

**Australian Government****Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications****Portfolio brief
Legislation**

Portfolio Legislation (Urban Infrastructure and Cities)

This directory matches the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) which was last amended on 2 April 2020.

Program 1.1: Infrastructure Investment

Infrastructure Australia Act 2008

Purpose

The Infrastructure Australia Act 2008 establishes Infrastructure Australia and provides for its related purposes.

Contact: Mitch Pirie, Assistant Secretary, Investment Advisory and Business Improvement Branch, Infrastructure Investment Division

Phone: 02 6274 6114

National Land Transport Act 2014

Purpose

The purpose of the Act is to assist national and regional economic and social development by the provision of Commonwealth funding aimed at improving the performance of land transport infrastructure.

Funding may be provided for:

- 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

Contact: Daniel Caruso, Assistant Secretary, Policy, Program and Budget, Infrastructure Investment Division

Phone: 02 6274 6522



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

Portfolio brief
Entities

Portfolio Entities (Urban Infrastructure and Cities)

The entities are current and match the information available on www.directory.gov.au

Principal Australian Government Entities

- Infrastructure Australia
- Moorebank Intermodal Company Limited
- WSA Co Limited

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Infrastructure Australia

<i>Description</i>	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 on a wide range of issues including Australia's current and future infrastructure needs; policy, pricing and regulation and their impact on investment and on the efficiency of the delivery, operation and use of national infrastructure networks.
<i>Legal status</i>	Statutory Authority; Corporate Commonwealth entity (PGPA Act).
<i>Ministerial role/ responsibilities</i>	<p>The responsible portfolio Minister may give written directions to the IA Board about the performance of its functions in giving directions may have regard to any decisions by COAG directions given must be of a general nature only and must not give directions about the content of any audit, list, evaluation, plan or advice to be provided by IA.</p> <p>The responsible portfolio Minister appoints the Chair, and members of the IA Board.</p>
<i>Departmental role/ responsibilities</i>	<p>The department is responsible for advising IA of government policy, administrative arrangements and budget matters. The department may seek assistance from IA in the preparation of replies to ministerial correspondence, submissions to Senate Committees and other parliamentary inquiries.</p> <p>The department provides policy advice to the responsible portfolio Minister on all aspects of IA's operations.</p> <p>The department is responsible for supporting the responsible portfolio Minister in appointing the Chair and members.</p>
<i>Governance</i>	The IA Board comprises 12 members. A quorum for a meeting is eight members. The Board is responsible for ensuring that IA's functions are performed in a proper, efficient and effective manner.
<i>Membership</i>	<p>Chair: Ms Julieanne Alroe</p> <p>CEO: (appointed by the IA Board) Ms Romilly Madew AO</p> <p>Members: Mr Mark Balnaves, Mr Peter Corish AM, Mr John Fitzgerald, Ms Marion Fulker, Mr Peter Harris AO, Mr Rod Hook, Ms Samantha Hogg, , Ms Deena Shiff, Mr Graham Quirk, Ms Gabrielle Trainor AO and Mr Reece Waldock AM</p>
<i>Contact</i>	<p>Ms Romilly Madew AO</p> <p>CEO</p> <p>(02) 8114 1905</p> <p>romilly.madew@infrastructure.gov.au</p>
<i>Website</i>	www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au

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Moorebank Intermodal Company Limited

<i>Description</i>	<p>The Moorebank Intermodal Company Limited (MIC) is a Commonwealth Company under the Corporations Act 2001. MIC was established to facilitate the development of an intermodal terminal at Moorebank in Sydney's south-west. MIC is wholly owned by the Australian Government, which is represented by the relevant portfolio Minister and the Minister for Finance as MIC's two Shareholder Ministers.</p> <p>MIC will oversee the development of the Moorebank Intermodal Terminal. MIC aims to optimise private sector expertise and investment, through a competitive process, to develop and operate the intermodal terminal and meet the project's objectives.</p> <p>MIC's objectives for the project are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • boost national productivity over the long-term through improved freight network capacity and rail utilisation • create a flexible and commercially viable common user facility for rail operators and other terminal users • attract employment and investment to south-western Sydney • achieve sound environmental and social outcomes that are considerate of community views • optimise value for money for MIC having regard to the other stated project objectives
<i>Legal status</i>	<p>Commonwealth Company (PGPA Act) limited by shares under the Corporations Act 2001; Government Business Enterprise (PGPA Rule); Public Non-financial Corporation (PGPA Act).</p> <p>The responsible portfolio Minister, together with the Minister for Finance, are Shareholder Ministers of MIC on behalf of the Australian Government.</p>
<i>Ministerial role/ responsibilities</i>	<p>The Minister has portfolio responsibilities for the development of the Australian Government's policy about freight and rail. The Minister for Finance is responsible for the PGPA Act and the GBE Guidelines.</p> <p>Shareholder Ministers appoint the Chair and Directors to the MIC Board. Subject to the approval of Shareholder Ministers, the Directors may appoint a CEO for any period in accordance with the MIC Constitution. Shareholder Ministers do not hold a directions power over the activities of the Company</p>
<i>Departmental role/ responsibilities</i>	<p>The department provides an oversight role, ensuring the MIC meets its governance obligations. The department and the Department of Finance advise their Ministers on statutory obligations, including PGPA Act obligations. The department provides advice to the Minister about MIC's progress in facilitating the implementation of the intermodal terminal.</p> <p>The department is also responsible for supporting the Shareholder Ministers in appointing the Chair, Director and CEO.</p>
<i>Governance</i>	The key roles and responsibilities are guided by the GBE Guidelines.
<i>Membership</i>	<p>Chair: Ms Erin Flaherty</p> <p>CEO: Mr James Baulderstone</p> <p>Directors: Mr Lucio di Bartolomeo, Ms Christine Holman, The Hon James Lloyd, Mr Ray Wilson, and Mr Ron Koehler.</p>
<i>Contact</i>	<p>Mr James Baulderstone, CEO</p> <p>(02) 8265 5601</p> <p>james.baulderstone@micl.com.au</p>
<i>Website</i>	www.micl.com.au

<i>Description</i>	WSA Co Limited (WSA) was established by the Australian Government to develop and operate Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport (the Airport) at Badgerys Creek. WSA is required to execute its responsibilities in accordance with a Project Deed with the Government in order to open the Airport by 2026. In delivering the WSA Airport, WSA's Co's objectives are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve access to aviation services in Western Sydney • resolve the long term aviation capacity issue in the Sydney basin • maximise the value of the Airport as a national asset • optimise the benefit of the Airport on employment and investment in Western Sydney • effectively integrate with new and existing initiatives in the Western Sydney area • operate on commercially sound principles having regard to the Government’s intention to preserve its options with respect to ownership and governance arrangements.
<i>Legal status</i>	Commonwealth Company (PGPA Act) limited by shares under the Corporations Act 2001; Government Business Enterprise (PGPA Rule); Public Non-financial Corporation (PGPA Act). The responsible portfolio Minister and the Minister for Finance and the Public Service are shareholder ministers.
<i>Ministerial role/responsibilities</i>	The Minister has portfolio responsibilities for the development of the Western Sydney Airport. The Minister for Finance is responsible for the PGPA Act and the GBE Guidelines. Shareholder ministers appoint the Chair and Directors, with a minimum of 3 and maximum of 7 directors. There are currently 7 Directors, with appointments currently in place until at least August 2021. Subject to consultation with the shareholder ministers, the directors may appoint a CEO in accordance with the constitution.
<i>Departmental role/responsibilities</i>	The shareholder departments (the department and the Department of Finance) provide an oversight role, ensuring that WSA meets its governance obligations. They advise their ministers on statutory obligations, including PGPA Act obligations and WSA performance. The departments are responsible for supporting the shareholder ministers in executing their duties, such as approving WSA’s annual equity cap and appointing the Chair and Directors.
<i>Governance</i>	WSA acts in accordance with the GBE Guidelines, the PGPA Act, the Corporations Act, a Statement of Expectations, Commercial Freedoms Framework, Project Deed, Company Constitution and the Western Sydney Airport Plan.
<i>Membership</i>	Chair: Mr Paul O’Sullivan CEO: Mr Simon Hickey Directors: Mrs Fiona Balfour AO, Mr Timothy Eddy, Mr Vincent Graham, Ms Anthea Hammon, Ms Christine Spring and Mr John Weber
<i>Contact</i>	Mr Paul O’Sullivan Chair, WSA Co Limited posullivan@wsaco.com.au
<i>Website</i>	www.wsaco.com.au



Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications**

Portfolio Brief
Key stakeholders

Key stakeholders (Urban Infrastructure and Cities)

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WSA Co

Mr Paul O'Sullivan
Chair

s 47F

posullivan@wsaco.com.au

Moorebank Intermodal Company Limited

Mr James Baulderstone
Chief Executive Officer
02 8265 5601 / **s47F**

Ms Erin Flaherty
Chair

s 47F

Erin.flaherty.micl.com.au

State and Territory Government Ministers

Australian Capital Territory Government

Mr Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister
Treasurer
Minister for Climate Action
Minister for Ecomic Development
Minister for Tourism
02 6205 0011
CANBERRA ACT
barr@act.gov.au

Mr Chris Steel MLA
Minister for Transport and City Services
Minister for Skills
Special Minister of State
02 6205 1470
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steel@act.gov.au

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New South Wales Government

The Hon Gladys Berejiklian, MP Premier 02 8574 5000 SYDNEY NSW willoughby@parliament.nsw.gov.au	The Hon Stuart Ayres MP Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney (02) 8574 6500 SYDNEY, NSW penrith@parliament.nsw.gov.au	The Hon Shelley Hancock MP Minister for Local Government (02) 8574 5400 SYDNEY NSW southcoast@parliament.nsw.gov.au
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Northern Territory Government

The Hon Michael Patrick Francis Gunner MLA Chief Minister Treasurer Minister for Major Projects and Territory Economic Reconstruction Minister for Strategic Defence Relations 08 8936 5500 DARWIN NT chief.minister@nt.gov.au	The Hon Eva Dina Lawler MLA Minister for Renewables and Energy Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics Minister for Environment Minister for Water Security Minister for Climate Change Minister for Essential Services 08 8936 5566 DARWIN NT Minister.lawler@nt.gov.au	The Hon Chanston (Chancey) James Paech MLA Minister for Local Government Minister for Central Australian Reconstruction Minister for Remote Housing and Town Camps Minister for Indigenous Essential Services Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage 08 8936 5617 ALICE SPRINGS NT Minister.Paech@nt.gov.au
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Queensland Government

The Hon Anastacia Palaszczuk MP Premier and Minister for Trade 07 3719 7000 BRISBANE QLD thepremier@premiers.qld.gov.au	The Hon Dr Steven Miles MP Deputy Premier; Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning; 07 3448 9300 BRISBANE QLD deputy.premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au	The Hon Mark Bailey MP Minister for Transport and Main Roads 07 3719 7300 BRISBANE QLD ransportandmainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au
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South Australian Government

The Hon Steven Marshall MP Premier 08 8429 3232 ADELAIDE SA DPCofficeofthepremier@sa.gov.au premier@sa.gov.au	The Hon Vickie Chapman MP Deputy Premier Attorney-General Minister for Planning and Local Government 08 8207 1723 ADELAIDE SA attorneygeneral@sa.gov.au	The Hon Corey Wingard MP Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing 08 8463 6641 ADELAIDE SA ministerwingard@sa.gov.au
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OFFICIAL

Tasmanian Government

The Hon Peter Gutwein MP
Premier;
Treasurer;
Minister for Climate Change;
Minister for the Prevention of Family
Violence;
Minister for Tourism
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HOBART TAS
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The Hon Mark Shelton MP
Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency
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Minister for Local Government
03 6324 2080
HOBART TAS
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The Hon Michael Ferguson MP
Minister for State Growth;
Minister for Science and Technology
Leader of the House
Minister for Infrastructure and
Transport
Minister for Finance
03 6165 7701
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Victorian Government

The Hon Daniel Andrews MP
Premier
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Minister for Roads and Road Safety
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The Hon Jacinta Allan MP
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Minister for the Suburban Rail Loop
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The Hon Shaun Leane MP
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Western Australian Government

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Minister for State Development, Job
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Minister for Federal–State Relations
08 6552 5000
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The Hon David Templeman MLA
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Minister for Heritage
Minister for Cultural and the Arts
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WEST PERTH WA
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The Hon Rita Saffioti MLA
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Minister for Planning
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Infrastructure and Transport — Infrastructure

Australian Tourism and Transport Forum	Ms Margy Osmond Chief Executive Officer 02 9240 2000 SYDNEY NSW contact@ttf.org.au
Infrastructure Partnerships Australia	Mr Adrian Dwyer Chief Executive Officer 02 9152 6000 SYDNEY NSW adrian.dwyer@infrastructure.org.au

Infrastructure — City Deals

Property Council of Australia	Mr Ken Morrison Chief Executive (02) 9033 1900 SYDNEY NSW info@propertycouncil.com.au
Planning Institute of Australia	Steve O'Connor President 02 6262 5933 CANBERRA ACT president@planning.org.au
Housing Industry Association Limited	Mr Graham Wolfe Managing Director 02 6245 1300 CAMPBELL ACT enquiry@hia.com.au
Master Builders Australia	Denita Wawn Chief Executive Officer YARRALUMLA ACT 02 6202 8888 enquiries@masterbuilders.com.au
Council of Capital City Lord Mayors	Deborah Wilkinson Executive Director (02) 6282 4253/ s 47F CANBERRA ACT info@lordmayors.org/ Deborah.wilkinson@lordmayors.org
Urban Development Institute of Australia	Steve Mann CEO (NSW) 02 9262 1214 ROSEVILLE NSW udia@udia.com.au

OFFICIAL

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Hobart City Council	Mayor Anna Reynolds Lord Mayor s 47F HOBART TAS Lord.mayor@hobartcity.com.au	
Council of Mayors South East Queensland	Cr Adrian Schinner Chair / Lord Mayor of Brisbane 07 3403 4400 BRISBANE QLD lordmayor@brisbane.qld.gov.au	Scott Smith Chief Executive Officer – Council of Mayors South East Queensland 07 3040 3479 / s 47F BRISBANE QLD scott.smith@seqmayors.qld.gov.au
Western Parkland City Authority	Dr Sarah Hill Chief Executive Officer SYDNEY NSW Sarah.hill@wpca.sydney	
Blue Mountains City Council	Cr Mark Greenhill OAM Mayor s 47F KATOOMBA NSW mgreenhill@bmcc.nsw.gov.au	
Camden City Council	Cr Theresa Fedeli Mayor s 47F CAMDEN NSW cr.fedeli@camden.nsw.gov.au	
Campbelltown City Council	Cr George Brticevic Mayor s 47F CAMPBELLTOWN NSW george.brticevic@campbelltown.nsw.gov.au	
Fairfield City Council	Frank Carbone Mayor s 47F FAIRFIELD NSW fcarbone@fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au	
Hawkesbury City Council	Cr Patrick Conolly Mayor s 47F WINDSOR NSW patrick.conolly@hawkesburycouncillor.nsw.gov.au	
Liverpool City Council	Wendy Waller Mayor s 47F LIVERPOOL BC NSW cllrwaller@liverpool.nsw.gov.au	

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Penrith City Council	Cr Karen McKeown Mayor s 47F PENRITH NSW karen.mckeown@penrith.city
Wollondilly Shire Council	Cr Robert Khan Mayor s 47F PICTON NSW Robert.khan@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au
Greater Sydney Commission	Mr Geoff Roberts AM Chief Commissioner SYDNEY NSW Geoff.roberts@gsc.gov.au



Executive and Division Profiles

Secretary

Mr Simon Atkinson


02 6274 7573 / 

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Chief of Staff to the Secretary

Ms Ashley Sedgwick

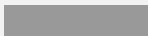
02 6274 7222 / 

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Deputy Secretary, Regional and Territories

Dr Rachel Bacon

02 6274 6161 / 


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- Regional Development, Local Government and COVID-19 Regional Recovery Division
- Territories Division

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Deputy Secretary, Aviation and Airports

Ms Christine Dacey

02 6274 7029 / 

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- COVID-19 Aviation Response Programs Division
- COVID-19 Aviation Issues Management Division

s47F

Deputy Secretary, Infrastructure and Surface Transport

Mr David Hallinan

02 6274 7302 /  s47F

- Cities Division
- COVID-19 Surface Transport Division
- Infrastructure Investment Division
- Major Transport & Infrastructure Projects Division (Western Sydney Unit/Inland Rail)

s47F

Deputy Secretary, Water Infrastructure

Mr Brendan McRandle PSM

02 6274 7209 /  s47F

- National Water Grid Authority

s47F

Deputy Secretary, Arts | Chief Operating Officer

Ms Pip Spence PSM

02 6271 1317 /  s47F

- Office for the Arts
- Portfolio Strategy and Policy Coordination Division
- Data, Analytics and Policy Division
- People, Governance, Parliamentary and Communication Division
- Finance, Legal and IT Division

s47F

Deputy Secretary, Communications and Media

Mr Richard Windeyer

02 6271 1066 /  s47F

- Content Division
- Communications Infrastructure Division
- Communications Services and Consumer Division

s47F

COVID-19 Aviation Response Programs Division

First Assistant Secretary: Richard Wood

Phone: 02 6274 6589 / [REDACTED]

s47F

s47F

The COVID-19 Aviation Response Programs Division was established to assist the Australian Government to respond to the impacts of COVID-19 and contributes to the well-being of all Australians by fostering a competitive, sustainable and safe aviation sector through appropriate regulation, program delivery and policy development.

The division provides advice on aviation safety, future technology and international aviation matters including the current “cap” arrangements. It also administers the measures under Australian Airline Financial Relief package, the Regional Airlines Funding Assistance program, the Regional Airports Screening Infrastructure program, which were all established to support the aviation sector through the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition the division administers a number of non-COVID-19 related policies including aircraft safety, airspace protection and air traffic policy.

Safety and Future Technology Branch

Assistant Secretary: Simon Moore

Phone: 02 6274 7892 / [REDACTED]

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The Safety and Future Technology Branch is responsible for airspace policy and future aviation technology, aviation safeguarding and noise regulation, governance arrangements for portfolio agencies, and engagement with the general aviation sector. The branch also has responsibility for delivering elements of the Australian Government’s COVID-19 aviation assistance program.

COVID-19 Financial Assistance Branch

Assistant Secretary: Phil McClure

Phone: 02 6274 6289 / [REDACTED]

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The COVID-19 Financial Assistance Branch is responsible for administering a number of the Australian Government’s regional aviation COVID-19 response programs: \$100 million Regional Airlines Funding Assistance (RAFA) program; \$66 million Regional Airports Screening Infrastructure (RASI) program; and \$40 million Supporting Australia’s Regional Airports (SARA) program. The branch also leads the department’s engagement with Austrade, providing governance support and aviation sector specific advice to assist in the delivery of the \$669 million International Freight Assistance Mechanism (IFAM).

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COVID-19 International Branch

Assistant Secretary: Jim Wolfe

s47F

Phone: 02 6274 7611 / 

s47F

The COVID-19 International Branch is responsible for international aviation policy and regulation including the negotiation and maintenance of Australia's air services arrangements, the approval of international airline licences and timetables, and designation of Australia's international airports. The branch also coordinates Australia's engagement with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), including the operation of our ICAO international mission based in Montreal, and coordinates international aviation programs, working with other Government agencies, in Indonesia and Papua New Guinea.

OFFICIAL

COVID-19 Aviation Issues Management Division

First Assistant Secretary: Janet Quigley

s47F

Phone: 02 6274 6061 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The COVID-19 Aviation Issues Management Division was established to assist the Australian Government respond to the impacts of COVID-19 and contributes to the well-being of all Australians by fostering a competitive, sustainable and safe aviation sector through appropriate regulation, program delivery and policy development.

The division provides advice on domestic and regional aviation policy matters and manages the Domestic Aviation Network Support program and the Regional Airline Support program, which were established to ensure essential travellers and goods could continue to fly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition, the division is also leading the development of reforms to support recovery in the aviation sector post-COVID-19.

The division also leads on a number of non-COVID-19 specific functions including administering the Commonwealth's ongoing interests in the operation and management of the leased federal airports and managing a number of regional aviation programs designed to support regional and remote aviation.

COVID-19 Aviation Reforms Branch

Assistant Secretary: Ann Redmond

s47F

Phone: 02 6274 7760 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The COVID-19 Aviation Reforms Branch works with airports and airlines on contact tracing processes, overseeing the domestic passenger journey protocol, and working across government and industry on international border reopenings.

The branch also has responsibility for implementing the Australian Government's 2019 response to the Productivity Commission's *Inquiry into the Economic Regulation of Airports*, and conducting a review of demand management at Sydney Airport. It provides advice and manages sector consultation and legislative review related to airport productivity and airport-airline relations.

COVID-19 Domestic Policy and Programs Branch

Assistant Secretary: Jason Dymowski

Phone: 02 6274 6684 / [REDACTED] s47F

s47F

The COVID-19 Domestic Policy and Programs Branch manages the Domestic Aviation Network Support program, which was established to ensure minimum connectivity to facilitate the transport of essential workers in key industries such as health, humanitarian support and law enforcement, as well as providing for the transport of critical freight supplies.

The branch also provides advice to Government on domestic aviation matters including competition and skills.

Airports Branch

Acting Assistant Secretary: David Jansen s47F

Phone: 02 6274 7082 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Airports Branch is responsible for administering the Australian Government's ongoing interests in the operation and management of the 21 federal leased airports, under both the statutory regulatory framework of the *Airports Act 1996*, and the contractual arrangements entered into as part of the sales processes.

COVID-19 Regional Policy and Programs Branch

Assistant Secretary: Clare Chapple

Phone: 02 6274 6467 / [REDACTED] s47F

s47F

The COVID-19 Regional Policy and Programs Branch is responsible for the administration and delivery of the Regional Airline Network Support Program, as well as the delivery of the Regional Airport Program and the Remote Airstrip Program. The branch provides policy advice on regional aviation issues and reporting and governance support for the COVID-19 aviation programs.

Cities Division

Acting First Assistant Secretary: Adam Stankevicius

s47F

Phone: 02 6274 6062 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Cities Division is responsible for implementing the Australian Government's Smart Cities Plan through bringing together three levels of government, the community and private enterprise to create place based partnerships called City Deals – focusing on aligning planning, investment and governance to accelerate growth and job creation, stimulate urban renewal and drive economic reforms and the delivery of the Australian Government's Smart Cities and Suburbs Program.

City Deals (TAS, NT & WA) and Programs Branch

Assistant Secretary: Adam Stankevicius

s47F

Phone: 02 6274 6062 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The City Deals (TAS, NT & WA) and Programs Branch is responsible for engagement with the state and local governments on brokering, negotiating and implementing City Deals. This includes delivering the Launceston, Hobart, Darwin, Perth City Deals and Albury-Wodonga Regional Deal, and developing the South-East Melbourne, North-West Melbourne City Deals. The branch also provides smart technology policy advice and leads delivery of the Smart Cities and Suburbs Program to accelerate smart technology initiatives and innovation.

City Deals (QLD, SA & VIC) Branch

Assistant Secretary: Kim Forbes

s47F

Phone: 02 6274 7212 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The City Deals (QLD, SA & VIC) Branch is responsible for developing a strategy for future City Deals and for leading engagement with state and local governments – including implementation of the Townsville, Adelaide, Geelong City Deals and Hinkler Regional Deal and brokering and negotiating of the South East Queensland City Deal.

COVID-19 Surface Transport Division

First Assistant Secretary: Jessica Hall

Phone: 02 6274 6778 / [REDACTED] s47F

s47F

The COVID-19 Surface Transport Division develops and implements reforms, policies, programs and regulation for maritime, rail, roads and vehicles to achieve efficient, productive, safe and sustainable outcomes that contribute to the well-being of all Australians.

COVID-19 Freight and Logistics Branch

Assistant Secretary: Lee Steel

Phone: 02 6274 8125 / [REDACTED] s47F

s47F

The COVID-19 Freight and Logistics Branch is responsible for a range of transport regulatory policy across road, rail and public transport modes, including heavy vehicle access and productivity, electric vehicles and sustainable transport, accessible transport standards, rail industry and transport of dangerous goods. In addition, the branch leads work on COVID-19 freight and logistics response and recovery measures. It leads engagement with state, territory and local government, heavy vehicle and rail safety regulators, and key industry and community stakeholders to develop and deliver transport reform initiatives.

COVID-19 Maritime and Shipping Branch

Assistant Secretary: Andrew Johnson

Phone: 02 6274 6881 / [REDACTED] s47F

s47F

The COVID19 Maritime and Shipping Branch is responsible for coastal shipping and domestic commercial vessel safety reform. It leads international policy on maritime traffic facilitation and greenhouse gas emissions from shipping. The Branch is the regulator for international liner shipping, shipping tax incentives and coastal trading. The Branch has been working with state and territory agencies, and industry stakeholders to ensure shipping is COVID-safe and cargo can continue to be imported and exported during the pandemic. It manages the Tasmanian Shipping Programs. It also administers Acts giving effect to Australia's obligations under various international treaties and conventions on maritime safety and marine environment protection under the International Maritime Organization (IMO). It supports the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) in delivering its obligations under the *Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990*.

OFFICIAL

Road Vehicle Safety Act (RSVA) Implementation Branch

Assistant Secretary: Anita Langford
 Phone: 02 6274 7266 / [REDACTED] s47F

s47F

The RVSA Implementation Program Branch is responsible for driving the development and implementation of subsidiary legislation, procedures, guidelines, systems and workforce capability for commencement of the Road Vehicle Standards (RVS) legislation in 2019. The RVSA will replace the existing *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* (MVSA) and deliver an updated and modernised system to regulate the first provision of road vehicles to the Australian market. The RVS legislation is being phased in to facilitate a smooth transition to the new regulatory framework.

Office of Road Safety

Assistant Secretary: Gabby O'Neill
 Phone: 02 6274 6492 / [REDACTED] s47F

s47F

The Office of Road Safety is the lead for road safety policy and engagement in the Commonwealth. The key driver of its work is to mainstream the Safe System approach into the business of federal, state and territory and local governments across Australia. It is responsible for developing government non-infrastructure road safety programs. It leads engagement on the development of the National Road Safety Strategy and Action Plan, including measuring progress against the existing National Road Safety Strategy and Action Plan. It works closely with other areas of the department to support delivery of safer roads.

Vehicle Safety Standards Branch

Assistant Secretary: Roland Pittar
 Phone: 02 6274 6424 / [REDACTED] s47F

s47F

The Vehicle Safety Standards Branch administers the MVSA, which sets vehicle standards for all new vehicles entering the Australian market and regulates the supply to the market of used vehicles and is also responsible for international engagement in the development of vehicle regulations. The branch also assesses alleged vehicle safety defects and monitors manufacturers' voluntary recall campaigns on behalf of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC).

OFFICIAL

Infrastructure Investment Division

First Assistant Secretary: Phil Smith

Phone: 02 6274 7209 / [REDACTED]

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The Infrastructure Investment Division plays a key role in the management and delivery of major road, rail, port and regional infrastructure projects including projects funded through the Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP). The IIP is supporting Australia's productivity by increasing the efficiency and safety of Australian land transport infrastructure.

The division plays a key role in advising the Australian Government on infrastructure investment and planning policy for future infrastructure investment programs.

Program, Policy and Budget Branch

Assistant Secretary: Daniel Caruso

Phone: 02 6274 6522 / [REDACTED]

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The Program, Policy and Budget Branch supports the delivery of the IIP by managing the administered budget and providing investment strategy and policy advice to the departmental executive and ministers, including as part of the economic response to COVID-19. The branch also manages the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

North West Infrastructure Investment Branch

Assistant Secretary: Shona Rosengren

Phone: 02 6274 8219 / [REDACTED]

s47F

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The North West Infrastructure Investment Branch is responsible for the administration of road and rail projects within Queensland, Western Australia and Northern Territory, including programs and initiatives to support various Northern Australian policy objectives. This includes participation in development of business cases for new projects and oversight of the efficient delivery of projects.

NSW, ACT and Targeted Roads Branch

Assistant Secretary: Robyn Legg s47F
 Phone: 02 6274 7670 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The NSW, ACT and Targeted Roads Branch is responsible for administering and overseeing the delivery of road and rail projects funded under the IIP in NSW and the ACT. This includes participation in development of business cases for new projects and oversight of the efficient delivery of projects. The branch also manages the National Targeted Roads Infrastructure Programs (N-TRIP), which is responsible for managing and overseeing the delivery of projects funded under the Roads to Recovery Program, Black Spot Program and Bridges Renewal Program and Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program nationally.

VIC, TAS and SA Branch

Assistant Secretary: Sarah Nattey s47F
 Phone: 02 6274 7479 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The VIC, TAS and SA Branch is responsible for administering and overseeing the delivery of road and rail projects funded under the Infrastructure Investment Program in VIC, SA and TAS. The branch provides program implementation advice to ensure that effective governance arrangements are in place, ensures legislative compliance is effectively monitored, and assists the Australian Government to promote its significant investment. The branch also plans for current and future infrastructure investment priorities, including through participating in the development of business cases.

Investment Advisory and Business Improvement Branch

Assistant Secretary: Mitch Pirie s47F
 Phone: 02 6274 6114 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Investment Advisory and Business Improvement Branch is responsible for assisting with the administration of projects with non-grant funding and providing additional due diligence on major investment opportunities and complex projects by analysing cost estimates, modelling methodologies, project benefits and risk, and network requirements. The Branch monitors the capacity of the construction sector to deliver the IIP and works closely with state and territory government officials to progress national infrastructure reform. The branch also includes the Infrastructure Investment Transformation Taskforce, responsible for the design, development, and delivery of the Infrastructure Investment Transformation Program, an information technology and business improvement program, which aims to reform the department's management of the IIP.

Major Transport and Infrastructure Projects Division (Western Sydney Unit/Inland Rail)

First Assistant Secretary: Kerry Vine-Camp

s47F

Phone: 02 6274 7664 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Major Transport and Infrastructure Projects Division is responsible for the oversight, monitoring and rollout of Inland Rail, Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport and Moorebank Intermodal Terminal. Unlike most transport infrastructure projects in Australia these major projects are being delivered by Commonwealth-owned Government Business Enterprises (GBEs). The division plays a key role in the program and shareholder management, governance and strategic communication over both projects, closely engaging with State Government, Local Councils and the Government Business Enterprises (WSA Co, Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) and Moorebank Intermodal Company). The division develops and provides effective advice and investment decisions to Government that support the broader policy objectives for the successful delivery of both projects.

Program and Shareholder Management Branch

Assistant Secretary: Greg Whalen

s47F

Phone: 02 6274 7341 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Program and Shareholder Management Branch is responsible for providing shareholder oversight of the WSA company (WSA Co) for the development and operation of the Western Sydney Airport. It manages the Project Deed between the Commonwealth and WSA Co for the development of Stage 1 of the Western Sydney Airport. It manages the program governance and reporting framework for the airport program. The branch also oversees the realisation of the economic benefits of Western Sydney Airport, and the communication of these to government and the community.

Regulatory, Environmental and Stakeholder Engagement Branch

Acting Assistant Secretary: [REDACTED]

s47F

Phone: [REDACTED] / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Regulatory, Environment and Stakeholder Engagement Branch is responsible for regulating the construction and development of the Western Sydney Airport under the *Airports Act 1996* and the Western Sydney Airport Plan. This includes day to day environmental oversight through an Airport Environment Officer. The branch is delivering the draft airspace and flight path design for Western Sydney Airport and Commonwealth lead stakeholder engagement activities associated with the airport.

Rail and City Deal Implementation Branch

Acting Assistant Secretary:

s47F

Phone:

The Branch is responsible for collaborating with NSW, local councils and the WSA Co to progress the Australian Government's rail commitment from St Marys to the Aerotropolis, via the Western Sydney Airport. This includes developing and providing effective advice on rail to Government that supports broader policy objectives in Western Sydney. The branch is also responsible for progressing delivery of the Commonwealth's obligations under the Western Sydney City Deal, ensuring that the Commonwealth's objectives are communicated and considered by City Deal partners.

Inland Rail Operations Branch

Assistant Secretary:

Stephen Sorbello

s47F

Phone:

02 6274 7498 /

The Branch maintains oversight and contributes to the delivery of the once-in-a-generation Inland Rail project along with associated and complementary projects. This includes overseeing the GBEs of the ARTC, responsible for delivering Inland Rail, and Moorebank Intermodal Company Limited, responsible for supporting the delivery of an intermodal terminal in Western Sydney. The branch also works closely with key stakeholders including ARTC, the Department of Finance and state jurisdictions to deliver projects to support Inland Rail and the movement of freight and passengers by rail including the North East Rail Line and Port Botany Rail Line Upgrades, the Advanced Train Management System and joint business cases with the Victorian and Queensland Governments; for intermodal terminals; rail freight connections to ports and passenger rail upgrades.

Inland Rail Stakeholder and Regional Delivery Branch

Assistant Secretary:

Andrew Bourne

s47F


Phone:

02 6274 7486 /

The Branch is responsible for strategic communication, stakeholder management and regional engagement activities. The Branch's regional officers based in Toowoomba, Moree, Dubbo and Wodonga provide a pathway for local communities to engage with the department regarding Inland Rail and complementary government initiatives such as the Interface Improvement Program. The branch also monitors environmental approvals, and manages the review of flood modelling in QLD. The branch works collaboratively to engage the department's clients, stakeholders, staff and the broader community to build their knowledge and understanding of Inland Rail and the benefits it will bring to Australia.

Regional Development, Local Government and COVID-19 Regional Recovery Division

First Assistant Secretary: Marisa Purvis-Smith

Phone: 02 6274 6460 /  s47F

s47F

The Regional Development, Local Government and COVID-19 Regional Recovery Division provides advice to Government on regional development and local government. It focuses on strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of regional economies and communities through regional policy and program development; facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; and providing grants and financial assistance to regional communities and local and state governments.

COVID-19 Regional Recovery and Fund Policy Branch

Assistant Secretary: Joe Castellino


Phone: 02 6274 6426 /  s47F

s47F

The COVID-19 Regional Recovery and Fund Policy Branch is responsible for oversight of the COVID-19 Relief & Recovery Fund; implementation of 2020-21 Budget measures including Regional Recovery Partnerships, Building Resilient Regional Leaders and Regional Decentralisation; the Australian Government's representation on the Regional Development Policy Committee of the OECD; regional policy outreach across the Australian Public Service, including Regional Australia Impact Statements; and cross-jurisdictional engagement on regional policy, including through the new Rural and Regional National Cabinet Reform Committee.

COVID-19 Regional Intelligence and Local Government Branch

Assistant Secretary: Chris Faris

Phone: 02 6274 7745 /  s47F

s47F

The COVID-19 Regional Intelligence and Local Government Branch undertakes a variety of policy and program responsibilities to contribute to regional development and support the local government sector. We implement and manage the Regional Development Australia (RDA) program funding agreements, we connect RDAs to Government stakeholders and we facilitate the National Awards for Excellence in Local Government. The branch supports the Local Government Minister in developing Commonwealth policy and programs and administers the Commonwealth's Financial Assistance Grant program. The branch is also responsible for leading the implementation of the Barkly Regional Deal in the NT.

OFFICIAL**Drought Branch**

Assistant Secretary: Karly Pidgeon s47F
 Phone: 02 6274 7931 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Drought Branch delivers grant programs that support drought-affected communities and provides program management and governance oversight across the division's grants and major policy initiatives through the Regional Initiatives Implementation Office. The branch's drought grant programs include the Drought Communities Programme Extension, the Drought Community Support Initiative, the Drought Community Outreach Program, support for the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal's Tackling Tough Times Together program and funding to the Country Women's Association of Australia for household drought support.

Regional Programs Branch

Assistant Secretary: Meghan Hibbert s47F
 Phone: 02 6393 4030 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Regional Programs Branch is responsible for the delivery of a number of regional programs including the Building Better Regions Fund; National Stronger Regions Fund; Community Development Grants Programme; Stronger Communities Programme; Tasmanian Jobs and Growth Package; Murray-Darling Basin Regional Economic Diversification Programme; Regional Jobs and Investment Packages; Regional Growth Fund; and Drought Communities Programme.

OFFICIAL

Territories Division

First Assistant Secretary: Sarah Vandenbroek

Phone: 02 6274 8222 / [REDACTED] s47F

s47F

The Territories Division administers the territories of Christmas Island (CI), the Cocos (Keeling) Islands (CKI), Jervis Bay and Norfolk Island (NI); and manages national interests in the ACT and the NT. The Territories program provides good governance in all Australian Territories, self-governing (ACT and NT) and non-self-governing (Indian Ocean Territories (IOT's), NI and the Jervis Bay Territory (JBT)) by maintaining and improving the overarching legislative framework. In addition it provides direct services, laws and infrastructure to the IOTs, NI and the JBT.

The division works to ensure residents of Territories have comparable services and essential infrastructure to mainland Australia.

The division employs departmental staff based in Canberra and some regional offices around Australia. In addition, there are approximately 150 administered staff located in the IOT.

IOT COVID-19 Protection and Services Branch

Assistant Secretary: Claire Howlett s47F

Phone: 02 6274 7988 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The IOT COVID-19 Protection and Services Branch administers the non-self-governing territories of CI, CKI, Ashmore and Cartier Islands. The branch oversees the legal framework, governance and infrastructure in these locations. It delivers state-type services through around 45 Service Delivery Arrangements with the Western Australian Government, commercial contracts (for example, air services, airports and ports management) and direct service provision (for example, health services, power services, emergency management and public housing). The branch provides funding support to state-type functions, such as tourism and vocational training, and undertakes capital works to maintain and repair local infrastructure. The branch also provides support to the Administrator of CI and the CKI. The IOT Administration, which is part of the branch and located on CI and the CKI, has a workforce of approximately 150 employees.

NI and ACT/NT COVID-19 Protection and Services Branch

Assistant Secretary: Nicole Pearson s47F
 Phone: 02 6274 7102 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The NI and ACT/NT COVID-19 Protection and Services Branch administers state type services to NI via service level agreements with NSW, the NI Council and private providers. It provides strategic and operational oversight of COVID 19 matters for NI. It continues to improve governance and the legal framework that applies in NI through the further implementation of Commonwealth law, the application of state or territory law and improvements to continued laws. The branch also manages the world heritage listed Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic site, and supports the NI Administrator. The branch has oversight of the Australian Government's interest in the ACT and NT, including support to the National Capital Authority, maintaining the legislative framework for the self-governing territories of the ACT and NT and responding to ongoing requests for information relating to instances of child sexual abuse in the ACT and NT (pre self-government) under the National Redress Scheme.

JBT and Interagency Engagement Coordination COVID-19 Economic Recovery Branch

Assistant Secretary: Oliver Holm s47F
 Phone: 02 6274 7177 / [REDACTED]

s47F

In its JBT function, the JBT and Interagency Engagement Coordination COVID-19 Economic Recovery Branch is focused on stewarding lasting, respectful and trusting partnerships to unlock the full potential of the JBT. It aims to achieve this through facilitating access to responsive and sustainable services, creating an environment for capacity partnering to thrive, and maintaining a strong operational framework supported by clear and functional processes. Strong collaboration with key local stakeholders such as the Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council, the Booderee National Park's Joint Board of Management, the Australian Federal Police and the Royal Australian Navy are all fundamental to our success.

Through the branch's Interagency Engagement and Coordination function, the team is focused on securing and building partnerships with identified states and territories to enable the delivery of state-level services such as school-based education and health services to NI and the JBT. In doing so the branch is striving to ensure communities of NI and JBT have access to essential services that are commensurate with similar regional communities on mainland Australia.

National Water Grid Authority

First Assistant Secretary: Ruth Wall s47F
 Phone: 02 6274 7326 / [REDACTED]

**Note Ruth Wall is currently seconded to the Assurance Taskforce*

s47F

The National Water Grid Authority (NWGA) provides advice to the Australian Government on water resource and water infrastructure policy and initiatives to support the growth of regional economies and help the agriculture sector grow to \$100 billion and meet the needs of a growing population by 2030.

The NWGA will focus on strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of regional economies and communities through water policy and program development providing grants and financial assistance to state governments to identify and build economic and environmentally sustainable water infrastructure that will increase the reliability and resilience to drought of Australia's water storage and supply networks.

Science, Policy and Engagement Branch

Assistant Secretary: Malcolm Southwell s47F
 Phone: 02 6274 6833 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Science, Policy and Engagement Branch is responsible for leading, managing and delivering the NWGA's Science Program that supports the identification new water resources; leading the NWGA's communication and stakeholder engagement functions and supporting the NWGA Advisory Body.

Infrastructure Framework and Delivery Branch

Assistant Secretary: Mark Darrough s47F
 Phone: 02 6274 6019 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Infrastructure Framework and Delivery Branch is responsible for working in partnership with states and territories to develop and deliver a rolling 10-year program of national water infrastructure projects to improve the reliability and security of water for Australia's regions, and the agriculture and primary industry sectors. The branch also administers the National Water Infrastructure Investment Policy Framework, which underpins Australian Government water infrastructure investment decisions.

Content Division

First Assistant Secretary: Pauline Sullivan s47F
Phone: 02 6271 1913 / [REDACTED]

The Content Division is responsible for policy development and advice to Government, and program design and delivery across classification, commercial broadcasting, copyright, digital platforms, media markets, online safety, public broadcasting and public interest journalism. It is also has a regulatory operations function in regard to classification.

Classification Branch

Assistant Secretary: Aaron O'Neill s47F
Phone: 02 6271 7659 / [REDACTED]

The Classification Branch provides policy and operational advice, education and training on the classification of films, DVDs, computer games and publications and administration of approved classification tools. Also provides secretariat support to the Classification Board and Classification Review Board.

News and Media Industry Branch

Assistant Secretary: Mike Makin s47F
Phone: 02 6271 1031 / [REDACTED]

The News and Media Industry Branch provides strategic policy advice on the media industry, including media diversity, sustainability of news and media businesses, media market competition, the production of quality news, disinformation/fake news, media literacy, digital radio, national and community broadcasting, and the Public Interest News Gathering program. The branch also has responsibility for online gambling, the under-represented sports program and Amplifying Australia's voice in the Pacific.

Digital Platforms and Online Safety Branch

Assistant Secretary: Bridget Gannon s47F
Phone: 02 6271 7079 / [REDACTED]

The Digital Platforms and Online Safety Branch provides strategic advice on digital platforms, online content and online safety. The branch also has responsibility for the development of the online safety research program and policy oversight of the Office of the eSafety Commissioner.

Content and Copyright Branch

Assistant Secretary: Ben Phelps s47F
Phone: 02 6271 7276 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Content and Copyright Branch provides strategic policy advice on media content, including on the regulation of local/regional and Australian content (including drama and children's), the anti-siphoning scheme for sports rights, advertising, and analysis of emerging industry trends across TV and streaming services. The branch also provides strategic advice on copyright reform, promoting Australia's international engagement in copyright issues, including through free-trade agreements and multilateral forums, and administering government agreements for copyright access.

Broadcasters and Content COVID-19 Response Branch

Assistant Secretary: James Penprase s47F
Phone: 02 6271 1932 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Broadcasters and Content COVID-19 Response Branch is responsible for developing a pathway for reform of Australia's media and content policy and regulatory settings to support a vibrant and sustainable domestic media sector into the future. It provides strategic policy advice focussing on media reform, reform to screen content obligations across broadcasting and streaming platforms and portfolio input to news media bargaining code processes.

Communications Infrastructure Division

First Assistant Secretary: Diane Brown

Phone: 02 6271 7958 / [REDACTED]

s47F

s47F

The Communications Infrastructure Division advises the Australian Government on regulatory and policy settings that enable the telecommunications industry to provide innovative and reliable communications services and technologies that meet the needs of people and businesses in Australia.

National Broadband Network

Assistant Secretary: Andrew Madsen

Phone: 02 6271 1695 / [REDACTED]

s47F

s47F

The NBN Branch provides strategic advice and policy leadership to support the Communications Minister to deliver the Australian Government's broadband objectives with particular responsibility for leading the Australian Government's understanding of the technology, finances and governance that underpin the NBN. The branch leads the preparation of advice to the Communications Minister as a shareholder in NBN Co and as the lender of a \$19.5bn loan to NBN Co.

Spectrum and Telecommunications Deployment Policy Branch

Assistant Secretary: Rachel Blackwood

Phone: 02 6271 1591 / [REDACTED]

s47F

s47F

The Spectrum and Telecommunications Deployment Policy Branch provides policy and regulatory advice on spectrum allocations, management and reform, and leads Australia's engagement on international spectrum policy issues. The branch also provides policy advice on telecommunications infrastructure deployment and on electromagnetic energy (EME) from telecommunications devices.

Telecommunications Market Policy Branch

Assistant Secretary: Tristan Kathage

Phone: 02 6271 1951 / [REDACTED]

s47F

s47F

The Telecommunications Market Policy Branch provides policy advice on the telecommunications market structure for both fixed line and mobile markets, investment and competition in the sector, telecommunications security and privacy (including lawful access and interception) and telecommunications resilience.

Productivity and Technology Branch

Assistant Secretary: Jason Ashurst s47F
Phone: 02 6271 1928 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Productivity and Technology Branch provides policy advice on the future use of the NBN and emerging networks, including the development of strategies and activities to drive take-up and maximise social and economic benefits. This includes advising on 5G rollout, Internet of Things and the connectivity commitments under City Deals. The branch monitors and reports on the NBN migration process, NBN consumer experience and the ACCC's speed performance program.

Communications Services and Consumer Division

Acting First Assistant Secretary: Lachlann Paterson

s47F

Phone: 02 6271 1372 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Communications Services and Consumer Division provides policy and regulatory advice on issues across the telecommunications and postal sectors including universal service reform, Australia Post, consumer safeguards and regional and remote communications issues.

Regional Communications Branch

Acting Assistant Secretary: Phil Smurthwaite

s47F

Phone: 02 6271 1485 / s 47F [REDACTED]

s47F

The Regional Communications Branch has overarching responsibility for regional telecommunications policy, the Mobile Black Spot Program and associated programs, the Viewer Access Satellite Television service, and whole-of-government telecommunications policy issues and reforms relevant to regional Australia.

Post and Australian Communications and Media Authority Branch

Assistant Secretary: Rebecca Rush

s47F

Phone: 02 6271 1153 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) Branch provides strategic policy advice and oversight on governance matters for the ACMA and Australia Post. The branch leads Australia's participation at the Universal Postal Union, a specialised agency of the United Nations.

Consumer Safeguards Branch

Assistant Secretary: Kath Silleri

s47F


Phone: 03 9097 8305 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Consumer Safeguards Branch provides policy advice on consumer safeguards, unsolicited communications and related organisations (particularly the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman and the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network) and on the accessibility of communications including Captioning and Audio Description. The branch manages the delivery under contract of key protections including the Voice only migration assistance program, the National Relay Service, and the Emergency Call Service.

Universal Service Guarantee Taskforce

Assistant Secretary: Philip Mason

Phone: 02 6271 1579 /  s47F

s47F

The Universal Service Guarantee Taskforce manages the Universal Service Obligation contract with Telstra for standard telephone services and payphones. The taskforce also provides advice on the new Universal Service Guarantee for voice and broadband services, including the Statutory Infrastructure Provider laws, consumer take-up, more efficient delivery options, and the alternative voice services trials. The taskforce also provides advice on Telecommunications in New Developments, and service reliability safeguards for connection and fault repairs, Priority Assistance and the Network Reliability Framework.

Office for the Arts

First Assistant Secretary: Stephen Arnott PSM

Phone: 02 6271 1313 / [REDACTED] s47F

The Office for the Arts develops and administers programs and policies that encourage excellence in art, support cultural heritage and foster access to and participation in arts and culture across Australia.

Arts COVID-19 Recovery and Response Branch

Assistant Secretary: Justine Curnow s47F

Phone: 02 6271 1143 / [REDACTED]

The Branch provides strategic advice on the Australian Government's response to COVID-19 for the cultural and creative sector and works with other agencies to consider the arts in broader whole-of-government planning. The branch provides secretariat support to the Creative Economy Taskforce and the COVID-19 Arts and Health Advisory Committee.

Arts Development and Investment Branch

Assistant Secretary: Greg Cox s47F

Phone: 02 6271 1190 / [REDACTED]

The Branch provides policy advice on arts, education and funding programs, Australia Council investment, private sector support for the arts, tax and philanthropy, and international arts and cultural diplomacy policy, and agency oversight of the Australia Council and Creative Partnerships Australia. The branch also administers the Register of Cultural Organisations, the Cultural Gifts Program and the Australia Arts and Culture Fund.

Collections and Cultural Heritage Branch

Assistant Secretary: Ann Campton s47F

Phone: 02 6271 1144 / [REDACTED]

The Branch provides policy advice on the national collections, cultural heritage and property, and Indigenous repatriation, and oversees six agencies (the National Gallery of Australia, National Museum of Australia, National Library of Australia, National Film and Sound Archive, Australian National Maritime Museum, and National Portrait Gallery of Australia). The branch also administers the Australian Government International Exhibitions Insurance Program, Indigenous Repatriation Program, National Cultural Heritage Account, National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach Program, Protection of Cultural Objects on Loan Scheme, and Visions of Australia regional exhibition touring program.

Creative Industries Branch

Assistant Secretary: Caroline Fulton s47F
Phone: 02 6271 1102 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Creative Industries Branch provides policy advice relating to and programs investing in the Australian screen production industry including oversight of Screen Australia and the Australian Film Television and Radio School and administration of the film tax offsets, visual arts and design including Artbank, Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program and Resale Royalty Scheme, and Australian literature, including the lending rights programs and the Prime Minister's Literary Awards.

Access and Participation Branch

Acting Assistant Secretary: [REDACTED] s47F
Phone: [REDACTED]

s47F

The Access and Participation Branch provides strategic advice on regional and community arts participation policy, funds and programs, Indigenous arts and languages policy and programs, the International Year of Indigenous Languages 2019, the Meeting of Cultural Ministers, disability arts access and participation, arts and tourism policy, multicultural arts matters as well as agency oversight of the Bundanon Trust, cultural statistics work and divisional administrative finance oversight and reporting.

Portfolio Strategy and Policy Coordination Division

First Assistant Secretary: Vicki Middleton

Phone: 02 6271 1150 / [REDACTED]

s47F

s47F

The Portfolio Strategy and Policy Coordination Division provides robust analysis on the communications and arts sectors comprising short, medium and long term projects. Contains International Engagement sections.

Portfolio Strategy and International Engagement Branch

Assistant Secretary: Sarah Leeming

Phone: 02 6271 7298 / [REDACTED]

s47F

s47F

The Portfolio Strategy and International Engagement Branch coordinates performance framework reporting for the Corporate Plan, performance statements and Budget documents. It also manages reporting on Ministerial objectives, election commitments and Budget commitments across the portfolio. International engagement is another focus, particularly telecommunications and the Internet, but also areas of transportation apart from aviation and maritime cooperation. There is also a small Futures and Insights team that monitors emerging trends that may influence the department's work.

Policy Coordination Branch

Assistant Secretary: Sally Todd

Phone: 02 6274 7298 / [REDACTED]

s47F

s47F

The Policy Coordination Branch is responsible for ensuring the Deputy Prime Minister and other portfolio Ministers are well briefed for Cabinet and its committees. It coordinates portfolio advice on other issues such as progress against Ministerial objectives and election commitments. The branch provides the secretariat for the Transport and Infrastructure Council and coordinates the department's international engagement.

Transition and COVID-19 Internal Coordination Branch

Assistant Secretary: Naa Opoku

Phone: 02 6274 6609 / [REDACTED]

s47F

s47F

The Transition and COVID-19 Internal Coordination Branch is responsible for maintaining and providing information on COVID-19 related matters as they impact staff in the department. The branch also provides secretariat services to the Continuity Management Team and supports the Chief Operating Officers's attendance at Australian Public Service Chief Operating Officer Committee meetings and regular updates to departmental staff and portfolio agencies. Further to this, the branch also drives *roadmap2021*, by supporting the Chief Operating Officer and Work stream champions and leads in delivering on the seven identified work streams that are critical to a more cohesive transition. It is also responsible for implementing the National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy and Action Plan.

Data, Analytics and Policy Division

First Assistant Secretary: Gayle Milnes

Phone: 02 6274 6643 / [REDACTED]

s47F

s47F

The Data, Analytics and Policy Division works across the organisation, providing data, analytics and policy advice that support the Australian Government and department's purposes.

Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics

Assistant Secretary: Louise Rawlings

Phone: 02 6274 7962 / [REDACTED]

s47F

s47F

The Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics (BITRE) provides economic analysis, research and statistics on infrastructure, transport and cities issues to inform both Australian Government policy development and wider community understanding.

Bureau of Communications, Arts and Regional Research

Assistant Secretary: Leonie Holloway

Phone: 02 6271 1821 / [REDACTED]

s47F

s47F

The Bureau of Communications, Arts and Regional Research (BCARR) undertakes research and provides economic, geospatial and data analysis on communications, arts and regional portfolio issues to support evidence-based policy and advice.

Strategic and Economic Policy Projects Branch

Assistant Secretary: Oliver Richards

Phone: 02 6274 6431 / [REDACTED]


s47F

s47F

The Strategic and Economic Policy Projects Branch addresses priority policy issues for the department. To do this, the branch partners with subject matter experts in the department to define the problem, scope policy options, consult with stakeholders, and develop implementable policy proposals to take to Government for decision.

Transport Market Reform and Technology Branch

Assistant Secretary: Paula Stagg

Phone: 02 6274 7127 / 

s47F

s47F



The Transport Market Reform and Technology Branch leads reforms to the way heavy vehicle charges are set and invested, and trials of direct ways of charging heavy vehicles for their road use. It is responsible for the design and implementation of the National Freight Data Hub which will make data available to help businesses and governments plan and make better operational and investment decisions. It also coordinates the Australian Government's work to prepare for automated vehicles.

People, Governance, Parliamentary and Communication Division

First Assistant Secretary: Justine Potter

s47F

Phone: 02 6274 6439 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The People, Governance, Parliamentary and Communications Division provides quality, contemporary and client focussed people, governance, parliamentary and communication services, products and advice to the department and ministerial offices enabling the department to achieve its strategic priorities, performance and outcomes.

Human Resources and Property Branch

Assistant Secretary: Steph Bourke

s47F

Phone: 02 6271 7187 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Human Resources and Property Branch provides strategic advice across all human resource management functions, represents the department in key forums and negotiations, recruitment and retention strategies, the development and delivery of targeted learning and development programs and activities, providing advice and support to managers and staff on performance management, work health and safety and workers' compensation issues. In addition, the branch provides payroll services, advice on conditions of employment and workforce management, analysis and reporting, and manages property functions.

Communication Branch

Assistant Secretary: Susan Charles

s47F

Phone: 02 6274 6980 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Communications Branch provides strategic advice and communication support to the department, executive and ministerial offices through a range of enabling services. The branch facilitates engagement with the department's key stakeholders in order to promote the portfolio's policies, programs and to disseminate information. Key services include media management and monitoring, speechwriting, strategic communications, ministerial event coordination and Australian Government campaigns. The branch also oversees and manages the internal communication channels and staff engagement activities.

Governance, Parliamentary and Integrity Branch

Assistant Secretary: Scott Mashford

Phone: 02 6274 7624 / [REDACTED]

s47F

s47F

The Governance, Parliamentary and Integrity Branch acts as the administrative interface between the department and ministerial offices providing support services to the ministerial offices; coordination of ministerial correspondence, briefings and minutes; responses to parliamentary and Senate Estimates questions on notice and tabling of documents; and providing a central contact for Cabinet and legislation matters.

The branch is also responsible for departmental governance arrangements. Key functions include the Corporate Plan, Annual Report, and business planning, internal audit, liaison with the Australian National Audit Office, risk management, fraud control and Comcover insurance. It provides a central contact for and coordinates the activities relating to Freedom of Information, complaints management, privacy, the Commonwealth Ombudsman, ministerial appointments and reporting, and whole of Government activities such as related native title applications, treaties reporting and foreign investment proposals. The branch also maintains governance policies such as the Accountable Authority Instructions, decision-making delegations, ethics and conflict of interest.

Finance, Legal and IT Division

Chief Financial Officer: Brad Medland s47F
 Phone: 02 6274 6260 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Finance, Legal and IT Division provides high quality business services, systems, support and advice to the Executive and the department's divisions. The division is responsible for providing financial management services: Management of the overarching financial framework and allocation of resources for the department, associated systems (SAP) and ensuring all statutory financial and budgetary obligations are met; legal services: Legal support and advice to the department on matters related to infrastructure, transport, regional development, communications and the arts; and information services: Information, communications and technology services and solutions to support the delivery of business outcomes for the department.

Legal Services – Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development

General Counsel: Hilary Manson s47F
 Phone: 02 6274 7211 / [REDACTED]

s47F

General Counsel Commercial: Jo Piva s47F
 Phone: 02 6274 6201 / [REDACTED]

The Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Legal Services Branch provides legal advice to the infrastructure, transport, regional development and territories divisions, and certain branches in the enabling divisions on all legal issues. This includes on the meaning and operation of legislation administered by the department and other generally applicable Commonwealth legislation, on contractual and other commercial issues, administrative law and on the preparation of statutory instruments.

Legal Services – Communications and Arts

General Counsel: Sarah Godden s47F
 Phone: 02 8023 3716 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Communications and Arts Legal Services Branch provides legal advice to the Communications, Content and Arts divisions and certain branches in the enabling divisions on all legal issues. This includes on the meaning and operation of legislation administered by the department, and laws on contractual issues and other commercial issues, administrative law and on the preparation of statutory instruments. The branch also manages associated litigation.

Finance Branch

Assistant Secretary: Carol Cote s47F
Phone: 02 6274 6664 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Finance Branch is responsible for management of the overarching financial framework and allocation of resources for the department, associated systems (SAP) and ensuring all statutory financial and budgetary obligations are met. In addition, the branch provides services and specialist advice in relation to grants, procurement, travel and credit cards.

Information Services Branch

Assistant Secretary: Maxine Ewens s47F
Phone: 02 6274 8080 / [REDACTED]

s47F

The Information Services Branch is responsible for the delivery of the department's information and communications technology and services, ensuring they are stable, reliable and protected from Cyber and IT Security threats. These services are also provided to administered territories, some portfolio agencies and Ministers, Ministers' advisors, and Ministerial staff. The branch focuses on creating, building and maintaining business value through partnerships with business areas to prioritise, define and select technology services. In addition, the branch develops and manages the department's record management policy, procedures and systems. Through physical security measures the branch also safeguards the department's personnel, equipment, and facilities.



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

Program briefs — contents

Infrastructure Programs

Outcome 1

Budget Program 1.1 — Infrastructure Investment

Infrastructure Investment Program — Investment	PB 1-01
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Revenue programs

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Regional development, local government and cities programs

Outcome 3

Budget Program 3.3 — Cities

Adelaide City Deal	PB 3-01
Darwin City Deal	PB 3-02
Geelong City Deal	PB 3-03
Hobart City Deal	PB 3-04
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Western Sydney City Deal	PB 3-11



Infrastructure Investment Program – Investment

Key message

The rolling 10 year Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP) is the Australian Government's predominant funding envelope for land transport infrastructure. The IIP is currently \$110 Billion over 10 years.

Snapshot and impact

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

The IIP has been a key element of Australia's response to the economic conditions caused by COVID-19.

Program status

Start date: 1 July 2005 (ongoing).

The IIP is a long standing land transport investment program that has predominantly enjoyed bi-partisan support since its inception in 2005. It is currently administered under the *National Land Transport Act 2014* the (NLT Act).

In 2018, the IIP moved to a 10 year rolling program to provide greater funding certainty to proponents and industry.

Eligibility and application process

To be eligible for funding the IIP must meet the requirements of the NLT Act. While the NLT Act allows for the Australian Government to call for submissions and state and territory governments and local governments continue to seek funding from the Australian Government for their own transport priorities, the 10 year rolling program approach puts the Australian Government at the forefront of setting out commitments that support a longer-term plan to progressively build projects which deliver nationally significant projects over a rolling 10 year period.

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.

More broadly, in recommending projects to government for funding, projects are assessed by the department 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 cost benefit ratio
- the project proposal has considered, and where appropriate applied alternatives to construction, including enhanced use of existing infrastructure and/or technological solutions

- a proposal has evaluated and, where appropriate and efficient, considered alternative funding and financing, applied 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 a 10 year rolling program.

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Once the Australian Government has decided to commit funding to a project, it is added to the National Partnership Agreement (NPA) schedule. However, to become effective the terms and conditions of the funding must be agreed between the Australian Government and relevant state or territory government.

Where state and territory governments are seeking \$100 million or more from the Australian Government, they must also submit proposals to Infrastructure Australia. Infrastructure Australia conducts an independent evaluation, focusing on a project's cost benefit analysis, and provides advice to the Australian Government on a project's merit, including through the regular updating of its Infrastructure Priority List. Infrastructure Australia does not approve business cases but its assessment is a key factor in the Australian Government's final investment decision.

Funds available to individual recipients

Eligible funding recipients are outlined in the NLT Act and include state and territory governments and local governments or an authority of those bodies. Due to previous High Court decisions, funding for local governments is usually paid through the relevant state.

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

As stated above, once the Australian Government has agreed to commit funding to a project, it is added to the NPA schedule and terms and conditions of the funding must be agreed between the Australian Government and relevant state or territory government. Updated schedules are usually provided to jurisdictions twice a year (at Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook and Budget). 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

The department releases funding on the achievement of agreed project milestones to state and territory governments. The released funding is sufficient to enable the achievement of the next milestone, with an element of cash flow to ensure works continue to progress.

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.

Expense funding and forward estimates

FINANCIAL YEAR	FORWARD ESTIMATES				SUMMARY		
	2020-21 (\$m)	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	20-21 to 23-24 (\$m)	20-21 to 29-30 (\$m)	24-25 to 29-30 (\$m)
IIP							
Black spot projects	137.0	137.0	117.8	110.0	501.9	1,161.9	660.0
Bridges Renewal Program	89.7	108.5	91.1	91.1	380.5	939.5	559.0
Developing Northern Australia							
Improving cattle supply chains (aka Beef Roads)	9.1	0.1	3.5	0.0	12.7	14.4	1.7
Northern Australia Roads	90.9	70.2	5.0	5.6	171.7	175.8	4.1
Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity	77.4	87.2	69.3	69.3	303.3	727.9	424.7
Major Projects Business Case Fund	70.5	76.3	51.8	25.8	224.4	263.0	38.6
National Rail Program							
Rail investment component (includes Investment Rail, Off-Network Rail, and Rail Research to states)	696.5	1,031.0	1,054.4	1,401.0	4,182.9	7,809.2	3,626.3
Road investment component (includes Investment Road, Off-Network Road, and Road Research to states)	4,784.1	6,010.7	6,454.1	7,469.7	24,718.7	44,203.7	19,485.0
Roads of Strategic Importance	489.6	950.7	887.8	737.5	3,065.6	4,492.4	1,426.8
Roads to Recovery	591.7	499.5	499.5	476.7	2,067.4	5,064.5	2,997.1
Urban Congestion Fund	483.3	1,234.8	1,237.1	580.1	3,535.3	4,679.9	1,144.6
Infrastructure Growth Package							
New Investments (including National Highway Upgrade Program)^	7.5	4.9	0.0	0.0	12.5	15.4	2.9
Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan	541.7	173.3	314.8	253.0	1,282.8	1,661.4	378.6
Payments to Non-State Entities	251.8	182.7	107.5	27.4	569.4	673.0	103.6
Non-IIP Funding	1,475.4	896.4	160.1	161.1	2,693.0	2,756.0	63.0
Sub-total Table 1	10,650.5	12,813.4	12,861.0	13,041.3	49,366.2	84,229.1	34,862.9

Table 2 - Payments to non-state entities - IIP

Research and Evaluation	21.2	18.1	16.9	16.9	73.1	173.8	100.7
Grants to the Australian Rail Track Corporation	230.1	164.1	90.0	10.0	494.2	494.2	0.0
Roads to Recovery - Norfolk and Indian Ocean Territories	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2.0	4.9	2.9
Sub-total - Table 2	251.8	182.7	107.5	27.4	569.4	673.0	103.6

Program governance

- **Outcome:** 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 Annual Appropriations Acts 1/3; Annual Appropriation Acts 2/4; Special Appropriation (Treasury) — *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009*
- **Relevant legislation:** *NLT Act*

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Infrastructure Investment Program - Summary

Key message

The Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP) provides funding for the planning and delivery of land transport infrastructure to build a stronger future for Australia's urban, regional and remote areas.

Snapshot and impact

The IIP to increase the efficiency and safety of land transport infrastructure across Australia to raise productivity and strengthen the economy.

FINANCIAL YEAR	FORWARD ESTIMATES				SUMMARY		
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	20-21 to 23-24	20-21 to 29-30	24-25 to 29-30
	(\$m)	(\$m)	(\$m)	(\$m)	(\$m)	(\$m)	(\$m)
IIP							
Black Spot projects	137.0	137.0	117.8	110.0	501.9	1,161.9	660.0
Bridges Renewal Program	89.7	108.5	91.1	91.1	380.5	939.5	559.0
Developing Northern Australia							
Improving cattle supply chains (aka Beef Roads)	9.1	0.1	3.5	0.0	12.7	14.4	1.7
Northern Australia Roads	90.9	70.2	5.0	5.6	171.7	175.8	4.1
Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity	77.4	87.2	69.3	69.3	303.3	727.9	424.7
Major Projects Business Case Fund	70.5	76.3	51.8	25.8	224.4	263.0	38.6
National Rail Program	854.2	1,349.9	1,807.3	1,632.8	5,644.2	9,590.9	3,946.8
Rail investment component (includes Investment Rail, Off-Network Rail, and Rail Research to states)	696.5	1,031.0	1,054.4	1,401.0	4,182.9	7,809.2	3,626.3
Road investment component (includes Investment Road, Off-Network Road, and Road Research to states)	4,784.1	6,010.7	6,454.1	7,469.7	24,718.7	44,203.7	19,485.0
Roads of Strategic Importance	489.6	950.7	887.8	737.5	3,065.6	4,492.4	1,426.8
Roads to Recovery	591.7	499.5	499.5	476.7	2,067.4	5,064.5	2,997.1
Urban Congestion Fund	483.3	1,234.8	1,237.1	580.1	3,535.3	4,679.9	1,144.6
Infrastructure Growth Package							
New Investments (including National Highway Upgrade Program)^^	7.5	4.9	0.0	0.0	12.5	15.4	2.9
Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan	541.7	173.3	314.8	253.0	1,282.8	1,661.4	378.6
Payments to Non-State Entities	251.8	182.7	107.5	27.4	569.4	673.0	103.6

FINANCIAL YEAR	FORWARD ESTIMATES				SUMMARY		
Non-IIP Funding [^]	1,475.4	896.4	160.1	161.1	2,693.0	2,756.0	63.0
Sub-total Table 1a	10,650.5	12,813.4	12,861.0	13,041.3	49,366.2	84,229.1	34,862.9

Table 1b							
Financial Assistance Grants (Local Roads Component)	381.3	800.3	817.8	842.1	2,841.5	7,894.3	5,052.8
Contingent Liabilities							
East-West Link contingent liability					0.0	4,000.0	4,000.0
Perth Freight Link contingent liability					0.0	1,160.0	1,160.0
Equity and Loan Investments	s 47G				11,024.2	12,484.0	1,459.8
Sub-total - Table 1b					13,865.8	25,538.3	11,672.6
Total Funding					63,232.0	109,767.4	46,535.4

Notes:

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 \$0.4 million each year for payments for non-state entities (Norfolk Island and Indian Ocean Territories)

[^] Includes Western Sydney City Deal, Geelong City Deal, Darwin City Deal, Launceston City Deal - Tamar River, Townsville City Deal, WiFi on Trains, Bathurst Flagstaff, Centenary of Canberra, Liveable Cities, Infrastructure Employment Projects, Community Infrastructure Grants and Townsville Convention Centre

Background

The IIP is governed by the National Land Transport Act 2014.

The National Partnership Agreement (NPA), under the Federal Financial Relations framework, is the primary payment mechanism for delivering funding to the states and territories.

The NPA covers projects administered under the NLT Act and sets out how Governments will work together to deliver infrastructure projects for the benefit and wellbeing of Australians.

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Infrastructure Investment Program - Urban Congestion Fund

Key message

The Urban Congestion Fund (UCF) is a \$4.8 billion program to support upgrades to the urban road network and reduce congestion. The UCF includes a dedicated \$660 million National Commuter Car Park Fund (NCCPF).

Snapshot and impact

The UCF aims to tackle pinch points on urban road networks that contribute to congestion, costing motorists and businesses time and money. The UCF is a \$4.8 billion initiative being delivered under the Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP). Specific projects have been allocated a total of \$4.0 billion to help commuters get home sooner and safer by reducing the time Australians spend in congested traffic, giving them more time to do the things that are important to them.

Stakeholders

- Road users
- State and territory governments

Program status

Start date: 2018 with funding allocated over an 11 year period.

The Government has allocated approximately \$4.0 billion towards specific projects, and around \$800 million remains unallocated beyond the forward estimates. Funding in the NCCPF has been fully committed. Across the entire program, more than 150 projects tackling pinch points and local traffic hotspots are expected to be underway or complete by early 2022.

Eligibility and application process

The UCF aims to fund small, high value urban transport network projects, targeting both freight and commuter congestion challenges. Projects can be in either cities or major regional centres.

As with all projects funded under the IIP, projects must be eligible under the National Land Transport Act 2014 (NLT Act), and so may include activities such as physical construction, technology projects, intermodal freight transport facilitates as well as urban planning of transport networks.

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Expense funding and forward estimates

FINANCIAL YEAR	FORWARD ESTIMATES				SUMMARY		
	2020-21 (\$m)	2021-22 (\$m)	2022-23 (\$m)	2023-24 (\$m)	20-21 to 23-24 (\$m)	20-21 to 29-30 (\$m)	24-25 to 29-30 (\$m)
UCF	483.3	1,234.8	1,237.1	580.1	3,535.3	4,679.9	1,144.6

Program governance

- **Outcome:** 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*

History

In the 2018-19 Budget, the UCF was established with initial funding of \$1 billion. In the 2019-20 Budget, funding was increased by \$3 billion, bringing the Government's total investment to \$4 billion, and the National Commuter Car Park Fund was created. In the 2019-20 MYEFO, the UCF was increased to \$4.8 billion total funding through an additional \$210 million committed through the 2019 election, and the consolidation of pre-UCF congestion packages in Melbourne and Perth into the UCF. At 2020-21 Budget, the Wellington Road Duplication (VIC) announced at the 2019-20 Budget was consolidated into the UCF with \$110 million allocated to the project.

Other issues

The Australian National Audit Office has commenced a performance audit of the UCF.

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Moorebank Intermodal Company - Overview

Key message

Moorebank Intermodal Terminal Precinct (MITP) is a significant infrastructure development that will transform the way containerised freight moves through Port Botany and deliver a faster, simpler and more cost-effective service for business and consumers. It will promote road to rail uptake, supporting supply chain efficiencies as Australia's freight task grows. MITP is being developed on a precinct comprising land owned by the Commonwealth of Australia and adjacent land owned by Qube Holdings (Qube).

Snapshot and impact

The Moorebank Intermodal Company Limited (MIC) is a company limited by shares and wholly owned by the Australian Government. When MITP (currently under construction) is operational, MIC is expected to generate a profit and pay dividends to the Australian Government in accordance with its annual Corporate Plan, which is agreed by the Shareholder Ministers, the Minister responsible for infrastructure and the Minister responsible for finance.

MITP will provide substantial economic and environmental benefits in moving container freight by rail rather than road. It will create over \$11 billion in economic benefits over 30 years, including \$120 million a year for the economy of south-west Sydney.

MITP will support over 1,300 jobs during construction and employ approximately 6,800 people once running at full capacity.

By reducing the growth in road freight traffic on Sydney's road network by an estimated 3,000 truck journeys a day, MITP will deliver a net saving of 110,000 tonnes of carbon emissions per year.

Stakeholders

- MIC
- New South Wales Government
- Department of Defence
- Adjacent Community and Residents
- Qube
- Liverpool City Council
- Freight movers

Program status

MIC is a Government Business Enterprise and Commonwealth Company established in 2012 under the *Corporations Act 2001* to oversee the development and operation of an intermodal facility in south-west Sydney including an Import-Export Terminal, a separate Interstate Terminal, and warehousing that will support the movement of freight into and out of Sydney. MIC is delivering MITP in partnership with the private sector.

The Import-Export Terminal and initial warehousing commenced operations 1 November 2019, while the Interstate Terminal is under construction.

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Program governance

- **Outcome:** 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:** Administered revenue
- **Relevant legislation:** *Corporations Act 2001; Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*

History

Development partner

The Sydney Intermodal Terminal Alliance (SIMTA), wholly owned by Qube, was contracted in June 2015 by MIC to construct and operate MITP. MIC and SIMTA reached financial close in January 2017 and construction of MITP formally commenced in April 2017. MITP will be 241 ha comprising ≈65 per cent Commonwealth owned land (158 ha developable area) and ≈35 per cent SIMTA land (83 ha developable area).

The intermodal terminals will be operational on an open and non-discriminatory basis, with ultimate capacity for up to 1.05 million import-export freight containers and 500,000 interstate freight containers per year. The Import-Export Terminal commenced operations on 1 November 2019, with initial capacity of 250,000 containers per year. The Interstate Terminal will have initial capacity of 250,000 containers per year from commencement of operations.

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Audit findings

On 19 December 2017, the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) published a performance audit report on the delivery of MITP. The report concluded that value for money progressively eroded during the negotiation of the contractual arrangements; but that contractual arrangements support the achievement of all or part of each Australian Government policy objectives for the project.

On 11 October 2018, the ANAO published a performance audit report on MIC's achievement of value for money and management of probity in its operations and procurement activities. The report found failings in MIC's ability to show value for money and management of probity in procurement activities.

MIC has implemented new, and revised existing frameworks, policies and processes to address the ANAO findings.

Other issues

Despite some delays associated with time taken to receive regulatory approvals, critical path activities for MITP are progressing. The Import-Export Terminal commenced operations on 1 November 2019.

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Residents Against Intermodal Development (RAID) Moorebank Inc is an action group that has been active in the context of MITP. RAID opposes the development on planning, environmental, and social grounds. On 6 March 2018, the NSW Land and Environment Court delivered a judgement on a case brought before it in relation to MITP's development (RAID Moorebank Inc v NSW Minister for Planning and Qube Holdings Ltd). The judgement set a number of conditions relating to biodiversity (including a species recently rediscovered in the area), noise management, air-quality monitoring and a rail bridge over the Georges River.

There has been media about a possible divestment of Qube's stake in MITP to Logos. Any planned divestment of the Precinct or acquisitions in other markets by Qube is a commercial decision for Qube and is not expected to impact on the delivery of the project. The Precinct is still expected to be delivered as a joint venture between MIC and its private sector partner, Sydney Intermodal Terminal Alliance (SIMTA), which is currently wholly owned by Qube.

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Adelaide City Deal

Key message

The Adelaide City Deal is a 10-year partnership between the Australian and South Australian Governments and the City of Adelaide to deliver \$649 million of government investment in Adelaide and its surrounding region

Snapshot and impact

The Adelaide City Deal (the Deal) advances the Australian Government commitment to making our cities more productive and liveable, encouraging innovation, supporting growth and creating jobs. Under the City Deal, Australian Government is investing \$174 million across 10 projects and working with Deal partners to support the growth of South Australia's skilled workforce and industries and to enhance Adelaide's reputation as an innovative and vibrant city.

The Australian Government investment includes:

- \$85 million for an Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre at Lot Fourteen to showcase significant Indigenous collections
- \$30 million for the International Centre for Food, Hospitality and Tourism Studies at Lot Fourteen
- \$20 million to support the delivery of an Innovation Hub at Lot Fourteen
- \$10 million to support Adelaide City Council to deliver smart technology solutions across the city
- \$9 million to support construction of the Heysens Gallery at Hahndorf
- \$3 million to support the construction of a visitor pavilion at Carrick Hill
- \$2 million for upgrades to natural, cultural and heritage sites along the Mitcham Hills Trail and Glenthorne Loop
- \$12 million to deliver the Australian Space Discovery Centre and the Australian Space Agency's Mission Control Centre (supported by the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources)
- \$3 million to support an Aboriginal Entrepreneur Hub (supported by the National Indigenous Australians Agency)

Key achievements over the past 12 months include:

- On 10 September 2020, the Hon Karen Andrews MP, Minister for Industry, Science and Technology, Premier Steven Marshall and Minister Alan Tudge announced the commencement of construction on the \$6 million Australian Space Discovery Centre.
- An expression of interest to deliver the Entrepreneur and Innovation Centre, including the \$20 million Innovation Hub under the Deal, closed on Thursday 10 September.
- Parties have agreed the implementation plan for the Aboriginal Entrepreneur Hub.
- The South Australian Department of Environment and Water completed maintenance works on the Marion Coast Walking Trail at Hallett Cove, and revegetation works at Belair National Park and O'Halloran Hill.

Progress over the next 12 months is expected to include:

- Delivery of project and conceptual designs for the Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre and the International Centre for Food, Hospitality and Tourism Studies in the first half of 2021.
- Commencement of construction of the Innovation Hub, Heysens Gallery at Hahndorf, Carrick Hill pavilion and Wittunga Botanic Garden playspace.
- Delivery of the final business case for the Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre.
- Delivery of a digital wayfinding app that will allow residents and tourists to navigate and experience Adelaide's cultural landscape in the Mitcham Hills and Glenthorne area.

Stakeholders

- South Australian Government
- City of Adelaide
- Australian Space Agency
- National Indigenous Australians Agency
- Department of Defence
- University of Adelaide
- Flinders University
- University of South Australia

Program status

The Deal was signed in March 2019 by Prime Minister Morrison, Premier Marshall and Lord Mayor Verschoor and will conclude in 2029.

The Deal is in the implementation phase. The second Annual Progress Report for the City Deal will be released in mid-2021.

Expense funding and forward estimates

	2020–21 (\$'000)	2021–22 (\$'000)	2022–23 (\$'000)	Beyond 2023 (\$'000)
Appropriation Budget	10,800	27,000	23,000	95,000
Less: actual expenditure	-	-	-	-
Total balance of funds	10,800	27,000	23,000	95,000

Program governance

- **Outcome:** 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
- **Administered own-source revenue:** Budget Program 3.3 — Cities; Annual administered expenses
- **Relevant legislation:** *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009*

History

- On 14 November 2019, the Adelaide City Deal Implementation Plan was launched by the Hon Alan Tudge MP, Minister for Population, Cities and Urban Infrastructure, Premier Marshall and Lord Mayor Verschoor.
- On 3 March 2020, the Government of South Australia and the Australian Government agreed the Project Agreement for the Deal which details key performance milestones for commitments, including the development of the project plans that will outline the key deliverables and timeframes for the projects.
- The Implementation Plan released on 14 November 2019 outlined projects under a \$551 million deal, however, the South Australian Government later confirmed additional funding of \$98 million. The new total of \$649 million was included in the first Annual Progress Report released on 19 September 2020.
- On 10 November 2020, a further \$50 million from the South Australian Government was confirmed for the Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre through South Australia's 2020-21 Budget.

Other issues

- Some milestones for commitments have not been met as originally scheduled due to delays in the development and approval of concept plans and business cases. The South Australian Government has requested updated timeframes for milestones in the Project Agreement.
- The impact of COVID-19 has caused minor delays to the delivery of work at Mitcham Hills and the Glenthorne Loop. Progress is being monitored and works are expected to be completed by late 2021.
- The project team for the Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre have convened an Aboriginal Reference Group to provide strategic leadership and advice on the development of the Centre. Minister Tudge and the Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP, Minister for Indigenous Australians, have provided the South Australian Government with nominations of eminent Indigenous Australians who could support the governance of the delivery phase for the Centre.

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Darwin City Deal

Key message

The Darwin City Deal (the Deal), signed in November 2018, is a ten-year partnership to position Darwin as a vibrant and liveable tropical capital city, supported by a growing population and a diversified economy.

It brings together the Australian Government, Northern Territory Government and City of Darwin, with the Charles Darwin University, Larrakia people, industry and community. The Deal is forecast to generate more than 1,550 jobs in Darwin over its term, with 448 jobs already created.

Snapshot and impact

The focus of the Deal is on growing the population and diversifying the Darwin economy. The Deal supports catalyst projects to revitalise Darwin's city centre as well as the planning and collaboration needed to support Darwin's future growth. A total Australian Government commitment of \$109.1 million has been made to the Deal over its term.

Australian Government commitments include:

- \$97.3 million grant to deliver a new Education and Community Precinct intended to transform the city centre and increase vibrancy in the Central Business District. An additional \$150 million loan has been provided to Charles Darwin University through the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF).
- \$4.8 million over 10 years to support the CSIRO-led Darwin Living Lab that will develop evidence based approaches to tropical design and help transform Darwin into a best practice example to tropical urban living.
- \$5 million for the 'Switching on Darwin' project under the Smart Cities and Suburbs Program. This project resulted in the successful rollout within the Darwin CBD of a variety of technologies such as 912 LED smart street lights, 138 HD CCTV cameras and a microclimate monitoring system of 24 sensors.
- \$2 million to the Larrakia Development Corporation to support their economic development aspirations

Other key commitments include:

- Divestment of Defence owned land at Stokes hill.
- Support the Larrakia people as the traditional owners of Darwin, including increasing the share of jobs held by Indigenous Australians through employment targets in the Darwin City Deal projects and promoting Larrakia culture to locals and visitors.

Achievements under the Deal to date include:

- Construction has commenced on the Darwin City Deal's centrepiece Education and Community Precinct, with the start of excavation work in October 2020.
- A number of significant investments have been completed such as the 'Switching on Darwin', the construction of the State Square underground carpark to replace the ground level carpark and the demolition of the Chan Building in State Square.
- The greening and cooling of Darwin has progressed with heat mitigation trails being implemented and the Darwin Living Lab being established.
- The Deal is also supporting jobs for Indigenous Australians through the delivery of projects seeing good results in meeting the Deal Indigenous employment targets of 8.8 per cent.

Stakeholders

- Darwin community and Industry
- Northern Territory Government
- Larrakia Development Corporation
- City of Darwin
- Charles Darwin University
- Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation

Program status

Start date: November 2018

End Date: November 2028

Expense funding and forward estimates

	2020–21 (\$'000)	2021–22 (\$'000)	2022–23 (\$'000)	2023–24 (\$'000)
Appropriation Budget	45,000	27,300	-	-
Less: actual expenditure	-	-	-	-
Total balance of funds	45,000	27,300	-	-

Program governance

- **Outcome:** 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 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 3.3 — Cities: Annual Administered Expenses
- **Relevant legislation:** N/A

History

The Deal was signed on behalf of the Australian Government by the Prime Minister on 16 November 2018. The implementation Plan for the Deal was released in November 2019.

The first Annual Progress Report was released in July 2019, covering the year November 2018 to November 2019. The second Annual Progress Report will be released in January/February 2021.

s 47C

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Geelong City Deal

Key message

The Geelong City Deal is a 10-year partnership between the Australian and Victorian governments and the City of Greater Geelong to deliver \$370 million of new government investment in the Geelong and Great Ocean Road economy.

Snapshot and impact

The Geelong City Deal supports Geelong's continued economic diversification, growth of the visitor economy and a thriving city centre. The Project Agreement, which provides funding for the Geelong City Deal under the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations was signed on 27 March 2020 by the Australian and Victorian governments. Since announcing the \$370.23 million City Deal, other key funding partners have committed an additional \$12.25 million into the City Deal, taking the total funding to \$382.48 million.

The Australian Government has committed \$183.8 million in funding towards the City Deal, allocated to specific projects:

- \$115.65 million towards tourism infrastructure projects along the Great Ocean Road, including for the Shipwreck Coast and other key locations along the Road, to strengthen the region as a leading tourist destination and ensure benefits flow to local communities.
- \$30 million towards construction of the Geelong Convention and Exhibition Centre, to help drive the visitor economy in Geelong and generate new investment and development in the city centre.
- \$20.85 million towards public realm improvements under the Revitalising Central Geelong Action Plan, to help establish a vibrant city centre and reinforce Geelong's position as the gateway to the region.
- \$10 million towards a new ferry terminal at Queenscliff to improve services across Port Phillip Bay to Sorrento.
- \$3.8 million towards road upgrades at Deakin University's Geelong Future Economy Precinct to unlock new jobs and businesses and improve access at the site.
- \$3.5 million for completion of the Geelong Waterfront Safe Harbour project to support tourism, community activities and major events.

The first Geelong City Deal Annual Progress Report was released on 7 November 2020 and outlines the key achievements during the City Deal's first 12 months.

Stakeholders

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| • Victorian Government | • City of Greater Geelong |
| • Local Authorities across the region | • Businesses and residents of Geelong and the Great Ocean Road region |
| • Searoad Ferries | • Royal Geelong Yacht Club |
| • Lorne Aquatic and Angling Club | • Great Ocean Road Coast Committee |
| • Deakin University | |

Program status

Start date: 11 March 2019 to 10 March 2029

Expense funding and forward estimates

	2020–21 (\$'000)	2021–22 (\$'000)	2022–23 (\$'000)	2023–24 (\$'000)
Appropriation Budget	81,800	56,600	32,650	4,500
Less: actual expenditure	-	-	-	-
Total balance of funds	81,800	56,600	32,650	4,500

Program governance

- **Outcome:** 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:**
 - The cities program provides programs and policy to increase the productivity, accessibility and liveability of our cities, big and small
- **Nature of appropriation:** Budget Program 3.3 — Cities
- **Relevant legislation:** N/A

History

- 11 March 2019: Geelong City Deal announced by Prime Minister Morrison
- 8 October 2019: Implementation Plan released by Deal Partners
- 27 March 2020: Project Agreement signed between Australian Government and Victorian Government
- 7 November 2020: Release of the first Geelong City Deal Annual Progress Report

Other issues

- The Australian Government has agreed to fund up to \$88.15 million of a total \$108.15 million for the delivery of Priority Projects under the Shipwreck Coast Master Plan. **s 47C**
[Redacted]
- The Australian Government has also agreed to fund \$30 million of a total \$174.2 million for the delivery of the Geelong Convention and Exhibition Centre Precinct. **s 47C**
[Redacted]

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Hobart City Deal

Key message

The Hobart City Deal (the Deal), signed in February 2019, is a partnership between the Australian and Tasmanian Governments and the Clarence, Hobart, Glenorchy and Kingborough Councils to guide and encourage investment to build on Hobart's position as a vibrant, liveable and connected global city. The Deal goes for 10 years and is forecast to generate more than 1,400 jobs in Hobart and the region.

Snapshot and impact

Key focus areas of the Deal include:

- enhancing Hobart Airport's role as a direct international gateway;
- solidifying Hobart's standing as a gateway to the Antarctic and Southern Ocean to attract business, research and tourism activity;
- implementing the Greater Hobart Transport Vision;
- delivering a diverse range of affordable housing options; and
- improving governance and planning, through the Greater Hobart Act.

The Australian Government has committed \$1.21 billion to the Deal including:

- \$461 million to replace Bridgewater Bridge;
- \$82.3 million for border services to facilitate international flights at Hobart Airport;
- \$165 million for congestion busting projects;
- \$30 million for community housing; and
- \$472.8 million in additional expenditure on Australian Antarctic research stations.

Progress on the Deal has included:

- Geotechnical work has commenced, and early contractor involvement commenced for the new \$576 million Bridgewater Bridge;
- The commencement of international flights from Hobart Airport in Q1 2021 has been announced
- Pre-construction work is underway on the new Hobart Airport Interchange;
- The first stage of the Antarctic and Science Precinct business case has been completed;
- The Greater Hobart Act (TAS), a key foundation for improving planning and governance outcomes in Hobart, has become law;
- Antarctic infrastructure upgrades have commenced;
- A trial Derwent Ferry Service is expected to commence in the first half of 2021
- Affordable housing supply has been boosted by 386 new homes; and
- The first of 100 new social housing dwellings delivered.

Over the next 12 months, we expect:

- the completion of a detailed business case for the Antarctic and Science Precinct, which will attract national and private Antarctic and Southern Ocean institutions to build on Hobart's world-class expertise.
- the completion of a high-level design for the new Bridgewater Bridge, and substantial progress on the bridge's delivery model.
- delivery of further housing dwellings as part of the Australian Government's \$30 million commitment to improve social housing in and around Hobart.
- delivery of smaller infrastructure projects, such as the renewal of cycleways and footpaths in metropolitan Hobart and the completion of the Clarence Street bus stop and upgrades to the Rosny bus mall.
- construction to commence on further components of the South East Traffic Solution, including the Tasman Highway duplication between Hobart Airport and Western Causeway, and the Midway Point intersection.

Stakeholders

- Tasmanian Government
- City of Hobart
- Kingborough Council
- University of Tasmania
- Glenorchy City Council
- Clarence City Council
- Australian Antarctic Division (DAWE)
- CSIRO

Program status

Start date: February 2019

End date: 2029

Expense funding and forward estimates

	2020–21 (\$'000)	2021–22 (\$'000)	2022–23 (\$'000)	2023–24 (\$'000)
Appropriation Budget	155			
Less: actual expenditure	-	-	-	-
Total balance of funds	155			

** Note, total Australian Government funding for the Hobart City Deal is \$1.21 billion, which is being administered by other Divisions (for example, Infrastructure Investment Division) and other agencies.*

Program governance

- **Outcome:** 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 — improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions across Australia
- **Administered own-source revenue:** Budget Program 3.3 — Cities; Annual administered expenses
- **Relevant legislation:** N/A

History

- The Deal was signed on behalf of the Australian Government by the Prime Minister on 24 February 2019, and the Implementation Plan for the Deal released on 3 October 2019.
- The first Annual Progress Report was released on 21 August 2020, covering the year to February 2020.
- The second Annual Progress Report will be released in March/April 2021.

Other issues

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Launceston City Deal

Key message

The Launceston City Deal is a \$509 million, 10-year plan (2017 to 2027) to position Launceston as one of Australia's most liveable and innovative regional cities. The Deal is a commitment by three levels of government working together to deliver jobs and skills, drive infrastructure and investment growth, and improve the liveability and sustainability of the Launceston city.

Snapshot and impact

The Launceston City Deal's vision is to make Launceston one of Australia's most liveable and innovative regional cities, with growing incomes and falling levels of disadvantage.

Key initiatives under the Deal include:

- Relocating the University of Tasmania's campus from Newnham (in the northern suburbs) to Inveresk (closer to the CBD). The project (\$265.4 million) aims to incentivise young people to pursue higher education, integrate local business to benefit the regional economy, and create new opportunities.
- Cleaning up the Tamar Estuary (\$140.7 million) by reducing pollutants entering the river catchments and upgrading the Launceston's combined sewerage and stormwater system.
- Rejuvenating the CBD through the 19.4 million City Heart project, to attract people and new businesses to the city centre. The Launceston Creative Precinct and the Albert Hall Renewal projects will build on the revitalised street works, deliver a new bus interchange and an undercover arcade to improve the vibrancy of the CBD.
- Delivering a master plan for the University of Tasmania's Newnham campus, and establishing a \$30 million Defence and Maritime Innovation and Design Precinct to support the continued growth of the Australian Maritime College within the Newnham campus.
- Assisting local job seekers, including through apprenticeships and traineeships, to be competitive for local employment opportunities.
- Creating a rich digital ecosystem through the Smart Cities and Suburbs Program (\$10.3 million) that promotes collaboration and innovation, using smart technology, and providing opportunities for clever, meaningful engagement with the community.

The Australian Government is investing \$254 million to the Launceston City Deal, this includes:

- \$130 million on the University of Tasmania's campus relocation
- \$49 million on improving the health of the Tamar Estuary
- \$30 million on establishing the Defence and Maritime Innovation and Design Precinct
- \$15 million on supporting the development of the Northern Suburbs Community Recreation Hub
- \$10 million on the Albert Hall Renewal project
- \$7.5 million on the City Heart project
- \$4.5 million on the Smart Cities and Suburbs Program
- \$2 million on a Launceston hub of the National Institute for Forest Products Innovation.

Stakeholders

- City of Launceston Council and other relevant councils in the Northern Tasmania region
- Northern Tasmanian Development Corporation
- Launceston Chamber of Commerce
- Tasmanian Government
- TasWater
- NRM North
- University of Tasmania

Program status

Launceston City Deal

- The Launceston City Deal was signed on 20 April 2017 and Prime Minister Morrison announced its extension from 5 to 10 years in May 2019. The Deal is currently in its fourth year of implementation.
- The Deal has been progressing well, a third of commitments (10 out of 33) have been completed and 80% of the remaining commitments are on track.
- To date, the Deal has supported at least 213 jobs.

Key achievements to date:

- The University of Tasmania (UTAS) campus relocation project is well underway.
 - Construction has commenced on the first building and the pedestrian-and-cycle-bridge at the new Inveresk campus, development applications for the next two buildings were recently approved by the City of Launceston.
 - The relocation is expected to create 430 new jobs during the construction phase and 225 new academic and supporting full time equivalent jobs once complete. To date, 65 people have been employed on this project.
- The Tamar River Health Action Plan commitments are underway:
 - Over 150 kilometers of waterways have been fenced and associated riparian areas have been managed for regeneration;
 - Investigations into the urban stormwater system in the Launceston and West Tamar region have identified 29 sewerage intrusions and successfully rectified 9 sewerage intrusions and 2 broken mains;
 - Construction has commenced on upgrading the water infrastructure in Launceston to reduce untreated overflows from the combined sewerage and stormwater system into the Tamar Estuary.
- The majority of the City Heart project to revitalise the CBD have been delivered, with the Brisbane Street Mall and Civic Square projects now complete. This has resulted in an estimated 142 jobs in the building and construction sector.
- The first round of projects under the Greater Launceston Transformation Project are complete, including a digital twin of the city.
- Over the past 12 months, Launceston Apprenticeship Pipeline Project has delivered 26 new apprenticeships within the construction industry in Launceston.

Expense funding and forward estimates

	2020–21 (\$'000)	2021–22 (\$'000)	2022–23 (\$'000)	2023–24 (\$'000)
Appropriation Budget	8,800	12,350	16,300	7,550
Less: actual expenditure	-	-	-	-
Total balance of funds	8,800	12,350	16,300	7,550
<i>Note: total Australian Government funding for the Launceston City Deal is \$254.22million, which is being administered by other Divisions (for example, Infrastructure Investment Division) and other agencies.</i>				

Program governance

- **Outcome:** 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 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 3.3 — Cities: Annual Administered Expenses.
- **Relevant legislation:** N/A

History

The Launceston City Deal was signed on behalf of the Australian Government by Prime Minister Turnbull on 20 April 2017. The first annual report was released on 13 July 2018, the second annual report was released on 26 August 2019 and the third annual report was released on 30 September 2020.

Other issues

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Melbourne City Deals

Key message

The Australian Government is partnering with the Victorian government and local councils to develop City Deals for North West and South East Melbourne regions.

Following the pandemic, the Australian and Victorian governments have now re-commenced negotiations on the Deals and they are expected to be developed over the next 12 months.

Snapshot and impact

The overarching aim for the Melbourne City Deals is to ensure employment growth matches the significant population growth expected in the regions over the next 20 years. Ensuring the regions can grow on a sustainable basis means ensuring the residents have the access to jobs, services and amenities in their region. The Deals can also support the regions' recovery from COVID-19.

The Melbourne City Deals will build on the investments the Australian Government has made in Melbourne including:

- \$1.1 billion to upgrade local roads in Melbourne's north and south-eastern suburbs
- \$5 billion investment in the Melbourne Airport Rail link, in addition to \$30 million for the business case
- \$2 billion investment in fast rail from Melbourne to Geelong
- \$395 million for Commuter Car Park Upgrades.

Stakeholders

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Australian Government | • Victorian Government |
| • Relevant local councils | • Northern Councils Alliance |
| • NorthLink | • University of Victoria |
| • LeadWest | • WoMEDA |
| • La Trobe University | • University of Victoria |
| • The South East Melbourne Group | |

Program status

The Melbourne City Deals are in the development phase. The Australian Government will continue to work with the Victorian Government and local governments to help inform priority projects in the coming months.

In parallel, the department is engaging with other Commonwealth agencies to leverage existing or future government investments in the North West and South Melbourne regions.

Expense funding and forward estimates

This deal is under development and funding has not been provided at this stage so therefore there is no funding table.

Program governance

- **Outcome:** 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 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 3.3 — Cities: Annual Administered Expenses.
- **Relevant legislation:** N/A

History

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While initial consultations kicked off with roundtables in October 2019, negotiations were placed on hold due to COVID-19 and have now re-commenced.

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Perth City Deal

Key message

The Perth City Deal focuses on Perth's CBD, investing in key infrastructure projects over a ten year period that will support Perth's recovery in the short term while also investing in key exports including education and tourism to position Perth for the future.

Snapshot and impact

The City Deal invests in projects that deliver economic stimulus catalysing over \$1.5 billion of investment in CBD projects and creating in excess of 7,500 construction jobs in the city over the life of the Deal. The City Deal partnership between the Australian Government, Western Australian Government and City of Perth will support Perth's recovery and positioning for the future, through:

- creating jobs and supporting private investment in the CBD, particularly in areas that will support future economic growth;
- enabling an energised and vibrant city centre that attracts residents and visitors and demonstrates the best in inner-city living; and
- building a strong community that is inclusive, safe, sustainable and liveable.

The centrepiece of the Perth City Deal is the new Edith Cowan University Cultural and Creative Industries Education CBD Campus. The \$695 million campus investment will bring over 9,200 students and staff to Perth's CBD in 2025 rising to over 11,000 students in 2034 boosting the city's vibrancy, particularly with the inclusion of the WA Academy of Performing Arts.

Stakeholders

- Australian Government
- Western Australian Government
- Fugro Australia Marine
- Western Australian Cricket Association
- Cricket Australia
- City of Perth
- Perth and Western Australian Community
- Edith Cowan University
- Murdoch University
- Curtin University

Program status

The Perth City Deal is a 10-year plan that was announced by Deal partners on 20 September 2020. Deal partners are currently working to establish governance arrangements, funding agreements and agree the implementation plan.

Expense funding and forward estimates

	2020–21 (\$'000)	2021–22 (\$'000)	2022–23 (\$'000)	2023–24 (\$'000)
Appropriation Budget	36,793	77,786	63,671	59,000
Less: actual expenditure	0	0	0	0
Total balance of funds	36,793	77,786	63,671	59,000

Note: total Australian Government funding for the Perth City Deal is \$413 million, with the above being administered by Cities Division, with the balance being administered by other Divisions within the Department and other government agencies.

Program governance

- **Outcome:** Strengthening the vibrancy and liveability of our cities including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government, local communities and private industry; through reforms and investment in infrastructure
- **Purposes:** Sustainable economic, social and environmental development of Australia's cities to optimise their vibrancy and liveability
- **Nature of appropriation:** Budget 2020-21, Federal Financial Relations Budget Paper No. 3 2020-21, Table 2.8
- **Relevant legislation:** *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009*

History

The Australian and WA Governments agreed to negotiate a City Deal when former Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull, and Premier McGowan signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 27 April 2018.

The Perth City Deal was announced on behalf of the Australian Government by Prime Minister Morrison on 20 September 2020.

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Smart Cities and Suburbs Program

Key message

The \$50 million Smart Cities and Suburbs Program (the program) is supporting the delivery of smart city projects that improve the liveability, productivity and sustainability of cities and towns across Australia. The Program is fully allocated and projects will be completed during the 2020-21 financial year.

Snapshot and impact

A \$50 million competitive grants program was established for local governments to collaborate and apply innovative, technology-based approaches to improve the liveability of cities and towns across Australia.

Collaboration is a key aspect of the program, with each grantee partnering with at least one other organisation such as other local governments, research organisations, industry or the private sector. Grant funding covers up to 50 per cent of project costs, with proponents and their partners providing a co-contribution of at least 50 per cent.

In Round One the co-investment will be almost \$36 million, generating around \$1.30 for every Australian Government grant dollar.

In Round Two the co-investment will be over \$26 million, generating around \$1.25 for every Australian Government grant dollar.

Stakeholders

- Local communities
- Local governments
- Research organisations
- Industry organisations
- Private sector

Program status

Round One of the program was open between 17 March and 30 June 2017. 176 applications were received and successful projects were announced in November 2017. Round One committed \$27.7 million towards 49 projects across all states and territories, leaving \$22.3 million for a second round. As at 12 November 2020, 48 Round One projects have been completed with the remaining project due for completion by end of 2020.

Round Two of the program was open between 2 May 2018 and 2 July 2018. 102 applications were received and successful projects were announced in November 2018. Round Two committed over \$21 million towards 32 projects across all states and territories. As at 12 November 2020, 13 Round Two projects have been completed, with the remainder due to be completed in the 2020-21 financial year. There is no commitment from the Australian Government to any future funding.

Expense funding and forward estimates

A Movement of Funds was approved to move underspent funds from 2019–20 to 2020–21. The underspend is due to delayed projects, including a number that were delayed due to COVID-19 for which the department has agreed a variation to finalise in 2020-21.

The original appropriation budget for 2019–20 was reduced from \$12,700,000 to \$11,700,000 following a Movement of Funds to the Hobart City Deal for a joint business case to establish an Antarctic and Science Precinct (matched contribution from the Tasmanian Government).

	2020–21 (\$'000)	2021–22 (\$'000)	2022–23 (\$'000)	2023–24 (\$'000)
Appropriation Budget	5,701	-	-	-
Less: actual expenditure	1,700	-	-	-
Total balance of funds	4,001	-	-	-

Program governance

- **Outcome:** 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 — improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions across Australia
- **Nature of appropriation:** Budget Program 3.3 — Cities
- **Relevant legislation:** NA

History and other issues

In line with whole of government grant administration arrangements, AusIndustry's Business Grants Hub is administering the Program.

An online Smart Cities Collaboration Platform has been developed to capture detailed information about each project funded under the program, and facilitate information sharing and collaboration between organisations and individuals with an interest in smart cities. The Platform is also able to capture information about independently funded projects. We are exploring options to further improve the Platform.

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South East Queensland City Deal

Key message

Through the South East Queensland (SEQ) City Deal, the three levels of government will work collaboratively with industry and the community to realise projects and reform initiatives that can improve the region's connectivity, create jobs and enhance liveability.

Snapshot and impact

As one of the fastest growing regions in Australia, SEQ is experiencing significant change. To 2041, the region is expected to accommodate an additional 1.9 million residents, almost 800,000 new homes and one million new jobs. The Deal will leverage existing Australian Government investment and COVID-19 stimulus in SEQ to support SEQ's economic recovery. It will deliver greater transport and digital connectivity; generate jobs; create opportunities for private investment and growth; and deliver practical reforms agreed between the three levels of government.

Stakeholders

- Queensland Government
- Council of Mayors SEQ

Program status

On 21 July 2020, negotiations of the Deal were extended into 2021 to allow all levels of government to focus on the immediate response to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Following the outcome of the recent Queensland election, negotiations are expected to resume with a Leadership Group meeting in December 2020 to determine the timeline and priorities for the Deal.

Expense funding and forward estimates

This deal is under development and funding has not been provided at this stage so therefore there is no funding table.

Program governance

- **Outcome:** 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:** N/A
- **Relevant legislation:** N/A

History

- The Queensland Government and Council of Mayors SEQ have been preparing and advocating for a SEQ City Deal since 2013. This collaboration culminated in publication of *TransformingSEQ: The SEQ City Deal Proposition* in February 2019.
- On 12 February 2019, the Prime Minister announced the Australian Government would work with the Queensland Government and local councils in SEQ to develop a City Deal for the region.

- The local government councils are represented by the Council of Mayors SEQ. The 11 member councils are: Brisbane City Council; City of Gold Coast; Ipswich City Council; Lockyer Valley Regional Council; Logan City Council; Moreton Bay Regional Council; Redland City Council; Scenic Rim Regional Council; Somerset Regional Council; Sunshine Coast Council; Toowoomba Regional Council.
- On 15 March 2019, the Hon Alan Tudge MP, Minister for Population, Cities and Urban Infrastructure co-signed a Statement of Intent, recording the shared vision for the Deal, with the then Queensland Deputy Premier and the then Chair of the Council of Mayors South East Queensland.
- In September 2019, Minister Tudge held a number of roundtable meetings across SEQ - in Brisbane, Logan, Moreton Bay, Sunshine Coast, Redland, Toowoomba, Lockyer Valley, Somerset and Ipswich.
- The Hon Scott Buchholz MP, Assistant Minister for Road Safety and Freight Transport, met with representatives from the Scenic Rim Region area on 13 December 2019.

Other issues

- Following the July 2020 announcement of the extension of negotiations into 2021, several stakeholders released a media statement and sent a joint-letter to the Leadership Group expressing disappointment at the decision and seeking greater engagement on the content of the Deal.
- Several local councils have stated publicly their expectation that the Deal will develop and deliver a regional fast rail network that will include a 45-minute connectivity from Brisbane to Toowoomba, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast.
- Several councils have linked the Deal to the potential 2032 Olympic and Paralympic candidature, citing the Deal as a vehicle for delivering the necessary infrastructure to host the Games.

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Townsville City Deal

Key message

The Townsville City Deal is a 15-year agreement between the Australian Government, Queensland Government and Townsville City Council to a collective program of planning and investment with the aim of delivering a prosperous economic future for the city and positioning Townsville as a vibrant, liveable and innovative city in Northern Australia. The Townsville City Deal was the first City Deal in Australia.

Snapshot and impact

The Townsville City Deal is comprised of 16 commitments and 9 future opportunities. An Implementation Plan details each Deal partner's role and responsibilities in delivering the projects under each commitment and future opportunity. To date, the total amount of funding announced for projects under the Deal is \$942.6m.

The Australian Government has committed \$381.7m to the Deal, including:

- \$100m for the North Queensland Stadium;
- \$75m for the Port of Townsville channel upgrade; and
- \$195m, originally committed to the Houghton Pipeline Stage Two, for other projects in the Townsville region (to be announced).

Key achievements over the past 12 months have included:

- Opening of the North Queensland Stadium, with a concert by Sir Elton John on 29 February and the North Queensland Cowboys' first match of the 2020 NRL season on 13 March.
- Commencement of construction for the Port of Townsville channel upgrade, with over 650,000 tonnes of rock used to build a 2.2km seawall, which is now almost complete.
- Completion of construction of Stage 1 of the Houghton Pipeline from the Ross River Dam to the Houghton River, ready for eventual connection to Stage 2 between the Houghton and Burdekin Rivers.
- Finalisation of the Townsville Health and Knowledge Development Strategy and the Townsville Workforce Development Plan.

Progress over the next 12 months is expected to include:

- Finalisation of the 3 year review and release of the findings in the annual progress report
- Commencement of dredging for the Port of Townsville channel upgrade.
- Announcement of projects for the reallocation of the Australian Government's \$195m funding originally committed to the Houghton Pipeline Stage 2.

Stakeholders

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| • Queensland Government | Townsville RDA |
| • Townsville City Council | NIAA |
| • ONA | Businesses and residents of Townsville |

Program status

Start date: 9 December 2016

End date: 9 December 2031

Expense funding and forward estimates

	2020–21 (\$'000)	2021–22 (\$'000)	2022–23 (\$'000)	2023–24 (\$'000)
Appropriation Budget	182,932	75,600	24,000	-
Less: actual expenditure	-	-	-	-
Total balance of funds	182,932	75,600	24,000	-

Program governance

- **Outcome:** 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 — improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions across Australia
- **Administered own-source revenue:** Budget Program 3.3 — Cities; Annual administered expenses
- Relevant legislation: N/A

History

- The Townsville City Deal was signed on behalf of the Australian Government by Prime Minister Turnbull on 9 December 2016 and is Australia's first City Deal.
- An annual report is released early in each year covering progress on projects under the Deal for the previous January to December period.
- In 2020, the Deal partners engaged AECOM Australia for conduct a formal review of the first three years of the Townsville City Deal. The findings of this review will be released in early 2021.

Other issues

s 47B

Background

- In November 2018, the Australian Government committed \$195 million for construction of the Haughton Pipeline Stage 2, as recommended by the final report of the Townsville Water Security Taskforce (established under the City Deal).
- This funding was re-confirmed in June 2019 following the release of a detailed business case (funded by the Australian Government).
- In October 2019, the Queensland Government undertook to pass-through the funding to Townsville City Council, without condition, as there no suitable legislative mechanism available for the Australian Government to provide the funding directly to local government.
- In January 2020, Queensland sought to condition this undertaking by demanding that the funding be exempted from the HFE calculations for the distribution of GST.
- In August 2020, Queensland announced it would fully fund the project itself.

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Western Sydney City Deal

Key message

The Western Sydney City Deal is a 20-year partnership agreement between the Australian Government, New South Wales (NSW) Government and eight local governments to create the 'Western Parkland City' through the delivery of rail, jobs and community infrastructure for the people of Western Sydney.

The Australian Government and NSW Government are working together to deliver rail to Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport (Western Sydney Airport) by its opening in 2026. The Australian Government has also worked closely with the NSW Government to protect a rail corridor through the airport site, with space for two rail services (4 tracks) and two stations.

Construction of the rail and airport projects is expected to progress simultaneously. s 47B

Snapshot and impact

Western Sydney is one of Australia's fastest growing areas. The Western Sydney City Deal will help provide employment, public transport, housing and educational opportunities to accommodate that growth. It includes commitments for:

- the Australian and NSW Governments to deliver and equally fund the first stage of the Sydney Metro - Western Sydney Airport (formerly the North South Rail Link), from St Marys to the Western Sydney Aerotropolis via the Western Sydney Airport. Through its Infrastructure Investment Program, the Australian Government has announced \$5.25 billion towards the delivery of the rail line. The NSW Government has also committed up to \$5.25 billion.
- a \$190 million Western Parkland City Liveability Program (Liveability Program) to revitalise community infrastructure and public spaces across Western Sydney (\$60 million each from the Australian Government and NSW Government and \$70 million from councils)
- a \$30 million Western Parkland City Housing Package (\$15 million each from the Australian Government and NSW Government)
- enduring tri-government governance arrangements

The Western Sydney City Deal will support the development of a productive and liveable Western Parkland City. The Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport rail project will connect the airport and support residents to live, work and access services locally as the transport 'spine' of the new city.

Stakeholders

- Western Sydney community and industry
- NSW Government: DPC, DPIE, Sydney Metro, Transport for NSW, Western Parkland City Authority, Western Sydney Planning Partnership, Greater Sydney Commission
- Local governments of the Blue Mountains, Camden, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Liverpool, Penrith and Wollondilly

Program status

Western Sydney City Deal

Enduring tri-government governance arrangements have been established overseen by a Leadership Group co-chaired by the Minister for Population, Cities and Urban Infrastructure, the Hon Allan Tudge MP and the NSW Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney, the Hon Stuart Ayres MP. Councils are represented by Mayors. An Implementation Plan for the 38 commitments that comprise the Western Sydney City Deal was published in December 2018 and a second annual progress report was published in June 2020. A formal three-year review of the City Deal will take place in 2021.

Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport

Both governments are pushing towards delivery of rail by the Western Sydney Airport's opening in 2026. s

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A joint business case is currently being reviewed by Infrastructure Australia (IA), with IA expected to conclude its independent assessment in 2020-21. s 47B

The Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was released for public exhibition on 21 October 2020 and will close on 2 December 2020. Sydney Metro, as the project proponent, is leading the environmental approvals process for Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport.

s 47B

Expense funding and forward estimates

	2020–21 (\$'000)	2021–22 (\$'000)	2022–23 (\$'000)	2023–24 (\$'000)
Appropriation Budget	566,320	740,320	1,159,860	897,990
Less: actual expenditure	-	-	-	-
Total balance of funds	566,320	740,320	1,159,860	897,990

Program governance

- **Outcome:** 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:**
 - *Western Sydney City Deal Implementation:* Regional development — improving living standards and facilitating economic growth in cities and regions across Australia
 - *Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport:* Transport connectivity — supporting an efficient, sustainable, safe and accessible transport system
- **Administered own-source revenue:**
 - *Western Sydney City Deal Implementation:* Budget Program 3.3 — Cities; Special appropriation (Treasury) — Federal Financial Relations Act 2009
 - *Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport:* Budget Program 1.1 — Infrastructure Investment; Federal Financial Relations Act 2009
- **Relevant legislation:** *Federal Financial Relations Act 2009; COAG Reform Fund Act 2008; National Land Transport Act 2014; Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*

History and other issues

The Western Sydney City Deal was signed on 4 March 2018. It comprises 38 commitments across six themes: Connectivity, Jobs for the Future, Skills and Education, Liveability and Environment, Planning and Housing, and Implementation and Governance. The City Deal is the most comprehensive of the current deals, and has been supported by the City Deal partners. Implementation is on track.

The City Deal will be reviewed in 2021, and an evaluation framework has been developed to guide that review. Depending on the timing of the review it may take place during the lead up to local council elections, which were postponed in 2020. There is funding in the department's budget to provide for a Commonwealth contribution to the review.

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Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

Western Sydney

Issue

Delivery of Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport (WSI) and the Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport (SMWSA) rail line by 2026, and the ongoing implementation of the Western Sydney City Deal.

Way Forward

Continued engagement with key stakeholders to deliver WSI and SMWSA s 47B

Would you like further briefing on this topic:

Written briefing ☐

Verbal briefing ☐

Comments:

Context and future action

- The Australian Government (AG) established a Government Business Enterprise, WSA Co Limited, in 2017 and committed up to \$5.322 billion in equity to build and open WSI by the end of 2026. Construction commenced in 2018 and is on schedule and is on budget, with bulk earthworks underway.
- A key upcoming decision for Government will be the commencement of the formal public consultation on the proposed flight path design. The department has commenced the design and undertaken significant modelling work and engagement with regulators. Critical consultation with aviation industry stakeholders has been problematic during COVID-19.
- The Australian and NSW Governments have agreed to equally fund the \$10.5 billion SMWSA rail line by the Airport opening. Ts 47B

s 47B

- Jobs generation for the Western Sydney region is a major priority for the Government. The City Deal included a commitment of 200,000 new jobs. Airport construction will generate 11,000 jobs during the construction phase, and 28,000 jobs by 2031. SMWSA construction will generate an additional 14,000 jobs.

Key risks and sensitivities

- s 47B
- The Department is closely monitoring WSA's ability to deliver the Airport within the Government's \$5.3 billion commitment including the commonwealths funding of SMWSA with Sydney Metro
- Airspace planning for the Airport is likely to be of high public interest, and it will be important to maintain airport safeguarding provisions in the State Environmental Planning Policy through ongoing consultation with NSW.

Key stakeholders

- Minister for Finance
- NSW Minister for Western Sydney
- WSA Co Limited
- Sydney Metro (Transport for NSW)
- Western Sydney City deal partner councils
- Forum on Western Sydney Airport
- NSW Treasury

Upcoming Events

- Announcement of the Airport Baggage Handling System contractor (January 2021) and the Airport Terminal Contractor (April 2021).
- RFT for Stations, Tunnels and Boxes package (Sydney Metro – March 2021)

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Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

ANAO Audit of the Leppington Triangle Purchase

Issue

The ANAO's performance audit report of 21 September 2020 on the purchase of the Leppington Triangle raised a number of serious allegations regarding decision making of the Department throughout the purchase and engagement with the ANAO during the audit. The ANAO referred the matter to the AFP on 13 July 2020, with the matter now under AFP investigation.

Way Forward

Until investigations are completed the level of detail that can be provided publicly is limited and all enquiries in relation to the Leppington Triangle should be directed to the Department. The Department will keep Ministers informed as investigations and Departmental inquiries are progressed.

Would you like further briefing on this topic:

Written briefing ☐

Verbal briefing ☐

Comments:

Context and future action

- The Department agreed to all three recommendations in the ANAO performance audit report 'Purchase of the 'Leppington Triangle' Land for the Future Development of Western Sydney Airport' (refer **Attachment B**).
 - The report goes to the administrative actions of the Department, more than two years ago. There is no evidence of Ministerial decision making in the transaction.
- The Department is taking action to address shortcomings in processes and decision making and has also launched three separate inquiries to ensure all issues raised are addressed in detail and that lessons learnt are embedded across the Department (refer **Attachment A**). All three inquiries are expected to be completed early in the new-year.
- In light of ongoing investigations, a number of requests for information have been declined on public interest immunity grounds including approximately 11 freedom of information requests and a Senate Order for the Production on Documents.
 - The public disclosure of matters under investigation by the AFP could prejudice this investigation.
 - Disclosure could also reveal the identity of individuals being investigated under the *Public Service Act 1999*.

Key risks and sensitivities

- Scrutiny and public interest regarding the matter will intensify in the new-year as a result of the Department's inquiries concluding, submissions closing for a JCPAA inquiry on 29 January 2021 and Additional Estimates (early March). The evidence that can be provided will be dependent on the status of the investigations. The Department will provide updated briefing to Ministers as these matters progress.

Key stakeholders

- Ministers
- ANAO
- Department of Finance
- Australian Government Solicitor

Upcoming Events

- nil

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Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications actions taken in response to the ANAO audit report on the Purchase of the “Leppington Triangle” land for the future development of Western Sydney Airport.

The Department in taking action beyond the formal responses in the report (refer **Attachment A**), specifically:

- formal independent investigations under the APS Code of Conduct into two matters of staff conduct raised by the ANAO, referred to Human Resources for formal consideration on 21 August,
 - an independent audit of the conduct of the Leppington transaction to identify any further areas of improvement or lessons learned, commenced 4 August 2020;
 - an independent review of the Western Sydney Unit’s systems, process, culture and capabilities and the Unit’s systemic engagement with the Department’s governance structures and enabling divisions, to commence in late December-early January; and
 - established an Assurance Taskforce in October 2020 to drive implementation and provide oversight of the response to the ANAO’s recommendations and other measures.
-

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications response to the ANAO audit report on the Purchase of the “Leppington Triangle” land for the future development of Western Sydney Airport.

Department summary response

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (the Department) notes the ANAO report and agrees with the recommendations.

The Department is concerned by the findings of the report, and is taking actions to address any shortcomings in the processes and decision making arrangements identified in relation to the Leppington Triangle acquisition.

The Department has a long track record of operating consistent with expected standards of integrity and ethics. In light of the allegation of individual breaches of integrity, the matters raised by the ANAO in the report are being investigated to ensure all such matters are fully understood and appropriate action can be taken.

The Department has established an independent review of the transaction arrangements to ensure the findings of the audit are addressed. The Department has also commenced management reviews into matters of staff conduct identified by the ANAO, and will ensure the concerns raised are specifically addressed.

An external probity advisor will be appointed to support ongoing functions related to major projects and land acquisitions, and will assist with the development of guidance materials on obtaining purchase valuations in consultation with the Department of Finance, to ensure that protocols are in line with operations of the *Lands Acquisition Act 1989*.

The Department notes the ANAO view that the purchase could have been made at a much later date, and considers that consistent with earlier approaches at Badgerys Creek, and with other airports, acquisition of the land as early as practicable has benefits. The acquisition of the Triangle represented the final parcel of land that needed to be acquired for the airport site, creating a complex market situation.

The acquisition of the Triangle came about alongside the establishment of the Western Sydney Airport Company and the public release of the Government’s Airport Plan which committed to a two runway airport.

Early acquisition provided certainty to stakeholders for long term planning, has allowed Western Sydney Airport Company to plan effectively for the entire development of the Airport as identified in the Airport Plan, and has reduced the risk of future challenges on the Airport development.

The Department agrees that the valuation strategy was unorthodox. However, we note that the strategy was developed in consultation with the Department of Finance and the Australian Government Solicitor and was designed to mitigate the risk of costly and lengthy legal challenges.

As the report notes, the land-holding company had previously challenged land acquisitions at the airport site with the Department spending over ten years in legal proceedings.

The Department’s Audit and Risk Committee has been consulted on the audit. They advised the Financial Statements Sub Committee were made aware prior to the Audit and Risk Committee recommending the financial statements be signed by the Secretary, that the accounting treatment of the transaction and its inclusion in the Department’s financial statements, had been accepted by the ANAO and that an unmodified audit opinion would be issued.

The Committee was further advised that the ANAO intended to undertake further audit procedures of the purchase, internal reviews on probity and integrity were being undertaken by the Department, and that the ANAO may conduct a performance audit on the matter at a later stage.

Response to recommendations

Recommendation 1

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications prepare comprehensive and balanced written analysis on the benefits, costs and risks of proposals to spend public money.

Department response

Agreed. The Department has existing frameworks and guidance on the requirements associated with developing proposals to spend public money in accordance with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

The Department will review and update existing material to ensure there is a clear requirement for comprehensive and balanced written analysis on the benefits, costs and risks to support proposals to spend public money, and particularly in regard to valuations and land acquisitions. All staff will be reminded of their responsibilities and updated guidance material will be made available to all staff and appropriate training provided.

Recommendation 2

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications put in place meeting and communication protocols for when staff engage directly with individual landowners, developers or similar parties with heightened probity risks. The protocols should: include guidelines regarding suitable venues; require the presence of at least two departmental representatives; and to require properly recorded minutes of meetings and conversations.

Department response

Agreed. The Department has established protocols on meeting with interested parties developed specifically for the Western Sydney Unit. The guidance is available to all staff. The Department will review the protocols to expand coverage to other areas of the Department.

These will include, at a minimum, guidelines regarding suitable venues; require the presence of at least two departmental representatives; and properly recorded minutes of meetings and conversations. Staff will be reminded of their responsibilities and appropriate training provided.

Recommendation 3

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications develop policies and procedures to govern its approach to obtaining purchase valuations.

Department response

Agreed. The Department will develop specific guidance materials on obtaining purchase valuations in consultation with the Department of Finance, to ensure that protocols are in line with operations of the *Lands Acquisition Act 1989*. All guidance material will be made available to staff and appropriate training provided.