

2019-20 Sustainability Fund Activities Report

Investing in a more sustainable future



Front cover image credit: Steven Crabtree

Acknowledgment

We acknowledge and respect Victorian Traditional Owners as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters, their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it. We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom has ensured the continuation of culture and traditional practices.

We are committed to genuinely partner, and meaningfully engage, with Victoria's Traditional Owners and Aboriginal communities to support the protection of Country, the maintenance of spiritual and cultural practices and their broader aspirations in the 21st century and beyond.



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Secretary's foreword



A healthy vibrant and diverse Victorian environment helps foster social and economic development, supporting the current and future prosperity of all Victorians. To build a sustainable future for Victoria, we need to work together to reduce our impact on the environment.

Victoria's landfill levy system is a powerful tool to help lower our impact on the environment by reducing the waste that ends up in landfill and recovering valuable resources from the waste we generate.

The 2019-20 bushfire season was one of the most significant and devastating on record. Natural disaster events are becoming more prevalent and intense, confirming that our climate is changing. The Sustainability Fund provides crucial funding to help Victorians address the impacts of changes to our climate.

In February 2020 the Victorian Government announced the creation of Recycling Victoria, an investment of more than \$300 million from the Sustainability Fund over 10 years towards an action plan to reform our recycling sector. Recycling Victoria is underpinned by the circular economy policy, which will allow Victorians to avoid waste with good design and effective recovery of materials that can be reused.

Revenue generated from the Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy (MILL) funds key government environmental agencies that are tackling issues such as waste management, recycling, sustainability, and climate change. After distributions to these agencies, the remaining funds are transferred to the Sustainability Fund.

The fund plays a vital role in fostering the environmentally sustainable use of resources and best practices in waste management, as well as helping Victorians take action against the impacts of climate change. Funds are allocated in accordance with the *Environment Protection Act 1970* and the **Sustainability Fund Priority Statement**.

In June 2020, the new **Sustainability Fund Guidelines** came into being after the approval of the Premier and Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change. The new guidelines establish a fully independent Sustainability Fund Committee for the first time, completing the Department's implementation of the final four recommendations from the Victorian Auditor-General's audit in July 2018.

2019-20 saw an ongoing focus from the fund on improving Victoria's waste recovery system. The plastic bag ban was passed and upgrades to e-waste collection services were progressed. The year also saw a strong emphasis on managing illegal dumping, with the development of the Officers for the Protection of the Local Environment (OPLE) program and the Illegal Waste Dumping Strikeforce.

The fund also saw the generation of 491 million kilowatt hours of renewable energy, which resulted in just over 500 megatonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) avoided.



More than 6,000 hectares of private land were protected in 2019-20, and the permanent protection of more than 1,000 hectares was achieved through covenants.

Over 3,400 energy efficiency assessments were performed on households including vulnerable Victorians, and just under 12,000 community members participated in Sustainability Fund projects that improved Victoria's coastline. Impacts like these underline the Sustainability Fund's commitment to improving outcomes for all members of the Victorian community.

These results build upon the success of previous years. They demonstrate the ongoing value of the fund in strengthening the state's waste and recycling industry and restoring Victoria as a leader in responding to the effects of climate change.

During 2019-20, a total of \$156.3 million was invested in waste management and climate change projects across the state. There were also a number of key announcements of initiatives to be funded from the fund in the future, including:

- over \$300 million for Recycling Victoria
- \$126 million towards the delivery of the Suburban Parks Program.

A full list of the fund's activities in 2019-20 are included in this report.

In total 324 unique organisations were assisted through targeted grant programs in 2019-20, of which 31.8 per cent were community groups and 23.8 per cent were local governments. These groups and organisations play a key role in driving change in the community, especially to help reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and improve biodiversity outcomes.

The cash balance of the fund decreased to \$385.3 million at 30 June 2020. Current funding commitments exceed the available balance over the next few years, and future funding will be contingent on revenue inflows from the MILL.

The fund continues to be strategic and forward looking by supporting projects that foster employment, new technology and innovation, resource efficiency, and ongoing behaviour change. Investment in these areas helps foster Victoria's social and economic future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Sustainability Fund Committee, headed by the Chair Freya Marsden, for their contribution to the fund throughout the year. In addition, I would like to welcome Joan Ko and Kate Andrews as new independent members of the Committee in 2020. I would also like to thank the outgoing Committee members Paul Murfitt, Mark Rodrigues and Sebastian Chapman for their valuable contributions.

The Committee's advice to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change on allocations from the fund continues to ensure that programs funded align with the fund's legislated objectives and priorities.

John Bradley
Secretary

Overview



The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) publishes an activities report for the Sustainability Fund annually.

This report details the fund's investments and activities for 2019-20. It provides transparency about where the revenue collected from Victorian landfill levies has been spent and the value those funds provide to Victoria. Information is also provided on how the Sustainability Fund operates, how its funds are allocated and how the individual projects it supports align to its legislated purpose and priorities.

The fund has seen continued improvements in 2019-20, further strengthening its administration. DELWP accepted all 14 recommendations made by the Victorian Auditor-General in the performance audit *Managing the Industrial and Municipal Landfill Levy* in July 2018. The four remaining recommendations were implemented in 2019-20, finalised with the tabling of the new **Sustainability Fund Guidelines** in June 2020.

The new guidelines establish a fully independent Sustainability Fund Committee for the first time in response to one of the recommendations of the audit. The **Sustainability Fund Priority Statement** was amended at this time to reflect the existing administrative requirement for the Committee to

provide advice to government on all budget bids seeking funding from the Sustainability Fund. Full information of the audit's recommendations is provided in this report.

The Sustainability Fund's Monitoring and Evaluation Framework was further evolved in 2019-20. The aim of the framework is to provide greater transparency about project outcomes and the value the fund provides to Victoria. Outcomes from projects that have adopted the framework and can provide outcome data are included in this report.

2019-20 marks the second year of collection of evaluation framework data, with over three quarters of all Sustainability Fund projects now having established targets to measure, with the key impacts included in this report.

Case studies are presented throughout this report to illustrate how the fund is helping Victorian communities and industry to respond to environmental concerns. These bring to life the great work being undertaken by fund recipients.



About the Sustainability Fund

The Sustainability Fund is established in legislation to foster environmentally sustainable uses of resources, best practices in waste management, reduction of greenhouse gas substance emissions, and adaptation to climate change in Victoria.

Management of the fund was transferred to DELWP in 2015. Before this, the fund was administered by Sustainability Victoria with the first funding allocated in 2005.

The fund receives money collected from the MILL, whose funds are initially distributed to key environmental agencies including the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), Sustainability Victoria (SV) and the seven Waste and Resource Recovery Groups. The remaining revenue is then transferred to the Sustainability Fund.

The purpose of the Sustainability Fund, as defined by section 70 of the *Environment Protection Act 1970* (the EP Act), is to foster:

- environmentally sustainable uses of resources and best practices in waste management to advance the social and economic development of Victoria; or
- community action or innovation in relation to the reduction of greenhouse gas substance emissions or adaptation or adjustment to climate change in Victoria.

Funds are allocated with the joint consent of the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change and the Premier, in accordance with the fund's Priority Statement and government policy.

The Sustainability Fund Committee oversees the fund's management to support transparency and

accountability, as well as providing impartial, strategic advice to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change and Premier regarding allocations from the fund.

Members of the Committee during the 2019-20 reporting period were:

- Freya Marsden, Chair (November 2016 – current)
- Joe Groher, Deputy Chair and Finance Expert (December 2016 – current)
- John Batho, Governance Expert (April 2018 – current)
- Paul Murfitt, Executive Director, Energy Sector Reform (March 2017 – June 2020)
- Mark Rodrigues, DELWP representative (September 2019 – June 2020)
- Sebastian Chapman, DELWP representative (December 2019 – June 2020)

The new **Sustainability Fund Guidelines** came into operation on 16 June 2020, thereby establishing a fully independent Committee. This concluded the terms of the three DELWP Committee representatives; Paul Murfitt, Sebastian Chapman and Mark Rodrigues.

DELWP appointed two additional independent members to the Committee in July 2020:

- Joan Ko
- Kate Andrews

Role of the Sustainability Fund Committee

The Premier and the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change are supported by the Sustainability Fund Committee. The role of the Committee is to oversee the fund's governance and management, providing increased transparency and accountability for the fund's expenditure. This includes working with DELWP to release the fund's annual activities report (this report).

The Committee plays a key role in ensuring that allocations from the fund align to the fund's legislated objectives, building confidence that the fund is being used for its intended purpose.

The Committee achieves this by providing impartial, strategic advice regarding all allocations from the fund to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, prior to Minister's and Premier's approval. This advice includes the proposal's:

- compliance with the fund's legislative objectives of the EP Act to foster:
 - the environmentally sustainable use of our resources and best practices in waste management to advance the social and economic development of Victoria.
 - community action or innovation in relation to the reduction of greenhouse gas substance emissions or adaptation or adjustment to climate change in Victoria.
- alignment with the expected outcomes of the strategic priorities of the fund included in the Priority Statement
- availability of funding to the applicant from other funding sources.

The Committee reviews funding requests against these criteria, taking into account the submission and presentations on existing and potential programs.

Further, the Committee is responsible for overseeing the administration of the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework. The framework aims to measure the extent to which projects have achieved the fund's legislative objectives. This information informs an annual evaluation of project outcomes, as well as a whole-of-fund evaluation in the future. Further information on the framework, including outcomes from projects in 2019-20 where possible, is detailed in the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework section.

The new Sustainability Fund Guidelines came into operation on 16 June 2020. The new guidelines establish a fully independent Sustainability Fund Committee for the first time. Two new independent members, Joan Ko and Kate Andrews were appointed in July 2020, with the Committee now comprising five independent members.

The role of the Committee is outlined in the **Sustainability Fund Guidelines**.



Comparison website leads to big savings for Victoria's consumers

More than half the visitors to the Victorian Government's energy price comparison website are able to save \$330 a year and nearly a third reported they will reduce their energy consumption after using the website.

The Victorian Energy Compare (VEC) website was developed to enable consumers to easily save money on their energy bills and put downward pressure on energy prices.

While Victoria's deregulated retail energy market provides energy consumers with an abundance of choice in retailers and retail offers, many consumers are not actively engaged in the market and are paying too much for electricity and gas.

The VEC website compares available offers to find a plan that best meets consumers' needs. Seven out of ten users who compare offers using the VEC website find they could save money, with typical users finding offers that could save them more than \$330 in the first year alone.

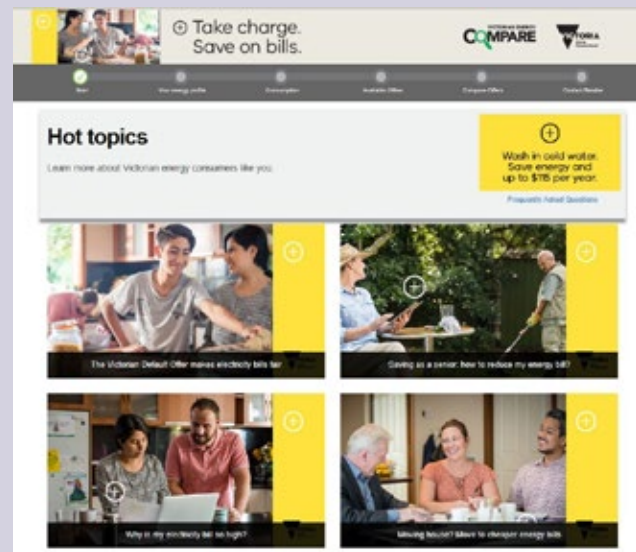
As well as the financial savings, 29 per cent of website users surveyed reported they will reduce energy consumption while 65 per cent reported they have a better understanding of energy matters.

The VEC website allows Victorians to take control of their energy bills and increases the likelihood of them adopting energy affordability measures after they leave the website.

One visitor said: "So pleased that I visited the site, mainly because it has made me appreciate the value of comparing retailers and enthused me to consider being more energy conscious of usage."

The Victorian Energy Compare Operational Support and Continuous Improvements program is delivered by the Victorian Energy Compare branch. DELWP supported the continued delivery and enhancement of the website.

This included constant maintenance, improvement and strategic development to ensure it responded to changes in the market and delivered expected economic benefits.



The website has increased the number of unique visitors by 327 per cent annually compared to the 2016-17 period, representing an additional 695,830 users per year.

The program also supported a number of key improvements to the VEC website including:

- establishing a direct link to Victorians' smart meter data held by the Australian Energy Market Operator;
- introducing a streamlined user journey and online chat support;
- publication of educational tools including instructional videos, articles and FAQs to help increase the energy literacy of visitors; and
- engaged with industry, government and consumer groups to identify opportunities for the Victorian Government to improve energy affordability and consumer engagement within the Victorian energy market.

"...This is a good initiative. I have come away more educated about my energy usage i.e. tips to reduce energy. I also have other options to consider in getting a cheaper bill. Thank you"
– Website user

Legislative objective

The program contributes to the achievement of the Sustainability Fund objective of fostering community action or innovation in relation to the reduction of greenhouse gas substance emissions or adaption or adjustment to climate change in Victoria.

The Victorian Energy Compare initiative is part of the Energy Affordability: Putting Consumers First initiative funded by the Sustainability Fund. The initiative received \$1.46 million in 2019-20 to partially support the program.

RECYCLING VICTORIA: AN INTRODUCTION

Recycling Victoria is the Victorian Government's 10-year action plan to transform the recycling sector and move towards a circular economy.

The government will invest more than \$300 million through Recycling Victoria, funded entirely from the Sustainability Fund. It will drive investment in world class infrastructure and technology, make our state's recycling system more sustainable, create cutting-edge local industries and support new local jobs.

In partnership with local councils, the government will deliver a recycling system our communities can rely on, through better household recycling, improved infrastructure, and stronger industry regulation.

Recycling Victoria is based on circular economy principles so it is sometimes referred to as the 'circular economy policy'.

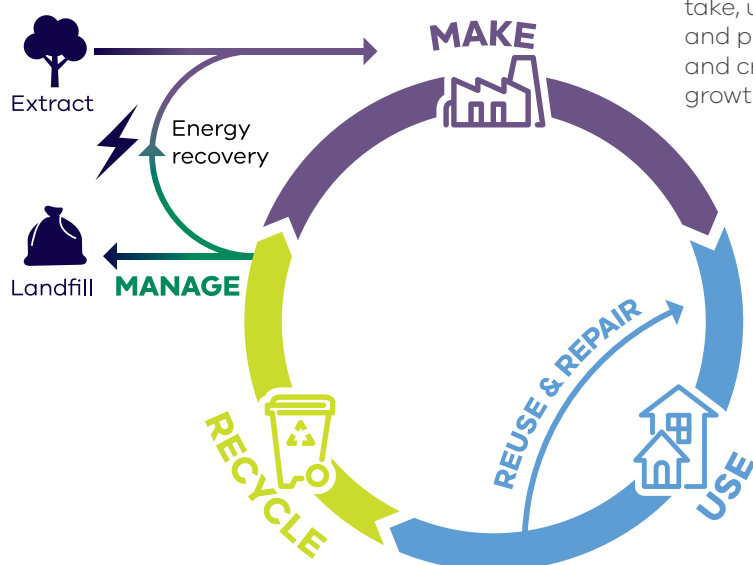
What is a circular economy?

A circular economy continually seeks to reduce the environmental impacts of production and consumption, while enabling economic growth through more productive use of natural resources.

In Victoria, this will enable the effective recovery of materials that can be reused and allow communities to avoid waste through good design.

A circular economy promotes more efficient business models as it encourages intense and efficient product use such as sharing products between multiple users, or selling products that include additional services like maintenance, repair and disposal.

It transforms Victoria's linear economy mindset – take, use and throw away – and fosters innovation and productivity that invigorates existing businesses and creates new ones, delivering more jobs and more growth for local, regional, state and global economies.





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What's next for Recycling Victoria?

Reforming the way materials are managed across the whole economy requires the involvement of many government departments and agencies.

The government will be working with Sustainability Victoria, the Waste and Resource Recovery Groups, the Environment Protection Authority, the Major Transport Infrastructure Authority, councils and the private sector to deliver this policy for Victoria.

Where have the investments been made to date?

\$129.0 million recycling reforms package

The recycling reforms package includes:

- A new four-bin waste and recycling system delivered in partnership with councils. Each household will get a bin, or access to services, for: combined food and garden organics; glass recycling; plastics, paper, cardboard and metals recycling; and household waste.
- A container deposit scheme (CDS) introduced by 2023.
- The government will regulate waste as an essential service and establish a new dedicated waste and recycling Act. This will improve resource recovery through greater transparency and service standards.
- Fit-for-purpose landfill levies. Increasing the landfill levy provides a critical financial incentive to divert the more than four million tonnes of waste Victoria currently sends to landfill annually.

\$69 million in investment for industry and businesses

The government is investing in an industry and infrastructure development package to support the waste and recycling industry, support infrastructure for organic materials, textiles and tyres, and invest in best-practice infrastructure to safely manage waste.

This investment includes \$11.5 million in infrastructure to better manage hazardous waste and \$10 million in waste to energy technologies to recover energy from waste that cannot be recycled and would otherwise be sent to landfill. This funding includes a \$30.5 million Recycling Markets Acceleration package.

The government will also establish a \$7 million Business Innovation Centre to support businesses in the transition to a circular economy. In addition, a \$10 million business support grants program will help businesses implement actions that improve resource efficiency, reduce waste to landfill, increase recycling and reduce business costs.

\$14.6 million to support Victorian communities and councils

This grants program will be established to support communities and councils in implementing local actions that reduce waste, help households make different purchasing decisions and save money, reduce litter and illegal dumping, and help Victorians move to a less wasteful lifestyle.

RECYCLING VICTORIA: AN INTRODUCTION (CONTINUED)

\$71.5 million to address high-risk and hazardous waste

Community safety is the highest priority. Recycling Victoria will invest in ensuring high-risk and hazardous wastes are managed safely. The government will target unethical operations through stronger regulation, policy and planning.

\$9.5 million to modernise Victoria's waste data systems

Investment in a circular economy must be underpinned by reliable and useful data. To support this, the government will expand waste data systems to cover the entire Victorian economy enabling businesses and industry to make better investment decisions and will help the government track Victoria's progress towards a circular economy through high-quality data and reporting.

\$1.8 million to support Victorian charities and the reuse economy

The government will continue to support charities with funding that reduces their waste management costs, including working with the charity sector to develop a strategy to reduce waste.

Recycling Victoria and the Sustainability Fund

The Recycling Victoria initiative meets the legislative objective of the Sustainability Fund through fostering environmentally sustainable uses of resources and best practices in waste management to advance the social and economic development of Victoria.

The investment of more than \$300 million from the Sustainability Fund meets each of the fund's five waste management strategic priorities:

- making alternatives to landfill more viable and cost competitive through the stimulation, creation and expansion of viable markets for recycled and recovered materials
- facilitating a network of best practice waste and resource recovery infrastructure which minimises public health and environmental impacts and maximises resource recovery opportunities
- providing equity in access to, and reducing impacts of, waste and resource recovery services on communities
- improving waste education and waste management capability to reduce waste generation, recover resources, and prevent littering and illegal dumping
- modernising the management of legacy contamination or pollution.

Targets for Recycling Victoria

- The rollout of new glass bins and new bin lids from 2021. All Victorians will have a new glass bin, or access to, glass services by 2027 and food and garden organics by 2030.
- A state-wide Container Deposit Scheme introduced by 2023.
- A dedicated waste and recycling Act and waste authority by 2021.
- 15 per cent reduction in total waste generation per capita between 2020 and 2030.
- Diverting 80 per cent of waste from landfill by 2030.
- Halving the volume of organic material going to landfill between 2020 and 2030.

Recycling Victoria transforms the state's linear economy mindset – take, use and throw away – and fosters innovation and productivity that invigorates existing businesses and creates new ones; delivering more jobs and more growth for local, regional, state and global economies.



Priority Statement

The **Priority Statement** sets out the priorities of the Victorian Government and guides how funds are invested. The Priority Statement was refreshed in 2015-16 after consultation with the Victorian community, to position Victoria as a leader in resource recovery, waste management and climate change mitigation and adaptation. The Priority Statement was amended in 2020 to set out the administrative requirement for the Sustainability Fund Committee to provide advice to government on all budget submissions seeking funding from the Sustainability Fund.

The Priority Statement sets out the strategic priorities that will be used to determine the eligibility of programs to be met from the fund, ensuring maximum benefits for Victoria.

Fostering environmentally sustainable uses of resources and best practices in waste management to advance the social and economic development of Victoria

Strategic priorities:

- making alternatives to landfill more viable and cost competitive through the stimulation, creation and expansion of viable markets for recycled and recovered materials;
- facilitating a network of best practice waste and resource recovery infrastructure which minimises public health and environmental impacts and maximises resource recovery opportunities;
- providing equity in access to, and reducing impacts of, waste and resource recovery services on communities;
- improving waste education and waste management capability to reduce waste generation, recover resources, and prevent littering and illegal dumping; and
- modernising the management of legacy contamination or pollution.

Investment will be guided by Victorian Government policies, including the Statewide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan, Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plans and other relevant strategies.

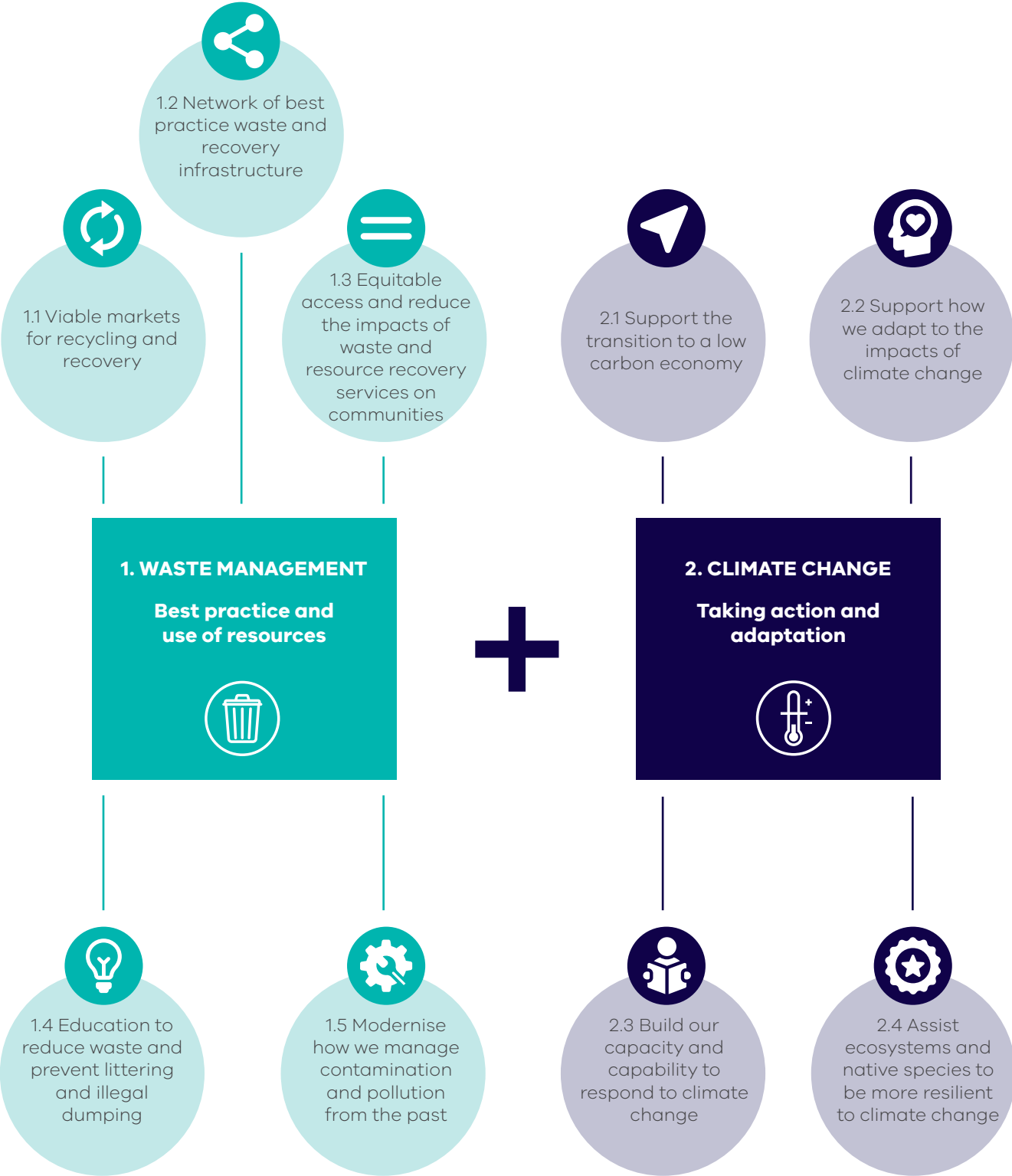
Fostering community action or innovation in relation to the reduction of greenhouse gas substance emissions [mitigation] or adaptation or adjustment to climate change in Victoria

Strategic priorities:

- supporting individuals, communities and industry to transition to a low carbon economy;
- supporting Victorians to adapt to the impacts of climate change, particularly those most vulnerable and least able to do so;
- building Victorian communities' capacity, capability and skills in responding to climate change; and
- assisting Victoria's ecosystems and native species to be more resilient to climate change and/or support mitigation outcomes.

Investment will be guided by Victorian Government policies, including climate change policies, the Victorian Climate Change Adaptation Plan, Energy Efficiency and Productivity Statement, Renewable Energy Action Plan, Biodiversity 2037 and other relevant strategies.

Figure 1: Alignment of Sustainability Fund legislative objectives and strategic priorities



Supporting the Priority Statement

The **Priority Statement** sets out the strategic priorities for the Sustainability Fund within the legislated areas of waste management, resource recovery, and climate change mitigation and adaptation. These priorities are based on those of the Victorian Government.

Investment in these priorities is guided by relevant government legislation, policies and strategies, including but not limited to:

- **the Statewide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan**
- **the Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan**
- **Recycling Victoria (the Circular Economy policy)**
- **Victoria's Climate Change Act 2017**
- **Victoria's Climate Change Framework**
- **Victoria's Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2017-20**
- **Energy Efficiency and Productivity Statement**
- **Energy Efficiency and Productivity Strategy**
- **Renewable Energy Action Plan**
- **Biodiversity 2037**
- **Flora and Fauna Guarantee Amendment Act 2019**




Further information on the relationship between the fund's objectives, strategic priorities and commitments of the Victorian Government is at **page 17** to **page 22**.

Sustainability Fund

The chart below illustrates how the fund has allocated its funds across its waste and climate change strategic priorities in 2019-20. During the year, 34 per cent of projects were invested in waste management and 61 per cent in climate change. Five per cent of funded projects addressed both waste and climate change priorities. In summary, there has been an 8 per cent increase in funding provided to waste management projects, a figure that will be further enhanced in years to come with commitments to the Recycling Victoria initiative.

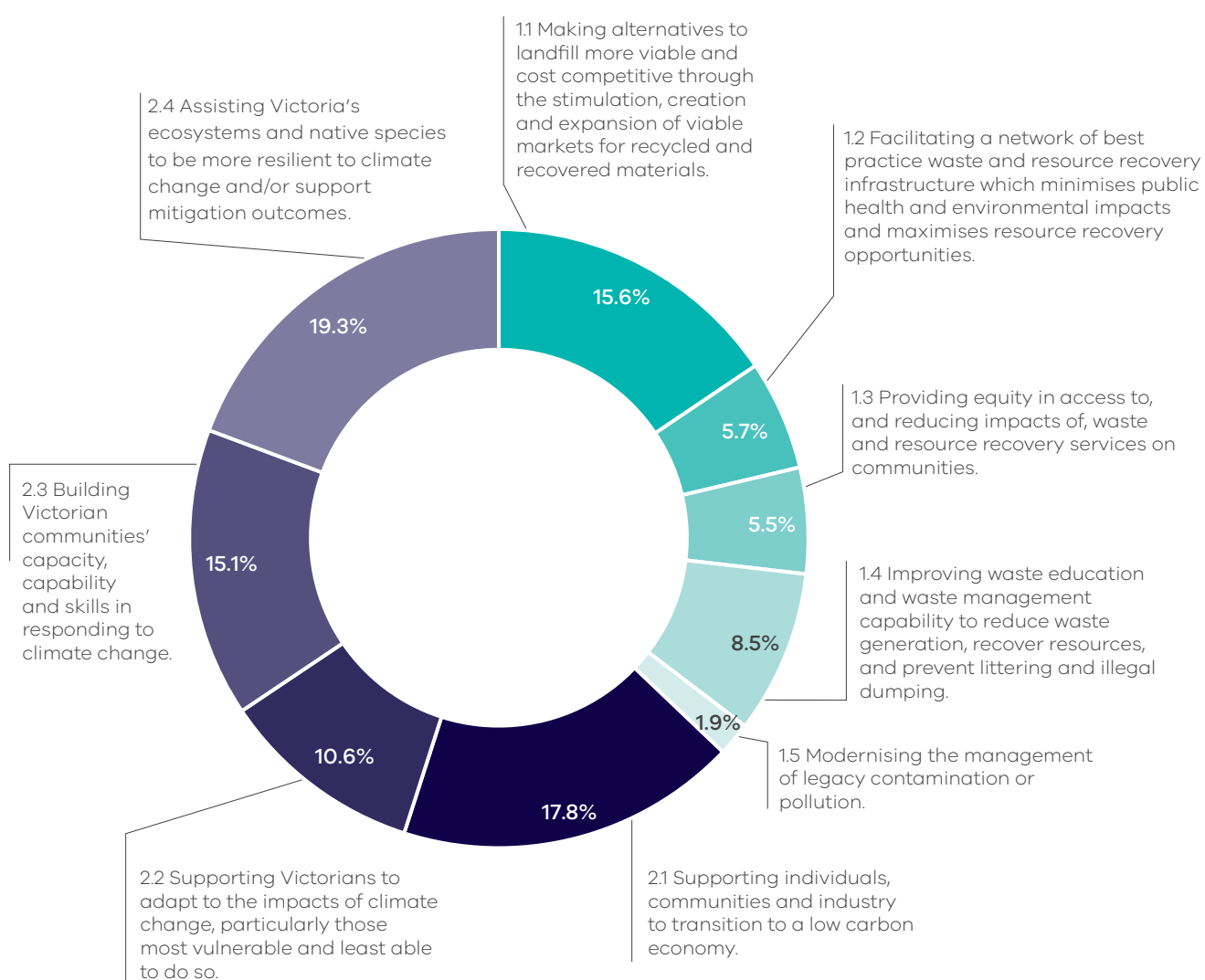
Since 2015-16, the total investment from the Sustainability Fund across both waste management and climate change action and adaptation has increased significantly. This investment demonstrates the government's commitment to strengthening Victoria's waste and recycling industry and restoring Victoria as a leader in responding to the effects of climate change.

Table 1: Investment by priority theme

	FUND OBJECTIVES	2015-16 (\$ million)	2016-17 (\$ million)	2017-18 (\$ million)	2018-19 (\$ million)	2019-20 (\$ million) ¹
	Waste	\$11.0	\$13.4	\$34.8	\$50.4	\$53.8
	Climate change	\$10.5	\$38.0	\$116.3	\$134.3	\$95.4
	Address both objectives	\$1.3	\$0.6	\$3.5	\$8.9	\$7.3

¹ Investments total \$156.5 million in 2019-20. This figure differs from the total payments figure of \$156.3 million shown in Appendix 10 of the 2019-20 DELWP annual report. This is due to the annual report figure comprising the gross amount paid to program recipients during 2019-20 (\$156.5 million), plus administration costs (\$0.7 million), less funds returned because they were not fully spent in prior years by program recipients (\$0.9 million).

Figure 2: Proportion of projects funded in 2019-20 by strategic priority





Straining the Drains in Port Phillip Bay to capture litter and data

As well as preventing more than 3,400kg of litter entering Port Phillip Bay, 120 'at source' litter traps are providing essential data to understand the flow of litter into our waterways and the Bay.

The litter traps were installed as part of the Let's Strain the Drain project, a unique citizen science project of community, not-for-profit organisations, six local governments, the Victorian Government and business partners.

The project maps urban litter hotspots and collates compositional litter data via the Australian Marine Debris Initiative Database.

The data will be used by local community and government agencies to advise implementation and provide monitoring data of source reduction projects into the future.

"This is the first time in Victoria, across multiple local government areas, a catchment project of this scale has been implemented," Heidi Taylor CEO of Tangaroa Blue Foundation said.

"The data collected will provide valuable insights that can be used at both local and state government levels to inform strategic plans to tackle litter at the source, so it doesn't end up on Port Phillip Bay beaches and waterways," Ms Taylor said.

Completed in June 2020, the project achievements also included:

- total in kind contributions of \$114,923
- removing 3,469kg of litter from the litter traps and preventing 753,045 pieces of micro litter items from ending up in Port Phillip Bay
- involving 94 volunteers in data collection (22 per cent less than original proposal due to COVID-19 restrictions)
- installing 120 'at source' litter traps (20 per cent more than the original proposal)
- holding 16 community events prior to restrictions
- engaging and educating 103 people via online forums.



Haley Jarvis from Wyndham Council said that the project provided: "Great insight into the litter entering the traps – what it is, where it might have come from and highlights areas where we may need to look for additional litter traps."

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, who participated in the community forum, said they are keen to try and roll out a project like this with councils along the Great Barrier Reef.

Legislative objective

Let's Strain the Drain is funded by the Sustainability Fund through the Port Phillip Bay Fund (PPBF) – a fund that supports projects that protect the health of the Bay and catchment area. The PPBF was partially funded by the Sustainability Fund in 2019-20, receiving \$2.5 million.

The PPBF fosters community action or innovation in relation to the reduction of greenhouse gas substance emissions or adaptation or adjustment to climate change in Victoria by focusing on direct action involving the wider public and scientific communities, along with leveraging the private sector to protect the health of the Port Phillip Bay's marine life, habitats and water quality.

PPBF directly addresses the Sustainability Fund's strategic priority of assisting Victoria's ecosystems and native species to be more resilient to climate change and/or support mitigation outcomes. The PPBF also contributes to meeting the waste management legislative objective of the fund.

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

The Monitoring and Evaluation Framework sets the basis for measuring outcomes of the Sustainability Fund.

About the framework

The Monitoring and Evaluation Framework outlines the approach to measuring the extent to which projects funded by the Sustainability Fund have achieved the legislative objectives of the fund and align with its strategic priorities.

The framework aims to:

- provide transparency and accountability for the use of the Sustainability Fund
- show achievement against the fund's legislated objectives
- support good decision-making within the fund
- contribute to broader learnings about initiatives related to sustainability in Victoria.

The framework is incorporated in recipients' funding agreements and enables the collection of appropriate data that aligns to the fund's legislated objectives. It was first introduced as a pilot in September 2018.

Initial work on the framework commenced in 2016. The framework addresses the Victorian Auditor-General's recommendation to evaluate outcomes of the fund, including its funded programs to measure the extent expenditure has contributed to the fund's objectives. See report section **Implementing the Victorian Auditor-General's recommendations** for further information on these recommendations.

The Sustainability Fund supports projects that contribute to delivering the Victorian Government's key waste and climate change commitments.

Progress towards a sustainable future

The Victorian Government aspires towards a stronger, fairer, better Victoria. This vision is underpinned by the government's commitment to the shared outcome of liveable, inclusive, sustainable communities and thriving natural environments.

A suite of government legislation, policies and actions relating to the environment and sustainability have been developed that will help realise this vision, including but not limited to:

- **the Statewide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan**
- **the Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan**
- **Recycling Victoria (the Circular Economy policy)**
- **Victoria's Climate Change Act 2017**
- **Victoria's Climate Change Framework**
- **Victoria's Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2017-20**
- **Energy Efficiency and Productivity Statement**
- **Energy Efficiency and Productivity Strategy**
- **Renewable Energy Action Plan**
- **Biodiversity 2037**
- **Flora and Fauna Guarantee Amendment Act 2019**

As the government's authorising agency for Victoria's natural and built environment, DELWP is responsible for implementing these policies and has set outcomes to ensure the government's commitments are met.

DELWP is also responsible for administering the Sustainability Fund as its objectives align to the government's commitment to a sustainable and thriving state. The Sustainability Fund Monitoring and Evaluation Framework ensures that there are strong linkages between the fund's objectives and broader government policy.

The fund's objectives and priorities are legislated by the *Environment Protection Act 1970* and further defined in the **Sustainability Fund Priority Statement**. The fund supports some of the Victorian Government's key waste management and climate change initiatives.



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The relationship between the commitments of the Victorian Government, DELWP and the fund's objectives and priorities is illustrated on [page 21](#) to [page 22](#).

Future directions

The current framework lays the foundation for monitoring and evaluation that can be built on over time. An initial focus is gaining consistency in reporting on key indicators. This year marks the second consecutive year of reporting using the evaluation framework, and a critical step towards building consistency in reporting. An area that is likely to be a focus in the future is the development of more sophisticated evaluation methods for reporting on higher order and longer-term outcomes.

This will allow for the effective monitoring and evaluation of the fund against its objectives to ensure that the measurement of outcomes remains useful and relevant. A focus in the coming year will be to assess the alignment between indicators used in the evaluation framework with those established under key government policies and legislation that the fund contributes towards.

At the conclusion of the 2019-20 financial year, 69 existing agreements had evaluation reporting embedded, with all new agreements established in the year designed to include these reporting requirements. This ongoing increase in reporting requirements increases the ability of DELWP and the Sustainability Fund Committee to monitor and report project level outcomes and the extent to which outcomes under the framework have been realised.

Further, findings from projects aligned to the framework with 2019-20 targets will inform a preliminary assessment of the framework. The aims

of this assessment, where possible, are to:

- obtain appropriate data and information to produce valuable insights
- provide an initial indication of the extent to which outcomes and targets have been realised under the framework in 2019-20 (details of which are included in this report from [page 23](#) to [page 25](#), [page 27](#) to [page 30](#) and [page 32](#))
- determine next steps for implementation
- facilitate continuous improvement
- inform strategic decision-making.

This will ensure that the framework remains fit for purpose, incorporates lessons learnt and adapts to a changing landscape.

SUSTAINABILITY FUND OUTCOMES

The Monitoring and Evaluation Framework is structured around the fund's two legislative objectives.

As outlined in the fund's [Priority Statement](#), each legislative objective has strategic priorities to ensure government is investing Sustainability Fund monies in initiatives that align to the fund's objectives and positions Victoria as a leader in resource recovery, waste management and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Working with the Sustainability Fund Committee, DELWP has identified seven outcomes that aim to measure if the fund's projects are meeting these objectives and priorities. These outcomes are:

- best practice waste management
- encouraging economic development
- environmentally sustainable uses of resources



- facilitating social development
- improving community capacity to take action on climate change
- reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- adapting through biodiversity.

Indicators have been developed to measure the extent to which projects achieve these outcomes. These indicators communicate where funding needs to be invested to achieve outcomes and in turn achieve the fund's priorities and legislative objectives.

The following section details the outcomes described above, the broad measures of these outcomes (based on individual indicators) and project impacts in 2019-20 where possible.

Notes:

1. Given this report covers only expenditure from the Sustainability Fund, these measures may reflect only a proportion of the total represented in the **Victorian Government 2019-20 Budget Paper 3: Service Delivery**, which references the same performance measure.
2. The impacts reported against the seven outcome areas in the following section have been realised in the 2019-20 financial year. Comparison between years is dependent on the mix of projects within a given year, noting that some programs have either commenced or concluded during the reporting period.

STATE OUTCOME

The Victorian Government aspires towards a stronger, fairer, better Victoria. This is underpinned by the government's commitment to the shared outcome of liveable, inclusive, sustainable communities and thriving natural environments.

DELWP OUTCOMES

Supporting Victoria's natural and built environment to ensure economic growth, and liveable, sustainable and inclusive communities that are resilient to the impacts of climate change.



Zero emission climate-ready economy and community



Healthy, resilient and biodiverse environment



Reliable, sustainable and affordable energy services



Productive and effective land management



Safe, sustainable and productive water resources



A safe and quality built environment



Sustainable and effective local governments



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



OPLE in the field Photo credit: EPA 2019

Local issues achieving local results by EPA authorised officers

Targeting and responding faster to small-scale pollution incidents across 23 local government areas is a significant achievement of the Officers for the Protection of the Local Environment (OPLE) pilot program.

Between 1 July 2019 and 31 May 2020, the OPLEs have investigated 536 reports from the community, undertaken 1,013 inspections at 743 sites and issued 63 notices and 20 sanctions.

The pilot that grew out of the 2015 Independent Inquiry into the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Victoria, has seen EPA authorised officers embedded in councils to target the environmental and health impacts of small-scale pollution from dust, odour, noise, and small-scale illegal dumping.

Commencing in 2017 with 11 OPLEs placed in 13 Victorian councils, the pilot has expanded to 19 OPLEs across 23 councils as a result of \$3.373 million in funding from the Sustainability Fund.

The expanded OPLE pilot maintained its emphasis on smaller-scale, lower-risk pollution issues and included a focus on reducing illegal chemical and waste stockpiling.

A key finding from the OPLE pilot is that it has strengthened relationships between EPA and councils, resulting in faster responses to smaller-scale pollution, increased accountability and better outcomes for community, industry, and government.

"Until the OPLE officer started, the others were just saying they were looking into it and doing nothing at all. Things have been better with (the OPLE); they are trying very hard for us," an incident reporter in a 2018 survey said.

As well as reactive responses to community reports, the OPLEs have also delivered numerous strategic

activities that have supported small and medium sized businesses to voluntarily reduce pollution resulting from their activities.

This has included a range of strategic initiatives with auto wreckers, and building and construction businesses.

"An example of where collaboration has occurred is with joint inspections of illegal tyre waste dumping between OPLE and Council's litter prevention team," a pilot council staff member said.

Other positive outcomes of the pilot include increased local council waste management expertise and capability, specifically through access to knowledge and provision of training to council staff.



























































The OPLEs have also proactively worked with councils and other agencies to ensure that sites where illegal dumping had taken place were cleaned up.

Legislative objective

The OPLE pilot aligns with the Sustainability Fund's strategic priority of improving waste education and waste management capability to reduce waste generation, recovery resources, and prevent littering and illegal dumping.

The OPLE program in 2019-20 was fully funded from the Sustainability Fund, receiving \$3.373 million to support its initiatives.

Figure 3: Relationship between the Sustainability Fund, the framework's outcomes and DELWP's outcomes

Outcomes		SUSTAINABILITY FUND OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES								
		1. WASTE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE					2. CLIMATE CHANGE OBJECTIVE			
		STRATEGIC PRIORITIES					STRATEGIC PRIORITIES			
		 1.1	 1.2	 1.3	 1.4	 1.5	 2.1	 2.2	 2.3	 2.4
SUSTAINABILITY FUND OUTCOME AREAS	Best practice waste management	 	 							
	Encouraging economic development	 	 				 		 	
	Environmentally sustainable use of resources	 	 				 	 	 	
	Facilitating social development		 				 	 	 	
	Improve community capacity to take action on climate change						 	 	 	
	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions						 		 	
	Adapting through biodiversity									

1. WASTE MANAGEMENT

Better practice and use of resources

- 1.1** Making alternatives to landfill more viable and cost competitive through the stimulation, creation and expansion of viable markets for recycled and recovered materials
- 1.2** Facilitating a network of best practice waste and resource recovery infrastructure which minimises public health and environmental impacts and maximises resource recovery opportunities
- 1.3** Providing equity in access to, and reducing impacts of, waste and resource recovery services on communities
- 1.4** Improving waste education and waste management capability to reduce waste generation, recover resources, and prevent littering and illegal dumping
- 1.5** Modernising the management of legacy contamination or pollution

2. CLIMATE CHANGE

Taking action and adaptation

- 2.1** Supporting individuals, communities and industry to transition to a low carbon economy
- 2.2** Supporting Victorians to adapt to the impacts of climate change, particularly those most vulnerable and least able to do so
- 2.3** Building Victorian communities' capacity, capability and skills in responding to climate change
- 2.4** Assisting Victoria's ecosystems and native species to be more resilient to climate change and/or support mitigation outcomes

Figure 4: Relationship between the framework and the government's key waste management and climate change policies as at 30 June 2020

SUSTAINABILITY FUND OUTCOME AREAS	GOVERNMENT'S KEY POLICIES					LINKAGES TO SUSTAINABILITY FUND BROAD MEASURES (BASED ON INDICATORS)	
	Best practice waste management					<ul style="list-style-type: none">• reduce or avoid waste going to landfill• increase in the number of organisations implementing improved policies/standards/practices	
	Encouraging economic development					<ul style="list-style-type: none">• increase in employment• leverage investment and support• increase in or enhance the number and value of markets for recovered materials• savings for households and organisations	
	Environmentally sustainable use of resources					<ul style="list-style-type: none">• reduce the use of water, electricity, gas and materials• increase generation of renewable electricity and energy and solar• increase materials recycled/recovered• increase the number of individuals adopting positive environmental action• increase research and information, as well as the number of ways to access information• increase energy efficiency audits/assessments	
	Facilitating social development					<ul style="list-style-type: none">• increase in households, including vulnerable households, and organisations assisted• increase in people attending training or receiving support• increase in people exposed to messaging/information• new partnerships formed to deliver projects	
	Improve community capacity to take action on climate change						<ul style="list-style-type: none">• increase in organisations adopting positive environmental action• increase in community members participating in climate and sustainability-related initiatives• increase in education/information sessions and products• ways to access information• research projects
	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions						<ul style="list-style-type: none">• reduce or avoid the level of greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere
	Adapting through biodiversity						<ul style="list-style-type: none">• increase and improve the area and quality of protected habitats• improve management of invasive and threatened species

KEY WASTE POLICIES	
1	the Statewide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan
2	the Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan
3	Recycling Victoria (the Circular Economy policy)
KEY CLIMATE CHANGE POLICIES	
4	Victoria's Climate Change Act 2017
5	Victorian Climate Change Framework
6	Victorian Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2017-20

KEY CLIMATE CHANGE POLICIES (CONT.)	
7	Energy Efficiency and Productivity Statement
8	Energy Efficiency and Productivity Strategy
9	Renewable Energy Action Plan
10	Biodiversity 2037
11	Flora and Fauna Guarantee Amendment Act 2019

Outcome Area: best practice waste management

Part of the fund's waste objective is to foster best practices in waste management in Victoria. All of the fund's waste strategic priorities direct government's investment towards projects that achieve this.



Refer to **Figure 3** on **page 21** for details of the strategic priorities that relate to this outcome.

The waste and resource recovery system provides an essential service to manage Victoria's waste and recycling material streams. Without proper management, waste can cause a range of issues that may affect the community and the environment, such as odour, dust, noise, leachate (which can contaminate groundwater and soil) and greenhouse gases. Over the last few years, fluctuations in international demand for waste material have led to increasing challenges for the Victorian waste management system including instances of illegal dumping and hazardous storage of waste materials. These challenges emphasise the need for ongoing investment and improvement in the Victorian Waste Management System.

Refer to **Figure 4** to see the Victorian Government's policies to ensure an efficient and effective waste and resource recovery system that operates to best practice standards, and **page 8** for a summary of the newly developed Recycling Victoria policy.

Broad measures (based on the framework's outcomes and indicators)

The Sustainability Fund is working towards achieving best practice in waste management by investing in initiatives that:

- reduce or avoid waste going to landfill through reduction in waste and improved recycling;
- increase in the number of organisations implementing improved policies/standards/practices; and
- an increasing emphasis this year in dealing with the illegal dumping of waste.

SUSTAINABILITY FUND IMPACTS IN 2019-20

Below are some results emerging from projects that are aligned to this outcome:



11,200 +

tonnes of waste avoided going to landfill in 2019-20. This represents 0.2% of the state's total 4.6 million tonnes of waste sent to landfill in 2018-19¹. It's made up of 6,100+ tonnes of plastic waste and 5,100 + tonnes of organics.

Greater than 18,000 tonnes of contaminated soil avoided going to landfill as a result of offsite soil remediation.

Additionally an estimated 8,900 tonnes of contaminated soil was treated on site using an innovative method of liquid contaminant extraction. These activities not only reduce waste but support the restoration of beneficial land use.



47

e-waste collection services upgraded in 2019-20. These 47 additional upgrades progress the upgrades carried out in 2018-19.

The Sustainability Fund supported work towards the amendment of the *Environmental Protection Act 1970*, which saw changes to the legislation to introduce the plastic bag ban that came into effect in November 2019. The fund also supported programs geared towards smoothing the transition for Victorian businesses and communities to the ban.

In 2019-20 the Sustainability Fund's increased investment in illegal waste management resulted in:

- Support for the removal of 10,000 tonnes of illegal waste
- 108 notices issued in relation to illegal waste disposal including 73 clean up notices.

¹ EPA data.

Outcome Area: encouraging economic development

Investment in sustainable development drives long term and sustainable economic growth. Direct creation of jobs, attracting private sector investment, and creating the certainty required to invest in a renewable future all drive the development of a stronger Victorian economy in the long term. The fund has two waste and two climate change strategic priorities that direct government's investment specifically towards this outcome.



Refer to **Figure 3** on **page 21** for details of the strategic priorities that relate to this outcome.

The 2019-20 bushfire season highlighted the catastrophic economic consequences of neglecting our natural environment. Climate change impacts including increased drought, bushfire frequency and intensity of flooding events pose a clear threat to the prosperity of all Victorians. The agricultural and tourism sectors are especially exposed, but impacts can cut across the economy. Supporting a shift to a more sustainable Victoria will be fundamental to Victoria's ongoing prosperity.

Supporting Victorians to adapt to the risks of climate change now can substantially lessen future cost burdens on government, taxpayers, businesses and the community, as well as creating new economic opportunities and jobs in the process. The Victorian Government supports environmental projects that also create jobs and promote economic development. Improving the way our waste and resource recovery system operates, by attracting new investment and creating markets for recycled and recovered materials, makes our industries stronger, sees the creation of jobs and reduces our reliance on landfills.

The government's strong and ongoing investment in a sustainable future builds momentum for others to do the same. Setting clear targets and policy goals for carbon emissions and renewable energy provide the certainty and direction required for industry to invest. Direct funding for programs that invest in a sustainable future can be used to leverage further investment.

In addition, transitioning to a low carbon economy can also support economic development and reinforce employment growth. Increasing the energy efficiency of Victorian businesses will boost their competitiveness in the national and global market, opening up new opportunities and attracting investment. Supporting energy efficiency can also create jobs; for example the creation of energy efficiency products such as solar hot water, glass and insulation can increase the number of manufacturing jobs in Victoria. Increasing industry capability in emerging areas will provide a more skilled workforce that can capitalise on emerging areas of development.

Refer to **Figure 4** to see the government's policies relating to Victoria's waste and resource recovery systems and climate change that promote economic development.

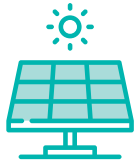
Broad measures (based on the framework's outcomes and indicators)

The fund is promoting economic development by investing in initiatives that:

- increase employment;
- leverage investment and support;
- upskill industry members to enable participation in a more sustainable economy;
- increase stability required for investment in a more sustainable future; and
- result in savings for households and organisations.

SUSTAINABILITY FUND IMPACTS IN 2019-20

Below are some results emerging from projects that are aligned to this outcome area:



\$409,958

awarded to regional Victorian businesses for the installation of renewable energy infrastructure.



\$1,537,870

in external philanthropic contributions donated to Sustainability Fund programs.



\$10.5 million

+ of public and private investment was leveraged in 2019-20. Investment includes in kind contributions and financial capital.

The financial support provided by the Sustainability Fund provides programs with the basis they need to secure additional funding.



During 2019-20, the Sustainability Fund also supported policy development work for the establishment and achievement of the Victorian Renewable Energy Target (VRET). By providing long term policy certainty to Victoria's renewable energy industry, the VRET has been one of the key drivers of increased investment in renewable energy projects in Victoria in recent years.

Long term strategic policies like the VRET supports the development of a more sustainable economy and helps to create jobs now and into the future.



Field day, Earlstoun. Photo credit: Trust for Nature 2019

Enhancing the trust in Trust for Nature

Another 3,700 hectares of habitat is now protected forever, while nearly 30,000 hectares of already protected land is now managed to further improve biodiversity outcomes thanks to a four-year Trust for Nature program.

The program, which ran from 2017 to 2020, increased the extent and quality of protected areas on private land in order to help mitigate the impacts of climate change on Victoria's natural environment.

Its primary focus was for those landholders with land permanently protected with Trust for Nature covenants but, with two thirds of Victoria privately owned, its broader aim was to disseminate relevant information to all landholders.

A particular focus of the program was the development of educational and extension material for landholders, including regular articles in Trust for Nature publications, social media, targeted field days and letters – achieving a total audience reach of more than 55,000 people.

The program also enabled one-on-one visits to more than 500 individual covenantors, the development of more than 400 management plans, and 27 field days or workshops.

Feedback from the field days was very positive, including: *"Once we looked at the tasks at hand with new eyes and put the conservation and enhancement of the established remnant vegetation as a priority we were able to see a new way forward."*

"What a wonderful stimulating day on Friday. Great people, very heart warming. Have been thinking about your words at our field day. The way forward seems clearer now. We feel that some of the issues we had been grappling with, some of our tentative steps in this direction and our fears about the impact of climate change can be seen in a clearer light."

A pre- and post-project survey of more than 900 covenantors – as well as engagement during the project – identified biodiversity in the context of climate change as a high priority. A handy fridge-magnet checklist was developed as a reminder about how every small action helps.

Legislative objective

The program closely aligned with the Sustainability Fund's legislative objective of fostering community action or innovation in relation to the reduction of greenhouse gas substance emissions or adaptation or adjustment to climate change in Victoria.

This was accomplished by engaging and educating landholders and the wider community to act in protecting and managing natural areas on private land.

Increasing support for Trust for Nature was funded from the Sustainability Fund, receiving \$0.92 million in 2019-20.

Outcome Area: environmentally sustainable uses of resources

Part of the fund's waste objective is to foster the environmentally sustainable uses of resources. All of the fund's waste strategic priorities direct the government's investment towards projects that achieve this.



Some climate change projects also foster the sustainable use of resources, notably renewable energy projects. Therefore, the following climate change strategic priorities also support this outcome.



Refer to **Figure 3** on **page 21** for details of the strategic priorities that relate to this outcome.

Our waste contains valuable materials, which can be used in roads, buildings and in the manufacturing of new products and packaging. Increasing waste recovery reduces greenhouse gas emissions, conserves our natural resources, protects our wildlife and reduces the reliance on landfills. Reusing materials brings us closer to a circular economy.

The sustainable use of energy resources, such as solar and energy efficient appliances will reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. It will also help to build a more productive, efficient and circular economy, including more affordable, secure and reliable energy, and creating jobs for Victorians.

Transformation towards the sustainable use of resources requires ongoing research, and enhanced communication of information relating to community and corporate actions required for improvement.

Refer to **Figure 4** to see the government's policies that support the sustainable use of resources and the industries and projects that help facilitate it.

Broad measures (based on the framework's outcomes and indicators)

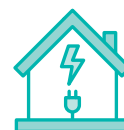
The fund is fostering the environmentally sustainable uses of resources by investing in initiatives that:

- reduce the use of water, electricity, gas and materials;
- increase generation of renewable electricity, energy and solar;

- increase recycled/recovered materials;
- increase the number of individuals adopting positive environmental action;
- increase research and information, as well as the number of ways to access information; and
- increase energy efficiency audits/assessments.

SUSTAINABILITY FUND IMPACTS IN 2019-20

Below are some results emerging from projects that are aligned to this outcome:



3,456

energy efficiency assessments performed on households, including vulnerable households, and those in regional areas.



202.77 kW

increase in renewable energy generation capacity on public buildings.

A number of programs also place a strong focus on facilitating improved decision making. These include:

- The publication and tabling in Parliament of Victoria's Climate Change report, which provides information required to better adapt for likely impacts of climate change
- The development of a risk assessment tool for coastal environments which was used to prioritise and make a selection between different management options
- The fund also supported a number of programs that have supported the development of the Recycling Victoria (the circular economy) policy (see **page 8** for details on Recycling Victoria). The policy includes details of treatments for hazardous waste and advice for improved data collection to be included in the new waste and recycling Act to be established by the government.

Outcome Area: facilitating social development

For projects to satisfy the fund's objectives, they also need to advance the social development of Victoria. The integration of social measures involves the community's participation, collaboration and education to support our natural environment. The fund has three waste and three climate change strategic priorities that direct government's investment specifically towards this outcome.



Refer to **Figure 3** on **page 21** to see how the fund's objectives and priorities link to the framework's outcomes.

A critical component of the Sustainability Fund's work is to support Victorians in building ownership and capacity to protect, enhance and experience their natural environment. To minimise the threats from climate change and waste build-up in inhibiting this, along with the cascading social and economic impacts, the Sustainability Fund invests in projects that places people at the centre. Recognising the importance of social dimensions in localised environmental problems is addressed by building capabilities, securing productive partnerships and supporting confident transitions to a low carbon economy.

Training and support assists Victorian's to make informed decisions about choices that will affect them. For example, this can include a visit from a trusted expert to advise and provide techniques in increasing energy efficiency and comfort in their own home. It also provides the opportunities of learning and upskilling being extended to businesses wanting to expand into innovative modelling for long term sustainability, or citizen led science projects monitoring and contributing data about their local natural environments.

In addition, collaboration and new partnerships connect different levels of government and agencies to share innovative ideas and collaborate to tackle issues like waste prevention and improving resource recovery systems. In turn this benefits all Victorians. Support to adapt to changes such as the transition to the plastic bag ban has also been provided.

Refer to **Figure 4** for details of the strategic priorities that relate to this outcome.

Broad measures (based on the framework's outcomes and indicators)

The fund is promoting social development by investing in initiatives that increase the number of:

- households (including vulnerable households) and organisations assisted;
- people attending training or receiving support;
- people exposed to messaging and information;
- new partnerships formed to deliver projects; and
- improve understanding to drive sustainable development.

SUSTAINABILITY FUND IMPACTS IN 2019-20

Below are some results emerging from projects that are aligned to this outcome:

2,100

households and organisations assisted, including vulnerable households, through energy efficiency education and upgrades.

103 partnerships and collaborations formed or continued, predominantly with Victorian Waste and Resource Recovery Groups and local governments.

Victorians were exposed to messaging/information on sustainability, waste and climate change through various media channels including:

- 15,298 engaged face-to-face about the plastic bag ban
- 408,000 unique users engaged via facebook about the plastic bag ban
- 1,600,000 unique users engaged with material on better recycling practices
- 100,000 new users were recorded on Sustainability Victoria's e-waste tracker
- 50,000 new users were recorded on Sustainability Victoria's e-waste campaign
- 1,100,000 new users were recorded on the Victorian Energy Compare website

27

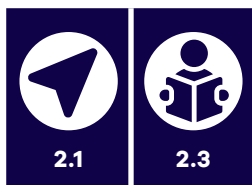
charities supported

Due to the timing of final reporting some indicators that fall under these outcome areas have not been confirmed for 2019-20. 2018-19 results are reported below:

- In 2018-19 more than 600,000 hours of community volunteering was supported by Sustainability Fund programs. Early estimates of 2019-20 data show strong uptake of volunteering from July to February of the 2019-20 financial year, before the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Outcome Area: reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Another part of the fund's climate change objective is to foster action or innovation in relation to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The fund has two strategic priorities that direct government's investment to meet this outcome.



Refer to **Figure 3** on **page 21** for details of the strategic priorities that relate to this outcome.

The government is committed to acting on the impacts of climate change. By working now to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the government through the Sustainability Fund is working towards supporting a safer climate. The government legislated for net-zero emissions through the *Climate Change Act 2017*, which came into effect on 1 November 2017. The Act requires the government to set five-year interim greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets, starting in 2021, that sets Victoria on a pathway to net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

To help achieve this target, Victoria will reduce emissions while maintaining economic prosperity by:

- increasing energy efficiency and productivity across the economy, in homes, offices, industry and transport;
- moving to a clean electricity supply by increasing renewable energy generation;
- electrifying the economy and switch to clean fuels by increasing the use of electricity to power our homes, cars and public transport and using biofuels and gas in freight, air travel and industry; and
- reducing non-energy emissions and increase carbon storage through industrial process improvements, and improving carbon storage in trees, plants and soil.

Refer to **Figure 4** to see the government's policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and transition to net zero emissions.

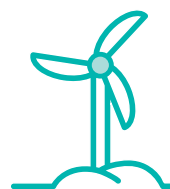
Broad measures (based on the framework's outcomes and indicators)

The Sustainability Fund supports projects which work towards reducing or avoiding greenhouse gas emissions. These include:

- increased generation of renewable energy; and
- reducing demand for energy.

SUSTAINABILITY FUND IMPACTS IN 2019-20

The Sustainability Fund has directly supported:



491,000,000

kilowatt hours of renewable energy being generated. Sources of renewable energy include wind and solar and exclude gas and coal. This is equivalent to about 500 megatonnes of CO₂e avoided¹.

The Sustainability Fund has also supported policy work which has in turn helped drive reductions in carbon emissions, including by:

- supporting policy work towards the establishment and achievement of the **Victorian Renewable Energy Target (VRET)**. By providing long term policy certainty to Victoria's renewable energy industry, VRET has been one of the key drivers of increased renewable energy generation in Victoria in recent years. Renewable generation sources produced 24.3 per cent of Victoria's electricity in 2019-20.
- contributing to the growth of rooftop photovoltaic (PV) generation in Victoria in recent years by supporting policy work to remove connection barriers facing small-scale generation and support the reform of the feed-in tariff arrangements applying to small-scale generation in Victoria.

¹ Conversion based on Australian National Greenhouse Gas Accounts conversion factor for Victoria (1.02 kg CO₂-e/kWh). This figure is distinct from the increase in solar energy capacity described on page 27.

Outcome Area: improve community capacity to take action on climate change

Part of the fund's climate change objective is to foster the adaptation or adjustment to climate change in Victoria. All of the fund's climate change strategic priorities direct government's investment towards projects that achieve this outcome:



Refer to **Figure 3** on **page 21** for details of the strategic priorities that relate to this outcome.

While reducing greenhouse gas emissions will help combat climate change, it does not prevent it; there will still be unavoidable impacts of climate change. For communities to best respond to these impacts, they need to be resilient, connected and able to adapt to changing conditions.

The government is committed to supporting Victorian communities, especially vulnerable Victorians, to prepare for a changing climate, manage the risks of climate change and understand how they can take action by:

- increasing knowledge and understanding of climate change impacts;
- building adaptive capacity and resilience to ongoing climate change, for example through the provision of data, information and guidance;
- ensuring that government decision-making accounts for climate change impacts and adaptation needs; and
- growing the connectivity between state and local government, businesses and community groups, to enable more collaboration for more effective adaptation responses.

Refer to **Figure 4** to see the government's policies to help Victorians understand the challenges of climate change, manage the risks and take action.

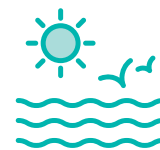
Broad measures (based on the framework's outcomes and indicators)

The fund is working towards improving communities capacity to take action on climate change by investing in initiatives that increase the number of:

- organisations adopting positive environmental action;
- community members participating in climate and sustainability-related initiatives;
- education/information sessions and products;
- ways to access information; and
- research projects.

SUSTAINABILITY FUND IMPACTS IN 2019-20

Below are some results emerging from projects that are aligned to this outcome:



11,767

community members participated in activities to help protect Victoria's coasts.

46

healthcare providers were supported to reduce their environmental impacts and participate in waste minimisation and resource recovery activities.

128

schools supported to achieve environmental and educational outcomes through the Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants.



Sally Mann leads a tour of the lecterns. Photo credit: Alison White

Breathing Life into the Bushland

A project that has conserved significant remnant vegetation in Shepparton has also contributed to employment opportunities and wider outcomes for the community.

'Breathing Life into the Bushland', led by Friends of the Australian Botanic Gardens (Friends), undertook work to protect high-value vegetation and enhance less diverse areas. This included weed removal, rubbish clearing and educational activities through a self-guided walk.

The \$29,000 project also drew on local volunteer students, with most of the Aboriginal TAFE students who volunteered going on to obtain full-time paid positions in the community.

The project was part of the Biodiversity On-ground Action (BOA) program, a five-year, \$22.7 million program that is due to finish by 30 June 2022.

The program has several streams including a community, educational and innovative research component. The aim is to protect and manage the environment for all Victorians and visitors.

The Friends group in conjunction with multiple partners, also enhanced a former landfill site which now provides an exciting landscape experience as well as a venue for educational programs.

Friends group member, Jill, said she is *"extremely proud of what has been achieved; walking around the bush tracks with family and friends, reading the*

informative and visual signage makes me feel extremely delighted".

Another volunteer, Helen, said that: *"I have become devoted to this small area – it has become my happy place."*

As well as conserving remnant vegetation and increasing community appreciation of the local bush, the project developed a management strategy for the area to prioritise high-value vegetation protection and enhance less diverse areas.

Legislative objective

These objectives align to the vision and goals of Biodiversity 2037 and key strategic priorities of the Sustainability Fund, including: assisting Victoria's ecosystems and native species to be more resilient to climate change and/or support mitigation outcomes; and building Victorian communities' capacity, capability and skills in responding to climate change.

Breathing Life into the Bushland was provided with \$29,000 from the BOA program, funded by the Sustainability Fund. The BOA program received \$3.23 million in 2019-20 to support various projects and initiatives.

Outcome Area: adapting through biodiversity

The Sustainability Fund supports projects that assist Victoria's biodiversity adapt to the impacts of climate change and help mitigate decline driven by climate change. The fund has a specific strategic priority to ensure government invests in projects that meet this objective:



Refer to **Figure 3** on **page 21** for details of the strategic priorities that relate to this outcome.

Biodiversity includes all components of the living world; the number and variety of native plants, animals and other living things across our land, rivers, coastline and ocean. Our natural environment, and the biodiversity within it is fundamental to the health and wellbeing of every Victorian. It provides clean air and water, productive soils, natural pest control, pollination, flood mitigation and carbon sequestration – and supports productive activities that underpin our state's liveability and economic advantage.

Victoria's biodiversity is in decline. Many native plant and animal species are at risk from a range of pressures, including the impacts of climate change. The immediacy of these impacts was demonstrated by the 2019-20 bushfire season. Protecting our biodiversity, as best we can, will help us to protect the future health, wellbeing and prosperity of all Victorian communities as well as the economy.

Refer to **Figure 4** to see the government's plan to protect Victoria's natural environment and ensure it is positioned to cope with the effects of climate change.

Broad measures (based on the framework's outcomes and indicators)

The Sustainability Fund is supporting Victoria's biodiversity to adapt to the impacts of climate change by investing in projects that:

- increase and improve the area and quality of protected habitats; and
- improve management of invasive and threatened species.

SUSTAINABILITY FUND IMPACTS IN 2019-20

Below are some results emerging from projects that are aligned to this outcome:



1,729

hectares of habitat formally and permanently protected through covenants.

An increase of more than 6,000 hectares of privately protected habitat

2019-20 also saw the continuation of ongoing investment in programs focused on enabling the protection of Victoria's biodiversity through education, training and provision of information and resources.

The **Biodiversity Atlas** and **Nature Kit** tool had a combined reach of around 110,000 page visits in 2019-20. This figure slightly exceeded those reported in 2018-19 despite a significant reduction from March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

185

regulators were provided with training around native vegetation regulation.

The Register of Native Vegetation Offsets and Credits was released, which provides support on the rules and regulation around native vegetation offsets and clearing.

Due to a clash in reporting timelines, a number of indicators for this outcome area were not available at the time of compiling the 2018-19 Sustainability Fund Activities Report. A selection of 2018-19 results are reported below:

- 1,100 hectares of wetland restoration;
- 1,100 hectares of revegetation;
- 706,000 hectares of land received pest herbivore control;
- 245,000 hectares of land received pest predator control; and
- 164,000 hectares of land received primary weed control.



Sustainability Victoria, © 2019

Breaking glass: Innovation in the construction industry

Can waste glass be used instead of sand to bond concrete?

A trial site constructed at the completed level crossing removal project at Reservoir Station is seeking to find out, and the research could result in offsetting some of the 50 billion tonnes of sand mined worldwide each year.

The research team, comprised of the University of Melbourne, North West Program Alliance, Hanson and VicRoads used the equivalent of 344 glass bottles to create three different trial mixes. The glass was leftover from kerbside collection not suitable for recycling back into glass packaging.

The trial was led by researchers at the University, who, since 2016 have received \$215,000 from the Supporting Market Development program.

Sand is used more than any other natural resource, except for water. When sand is taken from river systems and transported, there are energy and ecological impacts.

"Our innovative research hopes to instill confidence in glass as a sand substitute in concrete," Professor Tuan Ngo, Director of the Advanced Protective Technologies for Engineering Structures Group at the University of Melbourne said.

"This in turn would lead to widespread use of glass in concrete applications in Victoria and across the country."

Andrew Kovacs, Sustainability Team lead for the North West Program Alliance said: *"Sand is a rapidly depleting resource, a situation amplified by the increasing levels of concrete consumption. This trial aims to provide a viable alternative."*

Locally, Victorians use around 288,000 tonnes of glass packaging each year, providing significant opportunity to focus on research, development and infrastructure to use glass (and other materials) in new and existing products and processes.

Legislative objectives

The Supporting Market Development program is a part of the Victorian Market Development Strategy for the Recycled Resources initiative, funded from the Sustainability Fund. This initiative received \$1.78 million from the fund in 2019-20. The program takes an innovative approach to using finite resources in a more sustainable way, reducing landfill and building viable markets for recovered materials in Victoria.



Baw Baw Frog with egg mass. Photo credit: Zoos Victoria

Baw Baw Frog captive population now an insurance policy for species in wild

A secure captive breeding program for the secretive Baw Baw Frog has ensured the species, facing a 98 per cent decline in population since the late 1980s, will now survive.

The breeding program was part of a four-year project (2017-2020) that also undertook research that will help to inform the management of the wild population and a future reintroduction program for the species.

"Since the program began, we have made significant advances managing the captive recovery of the Baw Baw Frog," Deon Gilbert, Threatened Species Biologist for Herpetofauna at Zoos Victoria said.

Led by Zoos Victoria, the project included:

- Field surveys of the Baw Baw Frog population during October and November 2017 to measure wild population trends.
- Long-term population monitoring data to identify and target the collection of frog founders to use in a captive recovery program.
- Chytrid infection trials to find ways to eliminate or mitigate the effects of the chytrid fungus – crucial to preventing the extinction of the Baw Baw Frog

and ensuring the species can thrive again under natural conditions.

- Refining captive husbandry protocols, developing captive breeding protocols and establishing a captive insurance population.

Once common on the Baw Baw Plateau in the Central Highlands, the wild population, now confined to a small section of the plateau, is in terminal decline and likely to become extinct in the wild within the next decade.

Zoos Victoria now has a secure captive breeding population of Baw Baw Frogs which will ensure that the species can persist. The program will continue to focus on collecting genetically unrepresented wild animals to boost the captive population.

The knowledge obtained through research will also inform the management of the wild population and the reintroduction program for the species into the future.



Baw Baw Frog with egg mass. *Photo credit: Zoos Victoria*

“The captive population is robust and we are now able to breed egg and larvae for experimental release to wild habitat.”

Deon Gilbert, Threatened Species Biologist for Herpetofauna, Zoos Victoria

Legislative objective

These objectives align to the vision and goals of Biodiversity 2037 and key strategic priorities of the Sustainability Fund. They will assist Victoria’s ecosystems and native species to be more resilient to climate change and/or support mitigation outcomes and building Victorian communities’ capacity, capability and skills in responding to climate change.

The Baw Baw Frog case study was funded in full under the BOA program, funded by the Sustainability Fund. This program received \$3.2 million in 2019-20 to support various projects.



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Implementing the Victorian Auditor-General's recommendations

The Victorian Auditor-General conducted a performance audit report into managing the **Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy** in 2017-18. The report was tabled in Parliament on 25 July 2018.

The **2017-18 Activities Report** detailed DELWP's response to the audit's recommendations, identifying the timeline in which recommendations will be implemented (as of 25 July 2018). The 2018-19 Activities Report detailed the progress against these recommendations. All remaining recommendations were implemented in 2019-20, as seen in Table 2.

Table 2: DELWP's management response to the Victorian Auditor-General's recommendations

Recommendations	Agreed Action	Status
Recommendation 1 Assess alignment with the legislative purpose and establish a financial acquittal process for distributions made under section 70E(3)(d)	DELWP accepts this recommendation DELWP has extended the financial acquittal process in place for crown land managers to all funding recipients of distributions made under section 70E(3)(d).	Implemented
Recommendation 2 Establish an independent committee to manage inherent conflicts of interest while maintaining access to subject-matter expertise	DELWP accepts this recommendation DELWP supports the replacement of the two DELWP committee members with independent members and to make available relevant senior executives for advice on funding proposals.	Implemented
Recommendation 3 Review the role of the Sustainability Fund Committee and Sustainability Fund Team <ul style="list-style-type: none">• revise and update the committee's terms of reference (role and responsibilities, memberships, managing conflicts of interest, +/- KPIs, rules for decision-making)• clarify the role of the team and the committee in the oversight of project delivery	DELWP accepts this recommendation DELWP will review the Terms of Reference for the committee and clearly document the role of the team and the funding recipient in relation to project delivery.	Implemented
Recommendation 4 Develop clear guidance regarding the treatment of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• applications seeking core administrative costs• eligibility of applications seeking on-going funding	DELWP accepts this recommendation DELWP will develop guidance on the treatment of core administrative costs and ongoing funding.	Implemented
Recommendation 5 Establish processes to ensure all proposals seeking funding from the Sustainability Fund are assessed by the Sustainability Fund Committee before approval by the Minister and Premier	DELWP accepts this recommendation DELWP implemented a process for the 2018-19 Budget to ensure proposals were considered by the committee before the Minister and Premier. This process has also been embedded in broader government decision-making processes and steps are being taken to strengthen this process for 2019-20.	Implemented

Recommendations	Agreed Action	Status
Recommendation 6 Review the evaluation criteria applied to assessing proposals to clearly reflect the requirements specified in the legislation, Priority Statement and Guidelines	DELWP accepts this recommendation DELWP considers that all requirements are being consistently assessed. To avoid any doubt, the assessment process (template) has been updated to demonstrate clear alignment to the criteria set out in legislation, the Priority Statement and Guidelines.	Implemented
Recommendation 7 Improve the quality of advice provided to the Minister by providing the assessment against each evaluation criteria	DELWP accepts this recommendation DELWP considers that all requirements are being provided to the Minister. To avoid any doubt, the advice format (template) has been updated to demonstrate clear alignment to the criteria set out in legislation, the Priority Statement and Guidelines.	Implemented
Recommendation 8 Relate the number of funding agreement milestones to the value and/or complexity of funded programs and link payment milestones to reporting requirements to minimise administrative burden	DELWP accepts this recommendation In developing funding agreements, DELWP has and will continue to meet with funding recipients to clarify milestones that are proportionate to the value and/or complexity of funded programs/projects.	Implemented
Recommendation 9 Examine mechanisms to encourage the earlier development of project plans for approved programs	DELWP accepts this recommendation The project plan development process has been reviewed with all DELWP plans for the 2018-19 budget process now in place. Project plans for any new programs will be established within 60 days of approval.	Implemented
Recommendation 10 Require funding recipients to provide key categories of expenditure in support of the financial acquittal of funding agreements to enable the team to review whether the funds have been used for the purpose intended	DELWP accepts this recommendation All new funding agreements will contain specific requirements to ensure appropriate financial acquittal processes are in place, and where appropriate include categories of expenditure.	Implemented

Recommendations	Agreed Action	Status
Recommendation 11 Implement the evaluation framework to evaluate outcomes of funded programs to clearly demonstrate the extent to which programs have contributed to the specified legislative objective	DELWP accepts this recommendation DELWP will document the process for capturing program outcomes that contribute to legislative objectives in the Activities Report. The Activities Report details the fund's investments and is designed to provide information on the scope of work taking place to support waste reduction, climate adaptation and mitigation, as well as the role the fund plays in contributing to employment, new technology, innovation and resource efficiency. The evaluation framework currently under development will inform the content of the Activities Report.	Implemented
Recommendation 12 Identify overall Sustainability Fund outcomes to measure the extent to which expenditure has successfully delivered legislative objectives	DELWP accepts this recommendation See Recommendation 11.	Implemented
Recommendation 13 Develop a formal process to consistently apply lessons learned including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • capturing and storing them centrally to enable them to be considered by the committee when assessing proposals • sharing them with agencies to enable them to be considered when developing new program proposals 	DELWP accepts this recommendation DELWP has established a central database to capture lessons learned.	Implemented
Recommendation 14 Publish an annual public report for 2018-19 and future years detailing the activities of the Sustainability Fund and outcomes achieved	DELWP accepts this recommendation See Recommendation 11.	Implemented



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Credit: Sal Ahmad

Reducing emissions by turning government buildings green

Primary schools, hospitals, sporting facilities and water authorities have all contributed to saving more than 130,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions through the Greener Government Buildings (GGB) program.

The program has so far invested \$200 million across 35 energy efficiency and renewable projects, all of which have resulted in reduced operating costs and greenhouse gas abatement.

The sites include primary, secondary and tertiary education facilities; hospitals and health services; public art and sporting facilities; office buildings; and water authorities.

The program assists sites who would otherwise, not have the funding or expertise to implement energy efficiency or renewable energy projects. The goal is to ensure our public buildings operate efficiently and minimise the amount of greenhouse gas emissions.

To date, the Sustainability Fund has provided funding for the following energy efficiency and renewable energy projects:

- The National Gallery of Victoria EPC
- Metro Trains Melbourne Lighting Upgrades

- Yarra Trams Depot Lighting Upgrades
- Transdev Depot Lighting Upgrades and Solar PV
- Solar PV for Regional Health Services.

Combined, these projects are expected to abate more than 8,500 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.

Legislative objective

The GGB program leads by example and demonstrates innovative ways to fund and achieve greenhouse gas abatement.

The program is partially funded from the Sustainability Fund, receiving \$16.0 million to 30 June 2020 to support various projects like those listed above.

The source of the Sustainability Fund

A levy on waste

The Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy (MILL) was introduced to reduce Victorians' reliance on landfills by providing an incentive to reuse, recycle or reduce waste.

The MILL is paid by licensed landfill operators for each tonne of waste deposited, with the cost passed on to the user through gate fees.

The *Environment Protection Act 1970* determines how the MILL revenue is to be managed and spent. Under the Act, the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is responsible for collecting the levies and transferring them to a trust account managed by DELWP.

The Act specifies how the money paid into this trust can be applied. It allows for distributions to agencies that are working to drive better environmental outcomes for Victoria. These agencies include the EPA, Sustainability Victoria and the seven Waste and Resource Recovery Groups.

After distributions to key environmental agencies, the remaining revenue is transferred and held in the Sustainability Fund. As part of Recycling Victoria (circular economy) policy, the government will increase the MILL over the next four years from 1 July 2021. This will progressively bring Victoria's landfill levy into line with other states and ensure that Victoria recovers more of the four million tonnes of waste it currently sends to landfill.

How levy funds are used

The MILL funds the essential work of environmental agencies and initiatives that improve waste management, protect and restore the environment, or take action on climate change.

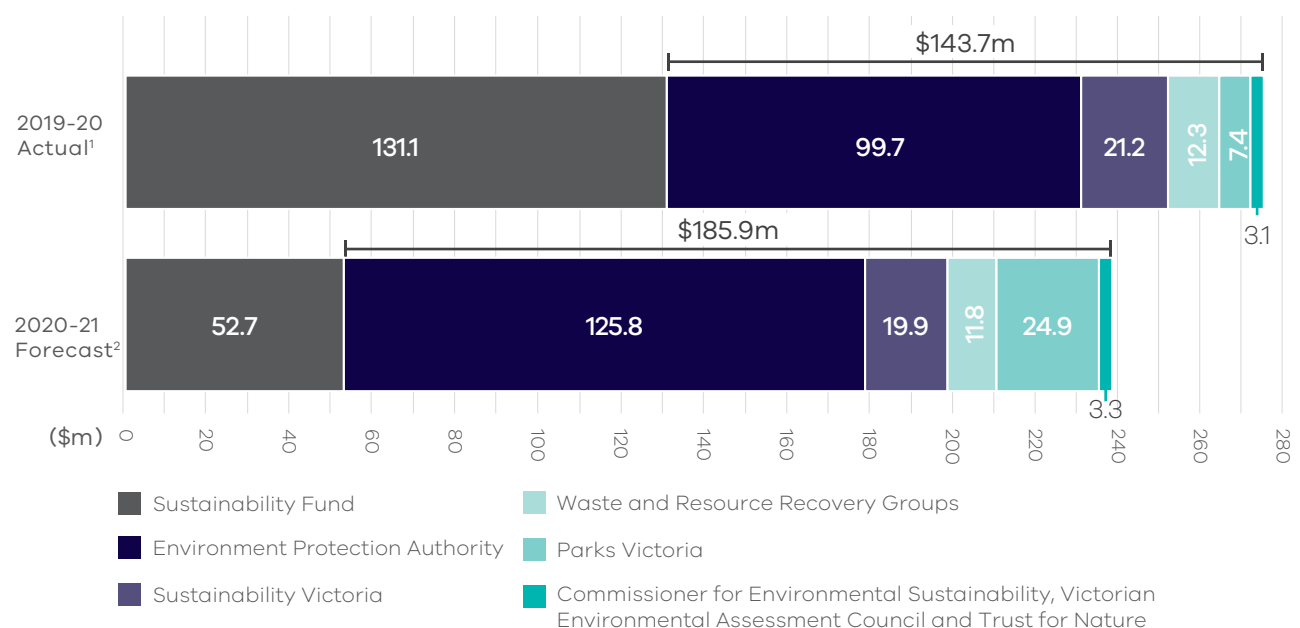
In 2019-20, \$143.7 million from the MILL was distributed to the following environmental agencies:

- EPA
- Sustainability Victoria
- Parks Victoria
- Victoria's seven Waste and Resource Recovery Groups
- the Commissioner for Environment Sustainability
- Victorian Environmental Assessment Council
- Trust for Nature.

The remaining funds were transferred to the Sustainability Fund; totaling \$131.1 million in 2019-20. In 2020-21, \$185.9 million is forecast to be distributed to agencies from the MILL with the remaining \$52.7 million to be transferred to the fund.

Allocations from the fund are made as part of the State budget process and require the joint consent of the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change and the Premier. These allocations support government initiatives and are made in accordance with the fund's **Priority Statement, Guidelines** and government policy.

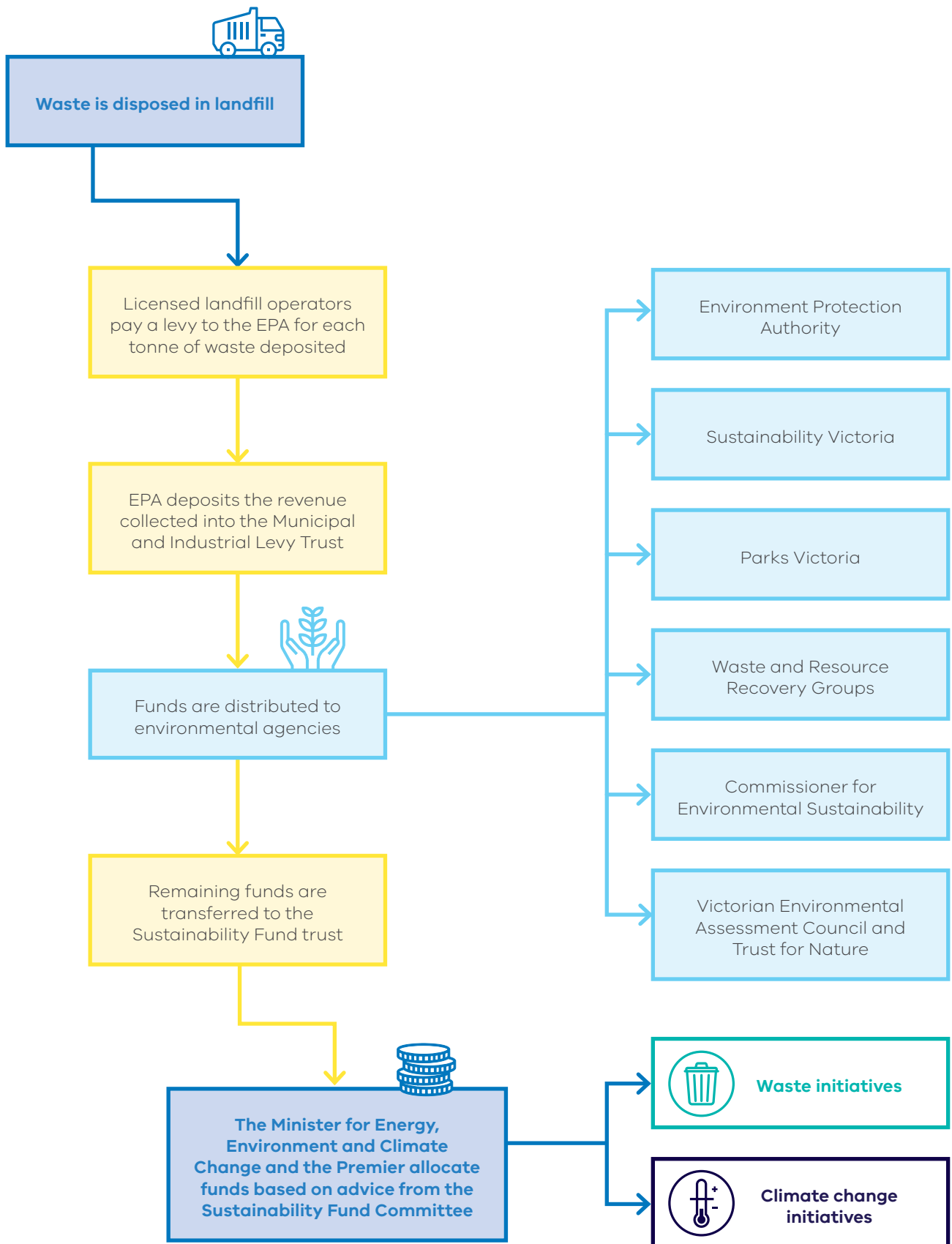
Figure 5: Distributions of the MILL



1. 2019-20 DELWP Annual Report

2. DELWP forecast as at 07/08/2020

Figure 6: How the landfill levy is distributed to the MILL and Sustainability Fund





Research leads to kerbside recycling reform

A reduction of up to 60 per cent in drink container litter is expected by 2033 as a result of the introduction of the container deposit scheme, research has shown.

The modelling, conducted as part of the Household Recycling Reform research, found that while a container deposit scheme (CDS) would initially have economic impacts, this would be offset by an initial 33 per cent reduction in drink container litter, increasing to 60 per cent by 2033.

The research reviewed Victoria's kerbside recycling system to enable the Victorian Government to make informed changes to the collection system.

As well as the CDS, other reforms that are now being implemented through the Recycling Victoria policy include additional bins for separate collection of glass and the collection of food organics and garden organics.

Through input from the recycling industry, the research found that Victoria's kerbside system of aggregating paper, metal, plastic and glass, which are sorted after collection, causes cross contamination.

Glass, in particular, can be crushed and become embedded in other materials, particularly paper and cardboard, significantly reducing their uses and value.

Glass, plastic and metal containers with liquid residue can also dampen and damage paper and cardboard.

An additional bin for glass is aimed at addressing this problem.

Legislative objectives

Household Recycling Reform was a part of the Resource Recovery Infrastructure Fund initiative, funded from the Sustainability Fund. This initiative received \$11.1 million from the fund in 2019-20 to fund various resource recovery initiatives including this research, increasing the quality of recycled materials and the ability to process those materials.

Through high quality research and evidence-based decision making, the Victorian Government is ensuring that finite resources are more sustainably used and that waste management practices contribute to the social and economic development of the state.

Investment over time

Since its establishment, the Sustainability Fund has provided essential support to a wide range of programs to help lower our impact on the environment and assist Victoria's communities to respond to the impacts of climate change. The chart below illustrates the significant investment that has been made by the Victorian Government since the fund was transferred to DELWP, commencing in the 2015-16 financial year.

The government is committed to reducing the amount of waste going to landfill and improving waste management, as well as supporting Victorians prepare for and adapt to climate change. The government has committed more than \$1.1 billion from the fund since it came to office, to support a wide range of groups and organisations delivering better environmental outcomes for Victoria.

Significant expenditure commitments have continued to be made from the Sustainability Fund since the last State Budget was handed down in May 2019. These efforts will make a major contribution to the economic and environmental sustainability of Victoria and the government's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Notably in February 2020 more than \$300 million was committed to Recycling Victoria, the government's 10-year action plan to transform the recycling sector and move towards a circular economy.

Also, more than \$126 million was committed from the fund towards eligible components of the Suburban Parks Program, which will deliver more than 6,500 hectares of parklands and trails across Greater Melbourne.

These commitments provide for a projected record expenditure from the Sustainability Fund in 2020-21.

These announcements build on the government's previous investments since 2015-16:

- \$53.5 million in the 2019-20 Budget;
- \$66.4 million in the 2018-19 Budget and Pre-Election Budget Update;
- \$439 million in the 2017-18 Budget;
- \$136 million in the 2016-17 Budget; and
- \$22 million in the 2015-16 Budget.



© Craig Moodie Photography Pty Ltd. 2016

Figure 7: Expenditure from the fund



Note that this chart includes program and administration expenditure. Actual expenditure figures from the fund in the years prior to 1 July 2015, have been sourced from the Victorian Auditor General's Office report, Managing the Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy, July 2018, (Figure 2E, p.43)



FEATURE CASE STUDY: CLIMATE CHANGE



© State of Victoria, DELWP

Suburban Parks Program: Open spaces in metropolitan Melbourne

The Suburban Parks Program will deliver 6,500 hectares of parklands and trails across greater Melbourne, providing spaces for local communities to connect and develop, and new areas for natural habitats and native species.

The parks will also help Victorians adapt to the impacts of climate change by providing greater opportunities to enjoy natural environments and open spaces in close proximity to their place of residence.

In total, the Sustainability Fund will provide \$126.8 million to the Suburban Parks Program for:

- 14 new large suburban and regional parks;
- 25 new pocket parks;
- upgraded walking and cycling trails in northern Melbourne; and
- the revitalisation of existing parks.

Victoria's ecosystems and native species will also benefit from the increases in open space and areas of natural environment, particularly with the larger regional and metropolitan parks.

Ecosystems will have greater areas to adapt, and species to have greater connectiveness to transit through the landscape – enabling them to be more resilient to the impacts of climate change.

The program will be delivered by DELWP in conjunction with Parks Victoria and local governments. Parks Victoria delivered components of the program are not included in the \$126.8 million figure.

New and improved suburban parks

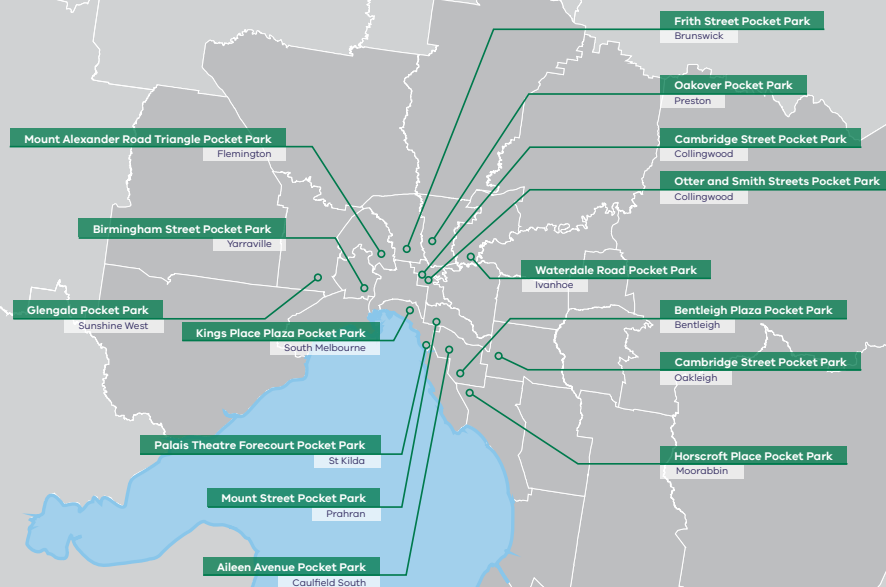
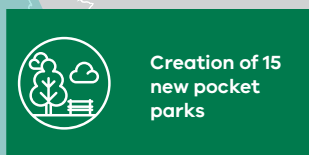
The Suburban Parks Program will foster more sustainable management and use of Victoria's existing public land resources as well as add to these resources through the targeted acquisition of land for public use and enjoyment.

Some of the acquisitions and projects include:

- Land acquisitions for Kororoit Creek, Werribee Township and Clyde Regional Parks (\$25.4 million) – acquisition of 720 hectares of new public open space in Kororoit Creek, Clyde and Werribee Township parks and park establishment commence.
- Planning and Managing Together – Cardinia Creek, Jacksons Creek, Quarry Hills Parkland, Upper Merri Creek and the Frankston Greenbelt Parklands (Seaford Wetlands) (\$14.0 million) – create five large open space parks across the northern and south-eastern greater metro area, and working with a variety of land managers to plan and manage these parks together. Project also includes a \$5.0 million investment in improvements to the Seaford Wetlands.

Local Parks Program - New Pocket Parks

Projects funded under Round 1



- Deliver the Sandbelt Parklands (\$24.0 million) – plan and commence acquisition of additions to the proposed 355 hectare Sandbelt Parklands in the City of Kingston.
- Feasibility study for Wallan Regional Park (\$0.1 million) – assess requirements to provide increased open space within the northern growth corridor and deliver a new regional park.
- Greening the pipeline (\$8.0 million) – to create approximately 4km of new linear open space to repurpose the old Melbourne Outfall Sewer between Lawrie Emmins Reserve and Skeleton Creek in Wyndham.
- Northern Metropolitan Trails (\$9.9 million) – new trails across the northern metropolitan area, prioritised by the Northern Metropolitan Partnership.
- Local Parks Program – Pocket Parks (\$34.8 million) – create up to 25 pocket parks. Locations identified to receive a share of this funding include:
 - Albert Park
 - Bentleigh
 - Brunswick
 - Caulfield South
 - Eltham
 - Essendon
 - Footscray
 - Ivanhoe
 - Northcote
 - Oakleigh
 - Prahran
 - Richmond
 - Williamstown.
- Local Parks Program – Park Revitalisation (\$10.0 million) – upgrade existing suburban parks

Note: Projects listed are those projects in the Suburban Parks Program funded by the Sustainability Fund. Some further projects within the program are funded by other sources. Also some of the projects listed are currently held in contingency by the government.

Suburban Parks Program and the Sustainability Fund

The Suburban Parks Program initiative aligns with the legislative objectives of the Sustainability Fund under the *Environment Protection Act 1970*.

The delivery of the program will deliver green spaces in urban settings that will assist in alignment to the continual development of DELWP's TAKE2 strategy and *Biodiversity 2037*. Specifically, this includes adapting to the impacts of climate change, the benefits of connecting the community with nature, and the revegetation and biodiversity benefits of these projects. The creation and development of open green spaces for the community to connect with will help Victorians to better understand the impacts of climate change, and how they can respond to these impacts.

The planned increase in park space also contributes to the broader urban forests policy directive contained within *Plan Melbourne*, and provides employment opportunities in major suburban areas.

Supporting different types of organisations

A major strength of the Sustainability Fund is that it supports a diverse range of organisations and entities, ensuring that funding reaches various communities across Victoria.

In 2019-20, the Sustainability Fund assisted 324 unique organisations via targeted grant programs to undertake projects that deliver better environmental outcomes for Victoria. Grants are not provided directly from the fund itself, but via the individual grant program application processes administered by the delivery agencies, with a total of 590 grants provided this financial year.

Organisations that received funding via grant programs in 2019-20 included:

- businesses;
- aboriginal corporations;
- local and state government entities;
- not-for-profit organisations;
- community groups
- schools; and
- universities.

The Sustainability Fund's focus on the community in 2019-20 was underpinned by 103 different community groups receiving funding. This shows how the fund is driving the community towards a sustainable future.

Like last year, local governments made up just over 20 per cent of all grant recipients, receiving more than 43 per cent of all grant funding provided by Sustainability Fund programs. As the tier of government closest to the community and the main provider of waste services, local government is a vital stakeholder in driving Victoria to a sustainable future that delivers equitable prosperity for all Victorians.

This support is in addition to the funding and resources provided each year to local government by DELWP, Sustainability Victoria and the Environment Protection Authority to reduce waste going to landfill and help local councils improve resource recovery, which will be further enhanced by Recycling Victoria.

The following charts illustrate the extent of different organisations and entities supported through the fund in 2019-20.

Note charts may not add due to rounding.

Figure 8: Proportion of 2019-20 grant recipients by sector

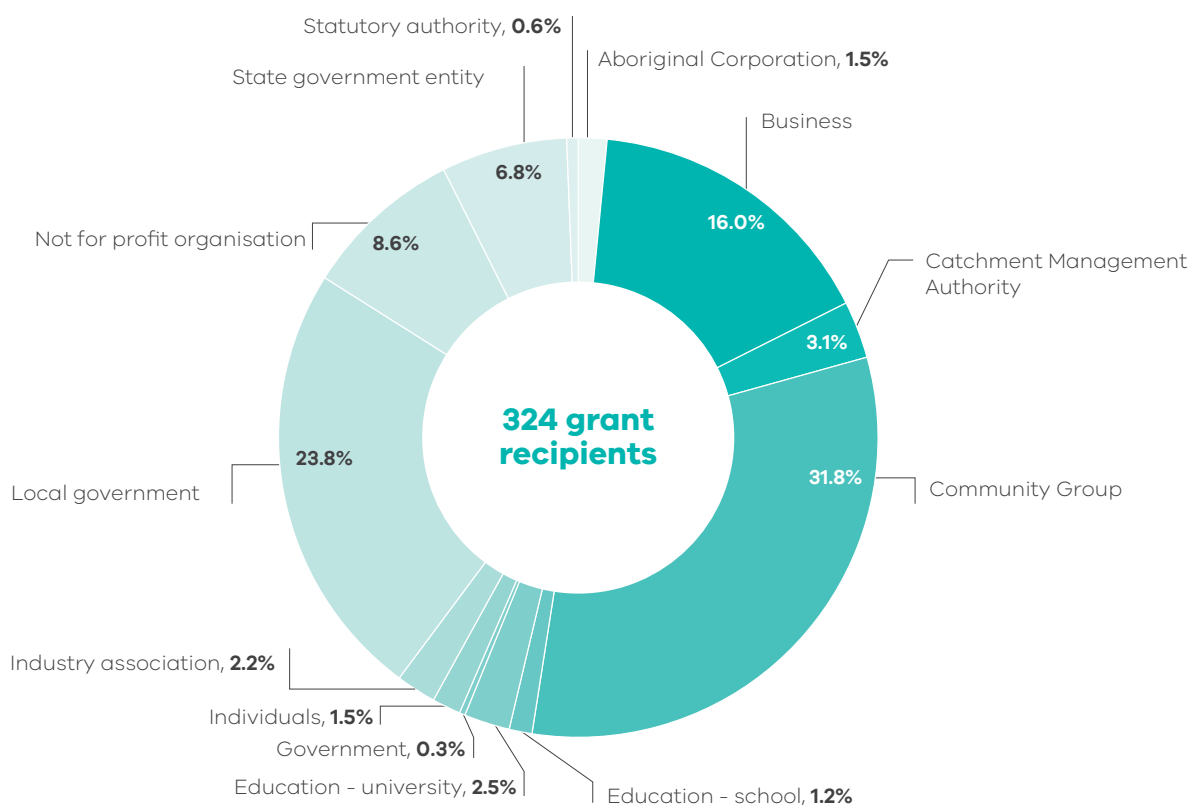


Figure 9: Proportion of 2019-20 total grant funds received by sector

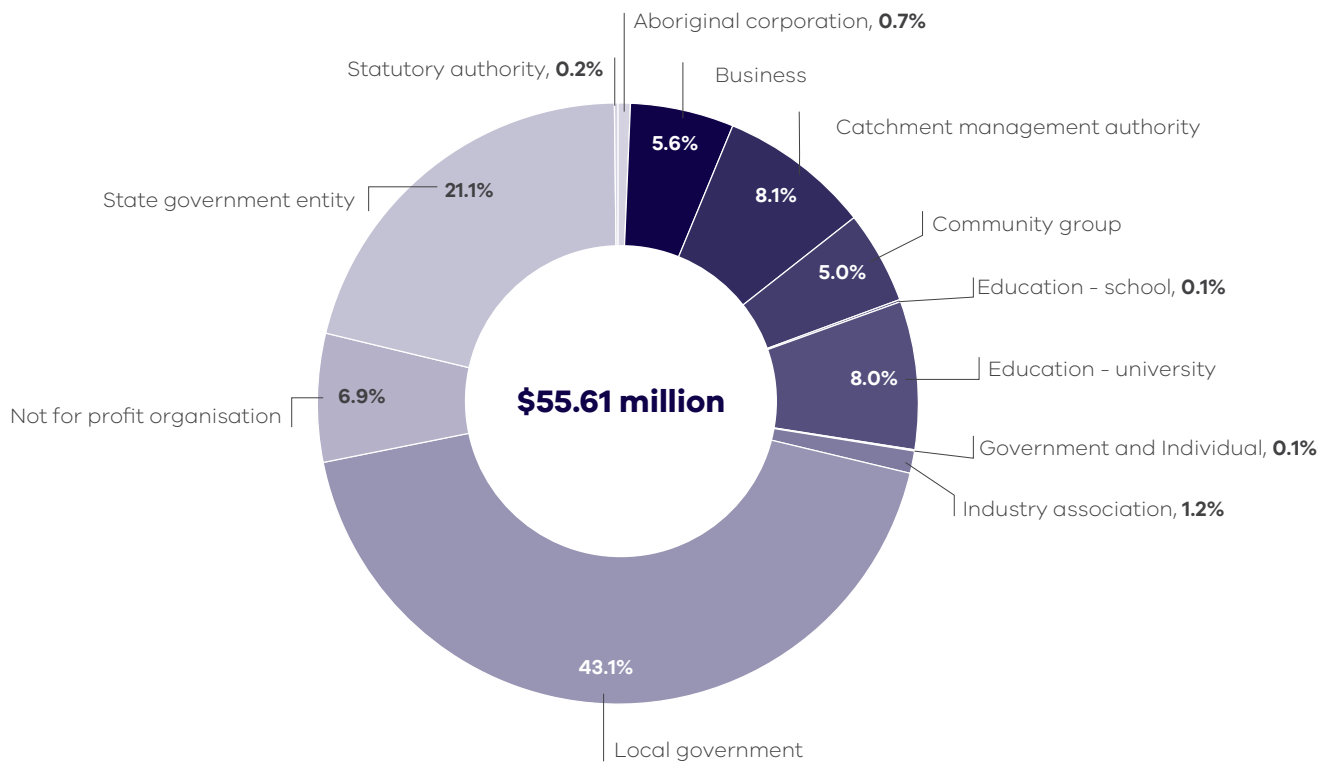
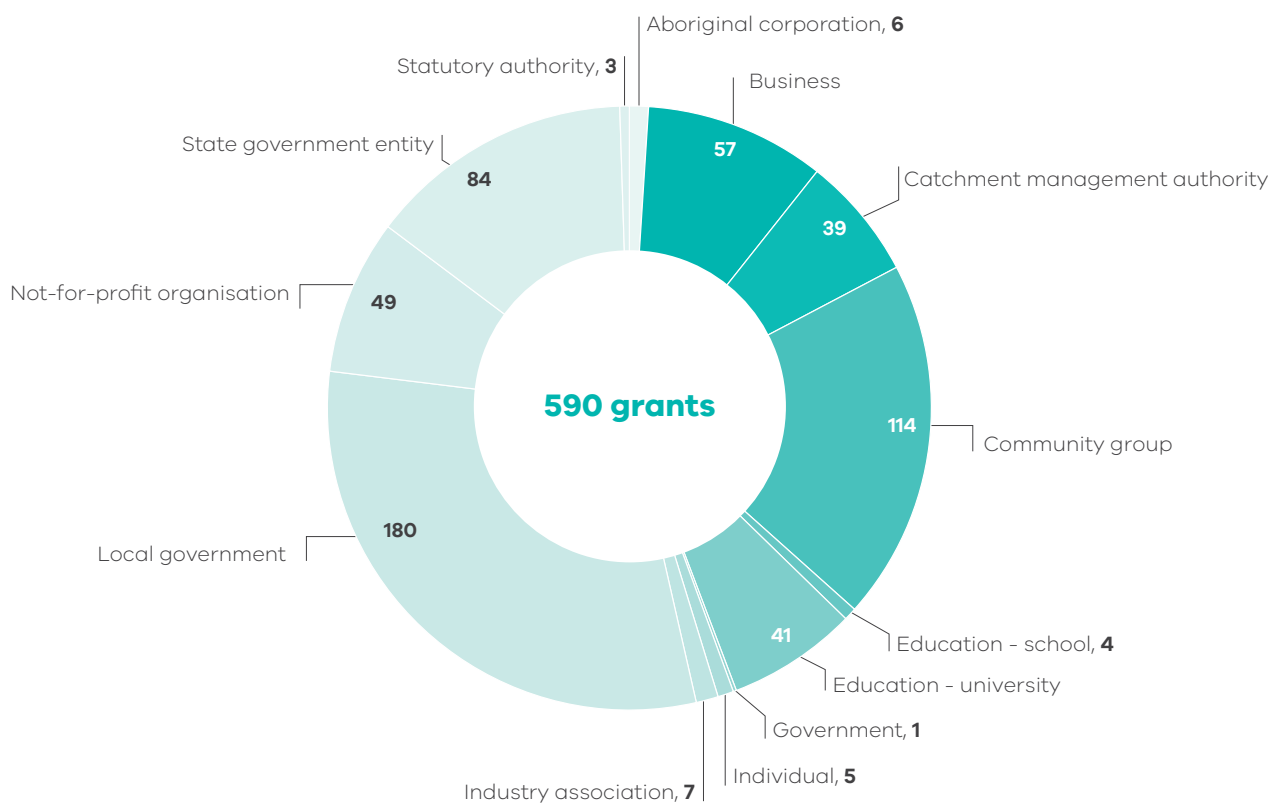


Figure 10: Number of 2019-20 grants received by sector





Granny skills keep food waste out of bins in the Grampians

Diverting food waste from landfill in one of Victoria's most unique and striking geographic areas was central to the Grampians' Waste Strategies Implementation program.

The program ran a 'Love Food Hate Waste' campaign that supported local governments and waste and resource recovery groups through grants to deliver food waste education and engagement events to households.

With Victorians throwing out 31,500 tonnes of fresh fruit and vegetables every year, at an estimated cost of \$2,136 in food per household, addressing this waste is of environmental and economic importance.

One grant recipient, Grampians Central West Waste and Resource Recovery Group, ran 22 workshops and demonstrations across the Grampians Central West Region focused on food waste, and keeping it out of kerbside bins.

In total, 200 people attended the workshops while more than 80 people attended demonstrations.

"Thanks to this funding, we made a lot of households more aware of food waste, but we also have far greater reach to spread this and other waste messages," La Vergne Lehmann, Executive Officer at Grampians Central West Waste and Resource Recovery Group said.

"This is an enormous help in building a more sustainable future for our region." Lehmann said.

Through the project, attendees were taught about food preservation techniques like pickling and fermenting fresh produce, using the less desirable parts of fruits, vegetables and meat.

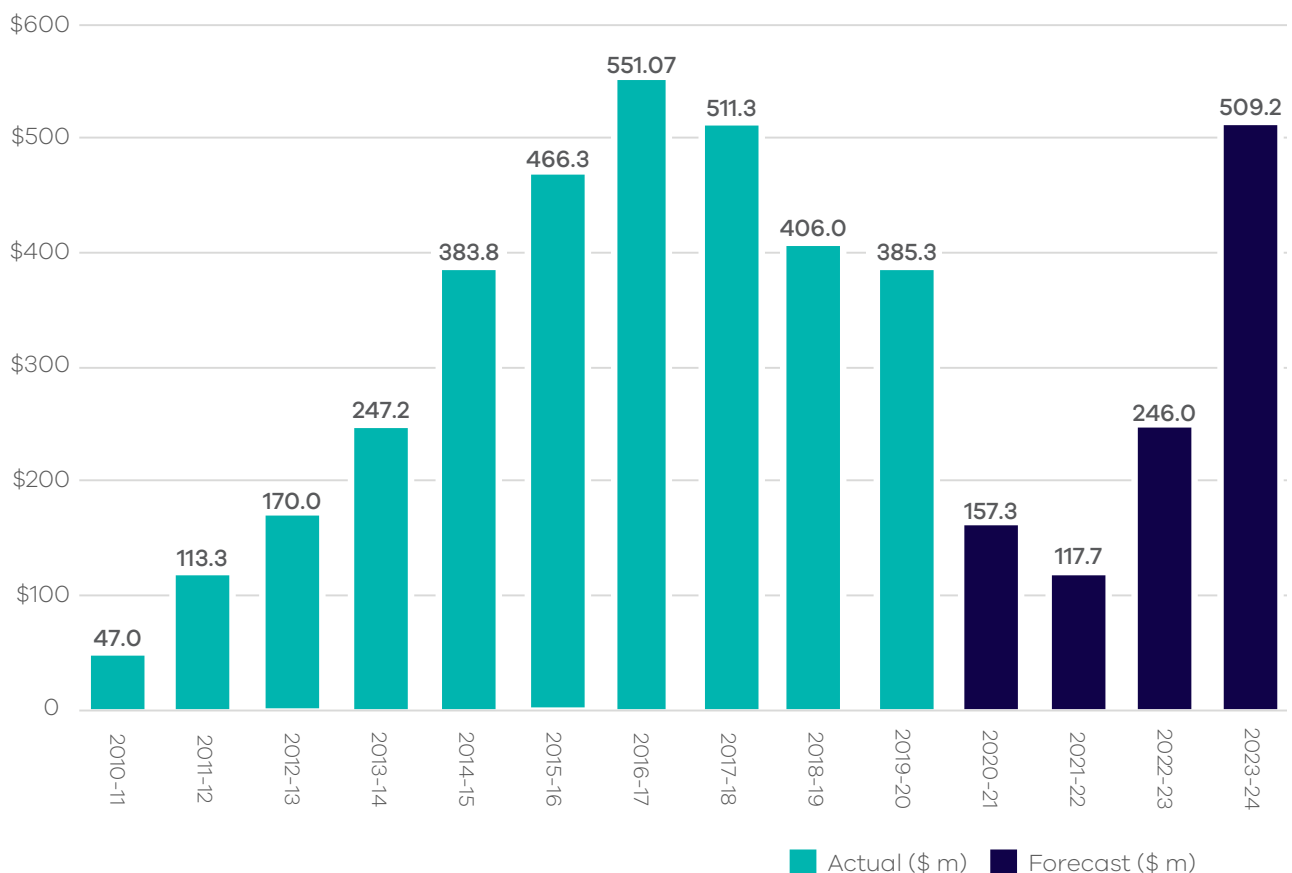
Legislative objectives

The Waste Strategies program was funded from the Sustainability Fund, receiving \$2.0 million over the lifetime of the initiative. The program encouraged residents to consider innovative and cost effective ways to reduce waste generation and increase resource recovery. These activities have the potential to reduce household food costs while also encouraging more environmentally sustainable uses of resources.

The projected cash balance of the Sustainability Fund prior to future allocations

Significant government investment in program delivery has progressively reduced the cash balance of the Sustainability Fund from \$551.1 million at 30 June 2017 to \$385.3 million at 30 June 2020. The cash balance is forecast to fall further to \$117.7 million by June 2022, before beginning to increase to \$246.0 million by June 2023, based on the current level of budget commitments.

Figure 11: Cash balance of the Sustainability Fund



Forecast balances include the impact of delaying a legislated increase in the landfill levy from 1 July 2020 to 1 January 2021. A further decision to delay the price increase from 1 January 2021 to 1 July 2021 has not yet been factored in. This second delay is expected to reduce the Sustainability fund balance by \$29 million over the forward estimates. Both decisions were made as part of COVID-19 relief packages.

Source for 2010-11 to 2014-15 data: Sustainability Victoria annual reports consistent with the Victorian Auditor-General's Office performance audit, *Managing the Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy*.

While **Figure 11** depicts an increasing balance in the last two years of the forward estimates period, it is because landfill levy revenue can be forecast with more certainty than future commitments the government may make in respective future budgets.

Forward commitments made from the Sustainability Fund as of 30 June 2020 are detailed in Table 3 below.

Table 4 on **page 54** shows the anticipated revenue yet to be collected from 30 June 2020 which will be committed in future state budgets.

Table 3: Forward commitments

Program title	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Recycling Victoria (Circular Economy)	102.102	85.806	77.536	69.370
<i>Reform the Way Households Recycle</i>	40.434	24.152	18.343	13.125
<i>Support Safe and Effective High-risk and Hazardous Waste Management</i>	18.714	16.191	10.272	10.232
<i>Build Strong Domestic Markets for Priority Recovered Materials</i>	14.860	16.818	25.848	25.983
<i>Support Victorian Communities</i>	13.057	11.781	10.840	9.309
<i>Increase Victoria's Landfill Levies to Incentivise Waste Avoidance and Recycling</i>	3.668	3.735	3.648	3.648
<i>Improve Business Productivity and Reduce Waste</i>	3.320	5.351	4.666	3.619
<i>Expand Victoria's Waste Data Systems</i>	2.990	2.826	1.812	1.812
<i>Governance and Regulation</i>	2.240	2.132	1.419	1.274
<i>Support The Re-use Economy</i>	2.316	2.354	0.688	0.368
<i>Encourage Appropriate Waste to Energy Investment</i>	0.503	0.468	0.000	0.000
Suburban Parks Program	58.608	24.111	29.548	0.000
<i>Suburban Parks Program Project Management Office</i>	1.140	0.100	0.700	0.000
<i>Complete Kororoit Creek, Werribee Township and Clyde Regional Parks (Land Acquisitions)</i>	15.026	2.754	7.456	0.000
<i>Deliver the Sandbelt Parklands</i>	8.247	4.351	11.254	0.000
<i>Greening the Pipeline</i>	5.000	2.000	0.000	0.000
<i>Local Parks Program – Park Revitalisation</i>	4.000	4.000	2.000	0.000
<i>Local Parks Program – Pocket Parks</i>	15.100	4.350	6.150	0.000
<i>Northern Metropolitan Trails</i>	3.310	3.310	0.000	0.000
<i>Planning and Managing Together – Cardinia Creek, Jacksons Creek, Quarry Hills Parkland, Upper Merri Creek and the Frankston Greenbelt Parklands (Seaford Wetlands)</i>	6.785	3.246	1.988	0.000
Timber Plantation Establishment (Asset)	40.000	27.500	32.500	0.000
Timber Plantation Establishment (Output)	1.600	0.000	0.000	0.000
Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037	23.130	20.000	20.000	20.000
Recycling Industry Response Interim Measures	13.882	13.850	0.000	0.000
Securing Our Modern Energy Future: Renewable Energy Action Plan	5.245	1.077	0.079	0.000
Securing Our Energy Future: Solar Trams	4.687	4.688	4.688	4.688
Greener Government Buildings	4.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Program title	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Protecting Port Philip Bay and its Beaches	2.400	2.153	0.000	0.000
Taking Decisive Action on Climate Change	3.350	0.000	0.000	0.000
Recycling Industry Assistance Package	3.230	0.000	0.000	0.000
Clean-Up of Contaminated Public Land	3.200	2.100	0.000	0.000
Recycling Industry Strategic Plan	3.043	0.170	0.000	0.000
2018-19 Illegal Dumping Strikeforce	2.296	2.334	0.000	0.000
Volunteers Protecting The Coast	1.282	1.080	0.000	0.000
Securing Our Modern Energy Future: Energy Efficiency and Productivity Strategy	1.117	0.000	0.000	0.000
Bringing our EPA Into the Modern Era	0.848	0.000	0.000	0.000
Science, Innovation and Excellence: Monitoring Coastal Flooding, Erosion and Land Stability	0.630	0.000	0.000	0.000
Investing in Waste and Resource Recovery for a Growing Victoria	0.453	0.000	0.000	0.000
Science, Innovation and Excellence: Modelling and Feasibility	0.237	0.000	0.000	0.000
Port Fairy Landfill	0.150	0.000	0.000	0.000
Climate Ready Victorian Infrastructure: Critical Coastal Protection Assets	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.000
Reducing the Environmental Impact of Plastic Bags: Transitioning to Ban	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.000
E-Waste Landfill Ban	0.050	0.100	0.000	0.000
2020-21 Supply Bill – Core Environmental Programs and Traditional Owner Programs	1.723	0.000	0.000	0.000
2020-21 Supply Bill – Safeguarding Marine and Coastal Environments in the Face of Climate Change – Victoria's Program for a Sustainable Future Along the Coast	0.345	0.000	0.000	0.000
2020-21 Supply Bill – Maintaining Essential Energy Functions	3.750	0.000	0.000	0.000
2020-21 Supply Bill – Implementing Climate Change Legislation	0.862	0.000	0.000	0.000
Administration and Minor Project Expenditure Pending Approval	1.500	9.524	9.041	7.701
Grand total**	283.81	194.50	173.40	101.75

Table 4: Allocation of Sustainability Fund revenue collected to 30 June 2020

	2019-20 \$ (m)	2020-21 \$ (m)	2021-22 \$ (m)	2022-23 \$ (m)	2023-24 \$ (m)
Unallocated balance of funds collected prior to 30 June 2020		385.3	101.5	(93.0)	(266.4)
Projects announced prior to 30 June 2020 and expenditure committed in future years		283.8	194.5	173.4	101.7
Balance of funds collected prior to 30 June 2020 after committed projects (announced up to 30 June 2020)		101.5	(93.0)	(266.4)	(368.1)
Revenue to be collected post 30 June 2020		55.8	210.7	512.4	877.3
Closing balance	385.3	157.3	117.7	246.0	509.2

The DELWP 2019-20 Annual Report provides further detail on Sustainability Fund movements.





EPA Victoria, © 2018

Strikeforce targeting illegal waste disposal

People profiteering from illegal waste disposal are on notice thanks to the team at the Environmental Protection Authority's (EPA) Illegal Waste Dumping Strikeforce.

The strikeforce, also known as the Illegal Waste Disposal Program, aims to disrupt the systematic illegal disposal of waste in Victoria, through targeted compliance and enforcement activities.

Led by strong data analytics, intelligence, surveillance and co-regulatory co-operation, the strikeforce compliance and enforcement team who work with authorised officers from EPA's regions, targets sites that have characteristics that have been identified by the team.

In 2019-20, the strikeforce issued 108 notices that relate to illegal waste disposal, exceeding the year's target by 58.

In 2020-21 the program will continue its compliance and enforcement work as well as other initiatives including conducting case management of high risk, complex illegal waste sites.

Legislative objectives

Building on the success of the program to date, EPA has designed a proposed waste crime prevention directorate. This will significantly expand the program's capability and reach in 2020-21. The strikeforce contributes to the Sustainability Fund's strategic priorities of preventing littering and illegal dumping with an approach that is proactive, research-driven and highly visible in the community.

The EPA Illegal Waste Dumping Strikeforce initiative was funded from the Sustainability Fund, receiving \$2.262 million in 2019-20.

Credit: Marcia Riederer

Table 5: Yearly comparison of indicators

A number of indicators are presented for the first time in this report and do not have 2018-19 figures. Sustainability Fund performance indicators are likely to change over time as improvements are made to the monitoring and evaluation framework.

Outcome area	Indicator	2018-19 result	2019-20 result	Unit
Best practice waste management	Waste avoided going to landfill ¹	184,959	11,200+	Tonnes/ year
	Organics waste	-	5,100+	Tonnes/ year
	Plastic waste	-	6,100+	Tonnes/ year
	Contaminated soil avoided going to landfill via off-site treatment	-	18,982	Tonnes/ year
	Contaminated soil avoided going to landfill via on-site treatment	-	Approximately 8,900	Tonnes/ year
	E-waste collection services upgraded	53	47	Upgrades / year
	Policies or standards implemented	-	1 - Amendment of the EP Act to ban lightweight plastic bags from 1 November 2019	Number of policies or standards implemented / year
	Amount of illegally dumped material removed ²	-	10,000	Tonnes/ year
	Notices issued relating to illegal waste disposal	-	108	Number of notices issued per year

1 In 2018-19 a one-off six-month program was implemented to address a sudden increase in demand for waste going to landfill, which resulted in 184,959 tonnes of waste avoiding landfill. This program ceased by 30 June 2019. Figures in 2019-20 are from new programs where initial investment is in improved waste processing facilities and treatment options, many of which are in the early stages and should result in increased waste avoidance over the next 2-3 years.

2 Sustainability Fund programs supported the removal of illegal waste.

Outcome area	Indicator	2018-19 result	2019-20 result	Unit
Encouraging economic development	Additional jobs created	300+ ¹	49.25 ²	FTE
	Total amount tendered to local businesses for solar panel installation on public buildings	-	409,958	\$
	Investment leveraged, including in kind contributions	-	10,500,000	\$ equivalent
	Savings by businesses ³	2,099,204	Program closed	\$ saved
	Philanthropic contributions made to Trust for Nature and leveraged from government investment	-	1,537,870	\$
	Policy that supports job creation and economic development (secondary impacts) ⁴	-	1 - Delivery of the Victorian Renewable Energy Target (VRET)	Description of policy work
	New markets created or enhanced for recovered material	6	Program closed - benefits from development of new markets expected to continue	Number
Environmentally sustainable use of resources	Number of energy efficiency audits and assessments ⁵	2,697	3,456	Number
	Increase in renewable energy generation capacity on public buildings	-	203	kW

1 Job figures reported in 2018-19 were facilitated by significant investment in renewable energy infrastructure. The construction phase of the relevant program was completed in 2018-19.

2 This figure represents only verified FTE at time of reporting. Actual FTE figures enabled by the Sustainability Fund programs are likely to be much higher.

3 The program associated with these reported savings has closed. Savings in 2018-19 were the result of energy efficiency improvements, and are likely to be carried forward.

4 Long-term policies like the VRET supports the development of a more sustainable economy and helps to create jobs now and into the future.

5 The performance variance between 2018-19 and 2019-20 is partially due to a change in reporting methodology. Around 1,100 audits and inspections that were previously reported under the indicator 'households and organisations assisted' have been reported as 'number of energy efficiency audits and assessments', as it more closely aligns to this outcome.

Outcome area	Indicator	2018-19 result	2019-20 result	Unit
Facilitating social development	Households and organisations assisted ¹	2,752	2,100	Number
	Partnerships and collaborations formed and continued ²	154	103	Number
	Victorians exposed to messaging/information on sustainability ³	1,323,710	Figures not aggregated	Number
	Face-to-face engagement (plastic bag ban)	-	15,928	Number
	Reach via facebook (plastic bag ban)	-	over 408,000	Number
	Unique users (education on better recycling practices including soft plastics)	-	1,600,000	Number
	New users on the Sustainability Victoria E-Waste tracker	-	over 100,000	Number
	New users on the Sustainability Victoria E-Waste campaign	-	over 50,000	Number
	Unique users on the Victorian Energy Compare website	-	over 1,100,000	Number
	Volunteer hours supported ⁴	600,000	Figures not yet confirmed - will be available for the 2020-21 Activities Report	Volunteer hours
	Number of charitable organisations supported	-	27	Number of charitable organisations supported and sustained

- 1 The performance variance between 2018-19 and 2019-20 is partially due to a change in reporting methodology. Around 1,100 audits and inspections which were previously reported under the indicator 'households and organisations assisted' has been reported as 'number of energy efficiency audits and assessments', as it more closely aligns to that outcome.
- 2 The figure relates to collaborations formed or actively maintained as part of Sustainability Fund-supported programs. The figure does not reflect collaborations or partnerships that may have continued after a program closes, or stops reporting against the indicator.
- 3 2019-20 figures include reporting across a variety of mediums. Figures are unable to be aggregated, owing to difficulty in calculating overlap between outreach programs. Further to this, while advertising focused on Victorians, it is not possible to guarantee that all unique users reached were Victorians.
- 4 Figure was not available when 2018-19 Activities report was compiled. This is the first year this figure was reported.

Outcome area	Indicator	2018-19 result	2019-20 result	Unit
Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	Kilowatt hours of renewable energy generated	389,000,000	491,000,000	kW h
	Development of policy supporting investment in renewable energy	-	Contribution to development of renewable energy targets	Qualitative description
	Development of policy to remove barriers to small scale energy providers	-	Contribution to growth of rooftop solar panel energy generation	Qualitative description
Improve community capacity to take action on climate change	Community members participated in activities to help protect Victoria's coast	10,500	11,767	Community members participated in activities to help protect Victoria's coast
	Number of organisations conducting waste minimisation and resource recovery activities	-	46	Number of organisations
	Number of schools caring for Victoria's natural environment with support from Landcare ¹	784	128	Schools adopted positive environmental action

¹ The change in outcome is due to a reallocation of some program funding. The ResourceSmart Schools program is now funded through the MILL and is therefore not included in the above figures.

Outcome area	Indicator	2018-19 result	2019-20 result	Unit
Adapting through biodiversity	Area of threatened habitat protected ¹	376	1,729	hectares
	Increased area of privately protected habitat actively managed to reduce impacts of other threats ²	11,223	6,000+	hectares
	Nature Kits and other apps - number of visits and use ³	120,218	112,118	Number of website hits per year
	Regulators provided with training in native vegetation regulation	-	185	Number of regulators provided with training
	Area of wetland restoration	1,100 ⁴	Figures not yet confirmed - will be available for the 2020-21 Activities Report	hectares
	Area of revegetation	1,100 ⁴	Figures not yet confirmed - will be available for the 2020-21 Activities Report	hectares
	Area of pest herbivore control	706,000 ⁴	Figures not yet confirmed - will be available for the 2020-21 Activities Report	hectares
	Area of pest predator control	245,000 ⁴	Figures not yet confirmed - will be available for the 2020-21 Activities Report	hectares
	Area of primary weed control	164,000 ⁴	Figures not yet confirmed - will be available for the 2020-21 Activities Report	hectares
	Plants planted across Victoria	44,634 ⁵	Funding source has changed	Number of plants

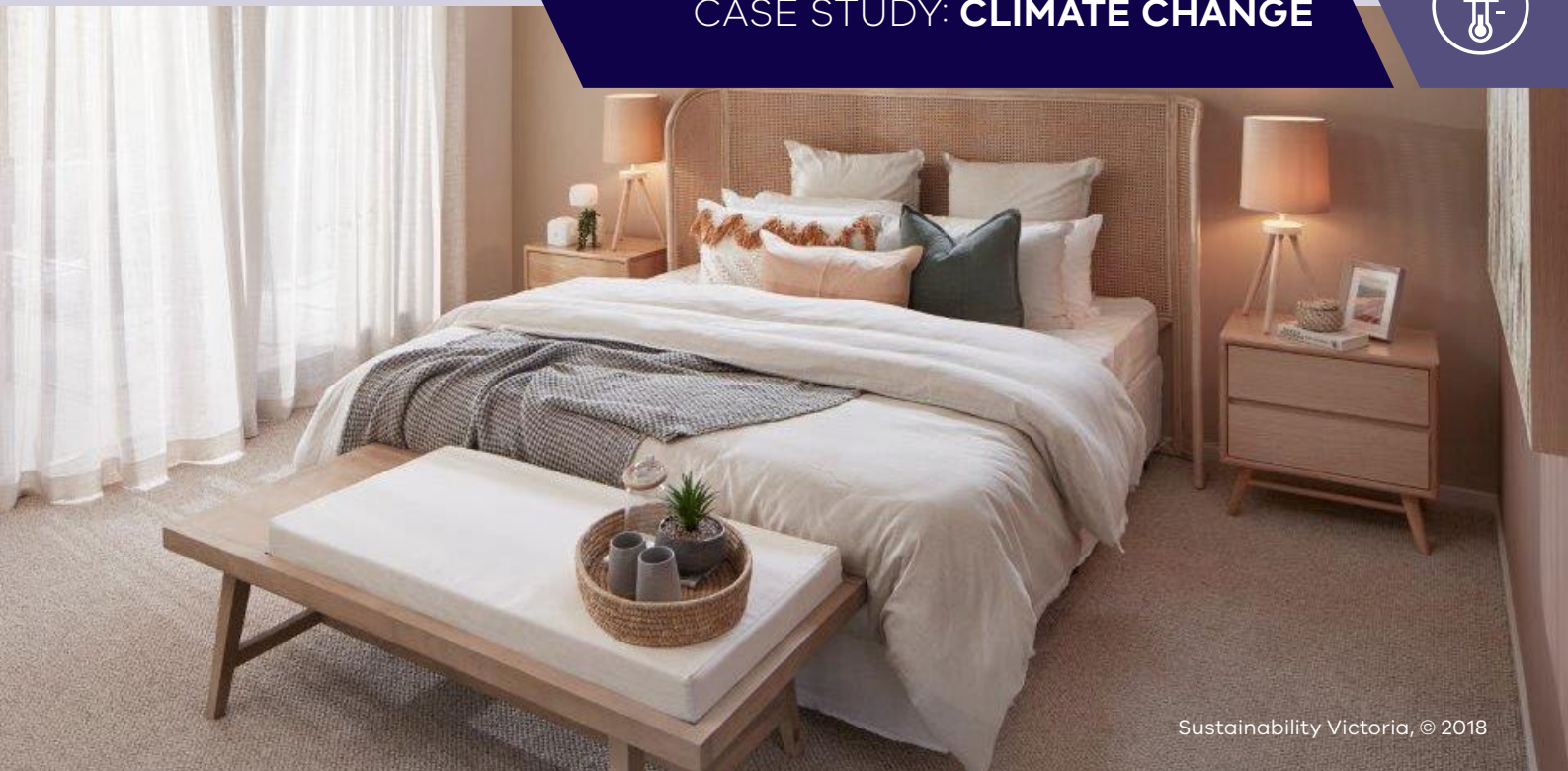
1 The performance variance between 2018-19 and 2019-20 is partially due to a change in reporting methodology. In 2018-19 the measure was recorded as the area of land protected on title. In 2019-20, key stakeholders adopted the 'extent of land finalised or formally approved for permanent protection under covenant or other mean' as a more representative measure.

2 Programs significantly overperformed against this measure in 2018-19. The results for 2019-20 are slightly above the target of 5,000 hectares.

3 2018-19 and 2019-20 figures reported for the first time in this report.

4 Figure was not available when 2018-19 Activities report was compiled. This is the first year this figure was reported. The 2019-20 figure will be reported in the 2020-21 report.

5 This figure was not reported in 2019-20 due to a change in funding source. The program now receives ongoing funding from the MILL and is therefore not included in the above figures.



Sustainability Victoria, © 2018

Tangible delivery of efficient homes for the future

Metricon Homes has launched its first energy saver display home, the initial step in taking environmentally friendly houses to a broader audience, through participation in the Volume Home Builders program.

The program partners with volume house builders to increase the supply and demand of zero net carbon houses by assisting in the facilitation of their design, marketing and construction.

Metricon Homes' display house was built at Kaduna Park Estate in the south-east Melbourne suburb of Officer.

"The collaboration with Metricon is a step forward towards providing more accessible options to consumers who are looking to purchase an energy efficient home," Sustainability Victoria's Interim CEO, Carl Muller said.

The house featured a number of high performance, energy efficient and renewable energy design features including a solar power system, LED lighting, increased insulation, double-glazed windows, sensor extraction fans and draught seals.

"Not only will the home stay warm in winter and cool in summer, this Metricon home will significantly lower household energy costs and cut greenhouse gas emissions compared to a standard new home."

"Working with Australia's leading home builder on this pilot program reflects a successful collaboration between the State Government and industry to

deliver projects that will support Victoria's goal towards achieving net zero emissions by 2050 as well as building better, more comfortable homes for Victorians," Muller said.

Peter Langfelder, Director and Victorian Housing General Manager at Metricon Homes said: *"We are very proud to be working with Sustainability Victoria to not only open our first zero net carbon display home but to also launch an innovative new energy-saver bundle, available for a wide range of new Metricon homes in Victoria, as part of the Zero Net Carbon Homes Program."*

Legislative objectives

Metricon's first energy saver display home was part of the Volume Home Builders initiative, funded from the Sustainability Fund. This initiative received \$740,000 in 2019-20 and resulted in the construction of a total of 13 Zero Net Carbon homes from Metricon, SJD homes and Stockland.

Greater uptake of energy efficient homes will support Victoria's transition to a low carbon economy, while reducing household energy costs will support community adaptation to the impacts of climate change.

Programs funded by the Sustainability Fund in 2019-20 (totalling \$156.503 million¹)

	Payments in 2019-20 (\$m)	Expected priority outcomes	Status at 30 June 2020	Theme
Energy Affordability: Putting Consumers First				
Victorian Energy Compare: Statewide Advertising Campaign and Stakeholder Engagement	1.460	2.3	Active	Climate change
This program aims to increase consumer awareness of the Victorian Energy Compare website, and broader energy matters to address cost pressures and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through educating consumers about ways to reduce their energy consumption and assisting them to make informed energy decisions.				
Victorian Energy Compare: AMI Benefits Realisation	0.130	2.1	Active	Climate change
The purpose of this program is to enable consumers to more effectively use information generated from Victoria's statewide Advanced Metering Infrastructure to better manage their energy consumption and costs.				
Securing Our Modern Energy Future: Renewable Energy Action Plan				
Microgrids Smart Trials (Microgrid Demonstration Initiative)	5.142	2.1	Active	Climate change
The Microgrid Smart Trials program aims to facilitate innovative, market driven commercial microgrid demonstration projects to enable lower energy costs, more reliable power and reduced emissions to support Victoria's transition to a low carbon economy. The projects are developed by or include a wide set of relevant stakeholders.				
Securing Our Energy Future: Solar Trams				
Renewable Certificate Purchasing Initiative	4.688	2.1	Active	Climate change
<p>The objectives of the Solar Trams initiative are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate visible leadership in tackling climate change by committing to a meaningful TAKE2 climate change pledge for the transport sector • create a precedence for government departments to pledge to visible and cost-effective carbon emissions reductions • contribute to decarbonising Victoria's electricity sector. 				

¹ Investments total \$156.5 million in 2019-20. This figure differs from the total payments figure of \$156.3 million shown in Appendix 10 of the 2019-20 DELWP annual report. This is due to the annual report figure comprising the gross amount paid to program recipients during 2019-20 (\$156.5 million), plus administration costs (\$0.7 million), less funds returned because they were not fully spent in prior years by program recipients (\$0.9 million).

	Payments in 2019-20 (\$m)	Expected priority outcomes	Status at 30 June 2020	Theme
Securing Our Modern Energy Future: Renewable Energy Action Plan				
Renewable Certificate Purchasing Initiative	11.124	2.1	Active	Climate change
This project aims to encourage private sector investment in large scale renewable (wind and solar) energy projects in Victoria. An open competitive tender process is used to deliver the project. Successful tenderers will enter into Sale and Purchase Agreements (SPAs) with the Victorian Government to provide nominated volumes of Large-scale Generation Certificates (LGCs) over the specified contract periods.				
Securing Our Modern Energy Future: Energy Efficiency and Productivity Strategy				
Industry Sector Productivity Strategies	0.135	2.1 2.3	Active	Climate change
This program aims to develop energy productivity strategies for industry sectors which will guide and facilitate businesses to improve their energy efficiency. This will look to address cost pressures, make economic outcomes more efficient and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.				
Protecting Victoria's Environment: Biodiversity 2037				
Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act Reform	0.760	2.4	Active	Climate change
This program aims to ensure that the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> (FFG Act) can provide a modern framework for biodiversity protection and management in Victoria, with strong and effective protection for Victoria's native species and important habitats. This program supports the effective implementation of the final package of reforms to the FFG Act.				
Native Vegetation Regulation	1.080	2.3 2.4	Active	Climate change
This program aims to ensure effective regulation of native vegetation removal, including updates to the regulatory system, and the support and development of the offset and credit market as well as improvements in compliance and annual reporting.				
Marine Environment Targeted Actions	0.593	2.3 2.4	Active	Climate change
This program aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • restore marine environments across Victoria • increase community and stakeholder awareness of marine environments • establish strategic partnerships to deliver marine environment on-ground actions with industry, other agencies and non-government organisations. 				

	Payments in 2019-20 (\$m)	Expected priority outcomes		Status at 30 June 2020	Theme
Targeted On-ground Biodiversity Actions	12.706	2.3	2.4	Active	Climate change
<p>This program aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce the decline and pressure on biodiversity and threatened species • implement a range of grant incentive programs to protect and improve biodiversity resources on public and private land, and natural environments • promote engagement to a broader range of Victorians as a collective response to protect and conserve biodiversity. 					
Biodiversity Enabling Actions	7.182	2.3	2.4	Active	Climate change
<p>This program aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • link biodiversity, science and decision support systems to ensure effective investment, prioritisation, awareness and support for communities to deliver biodiversity outcomes • implement frameworks that guide coordinated investment in monitoring and research to address priority knowledge gaps • improved decision making and reporting • increased participation of Victorians in biodiversity management and collaboration through the establishment of Biodiversity Response Planning • support implementation of Victoria's Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2017-2020. 					
Port Phillip Bay Fund					
Port Phillip Bay Fund	2.500	2.4		Active	Climate change
<p>This program aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect the health of the bay and bay catchment area by encouraging partnerships across a range of interested groups and organisations who support the environmental health of the bay • enhancing the amenity and environmental values in the bay and on the foreshore • reducing threats to the health of the bay. 					
Volunteers Protecting the Coast					
2019-2022 Coastcare Victoria Program	0.637	2.2		Active	Climate change
<p>This program provides a range of benefits to all Victorians by engaging and supporting the community to protect and enhance the marine and coastal environments. This includes educating and engaging volunteers, community organisations, volunteer networks and the general community on the values of Victoria's marine and coastal environments and empowering them to protect those values.</p>					

	Payments in 2019-20 (\$m)	Expected priority outcomes				Status at 30 June 2020	Theme
Securing Our Modern Energy Future: Energy Efficiency and Productivity Strategy							
Towards Zero Emission Homes – Improving As-built Compliance	0.922	2.1	2.2	2.3		Active	Climate change
The objective of this program is to improve the energy efficiency of new homes in Victoria by improving as-built compliance with energy efficiency standards. This will reduce energy costs for residents, improve thermal comfort, improve health of residents, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.							
Energy Efficiency Skills and Training	0.345	2.1	2.2	2.3		Active	Climate change
The objective of this program is to build skills and capacity related to energy efficiency. This will occur through training of trades and professions who deliver energy efficiency services to Victorian homes and businesses. It will also build the capacity of businesses to maintain and apply these skills.							
Toward Zero Emission Homes – Beyond 6-star	0.715	2.1	2.2	2.3		Active	Climate change
The objective of this program is to improve the energy efficiency of new homes. This will reduce energy costs for residents, improve thermal comfort, improve health of residents, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.							
Clean-up of Contaminated Public Land							
Clean-up of Contaminated Public Land	1.200	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	Active	Waste
The objectives of this project are to reduce the risk to human health and the environment from high risk contaminated public land, comply with legislative requirements to manage contaminated land and foster environmentally sustainable uses of resources and best practices in waste management.							
Council Recycling Grants and Waste Industry Support							
Council Recycling Grants and Waste Industry Support	9.280	1.2	1.3	1.4		Active	Waste
The objective of this project is to alleviate the additional net costs to councils resulting from the closure of SKM and minimise the amount of recyclable waste going to landfill.							
Port Fairy Landfill							
Port Fairy Landfill	1.333	1.5	2.2	2.3		Active	Both objectives
The objectives of the program are to:							
<ul style="list-style-type: none">eliminate the exposure of landfill waste at two decommissioned landfills at East Beach Port Fairy for a period of between 80 to 100 yearsexplore and implement a suite of treatments, including infrastructure and works to protect both landfill sites from coastal erosionbuild collaboration between DELWP and Moyne Shire Councilbuild community awareness around the coastal impacts of climate change.							

	Payments in 2019-20 (\$m)	Expected priority outcomes	Status at 30 June 2020	Theme
Suburban Parks Program				
Suburban Parks Program	14.386	2.2 2.4	Active	Climate change
This initiative supports the creation of a new ring of parks in our growing suburbs to benefit Victoria environmentally, socially and economically. This will be delivered by DELWP in conjunction with Parks Victoria and local governments.				
Recycling Industry Strategic Plan				
Recycling Industry Strategic Plan Implementation (RISP)	2.619	1.1	Active	Waste
The aim of this program is to oversee implementation of the Recycling Industry Strategic Plan, ensuring the actions delivered by relevant agencies are coherent and aligned.				
Protecting Port Philip Bay and its Beaches				
Beach Renourishment	1.547	2.2 2.4	Active	Climate change
This program aims to maintain beaches and sandy coastlines to protect vulnerable areas of the coast from erosion, inundation and land instability (i.e. cliffs) from hazards caused by the sea, protecting foreshore Crown land and critical infrastructure.				
Climate Ready Victorian Infrastructure				
Critical Coastal Protection Assets	2.767	2.2 2.4	Active	Climate change
This program aims to provide coastal communities with information on coastal hazards such as erosion, inundation and land instability, and climate change impacts. It further aims to support on-ground management, decision making and reporting.				
Securing Our Modern Energy Future: Energy Efficiency and Productivity Strategy				
Home Energy Assist: Healthy Homes	0.903	2.1 2.2 2.3	Active	Climate change
This program aims to improve thermal comfort and energy efficiency in up to 1,000 homes of Victorians on low incomes who have health problems and are vulnerable to extreme temperatures. The program will collect Australian-first statistical evidence on the link between energy efficiency and health.				
Household Component and Cross-sectoral Measures	2.593	2.1 2.2 2.3	Active	Climate change
This program includes activities to expand the Victorian energy upgrades program, improve the energy efficiency of rented homes and consumer access to information that helps with more informed choices about housing that is energy efficient. The activities also include work at the national level to develop and improve energy efficiency standards for appliances and buildings.				

	Payments in 2019-20 (\$m)	Expected priority outcomes				Status at 30 June 2020	Theme
Home Energy Assist: Affordable Retrofits	0.355	2.1	2.2	2.3		Active	Climate change
This program aims to improve the energy efficiency of the homes of low income, vulnerable and disadvantaged Victorians and lower their energy bills.							
Climate Change Innovation and Jobs							
Virtual Centre for Climate Change Innovation	0.250	2.1				Active	Climate change
This program aims to strengthen Victoria's role as a leader in climate change by fostering action, innovation and collaboration between businesses, industry, researchers and government to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change.							
Science, Innovation and Excellence							
Monitoring Coastal Flooding, Erosion Land Stability	0.360	2.2	2.3			Active	Climate change
This program aims to provide communities with information on coastal condition, changes, hazards and the expected impacts associated with climate change that will facilitate evidence-based decision making.							
Driving Growth in Renewable Energy							
Driving Growth in Renewable Energy	2.071	2.1	2.2	2.3		Active	Climate change
This program aims to deliver investment growth, new jobs and environmental benefits by promoting growth in renewable energy, both through facilitation of wholesale market transition from brown coal generation towards renewables and by increasing the uptake of distributed generation and storage technologies by households, businesses and community groups.							
Bringing Our EPA into the Modern Era							
Government Response to EPA Inquiry	1.331	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	Active	Waste
This program aims to strengthen Victoria's Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to more effectively safeguard human health and address Victoria's current and future environment protection challenges, particularly in the face of increasing impacts relating to climate change.							
Understanding and Adapting to Climate Change: Climate Change Framework							
Climate Change Mitigation	0.613	2.1				Active	Climate change
This program aims to assist the government to reduce Victoria's greenhouse gas emissions and transition toward a net zero economy by establishing five-yearly statewide interim greenhouse gas emissions targets and a framework for associated sector pledges in accordance with the <i>Climate Change Act 2017</i> .							

	Payments in 2019-20 (\$m)	Expected priority outcomes					Status at 30 June 2020	Theme
Understanding and Adapting to Climate Change: Adaptation Plan 2								
Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2	0.598	2.2	2.3				Active	Climate change
This program aims to help build a detailed understanding of Victoria's exposure to climate change risks and impacts. It also seeks to catalyse planning for integrated and effective climate change adaptation, foster governance and a regulatory environment that supports effective adaptation across government.								
Timber Plantation Establishment								
Plantations Investment Strategy	4.950	1.1	2.4				Active	Both objectives
This project's primary objective is to further diversify timber supply away from native forests to increased supply from plantations. This will reduce the net harvest area of native forests for timber and in doing so preserve and enhance the biodiversity of species within these forests and deliver other associated environmental benefits. The project also increases carbon dioxide abatement levels.								
Climate Ready Victorian Infrastructure								
Environmentally Sustainable Development Standards	0.100	1.1	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	Active	Both objectives
The program aims to develop state planning and building system responses to support more comprehensive, integrated and effective consideration of environmentally sustainable development objectives in future decision making about urban developments.								
Taking Decisive Action on Climate Change								
Coastal Hazard Assessment for Port Phillip Bay	0.050	2.2	2.3				Active	Climate change
This program collects information about current and future climate change related coastal erosion and inundation that will help deliver better decision making for Port Phillip Bay. The information and mapping data collected will help make decisions regarding management of existing built/natural/cultural assets as well as inform any proposed future development and emergency response planning.								
Communicating Up-to-date Climate Science and Impacts	0.241	2.3					Active	Climate change
This program delivers on the commitment in the Climate Change Adaptation Plan to publish authoritative up-to-date climate change information and make it accessible and easy to use. It will also deliver on the legislative requirements for a climate science report under the new Climate Change Act.								
Supporting Regions to Adapt to Climate Change	2.205	2.2	2.3				Active	Climate change
This program assists to develop regional priorities for climate change adaptation based on the impacts regions are likely to experience, the needs and values of regional communities and work undertaken to date.								



Embedding locally relevant future climate information into decision-making

Victoria now has local-scale climate data available online, helping all Victorians to take action and make better, evidence-based decisions in the face of a changing climate.



The Victorian Climate Projections 2019 project was a Victorian Government and CSIRO partnership, which developed climate projections data for Victoria at a 5km scale to provide detailed understanding of Victoria's future climate.

The **Victorian Climate Projections 2019** products, including five factsheets, 10 regional reports, a technical report and datasets in multiple formats are publicly available.

To support the understanding and use of projections, the Communicating Climate Change Science and Impacts Program began in 2018 and is due for completion in June 2021. This program assists the Victorian Government and stakeholders to understand the potential risks and impacts of future climate and embed climate information, such as the local-scale projections into decision-making processes.

This program has delivered key communication products, including Victoria's first **Climate Science Report 2019**, which provides an easy-to-understand synthesis of how Victoria's climate has already changed and what changes we can expect into the future.

The program focuses on increasing the capability of Victorian decision-makers to understand and apply climate science information. So far more than 1,000 participants have attended training sessions, presentations and webinars providing introductory information, guidance on climate science and how to apply the future climate projections.

Legislative objectives

The **Victorian Climate Projections 2019** and **Victoria's Climate Science Report 2019** were outputs of the Understanding and Adapting to Climate Change and Communicating climate change science and impacts initiatives, funded by the Sustainability Fund. These initiatives received \$72,000 and \$240,000 respectively from the Sustainability Fund in 2019-20.

Through the development of cutting edge research and strategic knowledge partnerships, the Sustainability Fund is helping Victoria to respond and adapt to climate change.

	Payments in 2019-20 (\$m)	Expected priority outcomes	Status at 30 June 2020	Theme
Investing in Waste and Resource Recovery for a Growing Victoria				
Victorian Market Development Strategy for Recovered Resources	1.780	1.1	Active	Waste
The program aims to support the establishment of strong markets for recovered materials and waste to energy in Victoria. Focus is set on priority materials as outlined in the Victorian Market Development Strategy and the Recycling Industry Strategic Plan.				
Recycling Industry Strategic Plan				
Market Development	1.524	1.1	Active	Waste
The objectives of this project are to identify opportunities to increase the procurement of products containing recycled content and to identify priority government purchasing opportunities for products and applications containing recycled content.				
Investing in Waste and Resource Recovery for a Growing Victoria				
Waste Education	1.220	1.4	Active	Waste
<p>The Waste Education program has the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop a consistent narrative for the waste and resource recovery system that involves input from local government and industry which will increase community perceptions of waste management as an essential service • help the Victorian community and hospitality businesses to reduce the amount of food waste they generate • work with a targeted industry sector to improve resource recovery • increase the capability and capacity of delivery partners to roll out waste education and behaviour change activities • educate the Victorian community on correct recycling practices to reduce contamination in kerbside recycling. 				
Recycling Industry Strategic Plan (RISP)				
RISP Education Program (Kerbside Waste)	0.965	1.4	Active	Waste
The objective of the program is to develop an advertising campaign to improve the quality of materials collected for kerbside recycling.				
Securing Our Modern Energy Future: Energy Efficiency and Productivity Strategy				
Victorian Residential Efficiency Scorecard	1.897	2.1 2.2 2.3	Active	Climate change
The overall objective of the program is to improve the energy performance of homes, reduce overall energy use, achieve savings on energy bills and have a positive health impact on households through improvements in the building shell and fixed assets within homes.				

	Payments in 2019-20 (\$m)	Expected priority outcomes	Status at 30 June 2020	Theme
Illegal Dumping Strikeforce				
Illegal Dumping Strikeforce	2.262	1.1 1.3	Active	Waste
This program aims to avoid an increase in illegal dumping of industrial waste in Victoria, continue to develop EPA's understanding of illegal dumping and achieve change within the community and industry towards illegal dumping, resulting in a long-term drop in illegal dumping activities.				
Implementation of the <i>Climate Change Act</i>				
Implementation of the <i>Climate Change Act</i>	1.500	2.1 2.2	Active	Climate change
The objective of this program is to provide the necessary expertise and enable the robust, comprehensive analysis that is essential to develop the first Climate Change Strategy which will set a clear path for the transition towards a net zero emission and climate-resilient Victoria.				
Relieving Charities from Rubbish Dumping Costs				
2019-2020 Landfill Levy Relief Program	0.800	1.1	Active	Waste
<p>The objectives of this project are to work with charities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce the financial impact of illegal dumping on charitable recyclers by providing immediate financial relief for these organisations • provide support during a time of unstable resource recovery markets • improve their capacity to devote resources to core social work • enable the reduction of waste to landfill through preventing illegal dumping and increasing recycling • support the sector as a pillar of the circular economy and its transition to become self-reliant and reduce the long-term need for landfill levy relief. 				
Combating Illegal Stockpiling and Mismanagement of Hazardous Waste				
Hazardous Waste Policy Development Project	0.370	1.4 1.5	Active	Waste
The objective of this project is for Victoria to have a clear policy framework for managing hazardous waste, informing regulatory and planning decisions.				
Jobs and Innovation in Resource Recovery				
Leveraging Private Investment in the RRIF – Collaborative Procurement	0.405	1.1	Active	Waste
This program aims to support the development of the recovery of priority materials and improve the state's resource recovery infrastructure.				

	Payments in 2019-20 (\$m)	Expected priority outcomes	Status at 30 June 2020	Theme
Community Driven Action to Protect Victoria's Unique Biodiversity				
Pest Animal and Deer Control Program	0.200	2.4	Active	Climate change
The delivery of a conservation pest management program that reduces the threat from introduced invasive animal species and improves the condition and resilience of parks.				
Science, Innovation and Excellence				
Science, Innovation and Excellence – Modelling and Feasibility	0.237	2.2 2.3	Active	Climate change
The overall objective of the program is to study the climate change impacts upon selected social determinants of health and wellbeing, the consequent effects upon the health and human services system, and the cost to government and Victorian economy that might accrue from these downstream effects.				
Community Driven Action to Protect Victoria's Unique Biodiversity				
Biodiversity On-ground Action	3.230	2.4	Active	Climate change
This program supports the Victorian Government's biodiversity plan, Biodiversity 2037, which aims to connect the community to nature and ensure that Victoria's natural environment is healthy. This program includes protection and management of Victoria's biodiversity.				
Reducing the Environmental Impact of Plastic Bags				
Reducing the Environmental Impact of Plastic Bags – Transitioning to Ban	0.195	1.4	Active	Waste
This program aims to allow for a smooth and effective transition to any ban on the provision of plastic bags in Victoria. The longer-term objective of this program is to reduce plastic bag litter, plastic bag consumption and contamination of recycling streams by plastic bag waste.				
Increasing Support for Trust for Nature				
Increasing Support for Trust for Nature	0.920	2.3 2.4	Active	Climate change
This program supports the increase in size and quality of protected areas on private land by working with landholders and the wider community to help mitigate the impacts of climate change on Victoria's natural environment.				
Increasing Support for Landcare				
Support for Landcare	4.096	2.3 2.4	Active	Climate change
This program aims to provide support for Landcare facilitators to work with local communities in regional, rural, peri-urban and urban areas to improve the health and resilience of the natural environment.				

	Payments in 2019-20 (\$m)	Expected priority outcomes			Status at 30 June 2020	Theme
Partnering with Local Government to Address Weeds and Pests						
Peri-urban Weed Management Partnerships	1.000	2.3	2.4		Active	Climate change
This program aims to:						
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• increase the number of Victorians acting to protect nature in project areas• improve the condition of key native habitats within the project areas• reduce weed threats to key native habitats across tenures and at a landscape scale.						
Climate Change Innovation and Jobs						
Waste to Energy	0.921	1.1	1.2	2.1	Active	Both objectives
This program aims to reduce CO ² emissions generated from waste through the construction and upgrades of waste to energy facilities in Victoria. It will support the industry in establishing confidence in the market through:						
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• demonstration• diversion of organic waste and biomass from landfill• recover energy, and• support greenhouse gas abatement.						
Investing in Waste and Resource Recovery for a Growing Victoria: E-waste Landfill Ban						
Non-regulatory Support for Landfill Ban	2.000	1.2	1.4		Active	Waste
The objective of this program is to provide non-regulatory support for the implementation of Victoria's electronic waste (e-waste) landfill ban.						
Jobs and Innovation in Resource Recovery						
Household Chemical Collection	0.413	1.1	1.2	1.4	Active	Waste
This program aims to provide the Victorian community with safe channels for the disposal of target materials and other toxic waste, recover more than 90 per cent of the collected materials for reuse, and support infrastructure requirements to facilitate collection.						
Investing in Waste and Resource Recovery for a Growing Victoria						
Resource Recovery Infrastructure Fund	0.617	1.1	1.2	1.3	Active	Waste
The objective of this program is to facilitate investment in waste and resource recovery infrastructure to increase materials recovery in Victoria. This will be achieved by the delivery of two grants schemes which will target priority materials for recovery.						

	Payments in 2019-20 (\$m)	Expected priority outcomes			Status at 30 June 2020	Theme
Recycling Industry Assistance Package						
Resource Recovery Infrastructure Fund	1.429	1.1	1.2	1.3	Active	Waste
To assist Victoria's recovery and reprocessing industry to respond to the collapse of the export market to China by expanding the industry's capacity and capability to process waste plastics, paper and cardboard (PPC) to a higher, commercial-grade standard for domestic remanufacturing or accessing other export markets, while ensuring continuity of service to the Victorian public.						
Recycling Industry Strategic Plan						
Resource Recovery Infrastructure Fund	9.059	1.1	1.2	1.3	Active	Waste
Increase the quality of recycled materials and processing capacity through the investment in recycling infrastructure to ensure market readiness of recycled products by 2021.						
Securing Our Modern Energy Future: Energy Efficiency and Productivity Strategy						
Volume Home Builders	0.740	2.1			Active	Climate change
This program aims to increase consumer demand for zero net carbon homes and improve the supply of these homes by volume builders. Zero net carbon homes will be critical to lowering emissions across the residential sector sufficiently to meet the Victorian Government's 2050 zero net emissions target.						
Latrobe Valley Package						
Latrobe Valley Homes Energy Efficiency Upgrades	1.825	2.1	2.2	2.3	Active	Climate change
This program aims to reduce energy related costs for participating householders and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in participating council areas. The program will support energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades in 1,000 homes of vulnerable Victorians in the Baw Baw, Wellington and Latrobe City local government areas.						
Understanding and Adapting to Climate Change: Climate Change Framework						
Leverage Local Government Action to Reduce Emissions	0.710	2.2	2.3		Active	Climate change
This program aims to assist a minimum of 20 disadvantaged local governments in regional and rural areas to implement actions to reduce their energy consumption.						
Collaborative Procurement	1.334	1.1			Active	Waste
This project aims to facilitate collaborative procurement of recycling processing services.						

	Payments in 2019-20 (\$m)	Expected priority outcomes	Status at 30 June 2020	Theme
Recycling Industry Response Interim Measures				
Essential Services Commission (ESC) Review of Waste Resource Recovery Services in Victoria	1.400	1.1	Active	Waste
The objective of this project is to provide the government with options for the design and implementation of a regulatory regime for the waste and resource recovery sector to address issues of competition, service quality and transparency.				
Recycling Industry Development Fund	4.684	1.1	Active	Waste
The objective of the fund is to increase investment in Victoria's resource recovery sector for kerbside materials. Investment is needed to improve the capacity and capability of recycling infrastructure to produce higher quality recovered materials to meet market requirements.				
Sustainable Government Procurement	0.491	1.1	Active	Waste
The objective of this program is to expand local demand for recycled materials through procurement for major projects. The focus is on creating markets for kerbside recycling priority materials, specifically glass and plastics, as identified in the Victorian Market Development Strategy and the Recycling Industry Strategic Plan.				
Education for Waste Minimisation	0.444	1.4	Active	Waste
The objective of this program is to develop education and behaviour change initiatives to support Victorians reduce their environmental impacts through purchasing decisions and waste minimisation activities.				
Combatting Illegal Stockpiling and Mismanagement of Hazardous Waste				
Officers for the Protection of the Local Environment	3.373	1.4	Active	Waste
The purpose of this pilot program is to decrease the environmental and amenity impacts of complex waste and pollution issues in piloted councils.				
Recycling Victoria (the Circular Economy Policy)				
EPA High-Risk Sites	0.144	1.5	Active	Waste
The objective of this project is to support EPA's implementation of the Coordinated Prevention and Response Framework, including improved intelligence sharing which will contribute to minimising risks to the community and environment from high-risk waste sites through coordinated whole of government action.				

	Payments in 2019-20 (\$m)	Expected priority outcomes			Status at 30 June 2020	Theme
Recycling Victoria – Education and Behaviour Change Program	0.677	1.4			Active	Waste
The objective of this project is to deliver a comprehensive and cohesive household education and behaviour change program for Victorian households to maximise the impact of Recycling Victoria initiatives through better household waste management and waste minimisation aligned with Recycling Victoria's goals and targets, and most crucially, supporting kerbside recycling reforms.						
DELWP – Recycling Victoria 2019-20	3.769	1.1	1.4	1.5	Active	Waste
The objective of this funding is to deliver the suite of Recycling Victoria projects by DELWP which go towards addressing disruptions faced by Victoria's recycling services. Collectively, these projects will reduce waste, increase recycling and create more value from resources.						



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One door closing but another opening in Latrobe Valley

With a shift to decarbonised energy generation, the Latrobe New Energy Jobs and Investment Strategy was created to incentivise the growth of the new energy technologies sector in the Latrobe Valley.

Delivering the Latrobe New Energy Jobs and Investment Strategy involved community engagement, renewable energy workshops and a grant program.

The grant program supported individuals, community and industry, with a focus to equip them to take part in the energy system transformation from carbon-based energy sources to renewable energy. The grants were provided across three streams:

1. New energy skills
2. Technology development and feasibility studies
3. Business development, infrastructure and equipment.

The re-skilling and up-skilling of workers, for example, included scholarships for education opportunities in renewable energy technologies and associated business opportunities and new employment opportunities directly linked to construction.

Working in conjunction with the Latrobe Valley Authority (LVA), the program:

- built skills and capability to grow new jobs
- strengthened industry to drive economic prosperity
- supported disadvantaged members of the community to embrace renewable technologies
- helped communities to invest in new energy opportunities
- delivered the Latrobe New Energy Jobs and Investment prospectus
- delivered a renewable energy focused grant program.

Legislative objectives

The Latrobe Valley New Energy Jobs Investment Strategy initiative was funded from the Sustainability Fund, receiving \$500,000 in 2017-18. The strategy is a clear example of how the Sustainability Fund supports Individuals, communities and industry to transition to a low carbon economy.

Grants and projects funded by the Sustainability Fund in 2019-20

Program – Better Commercial Buildings Sustainability Victoria

This program aims to support building owners, agents, tenants and facilities managers to identify, implement and monitor energy efficiency improvements in commercial buildings and tenancies in Victoria.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
607 Bourke Street JV as The Trustee for The Schwartz Trust, Schwartz Distributors Pty Ltd., Schaffer Corporation Limited and Topfield Pty Ltd.	607 Bourke Energy Management Program The project identified and implemented a range of energy efficiency improvements including: Building Management System (BMS) upgrade scoping, metering upgrades, a revised energy management plan, pump upgrades, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) optimisation and lighting improvements.	5,000
BMG United Investments Pty Ltd. as The Trustee for BMG United Investments Trust	Bell Motel Energy Audit The project initiated an audit to identify and implement room air conditioning upgrades, efficient lighting and air tightness improvements.	25,000
CBM Australia	CBM Australia Lighting and BMS Upgrade The project completed monitoring of lighting and plant upgrades demonstrating a 29 per cent reduction in electricity use.	5,000
Endeavour Hills Shopping Centre Pty Ltd.	Endeavour Hills Shopping Centre Energy Efficiency The project identified energy efficiency measures, implemented air curtains to reduce thermal loss and prepared detailed scoping for future implementation of a BMS overhaul.	25,000
Garda Capital Limited	436 Elgar Road The project implemented a BMS upgrade to enable monitoring and measurement of identified future upgrades.	25,000
Globe International Limited	Globe HQ Globe identified opportunities to increase energy improvements including solar photovoltaics (PV), lighting upgrades, air conditioning and building fabric, with glazing upgrades implemented to improve energy performance and comfort.	6,665
Grand Hyatt Melbourne as The Trustee for Grand Hotel Operating Trust	Grand Hyatt Melbourne An energy audit was completed to identify future upgrade opportunities.	5,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Mercure Welcome Hotel as the Trustee for The Evercharge Trust	Mercure Welcome The project identified measures to improve the efficiency of ageing heating and cooling plant with a chiller plant management system implemented to provide better control and monitoring of performance.	30,000
Mirvac Commercial Sub SPV Pty Limited	367 Collins Central Chiller Plant Optimisation Upgrade The project evaluated and implemented strategies to optimise HVAC and chiller operation with the submetering upgraded to continue monitoring performance. The upgrades are expected to save more than 50,000 kWh per year.	20,000
Moxlis Pty Ltd.	Amora Energy Audit The project completed monitoring for previously completed HVAC upgrades with savings of \$150,000 in energy costs per year.	4,545
Owners Corporation NO. 1 Strata Plan SP022915W	Whealers Hill Shopping Centre HVAC and Control System Upgrade The project implemented high efficiency distributed air conditioning to retailers with individual controllers.	4,050
Plan of Subdivision No 428191E OC 3	140 Bourke Street – AHU Refurbishment and Controls Upgrade The project identified a number of upgrades to improve the building performance including Air Handling Unit (AHU) upgrades and HVAC control with achieved energy savings of more than 22 per cent.	25,000
Ross House Association Inc.	Ross House – HVAC and SOLAR Energy Efficiency Upgrades The project completed monitoring of building improvements including energy efficiency and solar PV upgrades. The project is on track to improve the building's NABERS rating and save more than \$250,000 in energy costs.	1,250
Royal Automobile Club of Victoria (RACV) Limited	Eagle House (BCB018) The project completed monitoring upgrades including BMS upgrades, tenancy lighting, HVAC upgrades and optimisation with energy savings achieved of more than 15 per cent.	5,000
Royal Automobile Club of Victoria (RACV) Limited	RACV Noble Park (BCB020) The project completed monitoring of improvements including chiller upgrade, lighting upgrades, BMS optimisation and solar PV, achieving energy savings of more than 15 per cent on site.	5,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Royal Automobile Club of Victoria (RACV) Limited	RACV Club (BCB019) The project identified a comprehensive strategy to improve energy efficiency implementing BMS optimisation, lighting upgrades, equipment upgrades and insulation upgrades with achieved energy savings of more than 12 per cent.	25,000
Starhill Hotel (Melbourne) Pty Ltd.	Marriott Energy Upgrade The project identified heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) optimisation opportunities. A high efficiency chiller was installed and interconnected with existing services to increase optimisation along with BMS and controls upgrades, demonstrating energy savings of more than 22 per cent.	4,000
The Swanston Hotel Grand Mercure as The Trustee for The Altova Trading Unit Trust and The Pinna Swanston Unit Trust	Pullman Melbourne on Swanston The project identified measures to improve the efficiency of ageing heating and cooling plant with a chiller plant management system implemented to provide better control and monitoring of performance, achieving more than a 15 per cent energy reduction, and a 35 per cent reduction in HVAC plant energy consumption.	25,000
Yarra Valley Lodge Pty Ltd.	YVL Sustainability Project The project completed a monitoring phase, which implemented BMS controls on site. This is projected to increase the building's NABERS rating by at least one star.	5,000

Program – Biodiversity Enabling Actions

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

This program aims to:

- link biodiversity, science and decision support systems to ensure effective investment, prioritisation, awareness and support for communities to deliver biodiversity outcomes;
- implement frameworks that guide coordinated investment in monitoring and research to address priority knowledge gaps;
- improve decision making and reporting;
- increase participation of Victorians in biodiversity management and collaboration through the establishment of biodiversity response planning; and
- support implementation of Victoria's Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2017-2020.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Arthur Rylah Institute	Unified Indicator Project This project uses a structured and participatory approach with DELWP and portfolio partners to develop a shared understanding about the context for using biodiversity indicators, identify a unified suite of ecological values, develop a data model and governance arrangements to support ongoing indicator development and improved reporting, and to identify opportunities for co-investment to address data gaps.	50,000
Arthur Rylah Institute	Habitat Extent and Mapping This project will provide data to report on the commitment in Biodiversity 2037 'to achieve a net gain in the overall extent and condition of habitats across terrestrial, waterway and marine environments'.	386,500
Barenji Gadjin Land Council	Wilkurr Understanding and Management on Wotjobaluk Country This project aims to enable the Wotjobaluk community to engage with and take a leading role in the management of time on Country, building traditional and western knowledge of Wilkurr on Wotjobaluk Country, as well as sharing knowledge accumulated with other Traditional Owner groups.	100,000
Cesar PTY. Ltd.	Developing a Non-invasive Genetic Sampling Strategy for Wilkurr in Western Victoria This project applies non-invasive genetic sampling techniques to dingo (Wilkurr) scats collected by Barenji Gadjin Land Council Aboriginal Corporation Traditional Owners in the Big Desert region. The project will develop a single nucleotide polymorphisms-based genetic marker approach for genotyping Wilkurr scat samples to develop and apply across Victoria's dingo populations.	58,000
Museums Victoria	Registering Priority Invertebrate Records This project will fill a critical knowledge gap by registering invertebrate species locations in databases, allowing the information to be used to gain a better understanding of invertebrate distribution and status, and targeting of future actions.	75,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
The University of Melbourne	Understanding the Socio-economic Impact of Deer This project convenes a multi-institutional team to lead analysis on deer ecology and management, biosecurity policy and practice, and economic analysis, including cost-benefit and multi-criteria decision analysis to create a report that will include costed, evaluated and recommended options for state investment.	126,000
The University of Melbourne	Investigating Options for Reducing the Loss of Grasslands This project will consider a range of options that could reduce the decline in the extent and condition of grassy ecosystems across Victoria and provide an estimate of costs on incentives, revegetation and amendments to biodiversity policy.	142,440

Program – Biodiversity Onground Action

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

This program supports the Victorian Government's biodiversity plan, Biodiversity 2037, which aims to connect the community to nature and ensure that Victoria's natural environment is healthy. This program includes protection and management of biodiversity resources.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Arthur Rylah Institute	Intervention Monitoring: Assessing the Effectiveness of Biodiversity Management A four-year program to assess the effectiveness of on-ground biodiversity management actions to mitigate threats and achieve conservation objectives through the development and implementation of field studies, which will guide delivery and investment to maximise biodiversity outcomes.	160,000
Arthur Rylah Institute	Connecting Communities This project aims to establish additional networking opportunities to connect all sectors interested in biodiversity-improving actions and knowledge sharing, as well as providing training opportunities to improve use of the tools and resources available.	500,000
BirdLife Australia	Hooded Plover This projects aim is to improve breeding success by mitigating human-based threats at sites for the vulnerable Hooded Plover by recruiting and training citizen scientists and site managers to protect at least 130 nesting pairs along the Victorian coast.	50,000
Bush Heritage Australia	Habitat Restoration and Woodland Bird Resilience in the Box Ironbark West Region This project will focus on improving habitat condition for the Victorian temperate woodland bird community by improving habitat quality, connectivity and resource availability. This will increase population sizes and stability and provide the communities with greater capacity to withstand and recover from disturbances arising from climate change.	30,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Connecting Country (Mount Alexander Region) Inc.	Woodland Bird Community Habitat Protection and Enhancement This project aims to protect, enhance and expand the critical woodland bird habitat using proven management techniques, trialling innovative habitat enhancement methods, and engaging local people in citizen science monitoring and education workshops.	30,000
DELWP Forest, Fire and Regions (FFR) – Barwon South West (SW)	Orange-bellied Parrot Recovery This project aims to prevent the imminent extinction in the wild of the Orange-bellied Parrot by trialling new methods to supplement the wild population and improve survival over the non-breeding season.	50,000
DELWP FFR – Barwon SW	Eastern Barred Bandicoot This project supports the management of four reintroduction sites for the Eastern Barred Bandicoot, assisting in the essential maintenance of predator fences, control of feral animals and environmental weeds.	50,000
DELWP FFR – Barwon SW	Improving the Quality and Connectedness of Grassland Communities on the Victorian Volcanic Plain Building on previous work conducted across the Victorian Volcanic Plain (VVP) since 2013-14, this project aims to reduce critical threats to and enhance the condition, connectivity, and resilience of, native grasslands and associated species on linear reserves, small reserves and private land.	60,000
DELWP FFR – Gippsland	Southern Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby The project will support the Southern Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby captive breeding and release program, the aim of which is to build groups of animals which are suitable for release in to the wild and then support their establishment in the wild.	50,000
DELWP FFR – Loddon Mallee	Plains Wanderer This project will use song meters placed in likely Plains Wanderer habitat to enable scientists to determine whether Plains Wanderers are present. A dedicated grassland officer will provide oversight, guided by monitoring of biomass levels, and in conjunction with strategic fencing installed to ensure the ecological grazing that is used as a biomass management tool is effective and targeted.	50,000
DELWP FFR – Port Phillip	Helmeted Honeyeater The project will continue the work undertaken during the last 20 years in the recovery of the Helmeted Honeyeater through monitoring the wild population, determining the survivorship of individual birds, supporting supplementary feeding, determining the fate of birds released into the wild from captivity and monitoring and managing the genetic composition of the wild population.	100,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation	DDW in Landscape This project will protect and enhance the biodiversity and cultural significance of targeted locations in the Dja Dja Wurrung Recognition and Settlement Agreement that provide critical habitat to a range of threatened flora and fauna species, with the Dja Dja Wurrung community cultivating culturally significant species, simultaneously protecting biodiversity and managing landscape threats.	30,000
Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority	Glenelg Estuary and Discovery Bay Weed Control This project builds on past and current projects to improve habitat quality and protect threatened species within Discovery Bay Coastal Park and the Glenelg Estuary. A steering committee will be established to provide project oversight, initial prioritisation within the broader target area, guide engagement and the monitoring and reporting of achievements.	60,000
Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority	Managing Threats in the Longwood Plains Priority Landscape This project will add value to previous and ongoing works by carrying out threat mitigation in and around priority reserves of the Longwood Plains with objectives met through pest, plant and animal control, revegetation to reduce fragmentation, and community engagement to increase awareness and ownership of reserves.	70,000
Greening Australia	Enhancing Significant Ecological Communities and Threatened Flora and Fauna of the Western District Lakes The aim of the project is to enhance and protect, at a landscape scale, remnant vegetation and iconic threatened species around the eastern edges of the Corangamite Lake.	30,000
Mallee Catchment Management Authority	Mallee Dunefields to the Big Desert This project uses a collaborative approach covering multiple land tenures and coordinated activities at both targeted and landscape scales to increase the ecological function of 40,000 hectares of priority riparian and terrestrial habitat, increase the resilience of 32 threatened species and enhance regional partnerships and their capacity to deliver biodiversity outcomes for the Pink Lakes area in the Mallee region which features sand plains, gypsum flats, gypsite hills, salinas and source-bordering dunes.	29,991
Mallee Catchment Management Authority	Murray to Mallee Connections This project focuses on enhancing the biolink between the Murray-Sunset National Park, Hattah-Kulkyne National Park and Annuello Fauna and Flora Reserve to increase the ecological function of 80,000 hectares of priority riparian and terrestrial habitat, the resilience of 105 threatened species and enhance regional partnerships and capacity to deliver biodiversity outcomes.	29,996

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Mallee Catchment Management Authority	Northern Mallee Woodlands The Northern Mallee Woodlands project will enhance ecosystem services along the Lindsay and Mulcra floodplain areas, extending into the semi-arid woodland areas north of the Sturt Highway to increase the ecological function of 100,000 hectares of priority riparian and terrestrial habitat, increase the resilience of 53 threatened species, enhance regional partnerships and capacity to deliver biodiversity outcomes.	29,940
Nature Glenelg Trust	Threatened Species Habitat Restoration in the Wilkin Woodlands and Wetlands This project assesses the ecological health of the far south-west and undertakes strategic on-ground works to protect and restore a matrix of woodland and wetland habitats for a suite of threatened species in the Wilkin priority landscape.	30,000
Nature Glenelg Trust	Habitat Restoration for Threatened Species of Wetlands in the Glenelg Plain This project builds on five years of successful wetland restoration investment and works in the Glenelg Plains to undertake on-ground works that trigger self-sustaining recovery of habitat for a suite of wetland-dependent species that are listed at the state and national level as threatened.	30,000
Nillumbik Shire Council	Conservation Futures: Protecting and Conserving Species in the Northern Yarra Ranges Region The project seeks to engage the local community and public land managers through activities that protect biodiversity and foster a sense of connection, understanding and appreciation for natural areas, specifically focusing on threat abatement works in targeted areas to help conserve species for the future.	59,143
North East Catchment Management Authority	Warby-Ovens This project will work across public and private land tenures in the Warby-Ovens project area to deliver protection, enhancement and connectivity of high conservation value native vegetation through implementing weed control and improving habitat quality through weed management, stock control and habitat improvement for flora and fauna.	30,000
North East Catchment Management Authority	Chiltern-Mt Pilot The aim of the project is to address threats to high value environmental assets, reduce weed invasion and identifying opportunities for revegetation.	25,000
Parks Victoria	Northern Plains Landscape Restoration Project The objective of this project is to maintain optimal grassland habitat at the landscape scale to support high priority grassland values across public and private land, recognising that optimal habitat for Plains Wanderers supports a range of other threatened flora and fauna species.	30,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Parks Victoria	Wilsons Prom Ark The project takes a systematic, tenure-blind approach to fox, rabbit and deer management on the isthmus, with fox control implemented within the whole of the national park with a goal to create a control cordon that will prevent these invasive species from entering Wilsons Promontory.	30,000
Parks Victoria	Mountains to Murray: The Upper Murray / North-North East Mountain Outliers The objectives of this project are to prevent woody weed invasion (which impacts habitat suitability of threatened frogs within Koetong Creek), and reduce weed invasion and competition with woodland orchids within the Pheasant Creek Flora Reserve, and associated native vegetation communities on State Forest, private and timber production lands.	75,000
Parks Victoria	Landscape Control of Weeds of National Significance for Biodiversity This project aims to consolidate the effectiveness of the Otway Eden weed management project by controlling the highest impact weeds and new and emerging weeds in the public/private land interface of the Great Otway National Park and private land.	75,000
Parks Victoria	Fox Control to Protect New Holland Mouse and Other Threatened Vertebrates on The Gippsland Plains This project focuses on systematic intensive control of foxes in and around Providence Ponds Flora and Fauna Reserve to support one of two viable populations of the nationally vulnerable New Holland Mouse (NHM) remaining in Victoria.	75,000
Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority	Protecting and Connecting Species and Communities in Melbourne's West This project targets pest animals and weed species in order to protect and enhance threatened biodiversity assets within the Lerderderg State Park, Werribee Gorge State Park, Brisbane Ranges National Park and adjoining private properties involving a number of local groups and organisations.	30,000
Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority	Protecting and Connecting Species and Communities on the Mornington Peninsula This project focuses on delivering a partnership program across the Mornington Peninsula to contribute to the delivery of the highest priority biodiversity actions in key locations through an established collaborative partnership of Trust for Nature, Parks Victoria, Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, the Australasian Native Orchid Society, the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, the Southern Peninsula Indigenous Flora and Fauna Association and Port Phillip and Westernport CMA.	35,500
Project Platypus Association Inc.	Greater Grampians Threatened Flora This project delivers landscape scale and targeted threat reduction actions to protect significant flora in the Grampians National Park and open woodlands through a pre-existing collaboration between State Government, CMAs and Landcare.	44,825

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Wimmera Catchment Management Authority	Western Victorian Woodlands Protection and Enhancement The project, through 10-year management agreements with private landholders, specifies actions such as fencing, pest plant and animal control, and agricultural practice change such as stock exclusion required to address site specific threats to improve the biodiversity conservation outcomes for a number of key flora and fauna species valued by the community.	5,000
Yarra Ranges Council	Protecting Cool Temperate Rainforest and Associated Threatened Species of the Upper Woori Yallock Creek Catchment This project works in conjunction with two broader catchment scale projects to address a range of threats to multiple species and vegetation communities in the temperate rainforests of the Upper Woori Yallock Creek Catchments region.	80,000
Zoos Victoria	Leadbeater's Possum The project's aim is to secure the genetically distinct population of Leadbeater's Possum at the Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve (NCR), which has declined to fewer than 50 individuals and is at extremely high risk of extinction. This requires enhanced protection of critical habitat and targeted restoration to expand the area of suitable habitat.	50,000
Zoos Victoria	Baw Baw Frog The project aims to rescue the population of the Baw Baw Frog which is in terminal decline and is likely to become extinct in the wild within the next decade.	50,000

Program – Leverage Local Government Action to Reduce Emissions Sustainability Victoria

This program aims to assist a minimum of 20 disadvantaged local governments in regional and rural areas to implement actions to reduce their energy consumption.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Ararat Rural City Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted energy saving upgrades at the Ararat Regional Library, municipal offices and the Ararat Fitness Centre.	50,000
Bass Coast Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted the completion of energy saving upgrades at the Inverloch Community Hub, Union Arts Centre, Wonthaggi Building Four and the Wonthaggi Depot Office.	41,677
Benalla Rural City Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted energy saving upgrades on the Benalla Senior Citizens Centre, Sir Edward Weary Dunlop Learning Centre, Benalla Art Gallery and Benalla Town Hall.	81,292
Buloke Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted completing energy saving upgrades on the Wycheproof Recreation Pavilion, Charlton Kindergarten, Charlton Shire Offices, Nullawil Community Complex, Sea Lake Community Centre, Wycheproof Shire Offices, Donald Council Offices, Donald Swimming Pool and the Sea Lake Senior Citizens Centre.	46,889
Central Goldfields Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted energy saving upgrades on the Maryborough Municipal Complex, Maryborough Library and Resource Centre, Maryborough Children's Centre, Maryborough Council Depot and the Maryborough Indoor Recreation Centre.	116,830
Colac Otway Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted the completion of energy saving upgrades on the Bluewater Fitness Centre, Colac Otway Performing Arts and Cultural Centre, Rae Street Council Offices, Gellibrand Street Council Office and the Pound Road Depot.	50,442
Corangamite Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted the completion of energy saving upgrades on the Timboon Stadium and Sporting Centre, Port Campbell Visitor Information Centre, Camperdown Civic Centre, Camperdown Theatre Royal Complex, Camperdown Depot and the Camperdown Stadium.	35,134
East Gippsland Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted the completion of energy saving upgrades on the AJ Freeman Reserve in Paynesville, East Gippsland Art Gallery, Bairnsdale Library, the Forge Theatre and Arts Hub, Bairnsdale Aquatic and Recreation Centre, Paynesville Service Centre and Library, Lakes Entrance Service Centre (including library, corporate centre and council chambers), Orbost Service Centre, East Gippsland Historic Society and the Bairnsdale City Oval.	50,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Gannawarra Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted the completion of energy saving upgrades on the Cohuna Gateway, Cohuna Pre-School, Koondrook Senior Citizens Centre, Cohuna Pool, Kerang Library, Kerang Memorial Hall, Murrabit Town Hall and the Kerang Pool.	10,000
Glenelg Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted energy saving upgrades on the Portland Administration Centre and Lee Breakwater.	94,663
Hindmarsh Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted energy saving upgrades on the Nhill Memorial Community Centre and the Shire Council offices.	22,500
Horsham Rural City Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted the completion of four energy audits on council buildings and subsequent energy saving upgrades on the Dadswell Bridge Hall, Taylors Lake Hall, Mitre Hall, Horsham Town Hall, Mibus Centre and Horsham Aquatic Centre.	100,970
Loddon Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted energy saving upgrades at the Boort Memorial Hall, Boort Senior Citizens Centre, East Loddon Pre-school, Inglewood Seniors, Inglewood Kindergarten, Inglewood Maternal Child health Clinic, Pyramid Hill Depot, Pyramid Hill Hall, Pyramid Hill Preschool, Pyramid Hill Senior Citizens Centre, Serpentine Depot, Wedderburn Preschool, Wedderburn Senior Citizens Centre, Boort Park, Wedderburn Community Centre, Wedderburn Hall, Wedderburn Depot, Wedderburn Shire Office, Boort Preschool, Boort Resource and Information Centre, Newbridge Public Hall and the Serpentine Shire Office.	68,171
Murrindindi Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted the completion of 14 energy audits on council buildings and subsequent energy saving upgrades on the Kinglake Community Centre, Alexandra Council Chambers and Shire Hall, Kinglake Office and Library, Marysville Kindergarten and Maternal and Child Health Centre, Yea Office and Library, Yea and District Children's Centre, Marysville Community Centre, Kinglake Football and Netball Club, Murrindindi Shire Council Head Offices, Council Storage Room and UGFM Community Radio Station Alexandra, Eildon Swimming Pool, Alexandra Library, Alexandra Swimming Pool and Marysville Swimming Pool.	103,415
Northern Grampians Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted the completion of energy saving upgrades on the St Arnaud Senior Citizens Centre, Stawell Senior Citizens Centre, St Arnaud Children's Precinct and St Arnaud Town Hall Complex.	36,818

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Pyrenees Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted the completion of four energy audits on council buildings and subsequent energy saving upgrades on the Avoca Senior Citizens, Avoca Resource Centre, Avoca Children's Centre, Beaufort Senior Citizens Centre, Beaufort Early Childhood Centre, Beaufort Council Office, Beaufort Resource Centre and the Beaufort Goldfields Complex.	112,340
Southern Grampians Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted the completion of energy saving upgrades at the Hamilton Indoor Leisure and Aquatic Centre, Hamilton Animal Pound, Coleraine works depot, Hamilton Business Centre (incorporating the Performing Arts Centre, Art Gallery and Library, Council chambers and offices), and Hamilton works depot.	53,026
Strathbogie Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted energy saving upgrades on the University of the Third Age Clubhouse, Avenel Recreation Reserve, Saleyards and Depot Operations Centre, Nagambie Recreation Reserve, Nagambie Regatta Centre, Euroa Library, Euroa Civic Centre, Violet Town Transfer Station, Avenel Pool, Violet Town Pool, and the Euroa Pool.	82,016
Swan Hill Rural City Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted energy saving upgrades at the Lake Boga Community Centre, Nyah Recreation Reserve and Community Centre, Swan Hill Basketball Stadium, Robinvale Community Centre, Swan Hill Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre Depot, Nyah Outdoor Pool and the Manangatang Swimming Pool.	88,250
Towong Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted energy saving upgrades at the Corryong Innovation Centre, Corryong Kindergarten and Maternal and Child Health Centre, Corryong Pool, Corryong Depot, The Man from Snowy River Museum, Rowen Park, Tallangatta Depot, Tallangatta Pool, Tallangatta Senior Citizens Centre, Towong Shire Council offices, Corryong Visitor Information Centre, and the Corryong Office and Library.	76,965
West Wimmera Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted energy saving upgrades at the Goroke Preschool, Kaniva Works Depot, Kaniva Tourist Information Centre, Kaniva Caravan Park, Edenhope Shire Offices, Edenhope Business Centre, Edenhope Kindergarten, Edenhope Senior Citizens Hall, Kaniva Shire Offices, Kaniva Library, Kaniva Kindergarten, Kaniva Shire Hall and Kaniva Neighbourhood House.	57,004
Yarriambiack Shire Council	Local Government Energy Saver Program Funding assisted energy saving upgrades at the Warracknabeal Plant Maintenance Depot, Warracknabeal Children's Centre, Gateway BEET (Business Education Employment Training), Hopetoun Caravan Park, Warracknabeal Caravan Park, Murtoa Caravan Park and the Warracknabeal Saleyards.	55,636

Program – **Marine Environment Targeted Action**
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

This program aims to:

- restore marine environments across Victoria;
- increase community and stakeholder awareness of marine environments; and
- establish strategic partnerships to deliver marine environment on-ground actions with industry, other agencies and non-government organisations.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
National Centre for Coasts and Climate, University Of Melbourne	Optimal Management of Overabundant Sea Urchins in Victoria This project will fill key knowledge gaps in our understanding of urchin biology, assist in the revegetation of barren reefs in marine protected areas by the removal of overabundant urchins from 32.5 hectares of reef, and develop an urchin management plan to assist targeting of future on-ground action.	170,000
Phillip Island Nature Parks	Reducing Pollution From Marine Environment Users to Reduce Marine Waste and Marine Mammal Entanglements Marine plastics threaten the socio-economic values of Bass Strait, contribute to the death of marine life, degrade habitat and present a public health hazard via bioaccumulated human ingestion. This project implements practical, immediate solutions such as providing bins to commercial fishing vessels in return for a commitment to disposal practices.	1,200
Gunai Kurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation	On-Country Marine and Coastal Program: Reducing Threats to Totemic Sea Birds on Gunai Kurnai Country. This project will result in the reduction of critical threats to sea birds to enhance biodiversity over 354km ² of the RAMSAR-listed Gippsland Lakes marine ecosystem with specific management actions to improve resilience of Pelicans and Musk Ducks, and totemic species for Gunai Kurnai people.	17,875
Victorian Fisheries Authority	Restoring Marine Habitat and Biodiversity in Eastern Victoria This project will restore temperate reef habitat and biodiversity by reducing sea urchin encroachment and barrens in Eastern Victoria with eradication of urchins required to help recover the reef kelp canopy and algal understory that provides a protective habitat and source of food for diverse assemblages of fish and crustaceans.	37,250

Program – Non-Regulatory Support for Landfill Ban Sustainability Victoria

The objective of this program is to provide non-regulatory support for the implementation of Victoria's electronic waste (e-waste) landfill ban.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Alpine Shire Council	Mt Beauty Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	99,394
Alpine Shire Council	Myrtleford Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	50,000
Alpine Shire Council	Porepunkah Transfer Station and Recycling Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	95,600
Ararat Rural City Council	Ararat Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
Ararat Rural City Council	Lake Bolac Resource Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	30,000
Barwon South West Waste and Resource Recovery Group	E-Waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – E-Waste Education and Awareness Campaign Local e-waste education grants provided to Waste and Resource Recovery Groups for regional councils to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	45,000
Bass Coast Shire Council	Cowes Recycling Bank E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	68,671
Bass Coast Shire Council	Grantville Landfill and Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	71,305
Bass Coast Shire Council	Wonthaggi Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	65,806
Baw Baw Shire Council	Lardner Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	19,626
Baw Baw Shire Council	Neerim South Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	2,342
Baw Baw Shire Council	Trafalgar Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	17,812
Bayside City Council	Bayside Waste and Recycling Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	56,350
Bayside City Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – Bayside City Council E-waste Education and Community Engagement Campaign Local e-waste education grants provided to Bayside City Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	2,000
Boroondara City Council	Boroondara Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	100,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Boroondara City Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – Boroondara E-waste Education Campaign Local e-waste education grants provided to Boroondara City Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	2,704
Brimbank City Council	Brimbank City Council Detox Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	79,492
Brimbank City Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – Brimbank E-Waste Ban Education and Engagement Campaign Local e-waste education grants provided to Brimbank City Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	3,000
Buloke Shire Council	Birchip Landfill E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	72,284
Buloke Shire Council	Sea Lake Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	56,302
Campaspe Shire Council	Echuca Environment Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	54,796
Cardinia Shire Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – E-waste Education Program Local e-waste education grants provided to Cardinia Shire Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	3,000
Central Goldfields Shire Council	Carisbrook Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
City of Ballarat	Ballarat Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	68,005
City of Darebin	Darebin Resource Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	100,000
City of Darebin	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – Don't Waste Your E-waste Darebin Local e-waste education grants provided to City of Darebin to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	3,000
City of Greater Bendigo	Eaglehawk Recycle Shop E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	63,343
City of Greater Bendigo	Heathcote Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	43,517
City of Greater Bendigo	Strathfieldsaye Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	61,110

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
City of Greater Dandenong	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – Take Your E-Waste to a Better Place Local e-waste education grants provided to City of Greater Bendigo to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	2,955
City of Greater Geelong	Drysdale Resource Recovery Centre and Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
City of Greater Geelong	North Geelong Resource Recovery Centre and Transfer Station (Duora Street) E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
Corangamite Shire Council	Corangamite (Naroghid) Regional Resource Recovery E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
Corangamite Shire Council	Timboon Transfer Station and Resource Recovery E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	66,703
Deakin University – Waurin Ponds Campus	Deakin – Recycled Silicon from PV Panels Recycled silicon from PV panels.	100,000
East Gippsland Shire Council	Bairnsdale Landfill E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
Falls Creek Alpine Resort Management Board	Falls Creek E-Waste Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	75,824
Frankston City Council	Frankston Regional Recycling and Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
Gippsland Waste and Resource Recovery Group	E-Waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – E-Waste Education and Awareness Campaign Local e-waste education grants provided to WRRGs for regional councils to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	29,578
Glen Eira City Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – E-waste Communications Campaign Local e-waste education grants provided to Glen Eira City Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	7,000
Golden Plains Shire Council	Rokewood Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	5,509
Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group	E-Waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – E-Waste Education and Awareness Campaign Local e-waste education grants provided to WRRGs for regional councils to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	30,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Grampians Central West Waste and Resource Recovery Group	E-Waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – E-Waste Education and Awareness Campaign Local e-waste education grants provided to WRRGs for regional councils to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	60,000
Greater Shepparton City Council	Ardmona Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	100,000
Greater Shepparton City Council	Shepparton Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	100,000
Hepburn Shire Council	Creswick Transfer Station and Resale Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	56,471
Hindmarsh Shire Council	Dimboola Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
Hindmarsh Shire Council	Nhill Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
Horsham Rural City Council	Horsham Resource Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	100,000
Hume City Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant Local e-waste education grants provided to Hume City Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	2,982
Hume City Council	Sunbury Landfill Resource Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	100,000
Indigo Shire Council	Beechworth Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	67,451
Indigo Shire Council	Rutherglen Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	51,100
Knox City Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – Knox City Council E-waste Communication Resources Local e-waste education grants provided to Knox City Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	2,941
Knox Transfer Station Pty Ltd.	Wesburn Recycling and Waste Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	11,553
Loddon Mallee Waste and Resource Recovery Group (LMWRRG)	E-Waste Implementation Support Grant – Loddon Mallee E-waste Campaign Implementation Local e-waste education grants provided to WRRGs for regional councils to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	24,715
Loddon Shire Council	Boort landfill and recycle E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	61,890

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Loddon Shire Council	Inglewood Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	57,132
Macedon Ranges Shire Council	Kyneton Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,125
Macedon Ranges Shire Council	Romsey Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	73,419
Macedon Ranges Shire Council	Woodend Transfer Station E-Waste infrastructure upgrade.	72,553
Mansfield Shire Council	Mansfield Resource Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	68,296
Maribyrnong City Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant Local e-waste education grants provided to Maribyrnong City Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	3,000
Melbourne City Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – City of Melbourne E-waste Education and Awareness Campaign 2019 Local e-waste education grants provided to Melbourne City Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	3,000
Mildura Rural City Council	Mildura Transfer Station and Recovery Facility E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	100,000
Mildura Rural City Council	Ouyen Landfill E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	89,606
Mitchell Shire Council	Broadford Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
Mitchell Shire Council	Wallan Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade .	48,411
Monash City Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – Monash E-waste Ban Education Campaign Local e-waste education grants provided to Monash City Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	3,000
Moorabool Shire Council	Bacchus Marsh Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	69,990
Moorabool Shire Council	Ballan Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	38,670
Mornington Peninsula Shire Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – Engaging the Mornington Peninsula on the E-waste Ban Local e-waste education grants provided to Mornington Peninsula Shire Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	2,985

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Mount Alexander Shire Council	Maldon Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	51,376
Mount Hotham Alpine Resort Management Board	Mount Hotham Resource Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	35,000
Moyne Shire Council	Killarney Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	55,894
Moyne Shire Council	Mortlake Transfer Station and Resource Recovery Facility E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	56,994
Mt Buller Mt Stirling Resort Management	Mt Buller Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	68,250
Murrindindi Shire Council	Alexandra Resource Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	56,735
Murrindindi Shire Council	Kinglake Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,150
Murrindindi Shire Council	Yea Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	30,000
Nillumbik Shire Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – E-waste Recycling in Nillumbik Local e-waste education grants provided to Nillumbik Shire Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	3,000
North East Waste and Resource Recovery Group (NEWRRG)	E-Waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – E-Waste Education and Awareness Campaign Local e-waste education grants provided to WRRGs for regional councils to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	50,000
Northern Grampians Shire Council	St Arnaud Transfer Station and Landfill E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
Northern Grampians Shire Council	Stawell Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
Pyrenees Shire Council	Avoca Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	20,000
Pyrenees Shire Council	Beaufort Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	19,951
Pyrenees Shire Council	Snake Valley Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	5,000
South Gippsland Shire Council	Foster Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
South Gippsland Shire Council	Koonwarra Transfer Station E-Waste infrastructure upgrade.	65,080
South Gippsland Shire Council	Mirboo North Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
South Gippsland Shire Council	Venus Bay Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
Stonnington City Council	Stonnington Waste Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	13,410
Strathbogie Shire Council	Euroa Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	37,614
Strathbogie Shire Council	Nagambie Resource Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	30,673
Surf Coast Shire Council	Anglesea Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	64,772
Surf Coast Shire Council	Lorne Transfer Station and Resource Recovery Facility E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	24,762
Surf Coast Shire Council	Winchelsea Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	47,562
Swan Hill Rural City Council	Robinvale Landfill and Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
Swan Hill Rural City Council	Swan Hill Big Green Shed E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	56,280
Swinburne University of Technology	Swinburne University – Pilot Process for Extraction and Production of Zinc Powder from End of Life Batteries Pilot process for extraction and production of zinc powder from end of life batteries.	30,000
Towong Shire Council	Corryong Resource Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
Towong Shire Council	Tallangatta Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	68,564
Wangaratta Rural City Council	Wangaratta Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	68,423
Wellington Shire Council	Heyfield Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	49,994
Wellington Shire Council	Kilmany Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	70,000
Wellington Shire Council	Maffra Resource Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	60,264
Wellington Shire Council	Stratford Transfer Station and Resource Recovery Facility E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	62,724
Wellington Shire Council	Yarram Transfer Station and Resource Recovery Facility E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	47,148
Whitehorse City Council	Whitehorse Recycling and Waste Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	100,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Whittlesea City Council (Epping depot)	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – Promoting the E-Waste Ban to City of Whittlesea Residents Local e-waste education grants provided to Whittlesea City Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	3,000
Wodonga City Council	Wodonga Waste Transfer Station E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	53,719
Wyndham City Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – Recycle Your Electrical Waste, it's a Resource not Waste Local e-waste education grants provided to Wyndham City Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	2,955
Yarra City Council	Clifton Hill Recycling Drop-off Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	56,417
Yarra City Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – 'Take Your E-waste to a Better Place' Campaign in Yarra Local e-waste education grants provided to Yarra City Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	9,952
Yarra Ranges Shire Council	E-waste Campaign Implementation Support Grant – Yarra Ranges Shire Council Local e-waste education grants provided to Yarra Ranges City Council to support the local implementation of the Take Your E-waste to a Better Place campaign to reach and engage with local residents.	3,000
Yarriambiack Shire Council	Hopetoun Transfer Station and Resource Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	37,552
Yarriambiack Shire Council	Murtoa Transfer Station and Resource Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	38,496
Yarriambiack Shire Council	Warracknabeal Landfill and Resource Recovery Centre E-waste infrastructure upgrade.	37,429

Program – Peri-urban Weed Management Partnerships

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

This program aims to:

- increase the number of Victorians acting to protect nature in project areas
- improve the condition of key native habitats within the project areas
- reduce weed threats to key native habitats across tenures and at a landscape scale.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Brimbank City Council	Maribyrnong Valley Connection Funding activities associated with the implementation of a four-year collaborative weed action plan for the Maribyrnong Valley Connection project.	83,500
Cardinia Shire Council	Cardinia Creek Riparian Rehabilitation Funding activities associated with the implementation of a four-year collaborative weed action plan for the Cardinia Creek project.	100,000
Greater Dandenong City Council	Lower Dandenong Creek Funding activities associated with the implementation of a four-year collaborative weed action plan for the Dandenong Creek/Police Paddocks project.	77,000
Mornington Peninsula Shire	Mornington Peninsula Weed Control Mornington Peninsula Weed Control Program Funding activities associated with the implementation of a four-year collaborative weed action plan for the Police Point Bushland Reserve/Point Nepean National Park and Arthurs Seat projects.	55,000
Nillumbik Shire Council	Rivers to Ranges Funding activities associated with the implementation of a four-year collaborative weed action plan for the River to Ranges project (Kingslake-Warrandyte-Plenty River Biolink).	70,582
Parks Victoria	Peri-urban Weed Management Partnership (PWMP) Funding activities for works on Parks Victoria managed land associated with the development and implementation of the four-year collaborative weed action plans for the seven PWMP projects.	400,800
Yarra Ranges Council	Dandenong Ranges Weed Removal Funding for activities associated with the implementation of a four-year collaborative weed action plan for Dandenong, Dodsons and Sassafras Creeks headwater weed management project.	54,400

Program – Pest Animal and Deer Control Program Parks Victoria

The delivery of a conservation pest management program that reduces the threat from introduced invasive animal species and improves the condition and resilience of parks.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Sporting Shooters Association Australia Victoria (SSAA Victoria)	Cooperative Pest Animal Control Program This program supports training and administration of SSAA Victoria volunteers to provide for their participation in Parks Victoria pest animal control projects statewide. SSAA Victoria has delivered the Cooperative Pest Animal Control Program 2016-2020 in partnership with Parks Victoria (PV).	200,000

Program – Plantation Investment Strategy Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

This project's primary objective is to further diversify timber supply away from native forests to increased supply from plantations. This will reduce the net harvest area of native forests for timber and in doing so preserve and enhance the biodiversity of species within these forests and deliver other associated environmental benefits. The project also increases carbon dioxide abatement levels.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
VicForests	Farm Forestry VicForests is developing and delivering a farm forestry program to enable landholder participation in the Gippsland Plantations Investment Program (GPIP).	2,500,000

Program – Port Fairy Landfill Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

The objectives of the program are to:

- eliminate the exposure of landfill waste at two decommissioned landfills at East Beach Port Fairy for a period of between 80 to 100 years
- explore and implement a suite of treatments, including infrastructure and works to protect both landfill sites from coastal erosion
- build collaboration between DELWP and Moyne Shire Council
- build community awareness around the coastal impacts of climate change

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Moyne Shire Council	Port Fairy Landfill This project aims to eliminate exposure of landfill waste for a period of 80 to 100 years and protect landfill sites from coastal erosion activities.	1,333,000

Program – Port Phillip Bay Fund

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

This program aims to:

- protect the health of the bay and bay catchment area by encouraging partnerships across a range of interested groups and organisations who support the environmental health of the bay;
- enhance the amenity and environmental values in the bay and on the foreshore; and
- reduce threats to the health of the bay.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Australian Marine Mammal Conservation Foundation	Bin Not Bay: Education and Community Outreach Programs to Inspire and Empower This project aims to provide multi-faceted education and community outreach programs that build community knowledge to inspire, connect and empowers local action such as correct litter disposal to improve the health of the bay.	103,210
Balcombe Estuary Reserves Group Mt Martha	Community and Berg Mt Martha Together: Protection, Rehabilitation and Restoration The project aims to enhance the health of the habitat and protect biodiversity values across priority areas via ongoing weed management and revegetation of indigenous vegetation.	15,348
Bellarine Catchment Network	Caring for our Bays: Connecting Community and Business to the Bay This project aims to address the increasing threat of plastics in our oceans, through lifting the profile and appreciation of Corio Bay and Port Phillip Bay through a collaborative focus on preventing litter at its source.	99,000
BirdLife Australia	Avalon Coastal Reserve: Restoring a Forgotten Gem in Port Phillip Bay This project delivers important research and on-ground works to restore Avalon Coastal Reserve through a range of high priority actions to protect its ecological values and habitat quality for migratory shorebirds, laying a foundation for the long-term management of this internationally significant site.	80,000
Centre for Aquatic Pollution Identification and Management	The Litter Trackers: Reducing Littering by Education The Litter Trackers program will be the first study of its kind in Victoria to deploy GPS-tracked litter at 20 sites within Port Phillip Bay catchments to demonstrate the life of litter once it leaves a person's hand and reaches our waterways. This project will provide strong educational tools that can be used in schools, councils and government.	52,041
Community Weed Alliance of the Dandenongs Inc.	Monbulk Creek Community Neighbourhood Program This project aims to continue ongoing engagement along a section of Monbulk Creek which has more than 100 landowners to raise awareness and investment in the management of weed species throughout Yarra and Dandenong catchments.	49,600
Conservation Volunteers Australia	Community Led Foreshore Enhancement This project partners with land managers and schools to protect and improve foreshore vegetation and water quality through weed management, litter removal and erosion control to improve the health of the bay.	99,475

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Dolphin Research Institute (DRI)	Coastal Ambassadors Working for a Healthy and Valued Port Phillip Bay This program works with the community to build 'pride, understanding and ownership' for Port Phillip Bay's marine treasures through expanding DRI's 'i sea, i care' Coastal Ambassador Program to secondary schools. The program will train 240 ambassadors from 24 secondary schools to help engage with new, 'unconverted' audiences and also develop a bays web hub and an annual bays conference/celebration.	61,908
Environment Protection Authority	Swimsafe: Citizen Science and Sensors to Protect Bay Beaches This project will focus on 10 beaches with drains nearby that could contribute to health risks for swimmers due to pollution. This project trials innovative simple sensors to monitor and track pollution through citizen science with outcomes including improved reporting of pollution, enabling citizen science to use toolkits and sensors on EPA's website, and improved water quality.	41,500
Friends of Beware Reef Marine Sanctuary	Discover Port Phillip Heads Marine National Park This project aims to develop a marine species identification and diversity guide to assist visitors and tour operators learn about marine values as well as how to minimise their impact at the Port Phillip Heads Marine National Park, achieved through the production of two booklets.	10,500
Friends of Merri Creek	Rapid Response to Litter Cleanups After High Rainfall This project aims to develop a 'rapid response' approach to litter cleanups after high rainfall events, in liaison with local councils and Melbourne Water, and coordinate community cleanups at strategic locations along Merri Creek.	18,360
Greening Australia Limited	Restoring Resilience to Important Coastal Habitat of Limeburner's Lagoon This project based at Limeburners Lagoon on the outskirts of Geelong will engage the community in meaningful on-ground actions that aim to conserve, connect and expand important habitat within this internationally significant nature reserve.	50,000
Love Our Street	Love Our Street, Creek and Bay – Litter Reduction Program This project allows groups to remove rubbish from litter hot spots identified as important to preventing litter entering the stormwater system, Elster Creek and Port Phillip Bay.	12,721
Melbourne Water	Community Based Litter Action This project develops and coordinates a citizen science litter monitoring program to quantify litter inputs to hotspots and priority waterways in partnership with community, local councils and other organisations.	56,000
Mother of God Primary School	The Schools Caring for the Bay Project The project aims to educate children from six schools from non-coastal settings (e.g. Sunshine, Dandenong) who would normally have little or no connection to the bay. They will learn from a range of marine experts about the bay on water and on land by taking action to care for the bay, local waterways and their own school environments.	26,400

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
National Centre for Coasts and Climate, The University of Melbourne	Managing Nitrogen Loads in Port Phillip Bay: Towards Better Water Quality The project aims to quantify nutrient sources in the west of the bay through partnering with community groups to take water samples to determine the effect on drift algae production and the cost-benefit of harvesting algae to manage nitrogen.	92,880
National Centre for Coasts and Climate, The University of Melbourne	From Grey to Green: Nature-based Solutions for Coastal Protection This project works with local councils to pilot green infrastructural projects in the bay, facilitating community participation and education through voluntary beach profiling, dune plantings and a public survey.	40,575
National Centre for Coasts and Climate, The University of Melbourne	Restoring Healthy Ecosystems on Subtidal Reefs: An Integrated Approach This project aims to selectively remove an over-abundant urchin species at chosen sites in the bay and restore canopy-forming macroalgae to recover essential ecosystem services, with the participation of community groups.	99,791
OzFish Unlimited	Bay Vision: Recreational Fishers Restoring the Bay's Fish Habitats This project encourages recreational fishers to play a greater role in the restoration of the health of the bay; through communication to inform fishers of the issues and opportunities of habitat management; by developing a citizen science project reporting on fish, fish habitat and biosecurity issues; and increasing engagement with on-ground works restoring riparian zones, wetlands and shellfish reefs.	44,000
Port Phillip EcoCentre	Clean Bay Blueprint: Litter Evidence, Pro-active Education and Collaboration This program investigates plastic pollution in Melbourne's waterways, combining citizen science activities with partnership building and expert environmental education.	95,512
Port Phillip EcoCentre	Global Melbourne: Empowering Diverse Residents and Visitors to Protect our Bay This project connects previously unreached residents and visitors to Port Phillip Bay through baykeeper activities, eco-active tourism and producing multi-lingual films.	76,488
Port Phillip EcoCentre (with Werribee Riverkeeper)	Living Water Workbees: Private/Public Co-creation of Weather-resilient Bay and Catchment This project aims to reduce the amount of litter entering Grey Creek through education, installing litter traps and cleaning up the river corridor near Grass Reserve.	100,000
PrimeSCI, Swinburne University of Technology	Healthy Rivers, Healthy Bay This initiative aims to raise community awareness within two major catchments (Yarra and Dandenong) feeding into the bay by instilling a sense of ownership and environmental stewardship through student and teacher workshops, with a focus on local waterways as part of a larger catchment, highlighting stormwater/litter issues, undertaking water quality testing and litter audits.	50,643

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Reef Life Survey Inc.	Beneath the Bay This project aims to enhance a working partnership between the Victorian recreational SCUBA diving community and Parks Victoria by continuing vital long-term monitoring of Port Phillip Bay marine life. The project will contribute to the RLS database; providing a publicly-accessible high-quality comprehensive resource on national marine biodiversity.	73,000
Remember The Wild	Connected to Port Phillip Initiative: Bringing People and the Bay Together This initiative aims to bring together Port Phillip Bay's various stakeholders to foster stewardship for the bay and its connected waterways through co-designing priority messaging for dissemination through digital resources (videos, infographics, etc.), a sign-up stewardship program for local businesses and summer festivals.	99,970
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT)	The Plastics Lab: Establishing a Free Plastics Identification Facility for Port Phillip Community Groups The Plastics Lab at RMIT will provide free services to identify types of plastics collected during community audits of litter in the bay and catchment waterways, with initial survey partners committed to 10 data points representing catchments to coasts, with data shared to improve source reduction strategies and risk-assess marine ecological health.	95,973
School of Geography, The University of Melbourne	Citizen-Science Drones for Bayside Beach Habitat This project uses citizen-science drones to allow local communities to embrace the latest in drone technology with the most recent scientific advances in coastal science to ensure the protection of the beach and dune habitats of Port Phillip Bay.	81,291
St Aloysius Primary School	Inspiring Young Marine Science Experts – Stewards of Swan Bay This project seeks to develop long-lasting relationships between St Aloysius School, the community and strategic partners by inspiring primary aged marine science experts and through them, teaching the wider community about the issues they learn.	26,532
St Columba's Primary School	St Columba's: Operation STEAM Clean the Bay (Science, Tech, Engineering, Arts, Maths) This project aims to transform our landscape, curriculum and leadership projects, activating our community to care for the bay by connecting everyday decisions to bay health.	14,090
Tangaroa Blue Foundation	Engaging Community, Industry and Government to Reduce Plastic Resin Pellets Flow This project aims to work with community, industry and government to take preventative measures to stop plastic resin pellets (nurdles) ending up in Port Phillip Bay through improper handling and spills during manufacturing and transportation.	53,181

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Tangaroa Blue Foundation	Let's Strain the Drains This project brings together community, not-for-profit organisations, government and business partners to map urban litter hotspots and collate compositional litter data via the Australian Marine Debris Initiative Database.	25,000
The Nature Conservancy	Oysterwatch – Enabling the Community to Engage in Shellfish Reef Restoration This project further trials the citizen scientist project called OysterWatch to test the community's capacity to gather information on shellfish distribution and reproduction.	84,592
The Scout Association of Australia Victorian Branch	Street to Bay – Litter Survey of Port Phillip Bay Catchment The project aims employ Scout Association youth to survey street litter sources at different land use areas (residential, retail and industrial) to develop a representative database of litter sources across the entire Port Phillip catchment.	36,600
Victorian Fisheries Authority	Port Phillip Bay's Spider Crab Aggregations – Natural and Social Values This project compiles and analyses existing formal science, citizen science, historical records and observations of recreational divers and fishers to document understanding of the natural and social values of the bay's spider crab aggregations.	10,000
Victorian National Parks Association	Broadening and Deepening Engagement and Learning in Port Phillip Bay This project aims to deepen community knowledge, connection and action for Port Phillip Bay by developing novel learning, engagement resources and activities for new audiences like families, school and students, and culturally and linguistically diverse community groups.	22,225
Victorian National Parks Association	Strengthening ReefWatch – Communities Monitoring the Health of Port Phillip Bay ReefWatch aims to strengthen the monitoring of the health of Port Phillip Bay by bringing together community groups, scientists and marine managers to develop new monitoring tools.	99,884
Werribee River Association	Bridging Troubled Waters – Linking Community Groups with Pollution Tracking Tech This project aims to reduce threats to Port Phillip Bay health by determining sources of pollutants in the Werribee River using smart stormwater solutions and leveraging of community partnerships.	93,990
Werribee River Association	Litterblitz – Raising Awareness, Partnerships and Volunteerism to Combat the Threat of Litter to the Bay The project aims to identify litter hot spots adjacent to waterways in Wyndham.	36,980

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Wurundjeri Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage Council Aboriginal Corporation	Western Waterways of the Wurundjeri Besides Birrarung (Yarra) River, the Maribyrnong is also a rich cultural place for Wurundjeri people. This project aims to focus on the Kulin Wetlands (Brimbank Park) and Murrup Tam Boore, two culturally significant locations, with the Wurundjeri Narrap Team to conduct weed control, fencing and revegetation to reduce the impact of erosion and create a healthy habitat for local species in partnership with local groups.	35,600
Yarra Ranges Council	River to the Bay, Creating Healthy Waterways The project involves addressing pollution and enable behaviour change through education and active community engagement.	96,000
Yarra Riverkeeper Association	The Yarra Catchment Atlas This project collaborates with groups to collect, collate and present Yarra catchment data on a single site: The Yarra Catchment Atlas.	45,800
Yarra Riverkeeper Association	Litter and Flows – Connecting the Yarra and the Bay This project aim is to build an understanding of litter (including microplastics) from the Yarra that end up in the bay and how that is influenced by Yarra flows.	49,400
Yarra Riverkeeper Association	Lower Yarra Reed Bed Blitz Clean This project aims to remove accumulated waste from reed beds in the lower Yarra River using a unique approach which incorporates a boat mounted vacuum system.	99,800

Program – Resource Recovery Infrastructure Fund Sustainability Victoria

The objective of this program is to facilitate investment in waste and resource recovery infrastructure to increase materials recovery in Victoria. This will be achieved by the delivery of two grants schemes which will target priority materials for recovery.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
30XY Group Pty Ltd.	30XY Group Reclaim Waste Wet Recycling System The project will allow 30XY and Reclaim to recover 100 per cent of solid waste and more than 95 per cent of water from waste collected as food waste and street sweepings, diverting 24,700 tonnes of solid material and 13,000 tonnes of organic waste from landfill per year by funding a wet recycling system.	240,000
Advanced Circular Polymers Pty Ltd.	Advanced Recycling of Flexible Plastic by Polymer Type ACP aim to increase the diversion of flexible plastic from landfill by more than 10,000 tonnes per annum through the development of an advanced recycling facility in Somerton.	175,000
Ararat Rural City Council	Toward the Future – Lake Bolac Resource Recovery Centre Upgrade Project Resource recovery centre upgrade.	20,000
Astron Plastics Pty Ltd.	Post-consumer Polypropylene Plastic Flake Sorting and Reprocessing Plant Introduction of near infrared polymer/colour sorting technology to enhance the capacity and capability to purchase post-consumer flaked plastics from local material recovery facilities.	18,750
Australia New Zealand Recycling Platform	Mobile E-Waste Factory Project Development of a mobile e-waste factory as a first stage e-waste recycling plant contained within a shipping container.	14,000
Australian Paper Recovery Pty Ltd.	Mixed Paper Sorting to Meet Grade Specifications and Market Acceptance Installation of sorting and compaction equipment for waste paper that will have the capacity of processing 39,000 tonnes annually.	170,000
Benalla Rural City Council	Benalla Resource Recovery Centre Upgrade The project is to modernise the Benalla Resource Recovery Transfer Station.	45,000
Close the Loop Ltd.	Investment Support Grant – Close the Loop To support Close the Loop to acquire new equipment and undertake further product testing to enable the use of soft plastics waste as an asphalt additive.	73,783
CMA Ecocycle	Battery Recycling Solutions This project will deliver a Victorian-wide solution for recycling all types of batteries by establishing a collection system that works alongside the company's current business services, capturing as many batteries as possible, while making the recycling process as easy as practically possible.	230,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Commercial Tippers Pty Ltd.	Construction and Demolition Waste and Commercial and Industrial Waste Sortation Facility Commercial Tippers in conjunction with Smart Recycling plan to build a construction and demolition waste and commercial and industrial waste sortation facility.	140,000
Enrich 360	Enrich 360 Onsite Food Organic Waste Recovery Program Enrich 360 is a waste recovery and certification program which targets 18 customers (eg restaurants, hospitals) of wholesale fruit and vegetable supplier Yarra Valley Farms and supply them with food organic dehydration units to convert all organic waste into compost feedstock.	256,898
Envirostream	The Victorian Battery Recycling and Material Recovery Infrastructure Project Envirostream will invest in new technology to improve capacity and capability of battery recovery.	96,800
FDA Enterprises Pty Ltd.	Melbourne PVC Pipe Recycling and Manufacturing Facility Investing in specialised direct feed machinery for a PVC and polyethylene pipe recycling and manufacturing facility.	46,450
Fulton Hogan Industries	Warrnambool Glass and Plastic Recovery Processing for Pavement Materials Fulton Hogan will invest in a plastic granulator to convert locally-sourced recycled plastic and glass fines into asphalt and stabilised pavement materials.	5,500
Future Metals Recyclers Melbourne Pty Ltd.	Cardinia Transfer Station Upgrade An upgrade of the Cardinia Transfer Station to improve the current site layout, infrastructure and site resource recovery.	20,000
Greater Shepparton City Council	Installation of Recycling Bins at Ardmona and Murchison Resource Recovery Centres (RRCs) Installation of new bins at Ardmona and Murchison RRCs to allow for the recovery of rigid and soft plastics, cardboard and paper.	17,000
Knox Transfer Station Pty Ltd.	Knox Transfer Station Process Engineered Fuel Knox Transfer Station Recycling will establish a process engineered fuel (PEF) manufacturing facility at the Knox Transfer Station. PEF is a refuse derived fuel used to provide heat to cement kilns and is used as a substitute for fossil fuels.	25,000
Macedon Ranges Shire Council	Kerbside Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) Service Infrastructure Introduction of a kerbside FOGO collection service for the council area.	160,000
McMahons	Investment Support Grant To support the acquisition and customisation of new equipment to expand McMahons' ability to recover and reprocess waste carpets into the FibreSand product for use on turf and horse training tracks.	10,000
Melton City Council	Melton Transfer Station Upgrade Funding to support an upgrade of the Melton Recycling Facility.	201,500

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Mitchell Shire Council	Mitchell Shire Council – Seymour Development of a new Resource Recovery Centre (RRC) to be established on council owned land, adjacent to Mitchell Landfill in Hilldene.	30,000
National E-waste Alliance Pty Ltd.	Diversion and Recycling of Problematic Electronic Waste The National E-waste Alliance, in collaboration with WDEA Works (a disability employment enterprise), will establish a network of collection points across the Western districts of Victoria to permit the drop-off of end of life electronics not covered under the Federal National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme.	15,000
Officeworks	New Recycling Stations for Officeworks' Product Stewardship Programs E-waste recycling stations at 30 Officeworks outlets.	5,000
Plascorp Pty Ltd.	Plascorp – PVC Granulator for Recycling PVC Piping Installation of a granulator and a microniser to recycle broken PVC pipe from sites into new PVC piping product for non-pressure applications.	75,745
Polymer Processors	Enhanced Plastics Processing Project To commission plastic washing equipment that can accept a wider range of plastic materials.	175,000
Polymeric Powders Company Pty Ltd.	Production of Tyre Crumb Derived Composite Material Utilising the company's existing patents for creating tyre crumb-derived polymeric powder from end-of-life tyres, new tyre crumb derived polymeric powder/polyolefin composite material pellets will be produced.	11,000
Polytrade	Polytrade Campbellfield Plastics Sorting Project Installation of three plastic sorting machines to reprocess 10,400 tonnes of mixed plastics, annually sourced from domestic recycling, into commercially saleable plastic products.	170,000
Polytrade	Polytrade Dandenong Mixed Glass Fines Processing Project This project will install machinery to sort and clean the 3-8mm fraction into saleable products with guaranteed markets.	25,000
Recycling Industries Pty Ltd.	Clarinda Additive Bin Installation of a bin to add recycled glass to various construction mixes.	143,500
Repeat Plastics Australia	Recycling Plant Expansion (Post Consumer Waste) Funding to purchase and install new proven re-processing equipment to allow Repeat Plastics Australia to recycle more post-consumer waste.	309,100
Replant-It Pty Ltd.	Waste Glass Washing Project Funding to commission plastic washing equipment that can accept a wider range of plastic materials, and upgrading the treatment process of wastewater from the wash plant, resulting in the production of higher grade outputs.	20,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Repurpose It	Washing Plant 460 Cooper St Establishing a state-of-the-art washing facility which will utilise world's best practice technologies in the processing of typically untreatable waste streams currently being sent to landfill.	15,000
Resource Pty Ltd.	Expansion of Handheld Battery Recycling Plant The purpose of this project is to increase the processing capacity of an existing battery recycling plant in Sunshine to significantly increase landfill diversion rates for single-use and lithium-ion batteries.	30,000
Shire of Moira	Moira – Cobram Commercial Waste Sorting Facility Funding for construction of a commercial waste sorting facility in Cobram.	205,000
Sims Recycling Solutions	Sims Recycling – E-waste and Battery Recycling Receptacles State-wide collection system for end of life e-waste, batteries and processing facility.	47,000
Supa Dupa	HordyPly: Recycling Construction Site Hoarding into Valuable Plywood Supa Dupa will recover timber plywood boards from construction waste, creating high-value products such as building fit-outs, fixtures and furniture.	23,387
Surf Coast Shire	Surf Coast Shire Food Organics Recovery Program To introduce a FOGO collection service for residents in the Surf Coast Shire area.	20,000
Tambo Waste Pty Ltd.	Tambo Waste Materials Recycling Facility Upgrade Project Upgrade existing materials recycling facility to include equipment to reduce contamination of PPC.	83,000
Wangaratta Rural City Council	Wangaratta – Regional Organics Processing Plant Construction of an organics processing facility.	298,750
Warrnambool City Council	FOGO's a GOGO. "If it Grows in it Goes" Introduction of a new kerbside FOGO collection service to more than 15,000 households.	9,000
Warrnambool City Council	Separation at Source Recycling – "a clear solution!" To purchase the necessary bin lids, stickers and bottle banks to introduce a separate kerbside glass waste collection service.	47,000
Western Composting Pty Ltd.	Shepparton Organics Resource Recovery Facility (SORRF) Plant Capacity Increase The increased plant capacity is aimed at diverting an additional 4,500 tonnes per annum of commercial food waste from landfill to meet growing demand for food waste recovery in the Barwon South West region and provide capacity to process another 9,500 tonnes of FOGO from kerbside collections.	45,000
Yarra City Council	Closing the Loop on Yarra's Food Waste The project aims to demonstrate the benefits of a localised closed loop solution to recovering and composting food waste while reducing the overall amount of material Yarra sends to landfill.	110,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Yarra City Council	Yarra City Council Holistic Waste Services Introduce a holistic kerbside waste collection service for the residents of the Yarra City Council municipal area.	50,000
Yarriambiack Shire Council	Yarriambiack – Warracknabeal Transfer Station Upgrade Upgrade the Warracknabeal Transfer Station to allow for the closure of the unlicensed landfill and, at the same site, allowing for increased recyclables collection including agricultural soft plastics.	85,000

Program – Suburban Parks Program 2019-20 Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

This initiative supports the creation of a new ring of parks in our growing suburbs to benefit Victoria environmentally, socially and economically. This will be delivered by DELWP in conjunction with Parks Victoria and local governments.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Banyule City Council	Waterdale Road Pocket Park Creation of a pocket park at Waterdale Road, Upper Heidelberg Road and Norman Street, Ivanhoe.	650,000
City of Kingston	Horscroft Place Pocket Park Creation of a pocket park at Horscroft Lane, Moorabbin.	350,000
City of Maribyrnong	Birmingham Street Pocket Park Creation of a pocket park at Birmingham Street near the corner of Somerville Road, Yarraville.	518,829
City of Port Phillip	Kings Place Plaza/Millers Lane Pocket Park Creation of a pocket park at Kings Place Plaza and Millers Lane, South Melbourne.	650,000
City of Port Phillip	Palais Theatre Forecourt, St Kilda Pocket Park Creation of a pocket park at the Lower Esplanade, in front of Palais Theatre, St Kilda.	650,000
Glen Eira City Council	Aileen Avenue Pocket Park Creation of a pocket park at 6 Aileen Avenue, adjacent Heather Road, Caulfield South.	650,000
Glen Eira City Council	EAT STREET Pocket Park Creation of a pocket park at Bentleigh Plaza – Centre Road and Daley Street, Bentleigh.	650,000
Monash City Council	Cambridge Street Reserve Pocket Park Creation of a pocket park at 38-40 Haughton Road, Oakleigh.	350,000
Moonee Valley City Council	Mt Alexander Road Triangle Pocket Park Creation of a pocket park at 177a Mt Alexander Road, Flemington.	350,000
Moreland City Council	14 Frith Street, Brunswick Pocket Park Creation of a pocket park at 14 Frith Street, Brunswick.	650,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Nillumbik Shire Council	Diamond Creek Trail Extension Funding for the Northern Metro Trails, Diamond Creek Trail extension. New cycling and walking trails across the municipalities of Banyule, Darebin, Hume, Moreland, Nillumbik and Whittlesea.	4,600,000
Stonnington City Council	Mount Street Pocket Park Creation of a pocket park between High Street, Bangs Street, Clifton Street and King Street, Prahran.	650,000
Wyndham City Council	Greening the Pipeline Funding for stage 1 (zone 5) of the Greening the Pipeline project which runs for 3.7km within the suburbs of Truganina, Laverton North, Williams Landing and Hoppers Crossing along the Main Outfall Sewer. Further funding for the creation of new open space between Lawrie Emmins Reserve to Skeleton Creek, with a community connection theme, sustainability infrastructure such as stormwater harvesting and a celebration of both indigenous and non-indigenous heritage.	1,000,000
Yarra City Council	Cambridge Street Reserve Pocket Park Creation of a pocket park at 96-98 Cambridge Street, Collingwood and adjoining street.	650,000
Yarra City Council	Otter and Smith Street Pocket Park Creation of a pocket park at Otter and Smith Streets, Collingwood.	595,950

Program – Support for Landcare

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

This program aims to provide support for Landcare facilitators to work with local communities in regional, rural, peri-urban and urban areas to improve the health and resilience of the natural environment.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Avon Landcare Group	2019 Landcare Awards Winner The Victorian Landcare Awards is a biennial event that celebrates the achievements of Landcarers and environmental volunteers across Victoria.	500
Avon Landcare Group	Community Landcare Facilitator Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	14,415
Barongarook Landcare Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Basalt to Bay Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,167
Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc.	2019 Landcare Awards Winner The Victorian Landcare Awards is a biennial event that celebrates the achievements of Landcarers and environmental volunteers across Victoria.	500
Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Belinda Brennan	2019 Landcare Awards Winner The Victorian Landcare Awards is a biennial event that celebrates the achievements of Landcarers and environmental volunteers across Victoria.	4,000
Bellarine Landcare Group Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Benambra Dinner Plain Omeo Landcare Group	Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Additional Landcare facilitator and bushfire recovery support.	6,779
Blampied-Kooroocheang Landcare Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Additional Landcare facilitator and bushfire recovery support.	5,191
Buloke and Northern Grampians Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	4,731
Connecting Country (Mt Alexander Region) Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Corangamite Catchment Management Authority	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Grants in Corangamite Funding to CMAs to deliver the Victorian Landcare Grants to support environmental volunteer groups to undertake on-ground, capacity building and education projects and to provide support to groups.	79,365

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Corrections Victoria	Landmate Grants DELWP to Department of Justice and Community Safety Landmate involves the use of supervised prison crews to provide on-ground environmental management services on public and private land, as well as maintenance of public recreation and education facilities. Participants learn vocational skills, such as horticulture and rural operations, to help their transition back into the community.	250,000
Cundare Duverney Landcare Group	2019 Landcare Awards Winner The Victorian Landcare Awards is a biennial event that celebrates the achievements of Landcarers and more broadly environmental volunteers across Victoria.	500
East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Grants in East Gippsland Funding to CMAs to deliver the Victorian Landcare Grants to support environmental volunteer groups to undertake on-ground, capacity building and education projects and to provide support to groups.	80,000
East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority	Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Additional Landcare facilitator and bushfire recovery support.	6,779
East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Far East Victoria Landcare Inc.	Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Additional Landcare facilitator and bushfire recovery support.	6,779
Far East Victoria Landcare Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Fraser Pogue	2019 Landcare Awards Winner The Victorian Landcare Awards is a biennial event that celebrates the achievements of Landcarers and more broadly environmental volunteers across Victoria.	500
Gecko Clan Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Geelong Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Gippsland Intrepid Landcare	2019 Victorian Landcare Awards Winner The Victorian Landcare Awards is a biennial event that celebrates the achievements of Landcarers and more broadly environmental volunteers across Victoria.	500
Glenaladale Landcare Group	Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Additional Landcare facilitator and bushfire recovery support.	6,779
Glenaladale Landcare Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Glenelg-Hopkins Catchment Management Authority	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Grants in Glenelg Hopkins Funding to Catchment Management Authority (CMA) to deliver the Victorian Landcare Grants to support environmental volunteer groups to undertake on-ground, capacity building and education projects and to provide support to groups.	80,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Grants in Goulburn Broken Funding to CMAs to deliver the Victorian Landcare Grants to support environmental volunteer groups to undertake on-ground, capacity building and education projects and to provide support to groups.	79,937
Goulburn Murray Landcare Network Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
H11-H12 Community Action Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Hamilton to Coleraine Railway Line Landcare Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Heytesbury District Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Hindmarsh Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Jane Goodall Institute Aus Ltd.	Roots and Shoots Victorian State Coordinator Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	44,400
John Pye	2019 Landcare Awards Winner The Victorian Landcare Awards is a biennial event that celebrates the achievements of Landcarers and more broadly environmental volunteers across Victoria.	500
Kaniva District Landcare	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	4,489
Kara Kara Conservation Management Network Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	4,992
Kiewa Catchment Landcare Group Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Kowree Farm Tree Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Laharum Landcare Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Landcare Australia Ltd.	2019 Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants The Victorian Junior Landcare Biodiversity grants have been developed to enable and engage the next generation of young people to value and actively care for Victoria's natural environment.	41,649
Landcare Australia Ltd.	2019-20 Leveraging Corporate Investment in Victoria Funding to generate corporate investment in Landcare projects in Victoria.	100,000
Landcare Australia Ltd.	Support for Landcare Victoria Inc. Regional Forum Funding for the Landcare Victoria regional forum.	5,500

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Lanie Pearce	2019 Landcare Awards Winner The Victorian Landcare Awards is a biennial event that celebrates the achievements of Landcarers and more broadly environmental volunteers across Victoria.	500
Latrobe Catchment Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Lismore Land Protection Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Loddon Plains Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Maffra and Districts Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Making a Difference (MAD) for the Merri Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	1,627
Mallee Catchment Management Authority	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Grants in Mallee Funding to CMAs to deliver the Victorian Landcare Grants to support environmental volunteer groups to undertake on-ground, capacity building and education projects and to provide support to groups.	80,000
Malmsbury District Landcare Group	2019 Landcare Awards Winner The Victorian Landcare Awards is a biennial event that celebrates the achievements of Landcarers and more broadly environmental volunteers across Victoria.	500
Manangatang Landcare Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Mandurang Strathfieldsaye Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	1,859
Merton Landcare Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Mid Loddon Sub-Catchment Management Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	1,415
Mid Ovens Landcare Consortium	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Millewa Carwarp Landcare Group Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Mitta Valley Landcare Group Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Moorabool Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Mornington Peninsula Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	4,963
Murrayville Landcare Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Newham Primary School	2019 Landcare Awards Winner The Victorian Landcare Awards is a biennial event that celebrates the achievements of Landcarers and more broadly environmental volunteers across Victoria.	500
North Central Catchment Management Authority	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Grants in North Central Funding to CMAs to deliver the Victorian Landcare Grants to support environmental volunteer groups to undertake on-ground, capacity building and education projects and to provide support to groups.	80,000
North East Catchment Management Authority	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Grants in North East Funding to CMAs to deliver the Victorian Landcare Grants to support environmental volunteer groups to undertake on-ground, capacity building and education projects and to provide support to groups.	80,000
Nullawil Landcare Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Ovens Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Panyyabyr Landcare Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,144
Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Grants in Port Phillip and Westernport Funding to CMAs to deliver the Victorian Landcare Grants to support environmental volunteer groups to undertake on-ground, capacity building and education projects and to provide support to groups.	301,590
Rainbow and District Landcare Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Snowy River Interstate Landcare Committee	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	4,666
Snowy River Interstate Landcare Committee	Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Additional Landcare facilitator and bushfire recovery support.	5,970
South Gippsland Landcare Network Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
South West Environment Alliance	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Southern Otway Landcare Network Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	4,646
Southern Ranges Environment Alliance	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Southwest Goulburn Landcare Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Strathewen Landcare Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Surf Coast and Inland Plains Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Sustainable Living in the Mallee	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	55,191
Tom's Creek Landcare Group Inc.	Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Additional Landcare facilitator and bushfire recovery support.	6,779
Tom's Creek Landcare Group Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Tony Gardner	2019 Landcare Awards Winner The Victorian Landcare Awards is a biennial event that celebrates the achievements of Landcarers and more broadly environmental volunteers across Victoria.	4,000
Up2us Landcare Alliance	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Upper Campaspe Landcare Network Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Upper Deep Creek Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,180
Upper Goulburn Landcare Network	Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Additional Landcare facilitator and bushfire recovery support.	8,700
Upper Goulburn Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Upper Hopkins Land Management Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	4,126
Upper Loddon and Avoca Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Upper Mt Emu Creek Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Upper Murray Landcare Network	Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Additional Landcare facilitator and bushfire recovery support.	6,626
Upper Murray Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,179
Victorian Environment Friends Network Inc.	Community Partnerships Support for Victorian Environment Friends Network Best Friends Award 2020.	6,500
Victorian Wader Study Group	2019 Landcare Awards Winner The Victorian Landcare Awards is a biennial event that celebrates the achievements of Landcarers and more broadly environmental volunteers across Victoria.	500
West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Grants in West Gippsland Funding to CMAs to deliver the Victorian Landcare Grants to support environmental volunteer groups to undertake on-ground, capacity building and education projects and to provide support to groups.	79,488

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
West Gippsland Landcare Sub Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	55,191
Western Melbourne Catchments Network Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	4,672
Western Port Catchment Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Wimmera Catchment Management Authority	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Grants in Wimmera Funding to CMAs to deliver the Victorian Landcare Grants to support environmental volunteer groups to undertake on-ground, capacity building and education projects and to provide support to groups.	80,000
Woody Yaloak Catchment Group	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	4,306
Wodonga Urban Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	4,711
Wodonga Urban Landcare Network	2019 Landcare Awards Winner The Victorian Landcare Awards is a biennial event that celebrates the achievements of Landcarers and more broadly environmental volunteers across Victoria.	500
Woka Walla Land Management Crew - Yorta Yorta National Aboriginal Corp.	2019 Landcare Awards Winner The Victorian Landcare Awards is a biennial event that celebrates the achievements of Landcarers and more broadly environmental volunteers across Victoria.	500
Yarra Ranges Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Yarram Yarram Landcare Network	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Yarrilinks Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	5,191
Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group Inc.	2019-20 Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program Funding for the employment of a Landcare Facilitator.	4,829

Program – Supporting Our Region to Adapt

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

This program assists to develop regional priorities for climate change adaptation based on the impacts regions are likely to experience, the needs and values of regional communities, and work undertaken to date.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
AgBiz Assist	Sustainable Dairy Communities for North East Victoria This project aims to demonstrate the physical, environmental and economic impacts of predicted climate changes to dairy farmers and will then introduce a decision making and prioritisation process designed to allow individual farms to understand the time scale and scale of impacts, and the sources of information to support changes in farm practices.	52,430
Banksia Gardens Community Centre	Climate Adaptation Requires Youth Action (CARYA) This project will work with the community in Broadmeadows to provide a voice to under-represented and vulnerable groups and build their capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate change by recruiting a group of young people to become a dynamic and responsive climate change adaptation action team.	75,000
Barapa Land and Water	Barapa Land and Water Climate Change Program This project is being led by Traditional Owners and aims to increase and enhance community involvement and knowledge of climate change adaptation in the Loddon Mallee region.	75,000
Bass Coast Landcare Network	Future Farms, Homes and Festivals for 2040 This project will generate and share learnings on the best practice approaches to community adaptation.	3,000
Birchip Community Forum	Cool It Birchip This project aims to use green infrastructure to mitigate the effect of heat extremes on residents and visitors including vulnerable people in the Birchip community.	50,000
Buloke Shire Council	Cool It (Phase 2) This project aims to address heat vulnerability in public spaces through increased urban greening led by Buloke Shire Council and will focus on investing in new climate resilient tree assets that provide maximum health and wellbeing outcomes in towns in central Victorian shires.	75,000
Deakin University	Building Adaptive Capacity in the Gippsland Region: Wetland Restoration Citizen Science Program This project aims to engage, educate, and empower Gippsland communities on climate adaptation, by transforming them into citizen scientists that contribute to local climate-ready actions and collect key data to inform wetland management practices in Victoria.	75,000
Federation University	Using Influencers: Gippsland Community Leadership Program – Sustainability and Climate Change Education and Knowledge This project will develop climate change adaptation literacy for industry, community and government throughout Gippsland by educating and enabling community leaders.	1,500

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Food and Fibre Gippsland	Gippsland ADAPT: Building Capacity in Youth to Respond to Climate Change Impact on Food and Fibre Production This project will engage with and build the capacity of young people in Gippsland to implement climate adaptation activities through collaborative partnerships with food and fibre businesses.	20,000
Food Next Door Co-op	Community Water Bank: Building Resilience for Small-scale Community Regenerative Farming For small-scale agriculture projects, irrigation water is becoming a rarity in the Mildura region due to increasing water prices. The Food Next Door Co-op recognised this issue and wanted to increase the security and resilience of local food sources during the periods of low water supply through a solution for small scale farmers to access affordable irrigation water.	69,000
Brimbank City Council and led by Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action	Climate Resilient Service Delivery The aim of this project is to support the development of a replicable methodology for scenario planning, to inform and enhance climate change adaptation decision making in a way that is consistent with multiple futures.	35,000
Maroondah City Council and led by Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action	Exploratory Study: Evidence Based Investment Plan Exploring the Investment Required to Address Climate Change Impacts on Key Assets The project involves exploratory research to scope and develop a clearer evidence base identifying the costs of climate impacts (such as coastal flooding, inland flooding, bushfire and heatwaves) on public assets and infrastructure specific to the Port Phillip region.	15,000
Maroondah City Council and led by Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action	Vulnerability Assessment of Council Assets: Emergency Relief Centres Examination of the vulnerability of council-owned and managed assets, focussing on reducing impact of climate events on emergency relief centres.	35,000
Gecko Clan Landcare Network	Using Technology for Dryland Farming Adaptation to Climate Change The Gecko Clan Landcare Network, with support from the National Landcare Program and the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority established three dryland farming sites across the Hume Region to monitor soil temperature, moisture and local rainfall.	73,000
Hindmarsh Shire Council	Greenlink This project will establish landscaped public, multi-purpose open spaces in Dimboola and Jeparit to provide a strategic link between the two towns for the Wimmera River Discovery Trail, providing places of respite from extreme weather for residents and visitors.	50,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Jesuit Social Services	3CA for Social Care and Community Organisations in Greater Melbourne Jesuit Social Services will work with the Victorian Council of Social Service to consult with social and residential care services across Greater Melbourne about their awareness, information needs, plans and responses to the impacts of climate change.	44,100
Lismore Land Protection Group	Increasing Resilience of the Corangamite Lakes Landscape by Improving Connectivity This project aims to increase landscape and farm resilience in the Corangamite Lakes area and the capacity to adapt to climate change by improving connectivity between woodlands to the north and Pomberneit Forest and Otways Ranges to the south.	74,800
Maldon Neighbourhood Centre Inc.	Climate Ready Maldon This project will support Maldon residents to become climate ready with practical actions such as home improvements, bushfire plans, and educational resources through a volunteer action group formed to work with 75 Maldon residents.	30,062
Moreland Energy Foundation	Cooler Communities The project aims to improve the lives of tenants in social housing by improving the thermal comfort of 17 houses, and providing efficient heating and cooling appliances to minimise internal temperature variations and provide more comfortable housing.	72,106
SEHCP Inc. trading as 'enliven Victoria'	South East Hot Spots This project will work with vulnerable communities across south east Melbourne to improve their understanding of the health impacts of heatwaves, and aims to support them to better respond to heatwave events both from the perspective of early impact and personal/family preparedness and management.	75,000
South Eastern Council Climate Change Alliance	Vulnerability Assessment of Council Assets: Council Buildings and Assets Examination of the vulnerability of council owned and managed assets focussing on the impact of heat on roads, drainage and buildings.	50,000
Wellington Shire Council	Playing the Climate Game – Adapting Wellington's Sport and Recreation Clubs to Climate Change This project will trial the drought-proofing of a local sporting ground and ensure Wellington's sports and recreation clubs can continue to improve the mental and physical wellbeing of the community.	57,000
Wimmera Mallee Sustainability Alliance	Embedding Climate Change Adaptation into the Grampians Education Sector This project aims to embed climate change adaptation into the education system across the Grampians region by providing a professional development opportunity for teachers to help upskill them in their knowledge and understanding of climate change.	50,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Woody Yaloak Catchment Group Inc.	Preparing Landholders for Climate Change in the Woody Yaloak Catchment This project aims to provide landholders with information they can use to adapt to the likely impacts of climate change on their pastures and crops and the collection of water for stock and domestic purposes while ensuring adequate environmental flows to important ecosystems.	74,438

Program – Targeted On-ground Biodiversity Actions Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

This program aims to:

- reduce the decline and pressure on biodiversity and threatened species;
- implement a range of grant incentive programs to protect and improve biodiversity resources on public and private land, and across a range of natural environments; and
- promote engagement to a broader range of Victorians as a collective response to protect and conserve biodiversity.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Arthur Rylah Institute	Aquatic Predator Control for Biodiversity Gain in Headwater Streams: Upper Morwell River This project is contributing to the management of threats to the majority of native headwater fish species by removing aquatic predators and increasing suitable predator-free habitat for the Morwell Galaxias in the headwaters of the Morwell River.	15,000
Arthur Rylah Institute	Aquatic Predator Control and Translocation for Biodiversity Gain in Headwater Streams: South of The Great Dividing Range This project is contributing to the management of aquatic predation threatening to native headwater fish species in Victoria by removing predators and undertaking translocation 'top up' for one species of upland native galaxiid in the North East Forests and Alps area.	54,450
Arthur Rylah Institute	Aquatic Predator Control and Translocation for Biodiversity Gain in Headwater Streams: North of the Great Dividing Range This project is contributing to the management of aquatic predation threatening native headwater fish species in Victoria by removing predators, locating and undertaking translocation 'top up' for three species of upland native galaxiids in the North East Forests and Alps area.	45,868
Arthur Rylah Institute	Aquatic Predator Control and Translocations for Biodiversity Gain in Headwaters Streams: East Gippsland Forests This project is contributing to the management of aquatic predation threatening native headwater fish species in eastern Victoria, by removing aquatic predators, locating and undertaking translocation 'top up' for six species of upland native galaxiids from west to east Gippsland.	45,700

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Ballarat Environment Network	Building Blocks for Biodiversity in the Bannockburn Region This project is improving the condition and diversity of 500 hectares of endangered, diverse Natural Temperate Grasslands, Plains Grassy Woodland and Creekline Tussock Grassland in the Bannockburn region of the Victorian Volcanic Plains.	49,000
Barapa Land and Water	Reedy Lakes, Mobilising Barapa Land and Water This project is protecting and enhancing the habitat suitability of Grassy Woodlands for fauna (Carpet Python, Fat Tailed Dunnart, Bearded Dragons, Bush Stone Curlew and Sand Goanna) and flora (Buloke, Dianella spp, Acacia oswaldii, , Leucochrysum molle, Eragrostis setifolia, Mairena aphylla) across 200 hectares of private land.	114,932
Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc.	Building the Bass Coast Bio Links Bass Coast Landcare Network in partnership with Bunurong Land Council, Parks Victoria, Birdlife Australia, Holden and Bass Coast Shire Council is improving habitat and reducing predator threats to Southern Brown Bandicoot, Growling Grass Frog, Swamp Skink, Swift Parrot, Orange-bellied Parrot, Powerful Owl and Swamp Antechinus across 1,212 hectares of private land and 448 hectares of public land.	170,164
Cardinia Shire Council	Cannibal Creek Catchment Biodiversity Project This project is reducing the impact of weeds, deer and fox in remnant vegetation in the Cannibal Creek Catchment across public and private land.	122,000
City of Whittlesea	Whittlesea Integrated Pest Animal Management and Monitoring Program This program is building on existing pest control programs implemented by Parks Victoria, Melbourne Water and DELWP in Kinglake National Park, Yan Yean Reservoir and Mt Disappointment State Forest.	5,000
Connecting Country (Mount Alexander Region) Inc.	Remnant Rescue: Restoring Woodland Bird Habitat in Central Victoria This collaborative project protects and restores priority woodland bird habitat across 60 hectares of private and 40 hectares of public land through a combination of landholder education, property plans, weed and rabbit control, revegetation and property covenants to achieve long-term habitat protection.	192,000
Conservation Ecology Centre	Expanding and Strengthening the Otway Ark This project is maintaining and expanding the Otway Ark, a small mammal recovery program which is incorporating best practice monitoring with ongoing fox control, assessing pig populations within the Otways and developing a program to restrict the spread of, and eradicate, isolated pig populations.	186,660
Conservation Volunteers Australia	Little Desert Landscape-scale Ecosystem Enhancement Initiative: Project 1: Fox, Weed and Rabbit Control Conservation Volunteers Australia and local Landcare staff are engaging landholders to implement fox control on private land bordering the Little Desert National Park to address biodiversity threats and issues.	173,500

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Corangamite Catchment Management Authority	Connected Landscapes: Connecting Landholders to Biodiversity on the Victorian Volcanic Plain This project is protecting, enhancing and restoring over 1,000 hectares of threatened native grassland, grassy woodland and related habitats across the Victorian Volcanic Plain with a focus on private land.	191,050
Deakin University	Victorian Coastal Wetland Restoration This project is guiding and undertaking restoration of approximately 600 hectares of critical wetland habitat on private and public land (including RAMSAR sites and places of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance) to facilitate recovery of endangered birds, frogs and other threatened plants and animals.	131,000
DELWP FFR – Barwon SW	Glenelg Ark Project – Next Phase The project is facilitating the recovery of native mammal populations at risk from predation by foxes and feral cats in far south-west Victoria through populations management options.	140,000
DELWP FFR – Barwon SW	Addressing key threats to Native Grassland Linear Reserves on the Victorian Volcanic Plains This project is improving the quality and connectedness of natural temperate grasslands on the Victorian Volcanic Plains by reducing critical threats from from priority, new and emerging weeds.	139,500
DELWP FFR – Barwon SW	Glenelg Pine Project This project undertakes scaled and integrated restoration of stringybark woodlands by mechanically and manually removing pine wildlings (pinus spp) through mechanical and manual treatments over three years.	200,000
DELWP FFR – Gippsland	Management to Improve Habitat for Threatened Mammal Species in the Upper Snowy River This project is undertaking predator control strategies, trialling new predator management techniques and genetic rescue to support the Southern Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby, the Spot-tailed Quoll and Eastern Wallaroo.	155,000
DELWP FFR – Gippsland	Landscape-scale Conservation of Threatened Invertebrates of the Western Strzeleckis This project is protecting and restoring the habitat of 30 colonies of Giant Gippsland Earthworm and three threatened species of burrowing crayfish.	191,600
DELWP FFR – Gippsland	Threat Mitigation for the Biodiversity of the Far Eastern Croajingolong National Park This project is undertaking feral predator control, ecological burning of heathland and creating a second Victorian population of Eastern Bristlebird due to planned translocations within the Croajingolong National Park.	105,000
DELWP FFR – Gippsland	Rodent Free Gabo Island This project is removing introduced rodents (Brown Rats and House Mice) from Gabo Island making the island a haven for breeding seabirds.	80,555

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
DELWP FFR – Gippsland	Lake Tyers Deer Management This project is connecting landowners and public land managers with accredited shooters in a coordinated response to the Lake Tyers deer population.	150,500
DELWP FFR – Hume	Feral Pig Control – Tatong The project is resulting in a decrease in habitat destruction from feral pigs for a range of threatened flora and fauna species.	100,000
DELWP FFR – Hume	Fox control – Mt Disappointment This project is decreasing fox numbers and predation on a number of threatened fauna species in the area such as Growling Grass Frog and the Greater Glider.	50,000
Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority	Pine Wildling Control in Brown Stringy Bark Woodlands This collaborative project is supporting the removal of pine wildlings from brown stringy bark woodlands, a critical feeding habitat for Red-tailed Black Cockatoos as well as other activities to benefit a range of other native flora and fauna species.	104,000
Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority	Ribbons of Blue and Sashes of Green: Linking Box Woodlands and Ironbark Forests This project is protecting, revegetating and enhancing the habitat of a range of threatened species including Regent Honeyeater, Swift Parrot, Squirrel Glider and Woodland Bird Community through threat abatement.	468,975
Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority	Linking Lower Goulburn to Barmah Private Land Works Improving vegetation connectivity between the Lower Goulburn and Barmah National Parks by revegetating, fencing, and controlling weeds, foxes and rabbits over 40 hectares of private land, improving habitat for threatened species, including Bush-stone Curlew, Grey-crown Babbler, Squirrel Glider and Tree Goanna.	117,150
Greening Australia	Increasing Biodiversity Benefits Across the Ramsar Western District Lakes The project is enhancing at landscape-scale native vegetation within the Victorian Volcanic Plains Western District Ramsar Lakes, consisting of significant ecological communities and threatened flora and fauna species, through coordinated weed and predator activities.	60,000
Greening Australia	Increasing Critical Food Supply for the Endangered South-eastern Red-tailed Black Cockatoo This project is establishing 30,000 Stringybark trees through spatial prioritisation to increase critical food supply for the South-eastern Red-tailed Black Cockatoo.	80,000
Greening Australia	Increasing Critical Food Supply for the Endangered South-eastern Red-tailed Black Cockatoo This project is establishing 30,000 Stringybark trees across 500 hectares through spatial prioritisation to increase critical food supply for the South-eastern Red-tailed Black Cockatoo.	29,370

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Hindmarsh Landcare Network Inc.	Building Biolinks Along the Lawloit Range This project is re-establishing, restoring and de-stocking 100 hectares of semi-arid woodland habitat of threatened Grey Box, Buloke Grassy Woodland and habitat for species within the listed threatened Victorian Temperate Woodland Bird Community.	35,000
Mallee Catchment Management Authority	Annuello and Wandown: Enhancing Mallee to Murray Biolinks The delivery of a targeted and integrated invasive species control program is addressing key threats to 49,567 hectares of priority habitat within and adjacent to the Annuello Flora and Fauna Reserve, Wandown Fauna Reserve, Menzies Native Conservation Reserve and O'Brees Reserve.	152,000
Mallee Catchment Management Authority	Cardross: Conserving Biodiversity Within a Peri-Urban Landscape The delivery of targeted rabbit and weed control programs is addressing key threats to 8,527 hectares of priority habitat within the Cardross Lakes system. Supplementary planting will also be delivered to improve habitat in some of the area.	50,500
Mallee Catchment Management Authority	Robinvale to Nyah: Conserving Robinvale Plain and Murray Fan Bioregions The delivery of an integrated invasive species control program is addressing key threats to 17,005 hectares of priority habitat within the Robinvale Plain and Murray Fan bioregions.	195,650
Mallee Catchment Management Authority	Controlling Feral Cats in the Mallee for Improved Management Outcomes Cat control is being undertaken across 10,000 hectares to reduce predation impacts within Hattah-Kulkyne National Park and Big Desert State Forest.	225,800
Mallee Catchment Management Authority	Improving Conservation of the Southern Mallee Dunefields The delivery of an integrated invasive species control program is addressing key threats to 12,000 hectares of priority habitat, targeting remnants within the agricultural landscape of the Wathe and Bronzewing Dunefields adjacent to Wyperfeld National Park.	65,000
Mallee Catchment Management Authority	Safeguarding the Hattah Ramsar Lakes and Raak Plain Catchment Areas The delivery of an integrated invasive species control program to address key threats to 2,500 hectares of priority habitat within the agricultural landscape of the Raak Plain and Hattah Lakes catchment areas.	80,000
Mallee Catchment Management Authority	Tyrrell: Preserving an Ancient Salina Landscape The delivery of a targeted and integrated invasive species control program to address key threats to 30,559 hectares of priority habitat including the Lakes Tyrrell, Wahpool and Timbora and associated creeklines.	153,000
Mallee Catchment Management Authority	Mallee Parks: The Cowangie Connection The delivery of a targeted and integrated invasive species control program to address key threats to 159,974 hectares of priority habitat within Murray-Sunset National Park, Big Desert Wilderness Park and the agricultural land separating them.	297,300

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Mallee Catchment Management Authority	Yarrara Ridge: Conserving Victoria's Semi-arid Environments The delivery of a targeted and integrated invasive species control program to address key threats to 9,020 hectares of priority habitat within the Yarrara Ridge complex adjacent to the Murray-Sunset National Park, supporting the largest remnants of Belah woodlands in Victoria.	102,000
Mount Hotham Alpine Resort Management Board	Protecting Biodiversity in Victoria's Alpine Resorts; Pest Plants and Predator Control This project is protecting biodiversity at Falls Creek and Mount Hotham Alpine Resorts and improving habitat for threatened alpine species and vegetation communities by building the existing capacity of the resort management boards to deliver best practice predator and weed control.	58,000
Nature Glenelg Trust	Landscape Wetland Restoration Program This project is resulting in the hydrological restoration and rehabilitation of wetland habitat for Brolga, Growling Grass Frogs (<i>Litoria raniformis</i>), Western Swamp Crayfish (<i>Gramastacus insolitus</i>), Little Galaxias (<i>Galaxiella tooitkoourt</i>) and Australasian Bittern (<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i>) in priority zones of the Glenelg and Grampians Biodiversity Response Planning area.	160,000
Nature Glenelg Trust	Landscape Wetland Restoration Program This project is resulting in hydrological restoration of 100 hectares of Seasonal Herbaceous wetlands of the Temperate Lowland Plains and other key wetland habitats for Brolga, Growling Grass Frogs, Corangamite Water Skink, Australasian Bittern and migratory bird species such as Latham's Snipe.	55,000
Nature Glenelg Trust	Permanent Restoration of Long Swamp, Discovery Bay Coastal Park This project is resulting in the permanent restoration of internationally important wetland habitat in Long Swamp with a re-created sand dune replacing the current restoration trial structure and permanently closing the artificial outlet, securing future sustainable water management across up to 1,057 hectares of public land.	31,798
Nillumbik Shire Council	Sugarloaf Link: Improving Animal Populations and Habitat Connectivity between Watsons Creek and the Yarra River The Sugarloaf Link project is enhancing connected habitat for threatened plants and animals from Watsons Creek to the Yarra River, including Phascogales, Dunnarts and a range of threatened orchids.	97,500
North East Catchment Management Authority	Enhancing Connectivity in the Kiewa Catchment This project is improving habitat and connectivity for threatened woodland birds and mammals of the Kiewa Valley through protecting and restoring 268 hectares of important habitat through stock exclusion, revegetation, woody weed control and implementing a rabbit control program.	110,900

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Parks Victoria	Restoration and Protection of High Value Habitat This project is protecting and enhancing semi-arid woodlands, and a diverse range of threatened flora and fauna species, across 152,000 hectares in Wyperfeld National Park and adjacent state forests and conservation reserves through control of weeds and pests, improving breeding conditions for the vulnerable Major Mitchell's Cockatoo.	165,000
Parks Victoria	Developing Control Options for Feral Cats at Wilsons Prom to Improve On-ground Management Capability This project is developing and testing strategies and control tools to improve management capabilities and provide standards for the control of feral cats at Wilsons Promontory National Park.	130,000
Parks Victoria	Managing the Immigration of Foxes into Wilsons Promontory National Park This project is managing the immigration of foxes into Wilsons Promontory National Park, and protecting small mammal species of the Yanakie Isthmus.	30,000
Parks Victoria	Mitigating the Threat of Ox-eye Daisy on North East Forests and Alps This project is surveying for, mapping and controlling the highly invasive Ox-eye Daisy in the Alpine National Park to protect alpine grasslands, sub-alpine woodlands and other threatened habitats.	100,000
Parks Victoria	Protecting and Enhancing the Barmah and Lower Goulburn Red Gum Forests, Wetlands and Floodplains This project is protecting the Barmah Forest Ramsar site, red gum forests, wetlands, floodplains, Moira grass plains, colonially-nesting waterbirds, and ground-dwelling mammals, frogs and reptiles (including many threatened species) in the Lower Goulburn and Barmah National Parks through control of weeds and pests.	123,585
Parks Victoria	Extirpation of Sambar Deer from Wilsons Promontory This project is detecting and controlling a small population of Sambar Deer at Wilsons Prom National Park before it establishes.	60,000
Parks Victoria	Protecting and Enhancing the Grasslands, Woodlands and Wetlands of the Patho Plains This project is enhancing and restoring Northern Plains Grasslands, Buloke Woodlands, Seasonal Herbaceous Wetlands and a diverse range of threatened flora and fauna species and bird communities across public and private land by controlling invasive species, improving grassland biomass management and undertaking revegetation.	246,840
Parks Victoria	Protecting and Enhancing the Grasslands, Woodlands and Marshes of the Lower Acova Plains This project is protecting and enhancing part of the Kerang Lakes Ramsar Site and semi-arid woodlands, northern plains grasslands, riverine and wetland communities, and numerous threatened flora and fauna species across public and private land by controlling invasive species, improving grassland biomass management and undertaking revegetation.	160,869

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Parks Victoria	Mitigating Impacts of Invasive Herbivores on Alpine Wetlands This project is mitigating the destructive impacts of feral horses, deer and pigs in the Alps by fencing areas of priority wetlands and alpine peatlands.	60,000
Parks Victoria	Protecting and Enhancing the Biodiversity of Hattah and the Eastern Murray Sunset Country This project is protecting the Hattah Ramsar wetlands and saline wetlands, semi-arid woodlands, waterbirds, ground-dwelling mammals, frogs and reptiles (including numerous threatened species) across the Hattah-Kulkyne, Murray-Kulkyne and eastern sections of Murray Sunset National Parks and Raak Plain State forest by controlling feral pigs, goats, rabbits, foxes and weeds.	298,000
Parks Victoria	Managing Feral Cats in the Victorian Alps This project is undertaking feral cat control works in priority areas associated with threatened Mountain Pygmy-possum habitat in the Victorian Alps.	95,000
Parks Victoria	Protecting and Enhancing the Biodiversity of the Murray Scroll Belt This project is protecting and enhancing semi-arid woodlands, riverine and wetland communities, and threatened flora and fauna species across public and private land in the Murray Scroll Belt in far-north-western Victoria by controlling priority invasive species and revegetating 1,000 hectares of semi-arid woodlands.	302,350
Parks Victoria	Otway Landscape Pest Plant Management This project is contributing to the protection of the significant biodiversity value of the Otways through containment and control of 41,000 hectares of highly invasive pest plant species, such as Boneseed, Sweet Pittosporum, Sallow/Coast Wattle and Broom.	213,500
Parks Victoria	Grampians Herbivores (Deer) This project is using an integrated approach to reduce the abundance of deer to improve ground layer vegetation in priority herb-rich woodlands across the Grampians National Park and other control locations.	105,441
Parks Victoria	Grampians Herbivores (Goats and Rabbits) This project is using an integrated approach to reduce the distribution and abundance of goats and rabbits to improve the floristic diversity and structure of ground layer vegetation of herb-rich woodlands and Grampians endemic montane shrublands in the Grampians National Park.	40,500
Parks Victoria	Grampians Sallow Wattle Control This project is containing Sallow Wattle to its current extent and density to protect herb-rich woodlands and species impacted by Sallow Wattle invasion (such as the Grampians Duck Orchid) and work in partnership with the Bangi Gadjin Land Council to develop a native food enterprise using Sallow Wattle seed.	105,117

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Parks Victoria	Glenelg – Mt Napier Goat Control This project is locally eradicating goats from Mt Napier in collaboration with adjoining landholders, community volunteers and Traditional Owners.	37,000
Parks Victoria	Managing Feral Pigs in the Eastern Borderlands This project involves controlling pigs in the Eastern Forests borderlands to protect a range of environmental, cultural and social assets.	141,000
Parks Victoria	Wimmera River Biolink and Pest Plant and Animal Control Project This project is undertaking remnant woodland re-establishment, restoration and protection works on private land, and undertaking rabbit control works within the Wimmera River–Lake Hindmarsh–Lake Albacutya corridor to protect threatened Grey Box, Buloke Grassy Woodlands and habitat for the threatened Victorian Temperate Woodland Bird community.	129,680
Parks Victoria	Protecting and Enhancing the Semi-arid Woodlands of Taparoo in North-west Murray Sunset National Park This project is protecting and enhancing threatened semi-arid woodlands, and numerous threatened flora and fauna species, across the Taparoo region of Murray Sunset National Park in the far north-west of Victoria.	138,200
Parks Victoria	Managing the Impacts of Transformative Coastal Weeds in Far East Gippsland This project is controlling high priority weed infestations and containing transforming weeds at a diverse suite of inlets, rocky headlands and isolated beaches of high ecological value on the Far East Gippsland coastline, including the Cape Howe Wilderness Park, Sand Patch Wilderness Park, Croajingolong National Park and Cape Conran Coastal Park.	69,000
Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority	Deepening Connections: Engaging Communities and Enhancing Habitat of the Deep Creek This project is engaging private landowners across the incised escarpments of the Deep Creek and surrounding plains south of Darraweit Guiman to control rabbits and weeds. This area provides habitat for a range of threatened species and communities including Platypus, Growling Grass Frog, and Plains Grassy Woodland.	95,671
Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority	Peaks to Plains: Enhancing and Connecting the You Yangs Ranges and Werribee Plains This project enhances habitats for threatened species and ecological communities across the You Yangs Ranges and the surrounding Werribee Plains grasslands by undertaking a coordinated rabbit, goat and weed control program.	154,182
Trust for Nature	Iconic Estates: Box Ironbark, Northern Plains and Slopes This project is protecting 130 hectares of Victoria's most important habitat on private land forever, in partnership with local and regional networks and individual landholders, creating a permanent natural legacy.	53,715

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Trust for Nature	Iconic Estates: Murray River This project is protecting 300 hectares of Victoria's most important habitat on private land forever, in partnership with local and regional networks and individual landholders, creating a permanent natural legacy.	131,158
Trust for Nature	Iconic Estates: North East Forests and Alps This project is protecting 60 hectares of Victoria's most important habitat on private land forever, in partnership with local and regional networks and individual landholders, creating a permanent natural legacy.	26,132
Trust for Nature	Iconic Estates: Port Phillip and Westernport This project is protecting 100 hectares of Victoria's most important habitat on private land forever, in partnership with local and regional networks and individual landholders, creating a permanent natural legacy.	67,560
Trust for Nature	Conservation Management of Private Land Enclaves in the Far Eastern Forests This project is improving habitat on private land in the Eastern Forests by controlling weeds, removing foxes and destocking, protecting a range of threatened species and vegetation communities including rare Warm Temperate Rainforest and threatened critical weight mammals.	266,000
Trust for Nature	Iconic Estates: Glenelg/Grampians This project is protecting 300 hectares of Victoria's most important habitat on private land forever, in partnership with local and regional networks and individual landholders, creating a permanent natural legacy.	95,190
Trust for Nature	Iconic Estates: Permanent Protection in Wimmera This project is protecting 250 hectares of Victoria's most important habitat on private land forever, in partnership with local and regional networks and individual landholders, creating a permanent natural legacy.	52,658
Trust for Nature	Iconic Estates: Victorian Volcanic Plains (VVP)/Great Otway National Park This project is progressing towards protecting 200 hectares of the Victorian Volcanic Plains and Otway's most important habitat on private land being protected forever, in partnership with local and regional networks and individual landowners, creating a permanent natural legacy.	126,404
Trust for Nature	Iconic Estates: Eastern Forests This project is protecting 200 hectares of Victoria's most important habitat on private land forever, in partnership with local and regional networks and individual landholders, creating a permanent natural legacy.	102,837
Trust for Nature	Lurg Hills to North-east Foothills Connections This project is strengthening connectivity conservation from the biodiversity, re-vegetation and recovery stronghold of the Lurg Hills, through to the North-east Foothills, adding to a landscape scale conservation network linking the Warby Ranges, Winton Wetlands and Lurg Hills to the North-east Foothills and Alps.	126,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Upper Barwon Landcare Network	Enhancing and Protecting Biodiversity Values in the Otway Plains This project is protecting and promoting biodiversity in high value areas of the Otway Plains by using best practice to remove exotic invasive weeds in partnership with local landholders and land managers.	60,000
West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority	Enhancing Biodiversity at the Bunurong Coastal Landscape This project is controlling foxes and rabbits across 16,000 hectares to increase the prevalence of approximately 30 threatened fauna species, 17 migratory bird species and 10 threatened flora species.	378,000
West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority	Enhancing Biodiversity at Dutson Downs This project is controlling foxes and rabbits across 6,000 hectares to increase the prevalence of numerous species including the New Holland Mouse (<i>Pseudomys novaehollandiae</i>), Green and Golden Bell Frog (<i>Litoria aurea</i>), Wellington Mint-bush (<i>Prostanthera galbraithiae</i>), Dwarf Kerrawang (<i>Rulingia prostrata</i>) and the Trailing Hop bush (<i>Dodonaea procumbens</i>).	55,000
Wimmera Catchment Management Authority	Western Victorian Woodlands Phase 4 The project is a large-scale threat abatement project to improve the biodiversity conservation outcomes for a number of key flora and fauna species by undertaking priority works on private property.	165,000
Yarra Ranges Council	Birds 2 Butterfields Habitat Corridor Improvements This project is undertaking on-ground works to improve habitat of the critically endangered Helmeted Honeyeater and spread its population in the surrounding landscape beyond the Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve.	62,393

Program – Towards Zero Emission Homes – Beyond 6-star Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

The objective of this program is to improve the energy efficiency of new homes. This will reduce energy costs for residents, improve thermal comfort, improve health of residents, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Sustainability Victoria	Annual Energy Use Budget Modelling Detailed modelling and analysis of energy use for new homes, leveraging results of Sustainability Victoria's Zero Net Carbon Homes pilot program.	40,000

Program – Towards Zero Emission Homes – Improving As-built Compliance Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

The objective of this program is to improve the energy efficiency of new homes in Victoria by improving as-built compliance with energy efficiency standards. This will reduce energy costs for residents, improve thermal comfort, improve health of residents, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Victorian Building Authority	Energy Efficiency Inspections Program This program delivered 2,500 inspections of homes under construction to check for compliance with the minimum energy efficiency requirements of the National Construction Code. The program was designed to increase the evidence base of energy efficiency compliance in the Victorian context, support industry skills and further inform appropriate state government responses to issues identified.	468,357

Program – Unlocking Innovative Finance Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

The goal of this program is to increase the uptake of financial products by small-scale organisations, to increase investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy in Victoria. It also aims to make recommendations on how government should unlock finance to small-scale organisations in Victoria.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Indigo Power	Yackandandah Solar Battery Project This project involved a grant paid to Indigo Power to assist a community group finance its local energy initiative.	100,000

Program – Victorian Market Development Strategy for Recovered Resources Sustainability Victoria

The program aims to support the establishment of strong markets for recovered materials and waste-to-energy in Victoria. Focus is set on priority materials as outlined in the Victorian Market Development Strategy and the Recycling Industry Strategic Plan. These include paper, plastic, cardboard, organics, rubber, e-waste, flexible plastics and glass.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
ARRB Group Ltd.	Crumb Rubber Asphalt in Local Government Roads Develop a VicRoads specification that allows use of crumb rubber in asphalt for use in local roads.	5,000
Australian Roads Research Board	Field Trial –Glass in Asphalt Road The project is to test and implement a high recycled glass content mix in asphalt, and demonstrate its capabilities, to support the increased procurement of recycled materials in road construction.	50,000
Deakin University	Chemical Plastic Recycling Process The project is to transform inconsistent and highly variable polyethylene plastic waste into products with consistent properties, generating new knowledge in plastic recycling and processing.	50,000
Hermetia Biosystems Pty Ltd.	Recycled Glass Technology for Cost Effective Access Covers Establishing a demonstration facility to convert up to 100 tonnes of food waste per day into protein meal and fertiliser products.	40,000
The University of Melbourne	Field Trial: Recycled Plastic Noise Walls The project aims to investigate the utilisation of recycled plastics in noise barrier walls.	100,000
The University of Melbourne	Glass (from PV Panels) and Cellulose in Precast Walls This project aims to develop environmentally friendly construction materials primarily using vortex-treated recycled glass and cellulose fibres from waste paper, developing an advanced manufacturing material for innovative and green construction of precast walls.	50,000
Monash University	Recycled Plastic Railway Sleepers – Duratrack Undertake field testing and monitoring to understand in-track performance and any benefits of the Duratrack recycled plastic rail sleeper such as noise and vibration reduction.	50,000
RMIT University	Recycled Plastic and Rubber in Municipal Concrete Infrastructure Developing a premix concrete incorporating recycled plastics and rubber.	75,000
RMIT University	Recycled Glass Technology for Cost Effective Access Covers Testing the use of a glass fines stabilising technology to manufacture drain covers for use in road drainage infrastructure.	70,000
RMIT University	LDPE and Crumb Rubber in Asphalt Developing a performance-based classification system of plastic and rubber-modified bitumen, seeing the inclusion of recycled content determined by performance not percentages.	100,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Swinburne University of Technology	Concrete Void Formers Undertake material characterisation of recycled plastics and injection moulding flow analysis to understand performance of the robovoid (concrete) void former.	110,000
Swinburne University of Technology	Plastics, Glass and Crushed Concrete Rail Substructure Blend This project aims to investigate the engineering properties of recovered plastics and glass fines in railway track-substructures.	150,000
Swinburne University of Technology	Glass and Plastics in Foamed Bitumen The objective of this research is to evaluate the geotechnical engineering properties of glass fines and recovered plastics when used in foamed bitumen stabilisation of pavements.	100,000
Swinburne University of Technology	Demonstration Trial of Plastics and Glass in Concrete Footpath Using previous research in practice to demonstrate the performance of plastics and glass in concrete footpaths.	32,100
Swinburne University of Technology	Developing a VicRoads Specification for Local Roads Developing a VicRoads specification for local roads that permits the use of crushed glass, concrete and brick.	76,000
The University of Melbourne	Permeable Pavements Using Recycled Aggregates A demonstration project trialling a permeable pavement (reducing run off and flooding), using recycled concrete, brick, glass, plastics and rubber under real traffic conditions.	55,000
The University of Melbourne	Glass in Concrete – Sand Replacement Constructing a demonstration site at a Level Crossing Removal Authority project site to trial the glass fines as a sand replacement in concrete in a real-world application.	45,000
Victoria University	Field Trial: Recycled Blend for Backfill Material (Compaction Testing) The purpose of this project is to develop a suitable mix of recycled materials that incorporate recycled rigid and soft plastic, recycled fine glass, and recycled tyres for use as backfill in water and sewer infrastructure.	50,000
Yarra City Council	Understanding Benefits in Separating Glass at the Kerbside Trialling a separate glass collection with approximately 1,300 residents and using the collected glass in asphalt to demonstrate performance in municipal road construction.	100,000

Program – **Virtual Centre for Climate Change Innovation**
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

This program aims to strengthen Victoria's role as a leader in climate change by fostering action, innovation and collaboration between businesses, industry, researchers and government to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc.	Climate Change Land Capability and Capacity This project will enable Southern Gippsland farmers to respond to climate change challenges by providing the agricultural sector with 12 detailed case study action plans.	254,236
City of Greater Bendigo	Commercial Organics Diversion Trial The trial will provide organic waste material diversion outlets for the Greater Bendigo community that cannot be serviced by the current fortnightly kerbside organics collection, addressing a gap in the current urban residential organics kerbside collection.	73,000
Climate for Change	Conversations for Change Work with locals to develop and deliver resources for peer to peer communication to build greater acceptance of climate change.	123,000
Climate Works Australia	Electric Vehicle Ready Local Government Fleets This project will enable local governments to increase electric vehicle uptake in their fleets working with Municipal Association of Victoria and the electric vehicle industry.	90,000
Closed Loop Environmental Services	CLO'ey: A Food Waste Processor for Home or Office Design, legal set up and commercialisation of a Generation 2 CLO'ey. CLO'ey converts food waste into nutrient rich soil conditioner in only 24 hours, minimising the need for transport or expensive infrastructure. CLO'ey can be deployed in home or office environments where unprocessed food waste separation is undesirable.	300,000
Deakin University	Bay Beach Resilience to Climate Change The project will combine the latest field technology (drones and wave probes) with citizen science to predict beach movement to allow coastal managers to be climate change ready for erosion of Bellarine beaches.	54,020
Deakin University	Fridge off Grid This project will reduce expenses, power consumption and greenhouse gas emissions by removing refrigerators from the grid through development of a portable solar panel and power storage unit for use where conventional solar panels are not applicable.	56,552
Deakin University	Towards Zero Carbon Housing This project will create a proposed policy framework regarding feed-in tariffs and green buildings, to build design prototypes which will optimise future building design to achieve zero carbon housing.	50,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Forrest and District Community Group	The Forrest Gateway to the Otways Assessing Feasibility, Building Collaboration The project will provide seed funding for feasibility studies to develop the business model for a collaborative research and interactive learning facility that also provides a fire refuge.	250,000
Geelong Sustainability Group Inc.	Climate Safe Rooms This project will trial the delivery of an energy-efficient room that remains comfortable in both summer and winter extremes, fully insulated and draught-proofed with high efficiency air-conditioning and small solar system to offset running costs, in existing homes of participating vulnerable residents.	300,000
Heytesbury District Landcare Network	Keeping Carbon On The Farm This pilot project provides a suite of activities that dairy farmers and other primary producers can undertake to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and better prepare for climate change including revegetation, carbon-sequestering soil amelioration trials, and energy reduction strategies.	146,582
LaTrobe University	Increasing Soil Carbon Sequestration in Dryland Grazing Systems This project will work with farmers to test the addition of compost, and undertake timed grazing to improve soil biology, to potentially increase soil carbon sequestration, enhance soil water moisture, reduce emissions and increase farmers resilience to climate change.	300,000
Monash University	Big Data Analytic Approach to Assessing Impacts of Harmful Temperatures on Wheat Crops in Northern Victoria: Regional Economic Impacts and Opportunities for Adaptation This project will analyse the current and future impacts of extreme daily temperatures on the wheat economy in north-western Victoria through engagement with farmers and the use of innovative big data models and statistical techniques.	300,000
Monash University	Climate Change Communicators The Climate Change Communication Research Hub at Monash will develop and test an operational structure which brings together university researchers and key weather communicators to deliver easy-to-visualise climate science information.	287,636
Nature Glenelg Trust	Wannon River Floodplain Restoration: Demonstrating Practical Climate Change Mitigation Action The Upper Wannon River floodplain surrounding Walker Swamp was modified through past agricultural land use. This project will create a community demonstration site for sustainable floodplain restoration and management with artificial drainage being reversed to restore wetland habitats for threatened species and buffer the site against climate change.	300,000

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Precision Agriculture Pty Ltd.	Demonstrating Fertiliser Management for Emissions Reduction in Victorian Dairy Industry The project will demonstrate how variable rate application of fertiliser can reduce the amount of free nitrogen leading to a reduction in nitrous oxide (N ₂ O) released from five dairy farms in Gippsland.	125,000
RMIT University	A Rapidly Deployable Fire Protective System for Firefighters This project explores a deployable protection system that is designed for firefighters. It is an origami system that can be unfolded in seconds into a dome which protects a person against deadly radiant heat and embers.	78,066
RMIT University	Enhanced Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) for Improving the Well-being of Vulnerable Populations in Victoria This project aims to enhance the indoor air quality for vulnerable persons through the application of fresh filtered air ventilation in different building types.	270,000
RMIT University	Self-sensing Flood Resilient Smart Roads The project will explore the implementation of self-sensing flood resilient smart roads that automatically recognise the amount of water on the road surface and alert authorities and emergency services in real time about the magnitude and exact location of flooding.	78,000
Southern Farming Systems	Minimising Emissions from Timing and Placement of Nitrogen in High Rainfall Cropping This project aims to establish if research on nitrogen use efficiency can be improved by deep banding ammonia-based fertiliser and whether the technique can reduce nitrous oxide emissions, denitrification and nitrate leaching in these areas.	77,000
Tarnagulla Alternative Energy Group	Tarnagulla Community Based Emergency Management Study A detailed study of community strengths and challenges to inform a resilience plan that will support the the management of future natural disasters.	50,000
The University of Melbourne	Growing Landscape Carbon – An Online Brokerage Platform for Integrating Trees in Rural Landscapes This project will develop an online brokerage platform to facilitate investment in tree growing for various economic and environmental benefits, which will increase carbon abatement through the integration of trees in rural landscapes.	252,800
The University of Melbourne	Nature-based Innovations to Help Coastal Communities Adapt to Climate Change The project will trial eco-engineered mangrove planters as an adaptive and socially accepted solution to coastal defence.	299,580
Wodonga City Council	Putting the Wodonga Community Solar Business Case into Action The project will implement an innovative working example of a community renewable energy model, that provides benefits to the entire community including helping adaptation for low income households.	199,000

Program – Waste Education Sustainability Victoria

The Waste Education program has the following objectives:

- develop a consistent narrative for the waste and resource recovery system that involves input from local government and industry which will increase community perceptions of waste management as an essential service;
- help the Victorian community and hospitality businesses to reduce the amount of food waste they generate;
- work with a targeted industry sector to improve resource recovery;
- increase the capability and capacity of delivery partners to roll out waste education and behaviour change activities; and
- educate the Victorian community on correct recycling practices to reduce contamination in kerbside recycling.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
Barwon South West Waste and Resource Recovery Group	BSWWRRG Regional Litter Plan The development of regional litter plans for the BSWWRRG.	24,916
Department of Health and Human Services	Waste Education in Healthcare Employing a Waste Education Officer to engage the healthcare sector in behaviour change and education to correctly manage waste.	28,082
Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group	GVWRRG Regional Litter Plan The development of regional litter plans for the GVWRRG.	30,000
Grampians Central West Waste and Resource Recovery Group	GCWRRG Regional Litter Plan The development of regional litter plans for the GCWRRG.	7,500
Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group	MWRRG Regional Litter Plan The development of regional litter plans for the MWRRG.	7,500

Program – Waste to Energy Sustainability Victoria

This program aims to reduce CO² emissions generated from waste through the construction and upgrades of waste to energy facilities in Victoria. It will support the industry in establishing confidence in the market through:

- demonstration;
- diversion of organic waste and biomass from landfill;
- recover energy to replace reliance on high emissions energy; and
- support greenhouse gas abatement.

Grant recipient	Project description	Funding (\$)
DeLorean Energy	DeLorean Bioenergy Infrastructure Funding The scope of work is from feasibility to development approval to establish a bioenergy plant co-located with Calix Limited's operations in Bacchus Marsh, delivering renewable biogas, electricity and heat to displace consumption of fossil fuel-based energy.	50,000
Mount Alexander Bioenergy	Mount Alexander Bioenergy Infrastructure Grant This project will go towards securing feedstock supplier agreements, developing high level project design, and regulatory compliance documentation in support of delivering activities through the pre-construction phase.	5,000
Norwood Technologies	Norwood Bioenergy Infrastructure Funding Developing a business case to establish a sustainable precinct demonstration project located on Melbourne's fringe. Organic wastes including food and municipal solid waste will be diverted from landfill and mulch heaps to be converted to fuel gas and passivated nutrients.	50,000
SMART Recycling	SMART Bioenergy Infrastructure Fund Installing a biomass boiler to produce heat to run export pallet heat-treatment kilns at its Dandenong South recycling facility.	5,000
Western Water	Western Water W2E Infrastructure Project Installing new waste receipt infrastructure including a liquid waste receipt unit, storage tanks, pumps, pipework and odour control to allow the receipt of organic waste.	270,550

Further information on the Sustainability Fund, including previous Activities Reports, can be [located on our website](#).

