ausfilm employs 10 people and runs offices in Sydney and Los Angeles. Australian Government funding represent 55 per cent of Ausfilm's annual income.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Australian Children's Television Foundation

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Australian Children's Television Foundation (the Foundation) provides funding and support to independent producers and writers of quality children's programs.

Status

The Australian Government has provided annual operational funding to the Foundation since its incorporation in 1982. The Australian Government provides 80 per cent of its funding through the arts portfolio funding program, with the remaining funding delivered by the governments of each state and territory.

As at 31 March 2022, the Foundation has been allocated total program funding of \$31.9 million from 2021–22 to 2024–25, of which \$12.9 million has been paid under the funding arrangements.

In the 2021–22 Budget, \$11.9 million (indexed) was provided to the Foundation for the period 2021–22 to 2024–25 to support the production of Australian screen content for children. This operational funding is ongoing. An additional \$20 million over 2 years (2021–22 and 2022–23) was provided to the Foundation to invest in children's content as part of the measures to modernise Australian screen content settings in response to the *Supporting Australian Stories on Our Screens* options paper.

Delivery partners

The Australian Children's Television Foundation.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	12.9	13.0	3.0	3.1	3.1

Key stakeholders

- Children's television producers and writers
- Children's television audiences

Eligibility, application and decision process

The one-off grant funding provides for the Foundation's national activities. Activities that the grant can be used for are:

- Investing in the development and production of engaging, entertaining, accessible and educative screen content for Australian children.
- Delivering educational outcomes through the development and production of educational resources on Foundation supported projects as well as engagement with teachers and students across Australia.
- Maximising access for child audiences to new and existing Australian children's content by facilitating distribution of content across a broad range of platforms.

Under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, you will make the final decision to approve the grant.

Program facts and examples

The Foundation undertakes development of high quality children’s drama and educational resources, including on new and emerging platforms. The organisation plays a pivotal role in supporting the production of distinctly Australian children’s television. This is achieved by providing funding and support to independent producers and writers. The Foundation is currently the only source of public development funding for Australian children’s television content in its earliest stage. There is generally no state screen agency funding available for specifically children’s content.

The Foundation’s objective is to develop entertaining media made specifically for young people. In particular, its focus is to drive higher standards for children’s content. The organisation is also an international distributor of Australian children’s content, with extensive international contacts and market knowledge. It offers independent producers a one-stop-shop for investment, development, local distribution and international sales specifically for children’s television.

The Foundation’s productions are distributed domestically and internationally and have received numerous domestic and international awards. Productions that the Foundation has supported include *Marverix*, *Little Lunch*, *Little J and Big Cuz*, *Woven Threads*, *The InBESTigators*, and *Bushwhacked*.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia’s arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts

stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts

greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Digital Economy Strategy – Digital Games Tax Offset

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Digital Games Tax Offset (the Offset) will provide a 30 per cent refundable tax offset to eligible Australian businesses on qualifying Australian development expenditure incurred from 1 July 2022. The Offset will make Australia an attractive and competitive destination for international games production work that will bring investment, create jobs, and build capacity and highly transferable skills.

Status

The Offset was announced as part of the Digital Economy Strategy on 6 May 2021, for commencement from 1 July 2022.

The Offset will form part of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (the Tax Act) for which Treasury holds responsibility. While the department has policy oversight and administrative responsibility for the Offset, Treasury is leading the drafting of legislation.

Consultation with the domestic and international game development sector took place from July to November 2021, to assist in developing details around eligibility criteria, qualifying expenditure and the application process. Exposure draft legislation and explanatory materials were open for public consultation from 21 March 2022 to 18 April 2022.

Delivery partners

- Treasury: responsible for legislative drafting and passage through Parliament.
- Australian Taxation Office: responsible for Offset payments through applicants' annual income tax return.

Program funding

There is no appropriation for the program: as a tax incentive scheme, its cost to government is in the form of revenue forgone through the tax system. To access the tax rebate, companies must apply to you for certification of the qualifying development expenditure on the game/s.

Key stakeholders

- Domestic and international game development studios
- Treasury
- Australian Taxation Office
- Interactive Games and Entertainment Association

Eligibility, application and decision process

- Once the legislation comes into effect, the Offset will be claimable for expenditure incurred from 1 July 2022, providing a 30 per cent refundable tax offset for eligible businesses that spend a minimum of \$500,000 on qualifying Australian development expenditure.
- Eligible businesses must be Australian resident companies or foreign resident companies with a permanent establishment in Australia.

- Eligible business will be able to claim for new games or porting games to additional platforms, where a minimum of \$500,000 of qualifying Australian development expenditure has been incurred across financial years up to the game's public release. Eligible businesses will also be able to make a single annual application for post-release work across its slate of eligible games, where a minimum of \$500,000 of qualifying Australian development expenditure has been incurred in the same income year.
- Eligible companies can claim a maximum offset of \$20 million per income year.
- Games with gambling elements and games that would not be able to achieve classification by the Classification Board are ineligible for the Offset.
- The Offset will be administered by the Office for the Arts and the Australian Taxation Office.
- Once a digital game is completed or ported, or the company has finished incurring its ongoing development expenditure for the income year, the company may apply to you for a certificate in relation to the Offset.
- All applications for certificates to the Offset will be subject to an assessment process, administered by Office for the Arts. A certificate will be issued if you are satisfied that all the conditions of the Offset are met, and the certificate will state the determined qualifying Australian development expenditure amount.
- Where a certificate is issued, the applicant company is able to claim the Offset in its income tax return for the relevant income year.
- Further information about the administrative framework for the Offset will be provided in due course by the Office for the Arts, through the subordinate legislative rules and program guidelines.

Program facts and examples

Not applicable as scheme has not yet commenced.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture – Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Not Applicable

Relevant legislation: *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (still undergoing drafting, as outlined above)

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Location and Post Digital and Visual Effects

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural development

The Location Offset and the Post, Digital and Visual Effects Offset provide tax rebates on qualifying Australian production expenditure for large budget productions filmed in Australia or for post, digital and visual effects work undertaken in Australia regardless of where the production was filmed.

Status

Both offsets are designed to ensure Australia remains globally competitive in attracting screen production activity to Australia, including parcels of post, digital and visual effects work, and are aimed at providing increased employment opportunities and skills transfer for the Australian screen industry sector.

As at 31 March 2022, 97 productions with a total rebate value of \$80.9 million have been certified under the Location Offset and PDV Offset. It is expected that 125 to 135 productions will access these offsets in the 2021–22 financial year.

Delivery partners

To access the Location Offset or Post, Digital and Visual Effects Offset, an applicant must obtain a certificate from you or your delegate. The department assesses all applications for provisional and final certification under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (the Tax Act) for the Location Offset and the Post, Digital and Visual Effects Offset.

The department engages Independent Film Production Consultants on a case-by-case basis to assess the production and evaluate and determine the level of Qualifying Australian Production Expenditure on which the offset is based.

The Film Certification Advisory Board (the Board) provides advice to you on whether all productions accessing the Location Offset and the Post, Digital and Visual Effects Offset meet the requirements for certification under the Tax Act. This advice informs your decision on whether to issue a certificate and on the level of qualifying expenditure. The Board comprises a Chair, who is a Senior Executive Service employee of the department, and two appointed members. You appoint members to the Board.

Program funding

There is no appropriation for the program: as a tax incentive scheme, its cost to government is in the form of revenue forgone through the tax system. To access the tax rebate, production companies must apply to you for a final certificate. Forecasts on the projected financial impact of offset applications are provided by the department to the Australian Taxation Office twice a year, for the Budget and for the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook.

Key stakeholders

- Film Certification Advisory Board
- Domestic and international production companies
- State and territory screen agencies
- Independent Film Production Consultants
- Domestic and international Post, Digital and Visual Effects service providers

Eligibility, application and decision process

The legislative authority for the Location Offset and the Post, Digital and Visual Effects Offset is set out in Division 376 of the Tax Act. The Location Offset provides a 16.5 per cent rebate on productions that spend at least \$15 million on qualifying expenditure. The Post, Digital and Visual Effects Offset provides a 30 per cent rebate on the post, digital and visual effects expenditure of productions that spend at least \$500,000 on qualifying expenditure. To access the Location Offset or Post, Digital and Visual Effects Offset, an applicant must obtain a certificate from the minister or their delegate.

Program facts and examples

The Location Offset and Post, Digital and Visual Effects Offset were introduced in 2007 as part of the Australian Screen Production Incentive which provides tax incentives for film, television and other screen production in Australia. The Australian Screen Production Incentive also includes the Producer Offset which provides a tax rebate of 40 per cent for eligible feature film productions and 30 per cent for other content (television, online) that have significant Australian content. The Producer Offset is administered by Screen Australia. The public release of the details of individuals or companies in receipt of tax offsets, including amounts received, are prohibited under Australia's tax secrecy laws.

Unlike the Producer Offset, which primarily supports Australian domestic production, both domestic and international productions can access the Location Offset and the Post, Digital and Visual Effect Offset. The use of the Australian Screen Production Incentive has been increasing since its inception in 2007. Since the introduction of the Location Offset and the Post, Digital and Visual Effects Offset, 813 productions have been certified with a rebate value of over \$1 million.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture – Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Not applicable

Relevant legislation: *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Location Incentive (for international screen productions)

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Location Incentive program keeps Australia competitive in attracting large budget international film and television productions to film in Australia. This provides significant economic benefits to Australia as well as opportunities for Australian cast, crew, post-production companies and other screen production service providers to participate in these productions.

Status

The Location Incentive has been allocated \$540 million over 8 years to 2026–27. Grants are provided to large budget international screen productions undertaking filming in Australia that perform strongly against the assessment criteria. The combination of the Location Offset at 16.5 per cent and the Location Incentive mean the production can receive a contribution of up to 30 per cent of the production expenditure in Australia.

As at 31 March 2022, the Location Incentive has total funding of \$532.1 million, of which:

\$47E

- \$98.2 million has been paid to recipients.

\$47E

As at 31 March 2022, funding for 29 large budget international productions has been publically announced through the Location Incentive program. These productions will bring investment of over \$2.2 billion to the economy.

\$47E

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	60.0	65.0	80.0	80.0	80.0

Key stakeholders

- International production studios
- Ausfilm
- State and territory screen agencies
- Australia New Zealand Screen Association

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Location Incentive is a merit-assessed grant of up to 13.5 per cent of qualifying Australian production expenditure where the production's qualifying Australian expenditure is at least \$15 million. Applications are accepted and assessed on an ongoing basis, with final decisions on funding made by you.

To be eligible for funding, productions must meet the eligibility criteria for the Location Offset, utilise the services of one or more Australian post, digital or visual effects providers, secure support from relevant state or territory governments and be footloose (i.e. not already locked into production in Australia).

The Location Incentive program guidelines are available online and include further information about eligibility criteria and information about the application and funding process.

Program facts and examples

Analysis from the Bureau of Communications, Arts and Regional Research found the Location Incentive injected almost \$1.6 billion into the economy between 2018–19 and 2020–21. The report found that since 2018 it has helped boost Australia's screen sector by creating over 39,000 jobs and supporting over 13,000 businesses.¹ As at 31 March 2021, the Location Incentive has supported over 29 titles to be filmed locally, including Netflix Original *Clickbait*, Disney+ Original *Nautilus* and Marvel's *Thor: Love and Thunder*.

All Location Incentive productions need to offer training to build the capability of the Australian screen industry. Many productions partner with training institutions to deliver training programs and masterclasses. This will position the Australian industry to attract future large budget, visual-effects heavy, film and television projects that may utilise virtual production techniques.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 — Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F

¹ Bureau of Communications, Arts and Regional Research, 'Economic assessment of the Location Incentive on Australia's screen sector—working paper—February 2022', [Economic assessment of the Location Incentive on Australia's screen sector | Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, Australian Government](#).



Temporary Interruption Fund

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Temporary Interruption Fund (the Fund) supports local film and television producers to commence or continue filming should their insurers not provide coverage for being shut down and delayed, or in rare cases abandoned, due to a pandemic incident.

Status

The Fund was launched in August 2020 as a one-year program following advice from the sector that insurers were excluding coverage for expenditure related to the pandemic from their screen production insurance policies. Screen financiers were unwilling to commit to deals to fund productions as they would have to bear all of the financial risk of a production being shut down and delayed, or in rare cases abandoned, due to a pandemic incident.

The Fund has allowed productions to get underway and cast and crew to return to work by providing the certainty productions need to secure financing. On 12 January 2022, it was announced that the Fund would be extended until 30 June 2022.

As at 31 March 2022, the Fund has a total contingent fund of \$50 million, of which:

\$47E

- No funds have been paid to applicants (noting that funds are only paid out in the event that an application for financial assistance is received and approved).

\$47E

As at 31 March 2022, of the 90 projects covered under this program:

- 75 projects have completed principal photography, and their contractual cover has concluded.
- 13 projects are underway, with 9 of those contracted.
- 2 projects approved for cover withdrew their applications (before cover being taken out).

Delivery partners

Screen Australia administer the Fund on behalf of the Australian Government.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	50.0	–	–	–	–

Key stakeholders

- Screen Australia
- Screen Producers Australia
- Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Eligibility, application and decision process

Screen Australia administers the Fund on behalf of the Australian Government.

The Fund is for Australian productions made in Australia. To be eligible for the Fund, productions must not have commenced principal photography at the time of application and commenced principal photography on or prior to 30 June 2022.

While the Fund has been established as a grant program, it does not have the typical characteristics of a grant covered under the Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines. For example, rather than the payment of grant monies, eligible applicants are, upon the payment of a fee, entitled to a Commonwealth guarantee (de facto insurance) for potential losses relating to the 'grant' activity. The liability borne by the Commonwealth and the commitment of public monies is only realised if a grantee submits an eligible claim to the Fund.

Program facts and examples

The Fund was announced on 25 June 2020 with the aim of supporting local film and television producers to start filming again in circumstances where productions were halted by insurers not providing coverage for the pandemic. There has been strong demand for the Fund, with the program successfully providing financiers and commissioners of content with the assurance they need to begin production.

The Fund has been at capacity for most of its operation. Decreased production activity in the second half of 2021 due to lockdowns across the country meant that demand for cover tapered slightly. However, demand for cover has been strong in 2022.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture — Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 — Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: *Screen Australia Act 2008*

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Indigenous Languages and Arts Program

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Indigenous Languages and Arts program (the Program) is an ongoing grant program that invests over \$25 million per year to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to express, preserve and maintain their cultures through Indigenous languages and arts activities throughout Australia.

Status

The Program commenced in its current format in 2015–16 and is an ongoing program. As at 31 March 2022, 109 grant applications were received for the 2022–23 open competitive grant opportunity. The grant opportunity is closed and assessment of applications is underway. Invitations have been sent to existing Indigenous language centres and Indigenous arts organisations to submit a grant application to the 2022–23 targeted competitive grant opportunity for multi-year operational funding.

The Program's 2021–22 total funding is \$25.5 million. This includes an additional \$4.6 million of the total \$22.8 million over 4 years from 2021–22 announced on 5 August 2021 to strengthen Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages, forming part of the more than \$1 billion commitment in targeted investments through the Australian Government's first Closing the Gap Implementation Plan.

As at 31 March 2022:

- \$22.8 million has been allocated to grant recipients.
- \$17.2 million has been paid to grant recipients and 156 projects approved for grant funding in 2021–22. All projects are currently active.
- \$2.7 million remains unallocated.

Delivery partners

- Grant funding recipients
- Indigenous language centres

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	25.5	27.5	28.7	27.0	27.5

Key stakeholders

- First Languages Australia
- Place-based, Indigenous-led community organisations

Eligibility, application and decision process

Applications for the Program are submitted through the online platform SmartyGrants. Grant applicants need to comply with eligibility criteria stated in the Program guidelines. Place-based, Indigenous-led community organisations play a pivotal role in building strong communities and the Program endeavours to maximise their participation in grant activities targeting Indigenous Australians or remote areas.

Grant funding is available to eligible organisations as per the Program guidelines which focus on place-based, Indigenous-led community organisations.

Following assessment of grant applications, the Office for the Arts makes recommendations to you who makes the final decision about the approval of grants.

Program facts and examples

The Program has been operating in its current format since 2015–16 and conducts an annual competitive grant opportunity. The Program provides annual operational funding support to: First Languages Australia, the peak organisation representing Indigenous language groups throughout Australia; a network of 20 Indigenous language centres around the country working on capturing, revitalising and maintaining Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages; and Indigenous arts organisations to develop, produce, present, exhibit or perform Indigenous arts projects that showcase Australia's traditional and contemporary Indigenous cultural and artistic expressions.

The Program and the network of Program-funded Indigenous language centres are the primary mechanism for Commonwealth-driven progress against Closing the Gap Target 16 – *Supporting the sustained increase in number and strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages being spoken by 2031*. Complementing the increased focus on Indigenous languages in Australia domestically, in the international arena the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 2022–2032 as the International Decade of Indigenous Languages. Actions taken to progress Target 16 will also support the International Decade.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and Culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Indigenous Repatriation Special Account

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Indigenous Repatriation Special Account funds domestic and international repatriation activities which facilitate the return of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ancestral remains (ancestors) from overseas and certain domestic collections, and secret sacred objects (objects) from the same domestic collections, to their traditional custodians.

Status

The Indigenous Repatriation Special Account (the Account) was established in 2016 and is ongoing. As at 31 March 2022, the Account had total funding of \$3.6 million. The Account finances three repatriation activities that deliver objectives identified in the Australian Government's Policy on Indigenous Repatriation (Policy): the repatriation of ancestors from overseas; the repatriation of ancestors and objects from eight major Australian museums¹ under the Domestic Museum Grants program; and the Advisory Committee for Indigenous Repatriation (Committee). You are responsible for the Policy.

Domestic Museum Grants: The program provides up to \$100,000 per annum to each of the museums to undertake repatriation activities. Funding is delivered through annual funding agreements. Each state and territory is responsible for the repatriation programs administered by their museums and repatriation more broadly within their jurisdictions. The 2022–23 funding round is expected to open mid–2022.

International repatriation: The repatriation of ancestors from overseas is directly administered by the department. The department is planning to undertake repatriations of ancestors from the United States of America, Germany and the United Kingdom in 2022. These returns often involve representatives of the ancestors' traditional custodians (when known).

Committee: The department provides the secretariat for the all-Indigenous Committee. You are responsible for appointing members to the Committee. The Committee provides advice on repatriation issues related to the repatriation of ancestors held overseas and both ancestors and objects held in the museums.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7

Key stakeholders

- Australian Government agencies, including overseas posts
- Domestic museums
- Indigenous communities and peak bodies
- International museums, institutions and private holders

¹ Australian Museum, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Museums Victoria, National Museum of Australia, Queensland Museum, South Australian Museum, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Western Australian Museum

Eligibility, application and decision process

Domestic Museum Grants: The program is a non-competitive grants program administered by the department and consistent with the program grant guidelines. The museums may submit a funding application for up to \$100,000 per annum to support their repatriation activities. Funding decisions are made by relevant Senior Executive Service and Executive Level 2 employees of the department, depending on the value of the grant sought.

International repatriation: The department directly meets the costs of international repatriations (there is no program and hence no application process). Expenditure is administered by the department consistent with the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines and other relevant departmental policy and guidelines. Funding decisions are made by relevant employees of the department, depending on the costs involved.

Program facts and examples

Domestic Museum Grants: The program has supported the return of more than 2,800 ancestors and more than 2,300 objects to the custodianship of their traditional custodians since 1998. Funding is allocated on an annual basis and up to 8 applications are received per round. In the 2020–21 funding round, the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory repatriated 68 objects from its collection to the Warlpiri people of the Yuendumu community in the Northern Territory.

International repatriation: Since 1989, more than 1,600 ancestors have been returned from overseas. Due to international travel restrictions during the pandemic no international repatriation was undertaken in 2020 and 2021. In 2019, the department facilitated repatriations from five German collecting institution and one collecting institution in the United Kingdom.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia’s arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture — Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: The Special Account was established by a determination made by the Finance Minister under section 78(1) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. The Museum Grants program is included in Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support – Program

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program (the Program) supports a professional, viable and ethical Indigenous visual arts industry that features strong participation by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and the continued production, exhibition, critique, purchase and collection of Indigenous visual art nationally and internationally.

Status

The Program was established in 1992 and is an ongoing program. Formerly the National Arts and Crafts Industry Support program administered by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, it was transferred to the Arts portfolio in 2004. In 2012, it was renamed the Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program and, from 2015–16, includes funding for employment of Indigenous arts workers. The Program supports the operations of over 100 organisations, including more than 80 Indigenous-owned art centres, a number of art fairs and industry service organisations.

Funding under the Program is primarily delivered through a closed non-competitive process to existing, multi-year funded organisations or organisations invited to deliver Program-specific activities. Open competitive grant opportunities are also available each year with the next round expected to open in the second half of 2022 for projects commencing in 2022–23 and from 1 July 2023.

Following consultations in 2020, a *National Indigenous Visual Arts Action Plan 2021–25* was released in October 2021. From 2021–22, new annual funding of \$5 million (ongoing and indexed) has been provided to implement the action plan over 5 years, increasing the total Program support to around \$27 million per year (including Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support – Visual Arts and Craft Strategy funding).

As at 31 March 2022, the Program has total 2021–22 funding of \$26.3 million, of which:

- \$26.3 million has been allocated to recipients, of which \$20.8 million has been contracted
- \$19.6 million has been paid to recipients
- No funding remains unallocated.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 130 projects approved under the Program in 2021–22: 109 are contracted and underway; and 21 have not commenced.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	26.3	26.2	26.7	27.4	27.9

Key stakeholders

- Not-for-profit remote or regional Indigenous art centres, art hubs and organisations
- Not-for-profit industry service organisations
- Indigenous art fairs and events
- State and territory governments
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander visual artists

Eligibility, application and decision process

Funding is available to eligible organisations that support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists to produce, promote and market their art. Eligible organisations include Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander corporations, incorporated entities, incorporated companies or companies limited by guarantee, publicly funded research organisations, and state, territory or local government bodies.

Grant funding under the Program is available through 2 grant opportunity categories for single or multi-year terms.

Closed non-competitive grant opportunity: Grants are delivered to existing multi-year funded organisations or to organisations invited to deliver Program-specific activities. This is a non-application based process. Organisations and activities are assessed against the eligibility and assessment criteria and on past performance where applicable, including an overall consideration of value for money.

Open competitive grant opportunity: Funding for new applicants and/or existing organisations seeking additional grant funding to deliver activities that meet Program outcomes is available through open competitive rounds. All eligible applications are assessed against the assessment criteria, on past performance where applicable, and against other applications, including an overall consideration of value for money.

All applications/activities under both open competitive and closed non-competitive grant opportunities are assessed by departmental officers (including a moderation process) against criteria set in the relevant Program guidelines which require an assessment of the activity, including the extent it will provide benefits to artists, including professional and artistic development; how it will contribute to the Indigenous visual art industry; the expertise and capacity of the applicant organisation; and the extent the activity represents value for money. Recommendations for funding (of up to 5 year multi-year grant terms), based on the merits of each application, are provided to you for approval.

Program facts and examples

In 2021–22, the Program will deliver \$27.2 million (including a program administered by the department, see Program Brief – Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support – Visual Arts and Craft Strategy funding) to support the operations of over 100 organisations, including more than 80 Indigenous-owned art centres, as well as a number of art fairs, regional hubs and industry service organisations. Together, Program-funded organisations provide opportunities for approximately 8,000 Indigenous artists and employment positions for more than 500 Indigenous arts workers, most in very remote communities. Program-funded organisations achieved more than \$38 million in art sales in 2020–21.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia’s arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support – Visual Arts and Craft Strategy

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Visual Arts and Craft Strategy (the Strategy) supports a strong contemporary visual arts and craft sector. It is managed by the Australia Council in partnership with state and territory governments with a portion of the funding administered through the Office for the Arts' Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program.

Status

Announced in 2003, the Strategy was developed in response to the report of the independent *Contemporary Visual Arts and Craft Inquiry*, conducted by Rupert Myer AO. It is managed by the Australia Council in partnership with state and territory governments. The Australian Government contributes 50 per cent of overall funding with states and territories, as a whole, matching the Australian Government contribution. Stage 5 of the funding, 2021 to 2024, commenced in January 2022 and will conclude in December 2024.

From 2011–12, the Indigenous visual arts component of the Strategy has been administered through the Office for the Arts' Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program, with funding delivered through the Arts' appropriation, Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development (see programs administered by the Department – Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support).

This annual funding is delivered through the Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program's closed non-competitive process to 5 not-for-profit industry service organisations to provide services tailored to meet the professional needs of artists in over 80 art centres across the Northern Territory, Western Australia, South Australia, far north Queensland and the Torres Strait Islands.

As at 31 March 2022, total funding of \$900,000 is administered in this way, of which:

- \$900,000 has been allocated and contracted to recipients.
- \$800,000 has been paid to recipients.
- No funding remains unallocated.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 5 grants approved under the Strategy funding, all are contracted and underway.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0

Key stakeholders

- Industry service organisations: Desart Inc; Arnhem, Northern and Kimberley Artists; Aboriginal Art Centre Hub of WA; Ananguku Arts and Culture Corporation; and Indigenous Art Centre Alliance
- State and territory governments
- Australia Council
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Strategy funding is delivered through the Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program's closed non-competitive process to 5 not-for-profit industry service organisations to provide services tailored to meet the professional needs of artists in over 80 art centres across the Northern Territory, Western Australia, South Australia, far north Queensland and the Torres Strait Islands. Services include targeted professional development and training for artists, directors and Indigenous arts workers, and advocacy, business, recruitment and marketing support for art centres.

This is a non-application process with funding delivered to the 5 Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program service organisations through up to 5-year grant agreements. Recommendations for the Strategy are provided to you for approval prior to the multi-year agreements lapsing.

Program facts and examples

The Strategy objectives are to build a strong and dynamic contemporary visual arts sector, characterised by a stable base of organisations, which in turn support the production and appreciation of works of artistic excellence. Strategy funding is distributed to 5 Indigenous visual arts service organisations to deliver the objective of *increased professional support for Indigenous artists* with funding contributing to operational costs to provide training, and professional development programs to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists.

In 2021–22, the Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program will deliver a total of \$27.2 million (see programs administered by the Department – Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support) to support the operations of over 100 organisations, including more than 80 Indigenous-owned art centres, as well as a number of art fairs, regional hubs and industry service organisations. Together, Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program-funded organisations provide opportunities for approximately 8,000 Indigenous artists and employment positions for more than 500 Indigenous arts workers, most in very remote communities. Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program funded organisations achieved more than \$38 million in art sales in 2020–21.

The Strategy component represents approximately 3 per cent of total annual Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program funding.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Art Rental Special Account (Artbank)

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

Artbank is an arts support program providing direct support to living Australian artists through acquisition of their work, and making those works widely accessible through a rental scheme, with works from Artbank's collection displayed in offices and homes across Australia and in Australia's diplomatic missions across the world.

Status

Established in 1980 by the Australian Government, Artbank's two core objectives are to provide direct support to Australian contemporary artists through the acquisition of their work and to promote the value of Australian contemporary art to the broader public through a public leasing scheme. The Artbank collection was founded with an endowment of 600 artworks from the National Collection (now the National Gallery of Australia) and has since grown to include around 11,000 works spanning media including painting, sculpture, video and photography.

As at 31 March 2022, there were 4,033 artworks (approximately 37 per cent of the collection) on loan to clients across 534 agreements. s47D

As at 31 March 2022, there were 61 artwork acquisitions, totaling \$0.3 million for the financial year to date.

In the 2020–21 financial year, Artbank acquired 65 art works from 56 artists for a total of \$0.3 million. The Artbank revenue for the same period was \$3.8 million and expenditure was \$3.3 million.

Projected Program funding

Artbank does not receive an appropriation for its activities. Artbank's running costs include property, acquisitions and staffing and are largely self-funded through artwork rental revenue. Artbank staff receive corporate support from the Department.

Key stakeholders

- Australian visual artists
- Australian visual arts market professionals (gallerists, dealers, Indigenous art centres)
- Clients – government (including Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade posts), corporate, and private residences

Eligibility, application and decision process

Artbank is a section within the Creative Industries Branch of the Office for the Arts. Artbank is an Australian Government arts support program, and a key component of the government's support for visual artists. The program is designed to increase the sustainability and accessibility of Australian contemporary art; support Australian contemporary artists; and encourage engagement with and appreciation of Australian contemporary art by the broader community.

Within this context, Artbank has two core program objectives: to provide direct support to living Australian artists through the acquisition of their work; and to promote the value of Australian contemporary art to the broader community by making this work available through an art rental scheme.

Artbank has offices in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth.

Program facts and examples

Artbank acquires contemporary Australian visual art works from the primary market as a mechanism of direct financial support to living artists and the gallery sector that represents them. Through its leasing program to individuals, companies and governments (at all levels) Artbank creates broad public access to the works in its collection, including approximately 70 countries across the globe through Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade missions.

Program governance

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and Culture - supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Not applicable

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Australian Government International Exhibitions Insurance Program

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Australian Government International Exhibitions Insurance program's (the Program) purpose is to enable Australian audiences to access significant cultural material from around the world. It provides approximately \$2.5 million each year to offset the cost of insurance for eligible major art and museological exhibitions.

Status

The Program was announced in the 2009-10 Budget. It was introduced on 1 July 2010 and is ongoing. It is administered through one competitive annual funding round between February and April, but there is flexibility to consider additional out of round applications where significant opportunities arise.

Applications for the 2022-23 funding round opened on 7 February 2022 and closed on 8 April 2022. The applications have been assessed and recommendations for funding have been prepared. Previous practice has been for approval of projects to be delegated by you to certain Senior Executive Service officers in the Office for the Arts.

As at 31 March 2022, the Program has total funding of \$1.7 million for 2021-22, of which:

- \$1.3 million has been allocated to 3 projects.
- \$100,000 has been paid to recipients.
- \$400,000 remains unallocated.

Delivery partners

The Program is administered by the Office for the Arts using the grants management system SmartyGrants. The Program is delivered through government and not-for-profit collecting institutions and specialist touring organisations.

Program funding

	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	2024-25 (\$m)	2025-26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	1.7*	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6

*In 2021-22 the minister approved the reallocation of \$700,000 from the Program to fund the Australian Youth Orchestra's National Music Teacher Mentoring Program and the National Aboriginal Islander Skills Development Association Dance College's Advanced Diploma of Professional Dance Performance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

Key stakeholders

- Australian collecting and cultural institutions
- Exhibition facilitators

Eligibility, application and decision process

Organisations eligible to apply to the Program are Australian Government, state and territory government collecting institutions, incorporated not-for-profit public collecting institutions, and incorporated not-for-profit bodies specialising in touring large art and cultural exhibitions.

To be eligible for support, the cultural material in the exhibition must have a minimum value of:

- AUD\$50 million for fine art exhibitions.
- AUD\$20 million for museological exhibitions.

The Program assumes the likely benefits to audiences delivered by major international exhibitions and does not seek to make a comparative assessment of the cultural significance of individual exhibitions. It is a discretionary and competitive program. The criteria used to identify funding priorities and amounts include: the relative levels of funding contribution from other sources, geographical spread, number of venues, partnerships, the institution's demonstrated ability to develop, manage and tour major exhibitions, and value for money. Officers in the Office for the Arts assess applications against the selection criteria and provide recommendations for in-principle approval to you, or a delegate (if applicable). If in-principle approval is given, it is not a guarantee that funding will be provided. Funding remains subject to final application approval, which will be at your or your delegate's discretion. Applicants are required to provide a final application no later than 60 business days before the exhibition is due to commence. Successful applicants are required to acknowledge funding from the Australian Government in their publicity materials.

Program facts and examples

The Program typically receives between 2 and 8 applications per round of which around 75 per cent are successful. In 2018–19, the Program supported 9 exhibitions attended by a total of more than 1.1 million people. These exhibitions included works from the United States of America, China, the United Kingdom and France. Figures from 2019–20 onwards are much lower due to the impact of the pandemic on visitor numbers. In 2021–22, the National Museum of Australia was granted \$433,013 in program funding to offset the insurance costs for *Ancient Greeks: Athletes, Warriors and Heroes*. The exhibition was also shown at the Western Australian Museum and explores competition in sport, politics, drama, music and warfare through more than 170 objects from the collection of the British Museum.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Australian Museums and Galleries Association – Culture, Heritage and Arts Regional Tourism (CHART) Program

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The \$3 million CHART Program is assisting community arts, heritage and cultural organisations in regional Australia as they recover from the impacts of COVID-19. The Australian Museums and Galleries Association (the Association) is administering the CHART Program which provides grants of up to \$3,000 to eligible community groups in regional Australia.

Status

The \$3 million CHART program is providing grants of up to \$3,000 during 2021–22 to support community arts, heritage and cultural organisations in regional Australia to continue their preservation of Australia's cultural heritage, including through the telling of the stories of their local communities.

As at 31 March 2022:

- Total funding of \$3.3 million has been paid to the Association, comprising \$3 million for grants and \$300,000 for the Association's costs in administering the CHART program.
- The Association is assessing applications in batches of around 50–100.
- Three batches of successful CHART Program applications have been announced, with \$500,000 allocated to 178 projects.

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Delivery partners

Australian Museums and Galleries Association

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	3.3	-	-	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Australian Museums and Galleries Association
- Regional Museums, Galleries and Historical Societies

Eligibility, application and decision process

To be eligible to apply for a CHART program grant, applicants must be a not-for-profit incorporated community organisation, local government or local government-owned entity and operate a community arts and/or cultural organisation or institution, such as a community museum, gallery or historical society.

Applicant organisations must also be located in an eligible location (or be delivering an approved activity or activities in an eligible location). Ineligible locations are the urban centre and locality cities over one million people for Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth and Adelaide as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Australian Statistical Geography Standard, and the city of Canberra.

As a third party undertaking grants administration on behalf of the Commonwealth, the Association must deliver the CHART program in accordance with the Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines. The Association has established a panel of assessors to assess applications. The Association has nominated its National Director as the Decision Maker who will make the final decision on eligibility, based on advice from the Association's Evaluation Committee.

Program facts and examples

The CHART Program opened on 5 November 2021 and applications closed on 29 April 2022. CHART program projects must be completed by 30 June 2022.

The CHART program supports projects such as: collections management (e.g. conservation, cleaning or development of collections or exhibits); minor capital works (e.g. ramps and handrails improvements to volunteer conditions); computer equipment (e.g. cameras, printers, scanners and display screens/televisions, routers and WiFi facilities); outsourced professionals (e.g. web and graphic designers, researchers, curators, conservators, historians and digitisers); printing and fabrication (e.g. banners, flyers, brochures, signage, shopfront improvements, QR code/guiding demarcation); public events (e.g. community events to promote collections, training); and specific operating expenses (e.g. additional - pandemic cleaning and hygiene measures).

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture – Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Australian Museums and Galleries Association – National Conference Bursaries Program

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The National Conference Bursary (Bursary) program provides funding to support attendance at the Australian Museums and Galleries Association's (the Association) annual National Conference as a delegate or presenter. The Association administers the program which provides bursaries to Museum staff and volunteers from regional and remote areas in Australia as well as Indigenous museum staff and volunteers from across Australia.

Status

The Bursary program is part of a larger ongoing grants program – the Distributed National Collection program, which was introduced in 1993–94.

Successful applicants from the 2021 round received bursary support to attend the Association's National Conference in Canberra during June 2021.

As at 31 March 2022:

- Total funding for the Bursary program is \$34,000. This comprises \$22,000 in Commonwealth funding and \$12,000 paid by the Association.
- The Commonwealth's contribution is expected to be paid to the Australian Museums and Galleries Association (AMaGA) during April 2022.
- The Association will open this year's round for applications in April/May 2022.

Since 2007, \$306,000 (ex GST) has been awarded to 392 delegates attending the Association's National Conferences. This funding relates to 13 Bursary Program grants rounds as there were no conferences in 2008 and 2020.

Delivery partners

- Australian Museums and Galleries Association.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02

Key stakeholders

- Australian Museums and Galleries Association
- Indigenous museum staff and volunteers from across Australia
- Museum staff and volunteers from regional and remote areas in Australia

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Association receives \$22,000 per annum for the Bursary program as a non-competitive grant (the Bursary program is a component of the Distributed National Collection program). Applications for individual Bursary grants are subject to an open and competitive process administered by the Association. The value of individual grants is generally in the hundreds of dollars.

To be eligible, applicants must be a staff member or volunteer from a regional or remote museum or gallery or be an Indigenous museum staff member or volunteer from across Australia.

Program facts and examples

Bursaries support conference registration fees, travel and transfers and accommodation expenses for conference attendees. The National Conference is normally held in a different state/territory each year, with the event being hosted during May/June. The 2022 conference will be held in Perth from 14–17 June.

The Association cancelled its 2020 National Conference due to the pandemic but was able to hold its 2021 conference in Canberra due to eased travel restrictions at that time. The 2022 National Conference will be a 'hybrid' event enabling in-person attendance as well as attendance online. This helps address any pandemic-related travel restrictions while also making attendance more accessible (the Association intends continuing the 'hybrid' model for future conferences).

The Distributed National Collection program was established in 1993–94. Initially, the Distributed National Collection program provided \$0.4 million on an annual ongoing basis to deliver essential funding to Australian national collecting institutions, as well as the Australian museum and gallery peak body to administer programs supporting small and medium-sized organisations and individuals across all Australian states and territories. In 2007–08, the Distributed National Collection program was increased by \$200,000 (annual ongoing), increasing the Community Heritage Grants component to \$500,000 per annum. The Distributed National Collection program has continued to receive \$600,000 annually since 2007–08. The Distributed National Collection program funding is not indexed.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture – Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Australian National Maritime Museum – Maritime Museums of Australia Project Support Scheme

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Maritime Museums of Australia Project Support Scheme (the Scheme) provides funding to increase standards of practice for the care and management of maritime objects and/or collections of significance in regional museums and organisations involved in the preservation of Australia's maritime history.

Status

The Scheme is part of a larger ongoing grants program – the Distributed National Collection program, which was introduced in 1993–94.

Successful applicants from the 2021 round were announced on 28 February 2022, comprising 23 projects and five internships.

As at 6 April 2022:

- Total funding for the Scheme is \$125,000. This comprises \$105,000 in Commonwealth funding and \$20,000 paid by the Museum.
- The Commonwealth's contribution for 2022 has been paid to the Museum.
- The Museum will open this year's round during the second quarter of 2022.

Since it was established in 1993–94, the Museum has provided in excess of \$2.1 million to more than 500 projects and 70 internships.

Delivery partners

- Australian National Maritime Museum

Maritime Museums of Australia Project Support Scheme funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Key stakeholders

- Australian National Maritime Museum
- Maritime Museums in regional Australia and other organisations involved in the preservation of Australia's maritime history

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Museum receives \$105,000 per annum for the Scheme as a non-competitive grant (the Scheme is a component of the Distributed National Collection program). Grants of up to \$15,000 for projects and up to \$3,000 for internships are available via an annual open and competitive round. Applicants must propose projects involving the collection, management, preservation, conservation and presentation of objects or collections of national and historical maritime significance. Support may also be provided for internships at the Museum or another institution, or by way of in-kind support from the Museum in the form of encouragement and guidance/advice.

Program facts and examples

The Museum typically receives around 50 applications per round meaning it is generally oversubscribed. There is one round each year. Rounds usually open during the first quarter of each calendar year and successful projects are to be delivered by 30 June the following year.

The Museum supports projects relating to maritime history, including significance assessments of historic vessels, assistance to publish a books about historic maritime sites like lighthouses, and provides for internships at the Museum or another institution for staff and volunteers from maritime museums around Australia. The Scheme contributes significantly to ensuring the longevity of Australia's maritime heritage.

The Scheme is funded under the larger \$600,000 annual and ongoing Distributed National Collection program, which also supports the Australian Museums and Galleries Association's National Conference Bursary program (\$22,000 per annum), and the Community Heritage Grants administered by the National Library of Australia (\$500,000 per annum).

The Distributed National Collection program was established in 1993–94. Initially, the Distributed National Collection program provided \$0.4 million on an annual ongoing basis to deliver essential funding to Australian national collecting institutions, as well as the Australian museum and gallery peak body to administer programs supporting small and medium-sized organisations and individuals across all Australian states and territories. In 2007–08, the Distributed National Collection program was increased by \$0.2 million (annual ongoing), increasing the Community Heritage Grants component to \$0.5 million per annum. The Distributed National Collection program has continued to receive \$0.6 million annually since 2007–08. The Distributed National Collection program funding is not indexed.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture – Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 — Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: *Australian National Maritime Museum Act 1990*

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Cultural Gifts Program

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Cultural Gifts Program (the Program) offers tax incentives to encourage people to donate significant cultural items from private collections to Australian public collections.

Status

The Program has been ongoing since 1981 having previously operated on a trial basis since 1978. The Program encourages the gifting of culturally significant items from private collections to Australian public art galleries, museums, libraries and archives by offering tax deductions for eligible donations. The program has provided a significant benefit by helping build the collections of participating institutions, including in regional Australia, and also benefits the Australian public by increasing access to art and other items of cultural significance including visual and decorative arts, Indigenous arts and cultural material, social history and scientific artefacts.

The Office for the Arts administers the program under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*, on behalf of the Australian Taxation Office.

Program funding

There is no appropriation for the Cultural Gifts Program. As a tax incentive scheme, its cost is in the form of revenue forgone through the taxation system.

Key stakeholders

- Australian cultural institutions
- Donors
- Australian Taxation Office
- Tax agents and accountants
- Approved Cultural Gifts Program Valuers and Expert Advisers

Eligibility, application and decision process

All Australian taxpayers are eligible to receive a taxation benefit for items donated to approved recipient institutions, such as galleries, museums and libraries, which have been endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) under Section 30-15(1), item 4 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act*.

The Office for the Arts is responsible for maintaining a register of valuers who are suitably qualified to provide valuations on a range of cultural items donated through the program, and for finalising the valuation amount that is able to be claimed as a tax deduction by the donor.

The Office for the Arts works directly with recipient institutions to ensure that donations have been appropriately valued and that they meet program requirements, including that they are consistent with the institution's collection policies, are of ongoing value and have been formally accepted into the institution's permanent collection.

Where donated items are identified as being high risk due to their value, provenance or other sensitivities, the Office for the Arts will seek a confidential assurance review of the valuations and donation documentation from an independent panel of Expert Advisers.

Program facts and examples

In 2020-21, 539 donations were received under the Cultural Gifts Program (total value of \$110.3 million) with 18.7 per cent of these donations going to institutions in regional Australia (total value of \$6.9 million) and 37 per cent of donations being made by the artist or creator of the object.

Examples of recent donations include: a collection of six artworks (paintings, etchings, sketches) by John Olsen AO OBE, donated to the Orange Regional Gallery in March 2021; a NA-64 Yale aircraft from 1940, donated to the Far North Queensland Aviation Museum in May 2021; and a collection of 1012 drawings and archival material by prominent architect Alexander North (1858-1945), donated to the State Library of Victoria in 2020.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 — Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: *Income Tax Assessment Act*

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach Program

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach program (the Program) aims to provide Australians with access to Australian and overseas cultural material, especially in regional communities, and help tour Australian works overseas. It makes available \$1 million per annum for allocation to 9 national collecting institutions to develop and tour exhibitions.

Status

The Program commenced in 2009–10 and is ongoing. It is administered through one annual funding round. Applications for the 2022–23 funding round opened on 7 February 2022 and closed on 8 April 2022 for projects commencing from 1 July 2022. The applications have been assessed and recommendations for funding have been prepared. Previous practice has been for approval of projects to be delegated by the Minister for the Arts to certain senior executive service officers in the department.

As at 31 March 2022, the Program has total funding of \$1 million, of which \$1 million has been paid to 9 national collecting institutions to support 16 exhibition projects.

Delivery partners

The Program is administered by the department using the grants management system SmartyGrants. The 9 national collecting institutions (listed below) are eligible to apply for the Program. They tour their exhibitions which are staged by venues across Australia including state, regional and local galleries, museums, libraries, archives, and cultural centres.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0

Key stakeholders

- National collecting institutions
- Galleries
- Museums
- Cultural centres
- Regional communities
- Libraries
- Archives

Eligibility, application and decision process

The following 9 national collecting institutions eligible to apply for the Program are:

- Australian National Maritime Museum.
- Bundanon Trust.
- Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House.

- National Film and Sound Archive of Australia.
- National Museum of Australia.
- National Archives of Australia.
- National Gallery of Australia.
- National Library of Australia.
- National Portrait Gallery of Australia.

Funding is allocated to all the national collecting institutions that submit proposals aligned with the objectives of the Program. Officers in the Office for the Arts assess applications to ensure that they meet Program objectives and allow funding to be shared reasonably across the bidding institutions. If the total bid exceeds the funding available, the Office for the Arts negotiates with the institutions to reach a final allocation that is within the available budget. Recommendations for funding are provided to you, or a delegate (if applicable) for approval. Successful applicants are required to acknowledge funding from the Australian Government in their publicity materials.

Program facts and examples

The Program typically receives applications from around 8 of the 9 eligible institutions each round. Each application usually includes between 2 and 4 separate exhibition proposals. All eligible institutions that submit proposals aligned with the program objectives receive some funding. However, as the Program is usually oversubscribed, approximately 75 per cent of eligible proposals are supported.

The Program funds projects such as the National Museum of Australia's tour of the exhibition *Happy Birthday Play School: Celebrating 50 Years!* This exhibition toured to multiple locations in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia over 6 years with total funding of \$602,649.

From its commencement in 2009–10 to 2021–22, the Program has enabled the touring of over 130 unique exhibitions to more than 410 venues. These exhibitions have been seen by a total of more than 3 million people, including audiences in remote and regional Australia.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



National Cultural Heritage Account

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The National Cultural Heritage Account (the Account) is a grant program that assists Australian cultural institutions to acquire significant cultural heritage objects. The Account helps to retain and protect Australia's cultural heritage for future generations and to provide public access to important objects that tell a story about our cultural identity.

Status

The Account was established in 2001. There are no funding rounds and approvals for expenditure are sought throughout the year, as objects are identified for purchase by the sector. There is no minimum or maximum amount that can be applied for and funding over multiple years can be provided.

As at 31 March 2022, the Account has total funding of \$500,000, of which:

- \$300,000 has been allocated and committed.
- \$200,000 remains unallocated.

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Delivery partners

The Account is administered by the department with the assistance of expert examiners, registered under the *Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986* (the Act), and the National Cultural Heritage Committee whose members are appointed by you.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5

Key stakeholders

- Commonwealth, state and territory collecting institutions
- Public galleries, libraries, archives and museums, historic buildings and local cultural organisations
- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander keeping places

Eligibility, application and decision process

Funding is available under the Account to Australian public galleries, libraries, archives and museums as well as historic buildings, local cultural organisations and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander keeping places for secret/sacred material.

Objects acquired with the assistance of the Account must meet the criteria for Australian protected objects as set out in the *Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Regulations 2018* (the Regulations).

Applications are usually considered by expert examiners and by the National Cultural Heritage Committee. Decisions on the level of assistance (if any) made available from the Account are made by you (or a delegate if you have delegated this power to a Senior Executive Service officer in the department). This decision-making power has been previously delegated. There is an expectation that applicants will contribute towards the purchase price of the object.

Program facts and examples

The Account is established under the Act and is a special account for the purposes of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

Examples of significant cultural heritage objects that have been acquired by Australian cultural organisations with the support of Account funding include:

- World War II Anti-tank gun manufactured by General Motors Holden (Trafalgar Holden Museum, 2022).
- Objects associated with Operation Jaywick and the *Krait* (Australian National Maritime Museum, 2021).
- Georgetown (iron) Meteorite (Geoscience Australia, 2021).
- 7 Papunya paintings from the Ian Rogers collection (Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, July 2020).

Since the Account was established, funding of over \$8 million has been paid or committed to Australian cultural institutions to assist in the acquisition of significant cultural heritage objects.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: *Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986*

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



National Library of Australia – Community Heritage Grants

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Community Heritage Grants program (the Program) aims to support Australian cultural heritage collections which are publicly accessible, locally held and nationally significant. The National Library of Australia (the Library) administers the Program which provides grants of up to \$15,000 to community and non-profit organisations to assist in the preservation and management of these collections and to support training projects.

Status

The Program is part of the Distributed National Collection program. Since 1994, the Program has provided approximately \$8 million in funding to over 1,550 collection management projects across Australia.

As at 31 March 2022:

- The Program has total funding of \$600,000, comprising \$500,000 in Commonwealth funding and \$20,000 provided by each of the National Archives of Australia, the National Film and Sound Archive, the National Museum of Australia and the Library.
- The Program operates on a calendar year basis, with Commonwealth funding provided to the Library on provision of the progress report for the previous year's round.
- The 2021 round saw funding approved for 53 projects from 52 organisations.

Applications for the 2022 round opened on 8 March 2022. Applications for new projects will close on 9 May 2022, while applications for those who have recently completed a project and are applying for the next stage will close on 2 June 2022. Applications for training projects will also close on 2 June 2022.

Delivery partners

- National Library of Australia
- National Film and Sound Archive
- National Museum of Australia
- National Archives of Australia

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5

Key stakeholders

- Regional museums and galleries
- Culturally diverse organisations
- Indigenous organisations
- Historical societies
- Local councils
- Sporting groups

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Program is open to non-profit, incorporated organisations. The Program primarily targets small groups and community organisations that would benefit from access to cultural heritage professionals, such as conservators and curators. Projects supported by the Program include significance assessments, preservation needs assessments, rehousing of collection items in archival storage, conservation treatment, environmental control and preservation, digitisation, and collection management and software training programs.

The assessment process is a staged process, including an independent significance assessment and consideration by an Expert Panel. Recommendations are submitted to the library's Director-General for approval.

Program facts and examples

The Program typically receives around 120 applications per round of which 50 to 55 per cent are successful. Rounds run once a year, opening in March, and applicants are notified of the outcome in September. Successful applicants have the following year to complete the project.

Organisations usually progress through a 3-stage journey. The first 2 stages support organisations to complete a significance assessment to understand the meaning and value of their collection and a preservation needs assessment to create a plan to manage the collection. The third stage enables organisations to undertake conservation and collection management activities as recommended in the preservation needs assessment.

The Bondi Surf Life Saving Club, a recipient in the 2021 round and the world's first surf lifesaving club, is in the process of completing a significance assessment of its nationally significant archival collection. Benefits include articulating the meaning and value of this collection, which will provide a basis for the club to develop a preservation needs assessment and undertake conservation work on the collection.

The Distributed National Collection program was established in 1993–94 and initially provided \$0.4 million on an annual ongoing basis to deliver essential funding to Australian national collecting institutions, as well as the Australian museum and gallery peak body to administer programs supporting small and medium-sized organisations. In 2007–08, annual funding was increased to \$600,000, increasing the Community Heritage Grants component to \$500,000 per annum.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression.

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 — Arts and Cultural Development.

Relevant legislation: *Public Governance Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines 2017.

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act and Scheme

Outcome 6.1: arts and Cultural Development

The *Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act 2009* (the Resale Act) provides visual artists with rights similar to other creators, such as songwriters or authors, who receive royalty payments from their work. Under the Resale Royalty Scheme (the Scheme), visual artists and other right-holders are entitled to 5 per cent of the sale price of eligible artworks resold commercially for \$1,000 or more.

Status

The Resale Act received royal assent on 9 December 2009 and the associated Scheme commenced on 9 June 2010.

Since commencement of the Scheme to 31 March 2022, it has generated \$11.2 million in royalties for 2,362 artists from 26,289 resales. Of the royalties paid:

- 64 per cent by volume was paid to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, representing 38 per cent of all royalties by value.
- 88 per cent by volume was paid to living artists, representing 45 per cent by value.

Copyright Agency has been the appointed collecting society since the Scheme commenced. On 25 October 2018, Copyright Agency was reappointed by the relevant minister for a further 5-year period from 28 November 2018 to 27 November 2023.

A Post-Implementation Review of the Resale Act and Scheme (the Review), examining the first 3 years of the Scheme's operation (2010–2013), took place in 2013 as required by the Office of Best Practice Regulation. The Review received nearly 80 submissions from artists, peak organisations, auction houses and dealers. The Review Report was released on 23 December 2019.

The Resale Act allows for the establishment of reciprocal arrangements with countries that have an operating resale royalty scheme. As part of the recent Australia–United Kingdom free trade agreement, the Australian Government has agreed to commence a process to implement reciprocal arrangements with the United Kingdom. Consultations with key industry stakeholders are anticipated to take place to inform these arrangements.

Delivery partners

- Copyright Agency

Program funding

The Australian Government supported the Scheme until 30 June 2014 by providing \$2.2 million to the collecting society, Copyright Agency, to establish and administer the Scheme and \$300,000 for independent data modelling as part of the Scheme's Review in 2013.

The Scheme is funded through the 15 per cent fee-for-service deducted from royalties collected by the collecting society (Copyright Agency), as well as in-kind support it provides. The fee reflects the cost of managing the Scheme, and is consistent with other schemes internationally. No further government funding has been allocated for the administration of the Scheme.

Key stakeholders

- Right holders, including beneficiaries
- Copyright Agency/collecting society
- Art collectors and consumers
- Visual artists, including their estates
- Art market professionals such as an auction house, art dealer, gallery owner, agent and others in the business of dealing in artworks

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Scheme entitles visual artists to 5 per cent of the price of eligible artworks resold commercially for \$1,000 or more. The right applies to artworks by living artists, and for 70 years after an artist's death. A royalty will be payable to the royalty right holder if a resale occurs after 8 June 2010 (the commencement date), is a 'commercial resale', is the second transfer of ownership after the commencement date, and was sold for at least \$1,000 including GST.

The royalty applies to original works of visual art whether created by a single artist or as a collaboration between artists including paintings, photographs, prints, sculptures, tapestries, artists' books, video artworks, textile artworks such as batiks and weavings, drawings, engravings, fine art jewellery, glassware, carvings, ceramics, and digital and multimedia artworks. The scheme requires sellers, or the sellers' agents, to report all commercial resales for \$1,000 or more in order for the collecting society to determine whether a royalty is payable. Artists or their beneficiaries can register with the collecting society at any time in order to receive payments in accordance with the Scheme. The royalty is paid to the artist or, if the artist has passed away, the artist's beneficiaries (either under the artist's will or according to the laws of intestacy).

You appoint a body to be the collecting society, for a period not exceeding 5 years.

Program facts and examples

At 31 March 2022, the Scheme generated \$11.2 million in royalties for 2,362 artists from 26,289 resales.

Internationally, over 60 of 167 states parties to the *Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works* also have a resale royalty right for visual artists, including the United Kingdom and members of the European Union.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression.

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Not applicable – no Government funding is currently allocated for the administration of the Scheme by the collecting society

Relevant legislation: *Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act 2009*

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Supporting Cinemas' Retention Endurance and Enhancement of Neighbourhoods (SCREEN) Fund

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Supporting Cinemas' Retention Endurance and Enhancement of Neighbourhoods (SCREEN) Fund is designed to support the viability of independent cinemas by providing grants to independent cinema sites that are experiencing interruptions to business continuity as a result of the pandemic. The SCREEN Fund is scheduled to terminate on 29 April 2022.

Status

As at 31 March 2022, the SCREEN Fund has total funding of \$20 million, of which:

- \$19.7 million has been contracted under the program:
 - \$10.4 million has been contracted to 199 cinema sites under round one of the program open between 26 March 2021 and 24 December 2021.
 - \$9.2 million has been contracted to 169 cinema sites under round 2 of the program open between 24 December 2021 and 29 April 2022.
- \$16.4 million has been paid to grant recipients under the program.
- \$320,000 remains unallocated.

Delivery partners

Screen Australia is responsible for administering the SCREEN Fund on behalf of the Australian Government.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	12.0	0.0	–	–	–

Key stakeholders

- Independent cinema operators and employees
- Patrons of independent cinemas
- Australian screen industry
- Screen Australia

Eligibility, application and decision process

Screen Australia administers the SCREEN Fund on behalf of the Australian Government.

The SCREEN Fund is available to Australian independent cinema operators who can demonstrate a sufficient decrease in box office revenue for the specified period. Funding is available as a one-off grant. The amount of the grant is dependent on reported box office revenue for that cinema location during the pre-pandemic period of 1 March 2019 to 29 February 2020 as follows:

- \$35,000 per location reporting below \$1 million box office.
- \$60,000 per location reporting between \$1 million and \$3 million box office.
- \$85,000 per location reporting over \$3 million box office.

The Office for the Arts will advise you of successful applicants, who will then be notified by you or Screen Australia.

Program facts and examples

Under round one of the SCREEN Fund, 199 cinema sites were successful in securing a total of \$10.4 million.

Under round 2 of the program, 169 have been successful in securing a total of \$9.2 million. Round 2 is due to close on 29 April 2022. As at 31 March 2022, \$19.7 million has been committed out of the \$20 million available under the program.

Grants administered under the SCREEN Fund can be used for the following purposes: re-training/upskilling staff, capital works, refurbishment, cinema technology, expanding activities or marketing.

The program is designed to support the viability and recovery of independent cinema businesses impacted by the pandemic, allowing them to remain open while audience numbers are in flux.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: *Screen Australia Act 2008*

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Visions of Australia regional touring program

Outcome 6.1: arts and Cultural Development

The Visions of Australia program aims to increase access for Australian audiences to exhibitions of quality Australian arts and cultural material, with a particular focus on regional and remote Australia. It makes approximately \$2.5 million per annum available to support the development or touring of exhibitions by Australian arts and cultural heritage organisations.

Status

Visions of Australia was established in 1992 and is ongoing. In 2012–13, administrative responsibility for the program was transferred to the Australia Council. The program was transferred back to the department from the Australia Council in 2015–16. Rounds run twice a year in February, for projects starting from 1 July that year and September, for projects starting from 1 January the next year. The 2 rounds for 2021–22 have been completed.

The next round of the program (Round 15) is due to open in September 2022 and previous practice has been for approval of projects to be delegated by the Minister for the Arts to certain senior executive service employees in the department.

As at 31 March 2022, Visions of Australia has total funding of \$2.5 million, of which:

- \$2.5 million has been allocated to 19 projects.
- \$1.5 million has been paid to recipients.
- \$10,000 remains unallocated.

Delivery partners

The program is administered by the Office for the Arts using the grants management system SmartyGrants. This program is delivered through public and private arts and cultural heritage organisations.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7

Key stakeholders

- Not-for-profit arts and cultural heritage organisations including galleries, museums, libraries, libraries and archives
- Commonwealth, state and territory government collecting institutions
- Regional and remote communities

Eligibility, application and decision process

To be eligible to apply for grants under this program, organisations must be an Australian incorporated organisation or local/state government business unit who have as their principal purpose the arts and/or cultural heritage. Unincorporated groups with an arts or cultural heritage purpose may be auspiced by an incorporated organisation. The program funds development and touring of exhibition projects extending up to 4 years. Tours must include at least 3 venues located outside the organisation's state or territory and must include regional and/or remote venues.

Following an open call for applications twice a year, proposals are assessed by 3 external assessors with arts and cultural experience and 2 departmental staff. The applications are assessed against criteria set in the program guidelines which require an assessment of the quality of the activity, the extent it will provide access to audiences and benefits to artists, the level of support and partnership for the activity and the extent it the activity represents value for money. Recommendations for funding, based on the merits of each application, will be provided to you, or a delegate (if applicable) for approval. Successful applicants are required to acknowledge funding from the Australian Government in their publicity materials.

Program facts and examples

The program typically receives around 15–20 applications per round of which between 60 to 80 per cent are successful depending on the round. It is usually oversubscribed.

The program funds projects such as the Australian Design Centre tour of the exhibition SIXTY: The Journal of Australian Ceramics 60th Anniversary 1962–2022 to tour to 16 locations around Australia over 4 years with funding of \$251,234.

Since 2015 the program has committed support to 130 exhibitions with tours visiting over 886 venues, 65 per cent of which are regional or remote. The total projected audience for these exhibitions is more than 6 million people. The last completed round resulted in over \$1 million being committed to 8 projects starting from 1 July 2022.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia’s arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 — Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Australian Arts and Culture Fund

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

Funding from the Australian Arts and Culture Fund (the Fund) was transferred to the Australia Council in 2017, with a small residual retained by the Office for the Arts to support arts and cultural development.

Status

The Australian Arts and Culture Fund (originally called the 'National Program for Excellence in the Arts' and then 'Catalyst – Australian Arts and Culture Fund') was announced as part of the 2015-16 Budget to deliver on a number of the then government's priorities including national access to high quality arts and cultural experiences.

The Fund was initially set up by redirecting funding of \$104.7 million over 4 years from the Australia Council to the Office for the Arts, but in the intervening years changes to portfolio funding arrangements have transferred the majority of these funds back to the Australia Council following the closure of the Catalyst program in March 2017.

A total of \$2 million per year was retained in the Office for the Arts to provide an alternative avenue of funding for organisations which are not receiving funding through the Australia Council, including the galleries, libraries, archives and museums sector, and some regional and community education and health organisations.

As part of the 2017–18 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook, \$1 million of these retained funds were allocated to the ongoing operation of Creative Partnerships Australia from 2018–19. The remaining funds continue to be allocated to projects that address urgent needs in other arts areas.

There are no unallocated funds in 2021–22 or 2022–23.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	–	–*	1.0	1.0	1.0

*Funding for 2022–23 was used to partially offset the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund Phase Down measure announced in the 2022-23 Budget.

Key stakeholders

- Australian arts and cultural organisations

Eligibility, application and decision process

There are no open funding rounds for this program. Funding for individual projects are approved by you on a case-by-case basis.

Program facts and examples

Program funds are allocated to arts projects, with a particular focus on organisations that may find it difficult to access funding for such projects from other sources, including where urgent funding is required.

Since 2017, 25 projects have been funded, including the provision of \$345,000 from 2019–20 to 2021–22 to support the Australian Youth Orchestra’s National Music Teacher Mentoring Program. This improves the quality of music teaching in Australian primary classrooms by pairing experienced music teachers with generalist classroom teachers in a mentoring environment. Since its inception in 2015, the National Music Teacher Mentoring Program has improved the music education competencies of 634 classroom teachers, benefitting over 54,000 students in 319 schools across Australia.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia’s arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts

stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts

greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Australian Music Industry Package

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Australian Music Industry Package (the Package) aims to grow this important cultural, social and economic industry, and boost the business and creative skills required for the future of the Australian music industry workforce.

Status

The Package, announced in 2019, committed total grant funding of \$27.5 million, over 5 years (2019–20 to 2023–24) to deliver 5 program elements:

- Live Music Australia program: \$20 million over 4 years (2020–21 to 2023–24), with additional funding of \$0.6 million allocated in 2020–21.
 - As at 31 March 2022, of the 340 grants approved under the 4 rounds of the program to date: 81 have been completed; 180 are contracted and are underway; 78 have not commenced; and one has been cancelled.
- Indigenous Contemporary Music program: \$2 million over 4 years (2019–20 to 2022–23).
 - As at 31 March 2022, of the 18 grants approved under the 3 rounds of the program to date: 4 have been completed; 8 are contracted and are underway; 6 have not commenced.
- Women in Music Mentor program: \$2 million over 4 years (2019–20 to 2022–23), administered under a 4-year grant agreement with the Australian Independent Record Labels Association.
 - As at 31 March 2022, almost 200 selected mentees have been supported under the first 3 rounds of the program.
- Sounds Australia: \$1.5 million over 4 years (2019–20 to 2022–23), administered under a 4-year agreement with the Australasian Performing Right Association and Australasian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society, to support the promotion of Australian musicians in international music markets, including online export activities when international travel restrictions were in place.
 - In addition, in August 2021 Sounds Australia announced its \$1.2 million Export Stimulus Program supported by its leading funding partners (the Australian Government, the Australia Council, the Australasian Performing Right Association and Australasian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society, Australian Recording Industry Association and the Phonographic Performance Company of Australia). The first 2 rounds of the program have awarded 63 grants, supporting 224 individual music industry professionals to take up international event opportunities and career progressions.
- Contemporary Music Touring Program expansion: \$2 million over 4 years (2019–20 to 2022–23), delivered by the Australia Council. This support has expanded the existing program with an extra \$500,000 a year to increase music touring opportunities, including increasing funding caps for tours into regional and remote areas.

As at 31 March 2022, of the \$6.4 million allocated to the Office for the Arts to administer in 2021–22:

- \$6.4 million has been allocated to recipients, of which \$3.3 million has been contracted.
- \$3.1 million has been paid to recipients.
- No funding remains unallocated.

Delivery partners

The Office for the Arts delivers the Live Music Australia program and the Indigenous Contemporary Music program, with grant application assessment input from music industry experts.

The Office for the Arts works together with the Australian Independent Record Labels Association to deliver the Women in Music Mentor program and with Sounds Australia to deliver Australian music export development activities. The Australia Council continues to deliver the Contemporary Music Touring Program.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022-23 Budget)	6.4	6.4	5.0	-	-

Key stakeholders

- Australasian Performing Right Association and Australasian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society (including Sounds Australia)
- Australian Recording Industry Association
- Music industry, live music venues
- Australian Independent Record Labels Association
- Support Act
- State and territory governments and peak bodies, including the Australian Music Industry Network

Eligibility, application and decision process

Live Music Australia: Venues and organisations that support live original music by Australian artists are eligible to apply to this open competitive grant program. Funding of up to \$100,000 is available for activities such as live music programming and artist fees, promotion, equipment purchase, small building alterations and capacity building. Applications are assessed by music industry representatives and program staff. State and territory governments and the Australia Council are asked to provide input on applications. You make these funding decisions.

Indigenous Contemporary Music program: Organisations that support the development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander musicians and bands are eligible to apply to this open competitive grant program. Funding may be multi-year and can be used for professional industry-based opportunities, to develop sustainable employment and income-earning pathways or for industry collaborations. Projects require Indigenous governance and leadership to be competitive. Applications are assessed by a panel of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people with experience in the Indigenous music sector. You make final funding decisions.

Program facts and examples

Live Music Australia program: The program receives an average of 360 applications per round of which an average 29 per cent are successful. It is usually oversubscribed. Rounds run twice a year, typically opening for applications in June and December. The Live Music Australia program funds projects such as the \$53,560 grant to the Mac Hotel in Portland, Victoria which was completed in March 2021. This enabled the installation of a new sound and lighting system in the Sand Bar and training for in-house staff. This live music venue is now able to attract more touring acts and provide a better quality experience for local and visiting musicians and audiences.

Indigenous Contemporary Music program: The program typically receives 20–25 applications per round of which an average 32 per cent are successful. It is usually oversubscribed. Rounds run once a year, typically opening for applications in December. The Indigenous Contemporary Music program funds projects such as a \$30,000 grant for Jessie Lloyd Music's Aunties Recording Project which was completed in January 2022. This grant supported the professional recording of 9 songs by 3 senior Indigenous women. Benefits include promoting the musical knowledge and talent of Indigenous women, providing professional development and pathways for these musicians and preserving their songs.



Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F

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Festivals Australia

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Festivals Australia program is a competitive grants program. It provides funding to support individual art projects that allow people living in or visiting regional or remote Australia to participate in or appreciate an arts-driven experience at a festival or significant one-off community celebration.

Status

Festivals Australia is an ongoing program that was first introduced in 1995. Funding of approximately \$1.3 million per year is available through 2 open competitive funding rounds, opening around February and September each year.

The September 2021 round closed on 29 September 2021. Successful applicants were announced on 29 December 2021. The majority of funding agreements have been executed and payments are being made.

The latest Festivals Australia round, for projects starting from 1 July 2022, will be funded from the 2022–23 allocation. Applications closed on 18 March 2022 and are currently being assessed.

Festivals Australia's 2021–22 total program funding is \$3.7 million. This includes additional funding of \$2.4 million, announced in the 2021–22 Budget as part of the \$11.4 million Regional Arts Tourism Experiences package.

As at 31 March 2022:

- \$3.7 million has been allocated to 97 projects, of which \$3.3 million has been contracted.
- \$2.9 million has been paid to grant recipients.
- No funding remains unallocated.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	3.7	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4

Key stakeholders

- Arts professionals
- Arts organisations
- Local governments
- Regional and remote communities

Eligibility, application and decision process

Applications for Festivals Australia are submitted through the online platform SmartyGrants.

Only projects taking place at festivals or significant one-off community celebrations in regional or remote Australia are eligible to apply. Eligible applicants must be an Australian incorporated organisation with an active Australian Business Number and registered for Goods and Services Tax if required by law.

Applications are assessed by a combination of independent and departmental assessors against a set of published assessment criteria. Following assessments, the Office for the Arts will make recommendations to you. You will make the final decision about the approval of grants.

Program facts and examples

The Festivals Australia program typically receives 60 to 80 applications per round, of which approximately 20 per cent are successful.

The program supports projects such as the 'Circus Feast' at the Red Earth Arts Festival 2022 in the City of Karratha. The project received \$79,000 for artists' fees and travel costs and delivered circus skills workshops and performances to the community. The project met Festivals Australia objectives by providing opportunities for artists to collaborate with other circus performers and by engaging with the community through workshops and performances.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



International Cultural Diplomacy Arts Fund

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The International Cultural Diplomacy Arts Fund (the Fund) supports activities in Australia and around the world that promote the Australian Government's international arts and cultural engagement and cultural priorities, and assist the government in meeting Australia's international commitments relating to arts and culture.

Status

The Fund was established in 2015 following a decision to abolish the Australia International Cultural Council in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and establish alternative arrangements within the arts portfolio. Since then, it has provided \$7 million to support 75 projects that strengthen Australia's international cultural ties and support Australian soft power and cultural diplomacy objectives. The annual allocation for the Fund is \$1.2 million.

As at 31 March 2022, for 2021–22:

- \$900,000 has been allocated to projects, of which \$400,000 has been contracted.
- \$300,000 has been paid to recipients.
- Of the 10 grants approved under this program: one has been completed; 4 are contracted of which all are underway; 6 have not commenced.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)	0.9*	0.2^	1.2	1.2	1.2

* In 2021–22 the government approved the reallocation of \$0.3 million to other one-off priorities.

^ For 2022–23, the government reallocated \$1 million to the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund Phase Down as a one-off Budget measure.

Key stakeholders

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Australian and international arts organisations and artists

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Fund is a closed, non-competitive grants program that can support both organisations and individuals. It supports activities which accord with the objectives of the Fund, and the Office for the Arts may invite proposals for specific activities where funds are available. The Fund can support all art forms and cultural expressions including music, literature, theatre, dance, design, visual arts, cross-media, and film and screen-based arts.

The Office for the Arts assesses proposed activities against the Fund's objectives and program guidelines. This assessment often includes consultation with other relevant government agencies, such as the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Funding recommendations are provided to you for approval.

Program facts and examples

Administered funds allocated under the Fund are managed on a financial year basis and as a closed, non-competitive program, do not operate under funding rounds.

The Fund provides funding for projects such as the \$140,000 grant to the Belvoir Street Theatre for its production, *Counting and Cracking*, to tour to the United Kingdom to feature at the Edinburgh International Festival in August 2022 as part of the UK/Australia Season. The production follows the journey of a Sri Lankan-Australian family over 4 generations in a story about Australia as a land of refuge, Sri Lanka's efforts to remain united, and reconciliation within families. Supporting projects like this promotes Australia's cultural sector internationally and builds Australia's reputation as a contemporary, creative and diverse nation.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



National Performing Arts Training Organisations

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

Operational funding supports 7 National Performing Arts Training Organisations to provide world-class training and career pathways for Australia's most talented performing artists. These organisations are the pipeline for Australia's major performing arts companies and support Australia's creative arts sector and economy.

Status

For more than 30 years, 7 National Performing Arts Training Organisations have been supported by the Australian Government to provide the highest quality training to Australia's most exceptional young artists. These organisations promote the highest standard of skills development and training opportunities across a range of performing art forms.

Funding of approximately \$22 million per year (indexed and ongoing) is provided under the program through multi-year funding agreements. The current 6-year funding agreements were extended in April 2022 by one year, until 30 June 2023.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Program funding (at 2022–23 Budget)*	22.1**	21.4	21.8	22.0	22.2

*The department also provides approximately \$1.6 million annually in capital funding to the National Institute of Dramatic Art to maintain the Australian Government-owned building in which it is located.

** 2021–22 funding includes \$500,000 to fund the National Aboriginal Island Skills Development Association Dance College's Advanced Diploma of Professional Dance Performance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

Key stakeholders

- Australian National Academy of Music
- National Institute of Dramatic Art
- Flying Fruit Fly Circus
- Australian Youth Orchestra
- National Institute of Circus Arts
- Australian Ballet School
- National Aboriginal Island Skills Development Association Dance College

Eligibility, application and decision process

The program operates on a targeted, closed and non-competitive basis. Incorporated, not-for-profit performing arts training organisations may be invited by the Australian Government to be considered as a National Performing Arts Training Organisation. Funding is only available to organisations identified by the Australian Government as meeting the program eligibility and assessment criteria.

The performance of funded organisations are assessed by the Office for the Arts against the 4 equally weighted assessment criteria, quality, access, support and partnerships, and value for money. Funding and length of funding terms are determined by you.

Program facts and examples

Successive Australian governments have provided operational funding to the National Performing Arts Training Organisations to deliver arts and culture outcomes through the training and development of a pipeline of world-class performing artists that are employed by Australia's major performing arts companies and, increasingly, go on to become global ambassadors for Australia on the international stage.

The quality and international standing of Australia's vibrant performing arts and creative industries sector is directly reliant on the quality of alumni from the National Performing Arts Training Organisations, and they are highly sought after. This is evidenced by the number of graduates that obtain employment following the completion of their studies. 95 per cent of recent graduates from the National Institute of Dramatic Art obtained employment within 6 months of graduating; 16 of Bangarra Dance Theatre's 18 dancers are graduates from the National Aboriginal Island Skills Development Association Dance College; the Australian Ballet School trains around 85 per cent of dancers for The Australian Ballet; and an increasing number of graduates have become world-renowned global ambassadors for Australian arts and culture, performing in the most successful international companies such as Cirque de Soleil.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and Culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Regional Arts Fund

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Regional Arts Fund supports sustainable cultural development in regional, remote and rural communities in Australia. Regional Arts Australia manages the program on behalf of the Australian Government and works with organisations in each state and territory (Regional Program Administrators) to deliver the program to regional and remote communities.

Status

The Regional Arts Fund was first introduced in 1997. The program is ongoing and provides approximately \$3.7 million per year to support artists and communities in regional and remote areas. Funds can be used to: encourage and support sustainable economic, social and cultural development in regional communities; develop partnerships and networks which leverage support for projects and encourage ongoing collaboration; develop audiences and broaden community engagement with the arts; and increase employment, professional development opportunities and the profiles of artists. The Regional Arts Fund 2021–22 funding allocation is \$8.6 million. This includes additional funding of \$5 million, announced in the 2021–22 Budget as part of the \$11.4 million Regional Arts Tourism Experiences package (Cultural Tourism Accelerator Program).

As at 31 March 2022:

- \$8.6 million has been allocated to the Regional Arts Fund.
- The full \$8.6 million has been contracted and paid to Regional Arts Australia.
- Zero dollars remain unallocated.

As at 31 March 2022, of the 596 grants approved under this program: 56 have been completed; 295 are contracted of which 109 are underway; 421 have not commenced; and 10 have been cancelled.

Delivery partners

All Australian Government funding is provided to Regional Arts Australia via a grant agreement with the department. The Fund's administration is then further devolved to Regional Program Administrators in each state and territory.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| • Regional Arts Australia | • Regional Arts New South Wales | • Regional Arts Victoria |
| • Country Arts South Australia | • artsACT | • Regional Arts Western Australia Inc |
| • RANT Arts Ltd (Tasmania) | • Darwin Community Arts Incorporated | • Flying Arts Alliance Incorporated (Queensland) |

Program funding

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Key stakeholders

- Regional Arts Australia
- Regional Program Administrators in each state and territory

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Regional Arts Fund supports a mix of Quick Response Grants, Project Grants, and Strategic Partnerships Grants. Projects must benefit regional or remote communities to be eligible. A regional or remote location is defined in the guidelines, which currently uses the Modified Monash Model to determine the classification of the location. Projects that principally benefit people in major cities are ineligible for funding.

Regional Arts Australia contracts Regional Program Administrators to administer the open competitive grant streams (Quick Response Grants, and Project Grants) to artists, arts workers and organisations. Approximately 320 grants are approved per year. Funding for Strategic Partnerships Grants is also provided through the Fund to build sector capacity more broadly. These are available only to Regional Program Administrators, and operate on a non-competitive basis separate to the competitive grant streams. Each Regional Program Administrator manages the day-to-day administration of the Fund in their jurisdiction and make decisions about eligibility and funding.

Program facts and examples

In 2020–21, a total of \$3.6 million was provided to 325 projects across Australia under the regular grant streams of the Fund (excluding the Cultural Tourism Accelerator Program). Grant amounts differed, depending on the funding stream.

An example is a project by Western Riverina Arts in Leeton NSW, which received a \$2,000 Quick Response Grant to support the 'Warangesda Streaming Team'. The funding supported a First Nations (Wiradjuri) team to stream online an outside music theatre performance titled 'One Night at Warangesda' held at the old mission site of Warangesda, situated on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River at Darlington Point. The online stream improved public access to the performance during the pandemic.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 — Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Register of Cultural Organisations

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Register of Cultural Organisations (the Register) is a list of cultural organisations that can receive tax deductible donations.

Status

The Register was established in 1991 and there are currently over 1900 organisations on the Register. This includes prominent arts organisations such as Opera Australia, The Australian Ballet and the National Institute of Dramatic Art, as well as smaller organisations such as Terrapin Puppet Theatre, Craft ACT and the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair.

Following Royal Assent of the *Treasury Laws Amendment (2021 Measures No.2) Bill 2021*, from 14 December 2021 all non-government organisations must be registered as a charity to be eligible for the Register. There is a 12-month transition period for existing organisations on the Register. Existing organisations may also be eligible to apply to the Commissioner for Taxation for an additional 3-year exemption if required.

Delivery partners

- Australian Taxation Office
- The Treasury
- Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission

Program funding

There is no appropriation for the program: as a tax incentive scheme, its cost to government is in the form of revenue forgone through the tax system.

Key stakeholders

- Registered charitable cultural organisations
- Australian government agencies
- Creative Partnerships Australia

Eligibility, application and decision process

The Register is established under subdivision 30–F of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (the Tax Act). Australian charities or Australian government agencies can be listed on the Register if their principal purpose is to promote at least one of the following cultural activities:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| • Literature | • Design | • Movable cultural heritage |
| • Visual arts | • Television | • Indigenous arts |
| • Community arts | • Video | • Indigenous languages |
| • Performing arts | • Radio | • Crafts |
| • Music | • Film | |

Public libraries, museums and art galleries are generally not included on the Register as they are eligible for endorsement by the Australian Taxation Office under different deductible gift recipient categories under the Tax Act.

The Treasurer and you both approve all new additions to the Register. The time taken to assess and seek approval of applications to the Register can take up to 6 months. This timeframe may be longer depending on the completeness and the complexity of the application.

Program facts and examples

The Register received 102 applications in 2020–21, of which over 75 per cent were approved and entered on the Register. There is no closing date for applications for the Register.

The organisations on the Register who report to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (63 per cent) reported donations of \$245 million in 2019, the most recent reporting period available.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia’s arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Prime Minister's Literary Awards

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The annual Prime Minister's Literary Awards (the Awards) support a national appreciation of Australian literature and history, and provide acknowledgement and recognition for authors and illustrators. Total prize money of \$600,000 is awarded across 6 categories: fiction, poetry, non-fiction, Australian history, children's literature and young adult literature.

Status

The Prime Minister's Literary Awards commenced in 2008 and are an ongoing program. The 2022 Awards opened for entries on 3 February 2022 and closed on 4 March 2022, with 558 entries received. The judging process is underway with recommendation reports due to be received from the panels by the end of July 2022. It is anticipated that the shortlisted books can be announced by you and the Prime Minister from August, and an Award Ceremony hosted from October.

As at 31 March 2022, the Awards has total funding of \$700,000 for 2021–22 of which:

- \$700,000 has been allocated and paid to 2021 Award recipients and to support judges and the process and hosting of the Awards ceremony in December 2021.
- There is no unallocated funding.

The total program funding for the 2022 Awards is \$658,000 in the 2021–22 financial year.

Delivery partners

The 15 Awards judges assess entries and make recommendations to you and the Prime Minister to ensure program objectives are delivered. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet assists in providing advice between the department, your office and the Prime Minister's Office.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Prime Minister's Literary Awards (at 2022-23 Budget)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Prime Minister's History Prize (at 2022-23 Budget)	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2

Key stakeholders

- Authors and illustrators
- Publishers
- Booksellers and general public
- Libraries and their readership
- Universities and academia
- Australian Society of Authors
- Australian Publishers Association
- Australian Booksellers Association
- Australian Libraries and Information Association

Eligibility, application and decision process

Entries are sought each year from Australian citizens or permanent residents for books of high literary merit, and in the case of the prize for Australian history – scholarly accomplishment. Creators or publishers submit entries through the department's website for works published in the previous calendar year of the Awards' cycle.

The Office for the Arts determines the eligibility of the Award entries.

Three judging panels, each comprising up to 5 industry experts on each panel, consider eligible entries and make recommendations to you and the Prime Minister on shortlisted and winning entries. You consider and endorse the judges' recommendations prior to the Prime Minister, who is the decision-maker.

Winners in each category are awarded up to \$80,000 and shortlisted entries are each awarded up to \$5,000. Prize money is tax-free.

Program facts and examples

The Awards have an annual cycle based on the calendar year. Typically entries open for submission, either late in the calendar year prior or in the first quarter of the calendar year. The judging process begins by the second quarter of the year and takes 3 months. Recommendations by the judges are considered and endorsed by you, who writes a letter of endorsement to the Prime Minister for their decision. The shortlist announcement is made in the third quarter of the year and the winners' ceremony takes place in the final quarter of the year. Traditionally, announcements on shortlists and winners are made jointly by the Prime Minister and the Minister for the Arts. Winners are usually announced at an Awards ceremony hosted by the Prime Minister.

The Awards typically receive 550 entries per round across the 6 categories. There are a total of 30 books shortlisted year each (5 in each category). There are 6 winners selected from these shortlisted works (at times joint winners are selected).

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: Supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: Schedule 1AB of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts

stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts

greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F



Public and Educational Lending Rights Schemes

Outcome 6.1: Arts and Cultural Development

The Public Lending Right and Educational Lending Right schemes encourage the growth and development of Australian writing and support Australian book creators (including authors, illustrators and editors) and publishers by making annual payments in recognition of the potential loss of income through the free multiple use of their books in Australian public and educational lending libraries.

Status

The Public Lending Right scheme was established in 1974 (legislated in 1985) and the Educational Lending Right scheme was introduced in 2001. Both schemes are ongoing.

The closing date for the submission of new title claims is 31 March each year. Payments are determined based on the estimated number of copies of books held in Australian public and educational lending libraries. Payment rates for 2021–22 were set on 29 March 2022. Current Public Lending Right payment rates are \$2.19 per book for creators and 54.75 cents for publishers. Educational Lending Right rates are based on a tier system depending on the number of books, but start at the same base rate as the Public Lending Right. Following finalisation of payment calculations, payments will be made by the Office for the Arts to claimants in June 2022.

An annual report is required to be tabled in Parliament by you by October each year.

As at 31 March 2022, of the \$23.1 million 2021–22 total appropriation:

- \$23.1 million is allocated, including \$22.8 million allocated for annual payments.
- \$300,000 has been contracted to administer the program including undertaking library surveys with \$200,000 of this paid.
- There is zero unallocated funding.

Delivery partners

The *Public Lending Right Act 1985* (the Act) establishes a Public Lending Right Committee, which has responsibility for many of the powers under the Act. The committee has delegated the majority of the functions to the Office for the Arts, which has responsibility for administering the schemes in accordance with legislation and policies and procedures.

Program funding

	2021–22 (\$m)	2022–23 (\$m)	2023–24 (\$m)	2024–25 (\$m)	2025–26 (\$m)
Educational Lending Right Scheme	12.9*	12.7	12.9	13.2	13.4
Public Lending Right Scheme	10.1	10.9	11.1	11.4	11.6

* These figures include an approved reallocation of \$576,000 from the 2021–22 PLR scheme to the 2021 ELR scheme.

Key stakeholders

- Public Lending Rights Committee
- Eligible creators (authors, illustrators, editors)
- Australian public and educational libraries
- Australian Society of Authors
- Eligible publishers
- Australian Publishers Association

Eligibility, application and decision process

Annual payments to eligible claimants are determined consistent with the requirements of the Act, the Public Lending Right Scheme 2016 and the Educational Lending Right Policies and Procedures 2011.

Australian creators and publishers must register and submit claims within 5 years from the year of publication of their book through the Lending Rights Online system. Payments are only made to eligible publishers if an eligible creator is receiving a payment. Payments are determined based on the estimated number of copies of books held in Australian public and educational lending libraries, and the minimum payment is \$100. Books are surveyed in a sample of libraries each year. Eligible books must have an International Standard Book Number.

The rates of payment are set by you. The Act also establishes the Public Lending Right Committee which oversees the administration of the Public Lending Right scheme and has an advisory role in regard to the Educational Lending Right scheme.

Program facts and examples

Each year approximately 17,000 individual payments are made to Australian book creators and publishers, totalling over \$22 million and are based on entitlements under the schemes.

In June 2021 Public Lending Right payments totalling \$9.1 million were made to 6,420 claimants and Educational Lending Right payments totalling \$13.4 million were made to 10,649 claimants.

Program administration

Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression

Purposes: Creativity and culture: supporting sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protecting and promoting Australian content and culture.

Nature of appropriation: Budget Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development

Relevant legislation: *Public Lending Right Act 1985*

Contacts

Stephen Arnott

Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts
stephen.arnott@arts.gov.au

s47F

Greg Cox

First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts
greg.cox1@arts.gov.au

s47F

Portfolio legislation

This directory is current and as such may not match the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) created on 18 March 2021. It includes acts which have received royal assent, and excludes acts which have been repealed since the AAO was last amended on 2 July 2021. Should the AAO change, the department will advise you of changes to your legislative role.

Program 6.1 - Arts

Australia Council Act 2013

Australia Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2013

Australian Film, Television and Radio School Act 1973

Australian National Maritime Museum Act 1990

Circuit Layouts Act 1989

Copyright Act 1968

National Film and Sound Archive of Australia Act 2008

National Gallery Act 1975

National Library Act 1960

National Museum of Australia Act 1980

National Portrait Gallery of Australia Act 2012

National Portrait Gallery of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2012

Protection of Cultural Objects on Loan Act 2013

Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986

Public Lending Rights Act 1985

Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act 2009

Screen Australia Act 2008

Screen Australia and the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2008

Screen Australia (Transfer of Assets) Act 2011

Program 6.1: Arts and cultural development

Australia Council Act 2013

Purpose	The Act is the enabling legislation of the Australia Council that includes the functions, powers and governance structure of the Australia Council and its operation as a corporate Commonwealth entity. The Act also outlines the processes for appointments of the chief executive officer and the Australia Council board.
Your role and responsibilities	See chapter on Portfolio Entities – Australia Council
Contact	Greg Cox, First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts; s47F

Australia Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2013

Purpose	The Act provides for the repeal of the <i>Australia Council Act 1975</i> , and contains provisions for the Australia Council that allowed its operations to continue during the transition period between the <i>Australia Council Act 1975</i> and the <i>Australia Council Act 2013</i> .
Your role and responsibilities	You have no functions or powers under this Act.
Contact	Greg Cox, First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts; s47F

Australian Film, Television and Radio School Act 1973

Purpose	The Act establishes the entity and its operation as a corporate Commonwealth entity. The Act also outlines the processes for appointments to the entity and the council of the Australian Film, Television and Radio School.
Your role and responsibilities	See chapter on Portfolio Entities Brief – Australian Film, Television and Radio School
Contact	Stephen Arnott, Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts; s47F

Australian National Maritime Museum Act 1990

Purpose	The Act establishes the entity and its operation as a corporate Commonwealth entity. The Act also outlines the processes for appointments to the entity and the council of the Australian National Maritime Museum.
Your role and responsibilities	See chapter on Portfolio Entities – Australian National Maritime Museum
Contact	Greg Cox, First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts; s47F

Circuit Layouts Act 1989

Purpose	The Act protects the original layout plans or designs of integrated circuits used in electronic devices (also referred to as computer chip designs or semi-conductor chips). The Act gives the owner of the plans certain exclusive rights, including the right to make an integrated circuit from the plans.
Your role and responsibilities	You have no functions or powers under this Act.
Contact	Stephen Arnott, Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts; s47F

Copyright Act 1968

Purpose	The Act protects original literary, musical, dramatic and artistic works, and subject-matter other than works, including sound recordings, cinematograph films, broadcasts and performances. The Act gives copyright owners certain exclusive economic rights, including the right to publish the material, control copying, perform the work and make the material available online, while also providing certain exceptions and limitations to allow reasonable access to, and dissemination of, creative content in the public interest. The Act also provides creators with certain non-economic rights known as moral rights such as the right of attribution of authorship.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>Your powers and responsibilities under the Act include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Making and revoking the declaration of collecting societies for the educational and free-to-air television retransmission statutory licences, or referring these matters to the Copyright Tribunal (sections 113V, 113X, 135ZZT, 135ZZU, 135ZZZO and 135ZZZP).• Tabling declared collecting societies' annual reports in Parliament (sections 113Z, 135ZZV, 135ZZZQ and 183D).• Appointing the Registrar of the Copyright Tribunal (section 170) – Tribunal members themselves are appointed by the Governor-General (section 139).• Approving an agreement or licence fixing the terms upon which others may use copyright material if done for the services of the Commonwealth (section 183).• Making recommendations to the Governor-General to make, vary or revoke regulations under the Act in relation to technological protection measures (section 249) and the extension or restriction of application of the Act to other countries and international organisations (sections 184, 185, 186, 248U and 248V).• Prescribing requirements for the delivery of legal deposit material to the National Library of Australia (sections 195CD and 195CE) and a scheme of penalties for non-compliance (section 195CG).• Declaring online search engine providers exempt from being specified in Federal Court applications for injunctions by copyright owners to require carriage service providers to disable access to websites (section 115A).
Contact	Stephen Arnott, Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts; s47F

National Film and Sound Archive of Australia Act 2008

Purpose	The Act establishes the entity and its operation as a corporate Commonwealth entity. The Act also outlines the processes for appointments to the entity and the board of the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia.
Your role and responsibilities	See chapter on Portfolio Entities – National Film and Sound Archive of Australia
Contact	Greg Cox, First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts; s47F

National Gallery Act 1975

Purpose	The Act establishes the entity and its operation as a corporate Commonwealth entity. The Act also outlines the processes for appointments to the entity and the council of the National Gallery of Australia.
Your role and responsibilities	See chapter on Portfolio Entities– National Gallery of Australia
Contact	Greg Cox, First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts; s47F

National Library Act 1960

Purpose	The Act establishes the entity and its operation as a corporate Commonwealth entity. The Act also outlines the processes for appointments to the entity and the council of the National Library of Australia.
Your role and responsibilities	See chapter on Portfolio Entities – National Library of Australia
Contact	Greg Cox, First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts; s47F

National Museum of Australia Act 1980

Purpose	The Act establishes the entity and its operation as a corporate Commonwealth entity. The Act also outlines the processes for appointments to the entity and the council of the National Museum of Australia.
Your role and responsibilities	See chapter on Portfolio Entities – National Museum of Australia
Contact	Greg Cox, First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts; s47F

National Portrait Gallery of Australia Act 2012

Purpose	The Act establishes the entity and its operation as a corporate Commonwealth entity. The Act also outlines the processes for appointments to the entity and the board of the National Portrait Gallery of Australia.
Your role and responsibilities	See chapter on Portfolio Entities – National Portrait Gallery of Australia
Contact	Greg Cox, First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts; §47F

National Portrait Gallery of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2012

Purpose	The Act provided for consequential and transitional changes following the commencement of the <i>National Portrait Gallery of Australia Act 2012</i> . These changes included references to the gallery in other legislation, the transfer of assets and liabilities, staff and designated enterprise agreements from the Australian Government to the gallery.
Your role and responsibilities	You have no functions or powers under the Act.
Contact	Greg Cox, First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts; §47F

Protection of Cultural Objects on Loan Act 2013

Purpose	The Act provides protection for cultural objects that are on loan from overseas lenders for temporary public exhibition in Australia. It limits the circumstances in which lenders, exhibition facilitators, exhibiting institutions and people working for them can lose ownership, possession, custody or control of the objects due to legal proceedings, the exercise of certain statutory powers, or the operation of Commonwealth, state and territory laws. The Act is designed to assist Australia's major cultural institutions (such as museums, galleries and libraries) to secure loans of cultural material held in collections outside Australia.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>One of the criteria for objects to be protected under the Act is that they must be imported by an approved borrowing institution. You are responsible for deciding whether to approve a borrowing institution, based on a number of prescribed conditions (Section 15). Other powers and responsibilities under the Act include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Receipt of a written opt out notice requesting an object not be protected under the Act (Subparagraph 8(1)(g)).• Declaration to extend the period of protection for an object beyond 2 years in exceptional circumstances (Subsection 8(3)).• Imposing, varying or revoking conditions on the approval of a borrowing institution (Section 16).• Revoking the approval of a borrowing institution (Section 17). <p>The Act allows for you to delegate all of their functions and powers under the Act (except those in relation to the making of regulations), to relevant SES employees within the department.</p>
Contact	Greg Cox, First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts; §47F

Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986

Purpose	<p>The Act protects Australia's movable cultural heritage and provides for the return of foreign cultural property which has been illegally exported from a foreign country and imported into Australia. It gives effect to Australia's obligations under the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property 1970. The Act also establishes the National Cultural Heritage Committee and the National Cultural Heritage Account.</p>
Your role and responsibilities	<p>Your functions include approving certain matters under the Act. Consistent with the legislation, you have the ability to authorise or delegate certain decision-making powers to relevant SES officials within the department. Previous ministers have delegated the following powers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Granting export permits in respect of particular objects, and approving the form of applications and of permits (Sections 10 and 11).• Granting general export permits to certain institutions, and approving the form of applications and of permits (Sections 10A and 11).• Granting certificates of exemption, and approving the form of applications and of certificates (Section 12).• Imposing, varying or revoking conditions of a permit or certificate, varying the period of effect of a permit or certificate, and revoking a permit or certificate, and approval of form of application (Section 13).• Appointing inspectors (Subsection 28(1)), and issuing identity cards and determining their approved form (Subsection 29(1)).• Designating 'appropriate persons' for the purposes of the seizure process (Subsection 36(1)). <p>You may not delegate the following powers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appointing members of the National Cultural Heritage Committee, designating one member as chair, and terminating the appointment of a member (Sections 17 and 18).• Delegating powers under the Act (Section 24).• Making an arrangement with a minister of a state for the exercise of powers and the performance of duties of inspectors by officers of the state (Section 28).• Making directions that set out how to deal with an object that has been forfeited to the Commonwealth (Section 38).• Preparation and tabling of the annual report (Section 47).
Contact	<p>Greg Cox, First Assistant Secretary, Office for the Arts; s47F</p>

Public Lending Rights Act 1985

Purpose	The Act, in conjunction with the Public Lending Right Scheme 2016, determines annual payments to eligible book creators and publishers in recognition of free use of their books in Australian public and educational libraries. The Act establishes the Public Lending Right Committee which oversees the administration of the Public Lending Rights scheme and has an advisory role in regard to the Educational Lending Rights scheme.
Your role and responsibilities	Your main responsibility under the Act and Scheme is to set the annual rates of payment. You also have the power to appoint members and the chair of the Public Lending Right Committee.
Contact	Stephen Arnott, Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts; s47F

Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act 2009

Purpose	The Act creates a right to resale royalty in relation to artworks and entitles visual artists to a royalty payment of 5 per cent of the resale price for eligible works of art resold commercially for \$1,000 or more. The Act provides visual artists with recognition of their ongoing rights in their art, consistent with other artists such as composers or authors who receive royalty payments from their original work.
Your role and responsibilities	<p>Your powers and responsibilities under the Act include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• By notice in writing given to the collecting society, limiting the administration fee to be imposed by the collecting society (subsection 26 (3)).• Appointing a body to be the collecting society (section 35), and revoking the appointment of the collecting society (section 36).• Tabling the collecting society's annual report before each House of the Parliament (subsection 37(4)).• For the purposes of section 28 of the Act, by legislative instrument, determining a format of notice of commercial resale (Regulation 7, Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Regulations 2021).
Contact	Stephen Arnott, Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts; s47F

Screen Australia Act 2008

Purpose	The Act establishes the entity and its operation as a corporate Commonwealth entity. The Act also outlines the processes for appointments to the entity and the board of Screen Australia.
Your role and responsibilities	See chapter on Portfolio Entities— Screen Australia
Contact	Stephen Arnott, Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts; s47F

Screen Australia and the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2008

Purpose	The Act establishes the transitional arrangements for the establishment of Screen Australia and the National Film and Sound Archive, and deals with transfer of employees, assets and liabilities from Australian Film Commission, Film Australia and Film Finance Corporation.
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Your role and responsibilities You have no functions or powers under this Act.

Contact Stephen Arnott, Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts; s47F

Screen Australia (Transfer of Assets) Act 2011

Purpose The Act provides for the change of name of the National Film and Sound Archive and facilitates the transfer of assets and liabilities associated with Screen Australia's film library and related sales and digital learning functions.

Your role and responsibilities You have no functions or powers under this Act.

Contact Stephen Arnott, Deputy Secretary, Creative Economy & the Arts; s47F

Administrative Arrangements Order (2021)

The responsibilities described in this portfolio overview, as well as the department's current organisational arrangements, are based on the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) dated 2 July 2021. These arrangements will be updated in accordance with any new AAOs produced by your government.

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

Matters dealt with by the department

Infrastructure planning and co-ordination

Transport safety, including investigations

Land transport

Civil aviation and airports

Maritime transport including shipping

Major projects, including implementation of all non-Defence development projects

Administration of the Jervis Bay Territory, the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Territory of Christmas Island, the Coral Sea Islands Territory, the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands, and Norfolk Island

Constitutional development of the Northern Territory

Constitutional development of the Australian Capital Territory

Delivery of regional and territory specific services and programmes

Planning and land management in the Australian Capital Territory

Regional development

Matters relating to local government

Regional policy and co-ordination

National policy on cities

Broadband policy and programmes

Postal and telecommunications policies and programmes

Spectrum policy management

Broadcasting policy

Content policy relating to the information economy

Cultural affairs, including movable cultural heritage and support for the arts

Classification

Copyright

Northern Australia policy and coordination

Legislation administered by the minister

A.C.T. Self-Government (Consequential Provisions) Act 1988

Adelaide Airport Curfew Act 2000

Air Accidents (Commonwealth Government Liability) Act 1963

Air Navigation Act 1920

Air Navigation Legislation (Validation and Interpretation) Act 1982

Air Services Act 1995

Aircraft Noise Levy Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Treasurer

Aircraft Noise Levy Collection Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Treasurer

Airports Act 1996

Airports (On-Airport Activities Administration) Validation Act 2010

Airspace Act 2007

Airspace (Consequential and Other Measures) Act 2007
Ashmore and Cartier Islands Acceptance Act 1933
Assistance for Severely Affected Regions (Special Appropriation) (Coronavirus Economic Response Package) Act 2020
AUSSAT Repeal Act 1991
Australia Council Act 2013
Australia Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2013
Australian Airlines (Conversion to Public Company) Act 1988
Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983
Australian Broadcasting Corporation (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1983
Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988, except to the extent administered by the Minister for Finance
Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988
Australian Communications and Media Authority Act 2005
Australian Communications and Media Authority (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2005
Australian Film, Television and Radio School Act 1973
Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990
Australian National Maritime Museum Act 1990
Australian National Railways Commission Sales Act 1997
Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989
Aviation Fuel Revenues (Special Appropriation) Act 1988
Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Broadcasting Reform) Act 2017
Broadcasting Services Act 1992
Broadcasting Services (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1992
Canberra Water Supply (Googong Dam) Act 1974
Carriage of Goods by Sea Act 1991
Christmas Island Act 1958
Christmas Island Agreement Acts
Circuit Layouts Act 1989
Civil Aviation Act 1988
Civil Aviation (Carriers' Liability) Act 1959
Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment Act 1995
Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995, except to the extent administered by the Minister for Indigenous Australians
Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012
Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Act 2012
Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955
Commercial Broadcasting (Tax) Act 2017
Competition and Consumer Act 2010, Parts X, XIB and XIC
Copyright Act 1968
Coral Sea Islands Act 1969
Damage by Aircraft Act 1999
Do Not Call Register Act 2006
Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015
Enhancing Online Safety for Children (Consequential Amendments) Act 2015
Enhancing Online Safety (Non-consensual Sharing of Intimate Images) Act 2018
Infrastructure Australia Act 2008

Interactive Gambling Act 2001
International Air Services Commission Act 1992
International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Cape Town Convention) Act 2013
Jervis Bay Territory Acceptance Act 1915
Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims Act 1989
Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995
Marine Navigation Levy Act 1989
Marine Navigation Levy Collection Act 1989
Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Act 1991
Marine Navigation (Regulatory Functions) Levy Collection Act 1991
Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Act 2012
Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law (Consequential Amendments) Act 2012
Maritime Legislation Amendment Act 2007
Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989
National Broadband Network Companies Act 2011
National Film and Sound Archive of Australia Act 2008
National Gallery Act 1975
National Land Transport Act 2014
National Library Act 1960
National Museum of Australia Act 1980
National Portrait Gallery of Australia Act 2012
National Portrait Gallery of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2012
National Transmission Network Sale Act 1998
National Transport Commission Act 2003
Navigation Act 2012
Norfolk Island Act 1979
Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016
Northern Territory Acceptance Act 1910
Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978, except sections 69 and 70
Parliament Act 1974
Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act 1946
Postal and Telecommunications Commissions (Transitional Provisions) Act 1975
Port Statistics Act 1977
Protection of Cultural Objects on Loan Act 2013
Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986
Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage) Act 2008
Protection of the Sea (Harmful Anti-fouling Systems) Act 2006
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—Customs) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—Excise) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Imposition of Contributions to Oil Pollution Compensation Funds—General) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Oil Pollution Compensation Funds) Act 1993
Protection of the Sea (Powers of Intervention) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Act 1983
Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Act 1981
Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy Collection) Act 1981
Public Lending Right Act 1985

Qantas Sale Act 1992, Part 3, sections 7 to 13 inclusive
Radiocommunications Act 1992
Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Act 1983
Radiocommunications (Spectrum Licence Tax) Act 1997
Radiocommunications Taxes Collection Act 1983
Radiocommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1992
Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Act 1983
Removal of Prisoners (Territories) Act 1923, insofar as it relates to the Northern Territory (except to the extent administered by the Attorney-General) and to Norfolk Island, the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Territory of Christmas Island, the Coral Sea Islands Territory, and the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands
Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act 2009
Road Charges Legislation Repeal and Amendment Act 2008
Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – General) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – Customs) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards Charges (Imposition – Excise) Act 2018
Road Vehicle Standards (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2018
Screen Australia Act 2008
Screen Australia and the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2008
Screen Australia (Transfer of Assets) Act 2011
Seat of Government Acceptance Acts
Seat of Government Act 1908
Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910
Shipping Reform (Tax Incentives) Act 2012
Shipping Registration Act 1981
Spam Act 2003
Special Broadcasting Service Act 1991
Special Recreational Vessels Act 2019
Submarine Cables and Pipelines Protection Act 1963
Sydney Airport Curfew Act 1995
Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997
Telecommunications Act 1997
Telecommunications and Postal Services (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1989
Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer) Act 2020
Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act 1997
Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999
Telecommunications (Industry Levy) Act 2012
Telecommunications (Numbering Charges) Act 1997
Telecommunications (Regional Broadband Scheme) Charge Act 2020
Telecommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1991
Telecommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 1997
Telstra Corporation Act 1991
Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Act 2005
Territories Law Reform Act 2010
Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003
Urban and Regional Development (Financial Assistance) Act 1974