

## Presentation format

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- a. DELWP's roles and responsibilities
- b. Legislative and strategic frameworks
- c. Traditional Owners
- d. Effectiveness of current legislation and planning controls in securing environmental infrastructure
- e. Benefits of access to environmental infrastructure
- f. Differences in access and availability
- g. Impacts of population growth

### 2 DELWP's responses

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### 4 Summary

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## Key contextual information

### DELWP's roles and responsibilities

- Multiple agencies work together to provide a robust response to preserving, enhancing and providing environmental infrastructure in Victoria.
- DELWP has a central role in driving state-wide planning, policy and action, coordinating whole of government responses, delivering key programs and managing public land in State ownership.

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## Key contextual information

### DELWP's roles and responsibilities

- The One DELWP Corporate Plan includes seven Public Value Outcomes that shape the department's approach to environmental infrastructure provision.
- DELWP's Community Charter articulates our commitment to a place-based, community-focussed approach that involves the community in decisions, policies, programs or processes, especially where the impacts will be felt by vulnerable or marginalised members of our communities.



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## Key contextual information



Zero emissions, climate-ready economy and community



Healthy, resilient and biodiverse environment



Safe, sustainable and productive water resources



Reliable, sustainable and affordable energy services



Productive and effective land management



A safe and quality built-environment



Reduced impact of major bushfires and other emergencies on people, property and the environment

## Key contextual information

### Legislative and strategic frameworks

DELWP is responsible for various Acts of Parliament that regulate or provide for environmental infrastructure. Key legislation includes:

Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994
Climate Change Act 2017
Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978
Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988
Flora and Fauna Guarantee Amendment Act 2019
Forests Act 1958
Land Act 1958
Marine and Coastal Act 2018
National Parks Act 1975
Planning and Environment Act 1987
Planning and Environment (Metropolitan Green Wedge Protection) Act 2003
Victorian Conservation Trust Act 1972
Water Act 1989
Wildlife Act 1975
Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrong) Act 2017

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## Key contextual information

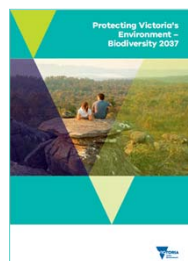
### Legislative and strategic frameworks

DELWP's strategic plans set a strong and effective foundation for securing environmental infrastructure in Victoria.

Key strategies prepared by DELWP include:



Water for  
Victoria



Protecting Victoria's  
Environment –  
Biodiversity 2037



Plan Melbourne  
2017 – 2050



Open Space for  
Everyone

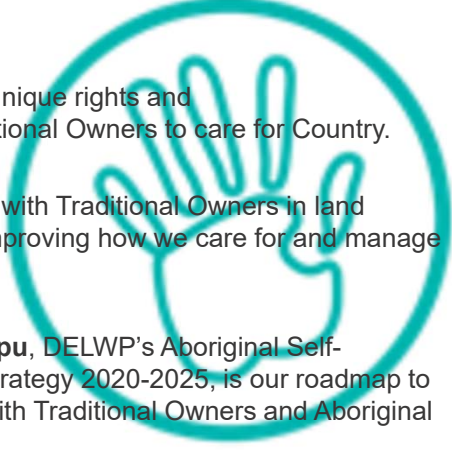
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## Key contextual information

### Traditional Owners

- DELWP recognises the unique rights and obligations held by Traditional Owners to care for Country.
- Developing partnerships with Traditional Owners in land management is key to improving how we care for and manage our forests and land.
- **Pupangarli Marnmarnepu**, DELWP's Aboriginal Self-Determination Reform Strategy 2020-2025, is our roadmap to building a better future with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal Victorians.



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## Key contextual information

### Effectiveness of current legislation and planning controls in securing environmental infrastructure

- DELWP is responsive to the need for legislative and regulatory reform to improve outcomes for Victorians and the environment, and to respond to new and emerging issues.
- One area where DELWP is leading reform is the Victorian planning system.
- While we consider it to be generally effective in securing environmental infrastructure, we continuously review State policy and undertake reforms to improve the overall efficiency of the planning system.

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## Key contextual information

### Victoria's planning system

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graph LR
    A[Planning & Environment Act 1987] --> B[Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP)]
    B --> C[State Policy]
    C --> D[Zones]
    D --> E[Overlays]
    E --> F[Particular provisions]
  
```

Other planning mechanisms for securing environmental infrastructure:

- Subdivision Act 1988
- Growth Area Planning
- Development Contributions

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## Key contextual information

### Effectiveness of current legislation and planning controls in securing environmental infrastructure

- Another example of legislative reform are changes to the *Water Act 1989* and the *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murron) Bill 2017*
- These reforms created new obligations for public agencies to engage with Traditional Owners and to consider Aboriginal cultural values and social values in the planning and management of waterways and their adjacent landscapes.

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## Key contextual information

### Benefits of access to environmental infrastructure

- Environmental infrastructure is increasingly recognised by governments, businesses and global institutions as a capital asset that produces value to people, communities and society as a whole.
- It underpins our economy, supports community health and wellbeing, and provides a wide range of environmental goods and services that are essential for maintaining a healthy, liveable and sustainable environment for all.

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## Key contextual information

### Benefits of access to environmental infrastructure

- Environmental infrastructure can be accessed and used in different ways, by different people.
- A key feature of environmental infrastructure is its multifunctionality.
- As population pressure increases, Victorians will need to move away from traditional notions of land use that describe land in one particular way, towards an approach that uses land in multiple ways for multiple people and types of users. This will ensure we get the most value from the resources we have.

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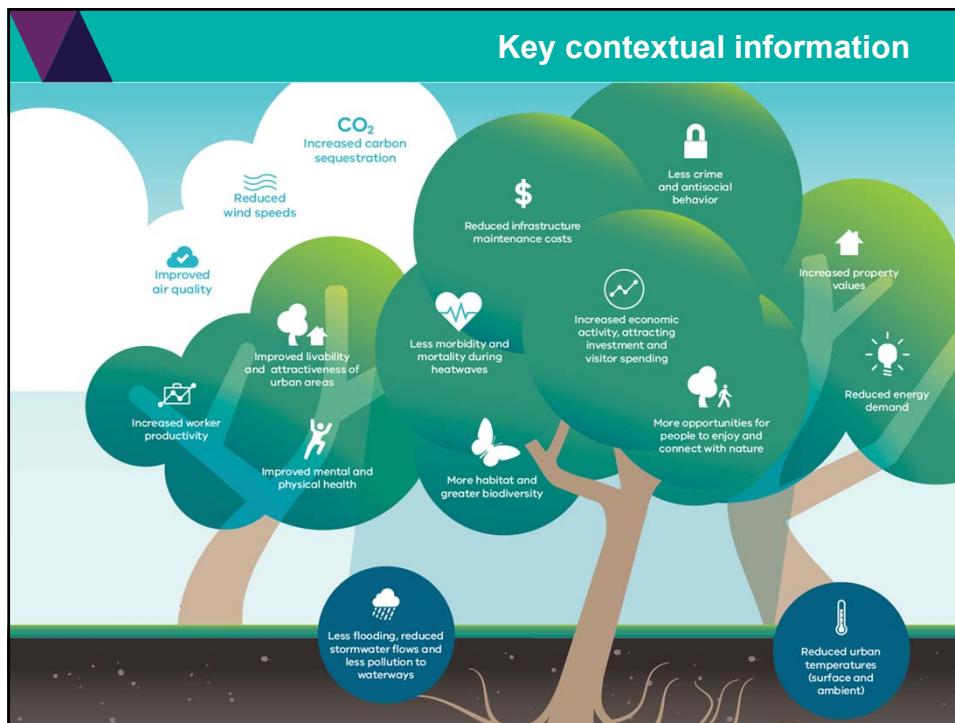
## Key contextual information

### Benefits of access to environmental infrastructure

- Evidence demonstrates that environmental infrastructure provides significant benefits to human health and wellbeing. It also provides other economic, social and environmental benefits, such as to:
  - Recreation and tourism
  - Local climate regulation
  - Global climate regulation
  - Liveability
  - Ecosystem and biodiversity health
  - Job creation

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**Key contextual information**

**Differences in access and availability**

- Environmental justice means that all people should have equitable access to nature for enjoyment, recreation, cultural and spiritual reasons, and to enhance their mental and physical health.
- There are many reasons why people cannot, or choose not to, have daily contact with nature. For example, distance from green spaces, difficulties of access, discomfort, cultural issues and disability.



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**Key contextual information**

**Differences in access and availability**

- We need to ensure that nature remains close and accessible to where people live, work and travel.
- All Victorians should have equitable access to waterways, open spaces and parks, sporting fields and recreation reserves, canopy trees and wildlife corridors.
- This will be especially important as Victoria continues to experience population change and growth in Melbourne and regional centres.

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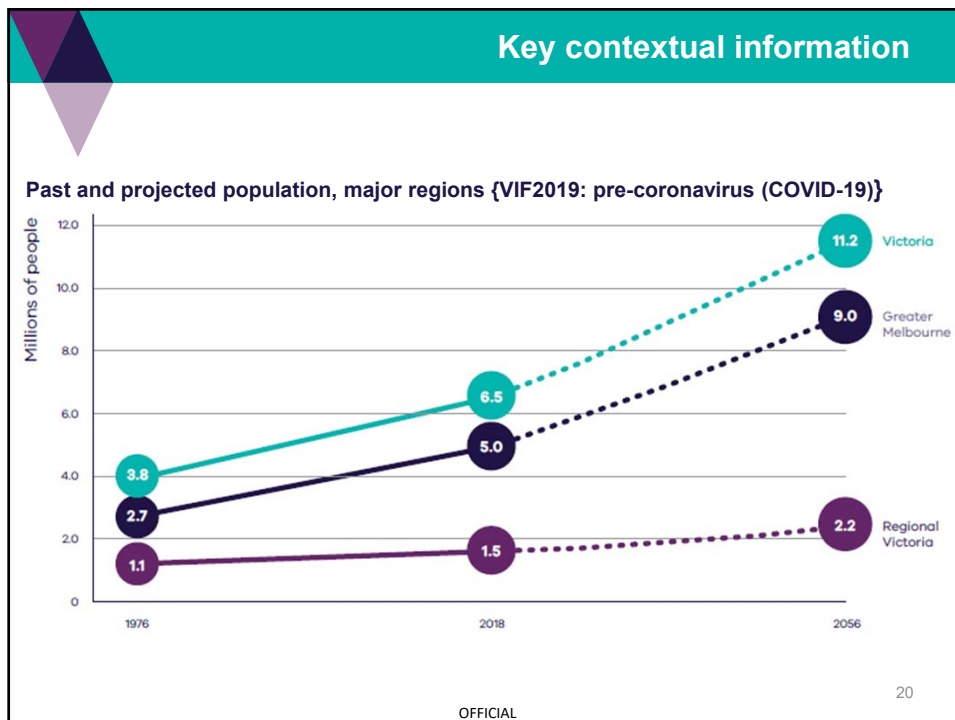
## Key contextual information

### Impacts of population growth

- Greater Melbourne is expected to reach a population of 9 million people by 2056, and Victoria 11.2 million people. This is the third major population boom in Melbourne's history.
- Many of the benefits we enjoy today are the result of good planning and intervention by government to secure natural assets and open space.
- As Melbourne continues to grow, land will continue to be set aside for environmental and recreation purposes, however there are also many opportunities to use the environmental infrastructure and resources we have more effectively.

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## Key contextual information

### Impacts of population growth

- By some accounts, parts of our environmental infrastructure are already under pressure and further urbanisation of our cities and towns and increased use of our existing environmental infrastructure will add to this pressure.
- In addition to population growth, climate change is also impacting our environmental infrastructure. This provides challenges but also opportunities. For example, we can incorporate clever water sensitive urban design elements to capture storm water, store it and then use the water to sustain our urban forest.
- DELWP is well positioned to respond to these challenges.

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## DELWP's response


The following section identifies DELWP's **key programs to respond to population pressure and provide environmental infrastructure**.

Information in this section includes information on environmental infrastructure relating to:

- waterways
- open spaces and parks
- canopy trees and wildlife corridors.


## DELWP's response

### Waterways




**Statewide projects**

- \$200 million to improve waterway health
- \$22 million for catchment management
- Victorian Waterway Management Program
- Victorian Waterway Management Strategy
- Regional Waterway Strategy
- Regional Catchment Strategies



**Metro projects**

- Greening the West
- Greening the Pipeline
- Waterways of the West
- Protecting the Rivers of the Barwon
- Yarra River Action Plan & Yarra Strategic Plan



**IWM planning**

- Integrated Water Management Framework
- IWM Forums

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## DELWP's response

### Open Space and Parks

- \$154 million Suburban Parks Program
- 6,500ha of new and upgraded parks and trails

**Local Parks Program**

- 29 new pocket parks
- Up to 16 new off-leash dog parks
- \$10 million Park Revitalisation Grants Program

**Northern Metro Trails Program**

- \$10 million to create new trails in the Northern Metropolitan Region

**Regional Parks Program**

- 3 new regional parks in metro growth areas

**Co-Managed Regional Parks Program**

- shared park establishment delivered in partnership with multiple public land managers and Traditional Owners



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**DELWP's response**

### Open Space and Parks

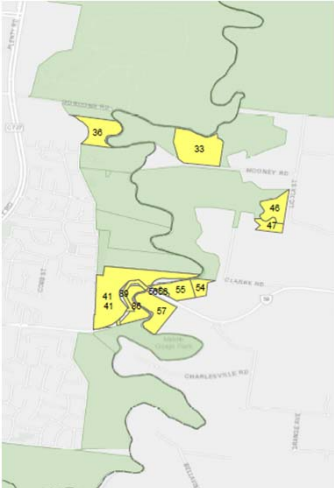
#### Metropolitan Parks Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO) Program

Reserves and acquires land for public open space within Metropolitan Melbourne

**205**  
PAOs in the name of the Minister

**600**  
hectares additional open space delivered

**300**  
private land parcels subject to a PAO




Some of the Plenty Gorge Parklands PAOs

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**DELWP's response**


### Canopy trees and wildlife corridors



**Programs, investment and tools**

- Biodiversity Response Planning
- Strategic Management Prospects Tool
- Grants to restore nature and plant canopy trees


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**Cooling and Greening Melbourne**

- Interactive Map – vegetation and heat
- Trees for Cooler and Greener Streets Guidelines
- Strengthening planning provisions

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**Green Roof Demonstration Project**

- DELWP and City of Melbourne initiative
- One Treasury Place
- 1500m2 green roof

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## Best practices and innovations

This final section will identify **examples of best practice and innovative approaches**

It includes the following local examples:

- Harkness Cemetery – reimagining a memorial park
- Greening the Pipeline
- Djerring Trail
- Victoria's Integrated Water Management Program.

## Best practices and innovations

### Harkness Cemetery: reimagining a memorial park



maximising  
value for broader  
community wellbeing and  
environmental resilience,  
without compromising  
on the primary  
purpose

## Best practices and innovations

### Greening the pipeline



transforming  
**27** km  
 of reserve along the  
 Main Outfall Sewer

Victorian Government has invested:

- \$1 million in 2018–19
- \$8 million in 2019–20  
 (to be delivered over three years)



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## Best practices and innovations

### Djerring Trail

- Part of the level crossing removal project between Caulfield to Dandenong



**22.5** ha  
 of new public  
 open space

connected by

**12** kms  
 of shared use path

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## Best practices and innovations

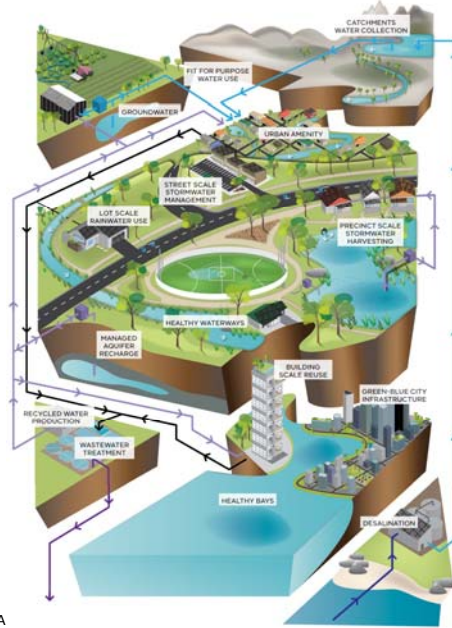
### Victoria's Integrated Water Management Program

Co-invested in

**97**  
projects  
over three years

#### Examples:

- 📍 Raingarden in Johnstone Park, Geelong
- 📍 IWM Plan Albert Park, Warrnambool
- 📍 Greening Euroa, Shire of Strathbogie



## Summary

- DELWP thanks the Committee for its time today.
- Please refer to our written submission for details on all matters raised today.
- **We welcome any final questions.**