



Victorian Coastal Council

Annual Report 2017–18

VICTORIA
State
Government



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Contact Victorian Coastal Council office for further information.

The Victorian Coastal Council respectfully acknowledges the original
custodians of what is now known as Victoria; their rich culture, deep
affinity with the land and spiritual connection to it.

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Chair's Foreword

On behalf of the Victorian Coastal Council, it is with pleasure that I present this report to the Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio MP, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, in accordance with section 8(4) of the *Coastal Management Act 1995*. This annual report covers the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

This Annual Report marks a major change in the governance and management of coastal and marine environments in Victoria. The *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* (MACA) was passed in the Victorian Parliament in June 2018 bringing with it a range of reforms. The new Act embeds a more modern and integrated approach. Marine environments are formally part of our planning and management. The Act explicitly recognises the climate change future we face, and unambiguously acknowledges "traditional owner groups' knowledge, rights and aspirations for land and sea country". The reforms are a positive change that will help us to prepare for and meet the significant challenges that lie ahead for Victoria's coast.

During the year, the Council worked to progress strategic activities to support ongoing improvements to the way we plan, manage and protect the coast. These activities are highlighted in this report.

Given the importance of the new Act, this year Council continued its role of engaging and leading input into the reform process. Building on a similar event in 2016–17, the Council hosted a "round table" workshop to help major coastal and marine key stakeholders understand how they could be affected by the reforms and to gain their knowledge to refine and enhance the approach to improving how we tackle current and future challenges in marine and coastal management.

The Council continued active partnerships with many parts of DELWP, the regional coastal boards (RCBs), Parks Victoria, the Office of the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability and local governments. The Council thanks all our partners and hopes that these crucial relationships will grow under the new arrangements.

Major initiatives this year include:

- the successful 2018 Victorian Coastal Awards attended by over 220 people – mostly from our coastal communities;
- collaborating with DELWP, local government and others to develop a method to help understand income and expenditure data along the coast through the 'financing the coast' pilot;
- working with DELWP to initiate work to better understand the scope of a potential knowledge or capability hub to improve evidence-based decision making for all marine and coastal managers;
- preparing the Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Framework for implementation of the VCS 2014 to give a systematic approach to assess progress and support developing future marine and coastal policy;
- using the immense technical capabilities of the Council's Science Panel to review the impacts expected from climate change on Victoria's coasts and translating this into accessible and incisive reports; and
- commencing the next round of social research on community attitudes and behaviours to Victorian coastal and marine environments.

Further details on these initiatives can be found in this report. I believe that this work gives a springboard for the new Marine and Coastal Council and will support the development of the future Marine and Coastal Policy (due by the end of 2019) and Strategy (due by the end of 2020) under the new Act.

The introduction of the MACA brings the VCC to an end. Since being established on 24 August 1995, the many different members of the Council worked for almost 23 years to promote evidence-based and forward-looking approaches to understanding and addressing the issues facing our coasts. Each Council has built on the expertise, dedication and efforts of previous Council members. As the last Chair of the VCC, I want to thank all the members of the current and past Councils for their sharp intellect, their insight and their eagerness to make a difference. I am sure that the members of the new Marine and Coastal Council will have as many vigorous discussions, and progress excellence in marine and coastal planning and management even further.

The Council has kept in touch with many issues along our coastline through close collaboration with the three RCBs. The change to the new Act will see the end of the Western, Central and Gippsland RCBs. The most recent and past Boards have played an important part in getting us to where we are and have been a key part of the foundation on which we stand. They offered a uniquely local insight into regional issues for the VCC. I can only imagine that a future Marine and Coastal Council will look to gain regional insights in another, innovative way – for regional perspectives are essential to understanding the breadth and depth of a state-wide view.

I would like to specifically thank the members of this last Victorian Coastal Council who have embraced change with a constructive and creative approach, helping to make the new marine and coastal reforms even stronger. You have been a diverse and brilliant bunch.

Finally, my heart-felt thanks goes to the many people along the Victorian coastline who continue to work so hard to manage and protect our spectacular and special coast. Some of you have ancestors who had stewardship of our coasts for over 60,000 years. Many of you are unsung and persevere with passion and insight. This is our real strength for the future.



Dr Anthony Boxshall
Chair, Victorian Coastal Council
30 June 2018



1. Highlights

1.1 Marine and Coastal Act 2018

The *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* (MACA) was passed in the Victorian Parliament in June 2018. This significant reform aims to strengthen Victoria's marine and coastal management system to better protect marine and coastal environments from current and future challenges. The move to the new arrangements defined in the MACA will be assisted through a transition plan.

A major aspect of Council's role was to provide strategic direction in improving the co-ordination of coastal planning and management in Victoria. In relation to this role, the Council in 2017–18 facilitated consultation with major marine and coastal stakeholders for the Victorian Government's marine and coastal reform agenda. The Council hosted a "round table" workshop on 31 August 2017 with key stakeholders to discuss the then proposed MACA reforms. The meeting included representatives from the Council, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), the three regional coastal boards, the Victorian Catchment Management Council, coastal catchment management authorities, Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria, the Municipal Association of Victoria, Victorian National Parks Association and the MACA expert panel. The workshop helped these organisations better understand the proposed reforms and for them to provide informed feedback about the best ways to deliver the reforms. The outcomes from the workshop were provided to the DELWP team developing the MACA Transition Plan.

The MACA requires the development of a new Marine and Coastal Policy by the end of 2019 and an associated Strategy by the end of 2020. Until these times, the policies and actions in the VCS 2014 will be taken as the statewide policy and strategy (respectively) under the new Act.

The term of the Victorian Coastal Council ended on 30 June 2018. Strategic advisory functions will be taken up by the new Marine and Coastal Council established under the MACA.

1.2 2018 Victorian Coastal Awards

The Victorian Coastal Council recognised the outstanding efforts and achievements of our coastal communities at the 2018 Victorian Coastal Awards on 17 May 2018. The Awards celebrate the commitment of these communities to protecting Victoria's coastal and marine environments.

Over 220 guests from volunteer groups, committees of management, local government, non-government organisations and state government agencies attended the Awards ceremony at Encore in the St Kilda Baths complex overlooking Port Phillip Bay. Guests were welcomed to country by Wurundjeri Elder Perry Wandin and Bunurong Elder Shane Clark, with the Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio, Minister for Energy Environment and Climate Change, presenting the trophies to this year's winners.

From the diverse and impressive nominations, 17 finalists were selected for the seven Award categories, including improving the physical environment, biodiversity conservation, planning and management, education, community engagement and partnerships in research and monitoring. The final Award of the evening was presented to Marg O'Toole in the 'Outstanding Individual Achievement' category. Marg has been involved in coastal and marine research, planning, management and environmental education in Victoria for over 25 years, and continues to share her extraordinary passion and knowledge to deliver significant and lasting outcomes for the Victorian coast.

The 2018 Awards were the seventeenth ceremony, and over 140 people and groups have been recognised since the first Awards in 2000. With the Council and regional coastal boards ceasing in June 2018, the ceremony was also an opportunity to acknowledge and thank all current and past members of these bodies since they were established in 1995.

A full list of the 2018 Award winners and finalists is presented in Appendix B.



1.3 Strategic Priorities & Projects

Council developed a set of clear priorities and projects that are aligned to the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014 (VCS) and support transition to the Victorian Government's new marine and coastal governance arrangements. These priorities are outlined in the Council's Business Plan 2015–18 and include the following:

- (i) Effective coastal and marine planning and management
- (ii) Planning for and adapting to the impacts of climate change on the coast
- (ii) Understanding the condition of coastal and marine environments
- (iv) Stronger connections, community engagement and advice.

Building on these priorities, Council worked to progress a series of strategic projects which were identified to form the foundation of the Council's legacy for the future Marine and Coastal Council.

Council undertook the following projects in 2017–18:

- **Financing the Coast** – This project responds to the need identified by Council for sustainable funding for the coast. The overarching objective of this project is to develop a strategic investment framework for the Victorian coast. Council partnered with DELWP to complete initial work to develop and test accounting methodologies to better define coastal revenue and expenditure.
- **Wave 5** – Council commenced the fifth iteration of social research on community attitudes and behaviours to Victorian coastal and marine environments in a partnership between DELWP, Parks Victoria and the Office of the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability.
- **Marine and Coastal Knowledge Hub** – This project responds to the need identified by Council for better access to knowledge and capability for coastal land managers. Council worked with DELWP and coastal stakeholders to develop the scope and options to facilitate better access to and use of science, research and technical expertise and education among the marine and coastal sector.

Council believes that these priorities and projects will make a significant contribution to coastal management and provide a legacy for further improvements. Further information about these projects is provided in Section 3.3.

Council also used its Communication, Advocacy and Engagement Strategy, which supports priority (iv) above: Stronger connections, community engagement and advice. The strategy was designed to assist the Council to fulfil its function of providing advice. It identifies activities to improve stakeholder appreciation of and involvement in coastal management in line with the VCS vision "A healthy coast, appreciated by all, now and into the future". The strategy was important during 2017–18 in guiding the Council's input to marine and coastal reform processes and the VAGO audit of coastal assets protection, collaborations with the Science Panel, and the production of reports about the impacts of climate change on the Victorian coast.

Council hosted an inspection of the eastern shoreline of Port Phillip on 10 November 2017 with the Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio MP, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, to highlight local examples of strategic coastal issues.

Members of the Council provided input to the Victorian Auditor General's Office (VAGO) Protecting Victoria's coastal Assets audit. The audit was particularly relevant for several strategic priorities of the Council.

1.4 Victorian Coastal Strategy

Council chaired the VCS Implementation Coordinating Committee in February 2018 to facilitate collaboration between agencies, identify obstacles and progress VCS actions. Following the meeting, Council collated updates from the responsible agencies about all VCS actions.

During 2017–18, Council prepared the **Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Framework** for implementation of the VCS 2014. This framework will establish a systematic approach to assess the VCS and identify ways to improve strategic planning for marine and coastal environments in Victoria.

1.5 Science Panel

The Council's Science Panel comprised scientists representing a broad range of disciplines related to coastal and marine science, such as marine and estuarine ecology, climate change processes, environmental chemistry, coastal and marine engineering, oceanography and geomorphology. Based on this bank of knowledge and expertise in all matters marine and coastal, the Science Panel provided a 'whole of coast' perspective. Membership of the Science Panel consisted of more than 40 senior scientists based at academic institutions, within government agencies and in the private sector.

The Science Panel was chaired by Dr David Provis in 2017–18, and played a pivotal role in achieving important outcomes for the Council. In October 2017, the Science Panel held a workshop to examine the likely future impacts of climate change on the state's coastal and marine environments. From this workshop, the Council produced the report *Victoria's Coast – Preparing for the Future*. This short publication was aimed at a wide, public audience with clear information about the likely impacts from climate change, indicators to assess those impacts, and monitoring and research needed to support the effective management of Victoria's coast. A full report was also published to give more substantial information to coastal managers. The documents were circulated to key coastal stakeholders and agencies and placed on the **VCC website**. The Council Chair presented the outcomes from this work at the 2018 Coast to Coast Conference in Hobart.

The Panel's role was also crucial in helping the Council frame submissions to two important Issues with strategic relevance. The Council used the Panel's expertise to develop a submission about the Draft Belfast Coastal Reserve Management Plan and the management of domestic animals on foreshores with high conservation values. The Council also provided advice to DELWP about responses to sediment movement in southern Port Phillip Bay and the use of coastal compartments to guide management decisions. For each of these processes, the Council invited a sub-group of the Science Panel to provide expert input. This targeted use of the Science Panel highlights the effectiveness and importance of utilising expertise in developing evidence based policy and projects on the coast.

2. Governance and Functions

The Council was established under the *Coastal Management Act 1995* and was accountable to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change. The responsible Minister for the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 was the Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio, MP, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change.

The role of Council was to provide strategic direction and to improve the co-ordination of coastal planning and management in Victoria.

The Council was resourced with a budget and Secretariat support through DELWP.

The *Coastal Management Act 1995*, outlined the functions of the Council. These functions are outlined below including a summary of deliverables against these functions in 2017–18.

Functions	Deliverables
Undertake state-wide strategic coastal planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of Stage 1 of the Financing the Coast project (pages 4 & 11) • Commenced fifth round of longitudinal social research about community attitudes and behaviours to marine and coastal environments (pages 4 & 11) • Contributed to the development of the MACA and transition plan (page 3) • Used a sub-group of the Science Panel to assess sediment processes and management responses for southern Port Phillip and provided advice to DELWP (pages 4)
Prepare and submit to the Minister a draft Victorian Coastal Strategy (VCS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A previous iteration of the VCC developed the VCS 2014. Under the <i>Marine and Coastal Act 2018</i>, a marine and coastal policy will be developed by December 2019 and a strategy by December 2020. This policy and strategy will replace the VCS 2014.
Provide advice to the Minister	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported the Minister by preparing information for and chairing the round table discussion on MACA reforms (page 3) • Offered considered advice on matters related to the MACA reforms • Hosted an inspection of the eastern shoreline of Port Phillip with the Minister to highlight strategic coastal issues (page 4)
Facilitate the operation of regional coastal boards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received regular updates from the RCB Chairs about their activities (pages 14, 17 & 18)
Monitor the development of Coastal Action Plans (now referred to as Regional Coastal Plans)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received regular updates on the implementation of the three regional coastal plans
Coordinate the implementation of the Victorian Coastal Strategy and Regional Coastal Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chaired the VCS Implementation Coordinating Committee to facilitate collaboration between agencies, identify obstacles and progress VCS actions (pages 4 & 10) • Collated updates about all VCS actions to consolidate status as at June 2018 (pages 4 & 10) • Developed the Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Framework for the implementation of the VCS 2014 to establish a systematic approach for assessing and reporting progress and assist with future policy and strategy development (page 4) • Received regular updates on implementation of the three regional coastal plans
Prepare and publish guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported DELWP's review of the Siting and Design guidelines and Guidelines for the Preparation of Coastal Management Plans
Liaise with and encourage the cooperation of Government departments, public authorities, municipal councils, industry, community groups and persons and bodies involved in the planning, management and use of the coast in furthering the objectives of the Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in stakeholder reference groups (page 7) • Prepared material for and chaired a round table meeting about MACA with key stakeholders (page 3) • Worked with DELWP to consult coastal managers about the scope for a Marine and Coastal Knowledge Hub (pages 4 & 11) • Worked with DELWP to consult with seven coastal Crown land managers about accounting methods for the Financing the Coast – Stage 1 project (pages 4 & 11) • Provided input to the Victorian Auditor General's Office for the Protecting Victoria's coastal assets audit (page 4)
Provide opportunities for the public and interested groups to be informed of and involved in the work of the Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organised and hosted the 2018 Victorian Coastal Awards (page 3) • Published two reports about the impacts of climate change for the Victorian coast based on Science Panel assessment (page 4) • Commenced fifth round of longitudinal social research about community attitudes and behaviours to marine and coastal environments (pages 4 & 11)
Encourage the work of volunteers in using and conserving coastal resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held the 2018 Victorian Coastal Awards to recognise the important contribution of coastal volunteers (page 3)
Give consideration to the needs of Aborigines and other interested groups in relation to the coast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The VCC Chair met with the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council to discuss opportunities under the MACA (page 7)

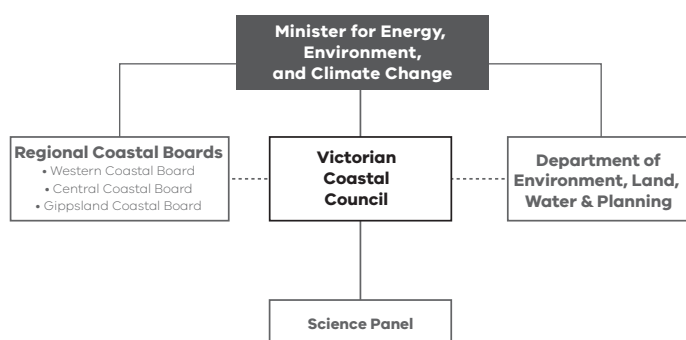


Figure 1: Coastal governance structure showing accountability relationships between the responsible Minister and entities.

2.1 Council Membership

Appointments to the Council were made under the provisions of the *Coastal Management Act 1995*. Under these provisions, Council comprises not more than 11 members who are appointed by the Governor-in-Council on the recommendation of the Minister. Brief biographies of current Council members follow.

2.1.1 Members

Members of the Council were appointed on 22 September 2015 and finished their term on 30 June 2018.

Dr Anthony Boxshall (Chair)

Dr Anthony Boxshall is a marine ecologist by trade who has worked in Australia and the USA across Government, academia and private industry. He is the Founder & Principal of Science into Action Pty Ltd, using leadership, innovation and science communication to turn great science into greater actions. A former National President of the Australian Marine Sciences Association (AMSA – the largest learned society for professional marine scientists in Australia), he has worked at UC Santa Cruz USA, Deakin University, and has been on several innovation Boards. A Principal Research Fellow in the School of Biosciences at the University of Melbourne, he was until late 2017 the Director, Applied Sciences at the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) in Victoria. He is a problem solver and strategist. As a hobby, he has been communicating the wonders of the marine environment to a broad audience through the award-winning “Radio Marinara” on 3RRR-FM in Melbourne for over 20 years. He is a dad to 4 children who continually amaze, inspire, frustrate and leave him in awe of the potential of the future and hence more determined to leave a positive coastal and marine legacy.



Belinda Ainley

Belinda has worked in coastal and environmental management for 18 years in State and local government and in private industry. She is currently working all over Victoria as a coastal and environmental planning consultant in her own boutique consulting business. Belinda has a Masters in Social Science (Environmental Planning) and a Bachelor of Applied Science (Parks, Recreation and Heritage). Belinda enjoys open water swimming and sea-kayaking.



Michelle Croughan

Michelle has worked in local and State government as a planner, with a particular focus on the management of the planning system, for over 20 years. She is a planning consultant specialising in planning and building policy. Michelle is a Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. She has an Honours Degree in Planning and Design at Melbourne University and a Diploma in Business Management at RMIT. Michelle is a member of her local 3206 Beach Patrol.



Stacey Daniel

Stacey is a business and engineering professional who specialises in strategic planning, risk management, governance and sustainability. She has worked across all sectors including government, industry and consulting, with experience in environmental management, urban and regional planning, property and infrastructure, and mining. Stacey is a Chartered Professional Engineer and Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. She is a former Council Member of the Alpine Resorts Co-ordinating Council and former Director of the Falls Creek Alpine Resorts Management Board and Local Government Professionals Victoria. Stacey and her family enjoy many of the activities offered by the coast including boating, sailing and the beach.



Cr Dick Ellis

Cr Ellis of the Shire of East Gippsland is a long-term resident of Lakes Entrance. He has a diverse background in public administration and business. Amongst his membership of a number of Gippsland-wide public boards and committees associated with the coast is his position as Chair of the Gippsland Coastal Board and the Gippsland Waste & Resource Recovery Group. Dick maintains a long engagement with community organisations and is President of his local Surf Life Saving Club. Dick is also a committee member of the Australian Coastal Councils Association.



Rob Gell

Rob is a coastal geomorphologist by training; he taught Environmental Science and Physical Geography at tertiary level, then for thirty years presented television weather. In his professional life, he works as an environmental and communications consultant and is a Director of Hive Group Pty Ltd. He is a company director, a published author and photographer. Rob is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and an Inaugural Fellow of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand. He has been a local government councillor and was a councillor of the Australian Conservation Foundation. He was the Environment Ambassador to the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games, a director of Greening Australia for thirteen years and Chairman of the UNESCO Western Port Biosphere for a decade. He is also the Patron of the Geography Teachers



Association of Victoria, Wildlife Victoria, Life Education Victoria, has been made a Life Ambassador for Australia Day and was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia in 2014.

Ross Kilborn

Ross was reappointed to the Council and Chair of the Central Coastal Board in September 2015. His business background has been in senior management roles, with an emphasis on strategy, business development and governance. He has a broad background in community affairs and extensive experience in recreational use of the coast, both as a participant, and from a policy perspective. He was Chief Executive Officer of Yachting Victoria, and a board member of Bicycle Network Victoria.



Cr Jill Parker

Jill holds degrees in Agricultural Science and Education from the University of Melbourne and was a teacher for over 20 years, specialising in biology, chemistry and agricultural science at senior secondary level. Jill is Chair of the Western Coastal Board and is a Councillor at Moyne Shire and Chair of the Barwon South West Waste and Resource Recovery Group. As well as involvement in other committees and boards, Jill is a committee member of the Australian Coastal Councils Association.



Dr David Provis

David is a Senior Principal of Cardno with more than 30 years' experience in consulting in coastal oceanography. He was a member of the National Committee on Coastal and Ocean Engineering, Engineers Australia (2005–2017), now a corresponding member, and a part-time Research Professor in the Centre for Ocean Engineering, Science and Technology at Swinburne University of Technology (2015–2017). His experience includes the analysis of measured data and numerical modelling in oceanography and marine meteorology. He has carried out significant studies in coastal hazard assessments and climate change impacts.



2.1.2 Council Meetings

Six Council meetings were held in the 2017–18 financial year:

- 20 September 2017
- 13 December 2017
- 7 February 2018
- 19 March 2018
- 17 May 2018
- 20 June 2018

Member attendance for the Council's six business meetings in the 2017–18 financial year are as follows:

Dr Anthony Boxshall	6
Belinda Ainley	5
Michelle Croughan	6
Stacey Daniel	6
Cr Dick Ellis	6
Rob Gell	6
Ross Kilborn	6
Cr Jill Parker	6
Dr David Provis	6

2.1.3 Representation on stakeholder reference groups

Council membership on stakeholder reference groups in the 2017–18 financial year was as follows:

- Office of the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability (OCES) Reference Group – Dr A. Boxshall
- Our Catchments Our Communities Reference Group – Dr A. Boxshall, Cr J. Parker
- Biodiversity Action Planning – Marine and Coastal Working Group – Dr A. Boxshall
- State Environment Protection Policy (Waters of Victoria) Stakeholder Reference Group – Dr D. Provis
- Safe and Accessible Waterways Reference Group (Department of Economic Development, Justice, Transport & Resources – DEDJTR) – R. Kilborn
- Victorian Biodiversity Strategy Biodiversity Response Planning co-design – Dr A. Boxshall
- Organising Committee for the 2018 Catchment Summit – Dr A. Boxshall
- Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014 Implementation Coordinating Committee – Dr A. Boxshall, B. Ainley

2.1.4 Presentations given by Council members and staff and workshop contributions

Council members and staff gave the presentations and contributed to the workshop shown in the table below.

Presenter	Presented To	Topic	Date
Dr A. Boxshall	2018 Catchment Summit, Geelong	From the Catchment to the Coast: Collaborating at a landscape scale	14 June 2018
Dr A. Boxshall	2018 Coast to Coast Conference, Hobart	What will happen when the sea comes lapping? New insight into natural asset impacts from Sea Level Rise in Victoria	19 April 2018
Dr A. Boxshall	Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council	Opportunities in the upcoming Marine and Coastal Act for VAHC and a Future Marine and Coastal Council	23 March 2018
Dr D. Provis	DELWP	Wave Climate Data Workshop – Victoria's Coastal Waters	March 2018
Dr D. Provis	CCB 'Connecting Coastal Champions' Forum	What are we adopting to?	23 November 2017

2.2 Council Operational Chart

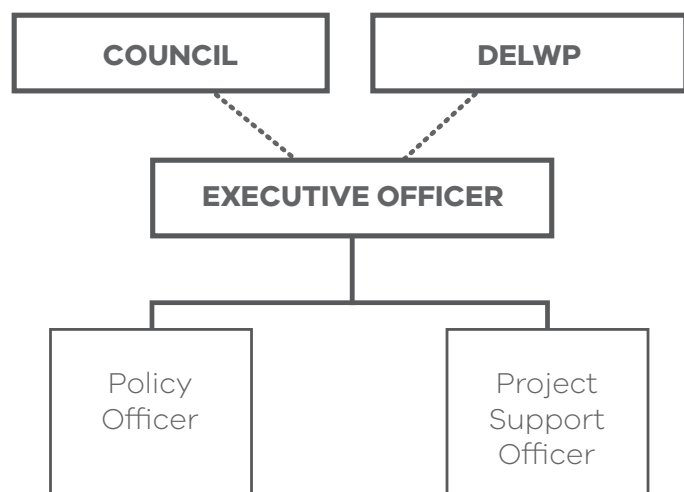


Figure 2: Council Operational Chart.

2.3 General Business Activities

Council business activities involved:

- undertaking specific projects
- engaging with stakeholders and partners through forums, working groups and meetings
- providing submissions on key policy documents and guidelines
- presenting at conferences and workshops
- advising and meeting with the Minister; and
- staging award events.

In addition to the highlights in Section 1, a snapshot of the activities done by the Council is set out below.

Date	Addressee	Issue	Available at
16 March 2018	Parks Victoria Manager Parks Planning	Submission about Belfast Coastal Reserve Draft Coastal Management Plan	www.vcc.vic.gov.au/page/resources/research-and-reports
30 April 2018	Great Ocean Road Taskforce	Submission about the Governance of the Great Ocean Road Region Issues Paper	www.vcc.vic.gov.au/page/resources/research-and-reports

2.3.1 Council Business Plan

The Council developed a Business Plan for 2015–2018 which provides the vision and strategic direction for the Council until 2018. Priorities outlined in the business plan reflect key issues, outcomes and actions contained in the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014, as well as responses to emerging challenges and opportunities for Victoria's coastal and marine environments.

2.3.2 Council Sub-committees

Council members were involved in the following Council Committees to guide and progress strategic projects and activities:

- Victorian Coastal Awards (B. Ainley, Cr D. Ellis and R. Gell) – successfully managed the hosting of the 2018 Awards
- Financing the Coast Steering Committee (M. Croughan) – worked with the project partner (DELWP) to direct the Financing the Coast – Stage 1 project
- MER Framework Steering Committee (Dr A. Boxshall and M. Croughan) – successfully directed development of the MER Framework; and
- Science Panel climate change reports (Dr A. Boxshall and Dr D. Provis) – successfully managed and directed development and completion of the two reports about climate change impacts for Victoria's coast.

2.3.3 Submissions by Council

Submissions made by Council are shown in the table below.



2.3.4 Presentations received at Council meetings

The Council received the following presentations at its meetings in 2017–18.

Presenter	Topic	Date
Kirstyn Lee, Senior Policy Officer Climate Change, DELWP	DELWP's coastal climate change adaptation programs	20 September 2017
Jane Tovey, Acting Director Land Policy, DELWP, Jeremy Reiger, Manager Policy and Strategy, DELWP, Amanda Cornish, Senior Legislation Officer, DELWP	MACA Bill and Transition Plan	20 September 2017
Dr Jeremy Hindell, Acting Director Land Policy, DELWP and Jeremy Reiger, Manager Policy and Strategy, DELWP	MACA Bill and Transition Plan Coastal Management Plan Guidelines	13 December 2017
Cindy Wood, Senior Coastal Programs Officer, DELWP (via telephone)	VAGO Audit – Protecting Victoria's Coastal Assets	13 December 2017
Joshua Chikuse, Manager Parks Planning, Parks Victoria	Hooded Plovers (and other natural assets) and horses on beaches	13 December 2017
Will Guthrie, Director Land Management Policy, DELWP and Jeremy Reiger, Manager Policy and Strategy, DELWP	MACA Bill and Transition Plan	7 February 2018
Joshua Chikuse, Manager Parks Planning, Parks Victoria and Joseph Mumford, Senior Strategy Officer Visitor Engagement and Conservation, Parks Victoria	Draft Belfast Coastal Reserve Management Plan	7 February 2018
John Downs, Program Manager, Coastal Environment Program, Port Phillip, DELWP (via telephone)	DELWP management approach to sediment movement within Port Phillip Bay	7 February 2018
Liz Patterson, Manager Policy and Strategy, DELWP (via telephone) and Virginia Brook, Senior Policy Officer, DELWP	Financing the Coast	7 February 2018
Angeline Charles, Manager Statewide Coastal Programs, DELWP	Statewide Coastal Programs Team	7 February 2018
Paul Holper and Simon Torok, Scientell	VCC Science Panel Report	19 March 2018
Gavan Dwyer, Marsden Jacob Associates, Liz Patterson, Manager Policy and Strategy DELWP, Virginia Brook, Senior Project Officer, DELWP	Financing the Coast	19 March 2018
Will Guthrie, Director Land Policy, DELWP	MACA Bill and Transition Plan VAGO Audit – Protecting Victoria's Coastal Assets	17 May 2018
Simon Torok, Scientell	VCC Science Panel Report	17 May 2018
Clare Ferguson and Martijn Gough, Aither	Victorian Coastal Strategy Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Framework	17 May 2018
Will Guthrie, Director Land Policy, DELWP and Jeremy Reiger, Manager Policy and Strategy DELWP	MACA Bill and Transition Plan	20 June 2018

2.3.5 Council Publications

Council published the following reports during 2017–18:

- Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (MER) Framework for the implementation of the VCS 2014, June 2018
- Victoria's Coast: Preparing for the future, June 2018
- Victoria's Coast and Marine Environments Under Projected Climate Change: Impacts, research gaps and priorities, June 2018

These reports are available on the Council's website: www.vcc.vic.gov.au/page/resources/research-and-reports.

2.3.6 Conferences and Seminars

Representatives from the Council attended the following conferences and seminars during 2017–18.

- Central Coastal Board 'Connecting Coastal Champions' Forum, 23 November 2017, St Kilda – Dr A. Boxshall, R. Kilborn, Dr D. Provis, Cr D. Ellis, Rob Gell
- 2018 Australian Coastal Council Conference, 21 to 23 March 2018, Geelong – Cr D. Ellis, Cr J. Parker
- 2018 Coast to Coast Conference, 16–20 April 2018, Hobart – Dr A. Boxshall
- 2018 Catchments Summit, 14 June 2018, Geelong – Dr A. Boxshall, Cr D. Ellis

2.3.7 Performance Review

In 2017–18, Council completed a review of its performance as required by DELWP covering the performance of Individual members, the Council collectively, and the Chair. The outcomes of the review were documented in meeting minutes (VCC meeting 144 on 7 February 2018) and incorporated into a report from the VCC to the Incoming Marine and Coastal Council.

3. Implementation of the Coastal Management Act 1995

The following section outlines the activities done through the Victorian Coastal Council, regional coastal boards and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), to implement the objectives of the *Coastal Management Act 1995*.

Objectives of the *Coastal Management Act 1995*:

- (a) To plan for and manage the use of Victoria's coastal resources on a sustainable basis for recreation, conservation, tourism, commerce and similar uses in appropriate areas;
- (b) To protect and maintain areas of environmental significance on the coast including its ecological, geomorphological, geological, cultural and landscape features;
- (c) To facilitate the development of a range of facilities for improved recreation and tourism;
- (d) To maintain and improve coastal water quality;
- (e) To improve public awareness and understanding of the coast and to involve the public in coastal planning and management.

3.1 Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014 (VCS)

The VCS was established under the *Coastal Management Act 1995*, and contains the State Government's policy commitment for coastal, estuarine and marine environments in Victoria. It provides a long-term vision for the planning, management and sustainable use of our coast, and the policies and actions Victorians will need to implement over the five years following its release to help achieve that vision.

The VCS also provides a framework to assist in the development and implementation of other locally and regionally specific strategies and plans such as coastal management plans, regional coastal plans, and planning schemes.

The Act provides clear guidance on how the VCS should be developed, including what it must contain, how consultation should occur and how often it needs to be updated. Under the Act, the VCS must be reviewed every five years, unless the Minister directs the Council to review it earlier.

Section 15 of *Coastal Management Act 1995* states that the contents of the Strategy must:

- (1) Provide for the long-term planning of the Victorian coast –
 - a) to ensure the protection of significant environmental features of the coast;
 - b) to provide clear direction for the future use of the coast including the marine environment;
 - c) to identify suitable development areas and development opportunities on the coast; and
 - d) to ensure the sustainable use of natural coastal resources.
- (2) Be consistent with –
 - a) the *National Parks Act 1975*; and
 - b) the purpose for which land was reserved under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*.

The first VCS was endorsed by the Victorian Government in 1997 and, in consultation with planners, coastal land managers, and users, set up a policy framework for managing the Victorian coast. The aim of this framework was to create a single coordinated policy document based on real statutory authority and aligned with the requirements outlined in Section 15 of the Act.

The second VCS released in 2002 supported the introduction of marine national parks and sanctuaries in Victoria.

In 2008, the third VCS introduced a new planning benchmark for sea level rise under climate change, which was embedded in the State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF). It also identified three significant issues requiring specific attention (climate change, population growth, and marine ecological integrity).

The fourth iteration of the strategy was released in 2014.

The vision of the VCS 2014 is for a healthy coast, appreciated by all, now and in the future.

The VCS 2014 outlines five long-term, interconnected issues facing the Victorian coast. These are:

- Managing population growth
- Adapting to a changing climate
- Managing coastal land and infrastructure
- Valuing the natural environment; and
- Integrating marine planning.

The VCS 2014 includes measures to ensure ongoing public access to our beaches, clear guidance for regional coastal plans, and a more integrated approach to marine planning and management.

3.2 Implementation of the VCS 2014

In its role as lead agency for the implementation of the Strategy, DELWP developed an Implementation Plan in consultation with delivery partners and the Victorian Coastal Council. The Plan, released in April 2017, provides the basis for monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the Strategy from 2014 to 2019. It highlights the priority projects for the remainder of the Strategy's life, and outlines collective progress in delivering on the VCS. The Plan also confirms the appropriate delivery partners for each action, given several organisational changes since the VCS was published. The Implementation Plan is available at the following link:

<http://www.vcc.vic.gov.au/page/resources/research-and-reports>.

The Council hosted a meeting of the VCS Implementation Coordinating Committee in February 2018 to assess the progress in implementing the priority actions identified in the Implementation Plan. This group includes representatives from all relevant agencies responsible for the priority actions. The meeting clarified responsible agencies and progress for each action, and identified steps to address several confounding issues for specific actions. Subsequent work by the VCC and partner agencies consolidated information about the status and progress in completing all actions in the VCS 2014. All actions are in progress.

A major development since the current VCS was released in 2014 is the introduction of the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* (MACA). Several of the actions in the VCS will be addressed through the new Act and the accompanying Transition Plan. This plan outlines a program of complementary policy reforms and on ground actions to transition to the new system over several years. The MACA requires the development of a new marine and coastal policy by the end of 2019 and an associated strategy by the end of 2020. Until these times, the policies and actions in the VCS 2014 will be taken as the statewide policy and strategy (respectively) under the new Act.

During 2017–18, the Council developed a Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (MER) Framework for the implementation of the VCS 2014 to establish a systematic approach for assessing and reporting about:

- progress in delivering the actions in the VCS
- whether implementation of the actions has met the VCS intent; and
- the success in moving towards the desired outcomes of the VCS.

The MER Framework is available for the new Marine and Coastal Council and DELWP to review the relevance of actions in the VCS and identify ways to improve strategic planning for marine and coastal environments in Victoria. This will assist in identifying the issues that should be covered by the Marine and Coastal Policy, and the approaches and actions to be included in the Marine and Coastal Strategy.

3.3 Strategic Projects

The Council undertook several projects during 2017–18 to address strategic issues identified in the VCS 2014 and the VCC Business Plan 2015–2018.

Financing the Coast

Coastal stakeholders have raised concerns about the lack of transparency in funding arrangements for coastal management and the difficulty in understanding what resources are generated and spent on the coast. There is also a lack of comprehensive information about the value of the coast to Victoria relative to management costs. The Council recognised that these issues need to be tackled to better address significant challenges about climate change, population growth and ageing coastal infrastructure.

The Financing the Coast program aims to develop a more systematic approach to understanding and planning coastal revenue and expenditure. The Council partnered with DELWP in 2017–18 to complete initial work to better define the revenue and expenditure associated with the planning, management and maintenance of the State's coastal Crown land. The Financing the Coast – Stage 1 project involved consultation with seven representative coastal managers in regional and rural; urban and semi-urban; and large and small coastal areas. The project developed and tested accounting methodologies across the Victorian coast to progressively improve coastal accounting through greater transparency,

better reporting and a more strategic approach for funding the coast. The longer-term aim of the work is to contribute to a more systematic approach to how coastal management is funded in Victoria. This will help to inform decisions about funding priorities and ensure resources are allocated appropriately to meet future challenges and changes.

Wave 5 – Coastal and Marine Environments Community Attitudes and Behaviours Research

The VCC periodically commissioned social research on community attitudes and behaviours to the Victorian coastal and marine environments. This research is fundamental to understanding attitudes and behaviours in coastal use and management, and helps engage the community in the coastal management process by documenting community views and opinions on a range of topics and issues. Previous surveys were conducted in 1996, 2000, 2007, and 2011.

The VCC commenced the fifth iteration of this longitudinal series (Wave 5) in June 2018 as a partnership between the VCC, DELWP, Parks Victoria and the Office of the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability. The project is timely to give information to support the introduction of the MACA and the change to the Marine and Coastal Council as the peak advisory body. The MACA Transition Plan noted that the outcomes from the project will be a key input to the development of the future marine and coastal policy and strategy.

Marine and Coastal Knowledge Hub

Consultation during the development of the Marine and Coastal Act identified a clear view among coastal stakeholders that technical skills and capacity have declined in many organisations involved in coastal and marine management in Victoria. It was also felt that, while there is a wide range of information and data available for decision making, at times it can be difficult to access and use. This limits the effectiveness of coastal managers and can lead to poorer outcomes.

To address this, the VCC partnered with DELWP in 2018 to commence development of a Knowledge Hub to facilitate connections between people in the marine and coastal management sector so that science, research and technical expertise and education better inform decision-making processes for the marine and coastal environment. The scope and options for the Knowledge Hub were explored during 2017–18 in two workshops with key coastal stakeholders.

3.4 Working with regional coastal boards (RCBs)

Whilst the Council works with many partners, our partnerships with RCBs are paramount. There are three RCBs that operate across Victoria and the Chair of each Board was also a member of the Council.

Effective collaboration between the VCC and RCBs was essential to the implementation of the *Coastal Management Act 1995*.

3.5 Regional Coastal Plans (RCPs)

Table 1: Regional Coastal Plans and Coastal Action Plans current during 2017–18

Region	CAP title
Gippsland Coastal Board	Gippsland Regional Coastal Plan 2015–2020
	Gippsland Boating CAP Review 2018
	Gippsland Boating CAP 2013
	Gippsland Estuaries CAP 2006
	Integrated Coastal Planning for Gippsland CAP 2002
Central Coastal Board	Central Regional Coastal Plan 2015–2020
	Recreational Boating Facilities Framework 2014
	Recreational Boating Facilities Framework mid-term review 2018
	Mount Eliza to Point Nepean CAP 2005
	Corio Bay CAP 2005
Western Coastal Board	Western Regional Coastal Plan 2015–2020
	Western Victoria Boating CAP 2010
	Central West Victoria Estuaries CAP 2005
	Central West Victorian Regional CAP 2003
	South West Victoria Estuaries CAP 2002
	South West Victorian Regional CAP 2002
	Moyne CAP 2001
	Glenelg CAP 2004
	Skenes Creek to Marengo CAP 2002
	Lorne CAP 1998
	Warrnambool CAP 1999
	Anglesea CAP 1999

3.6 Coastal Management Act Consents

Pursuant to section 37 of the *Coastal Management Act 1995*, any use or development of coastal Crown land must be approved in writing by the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change. Figure 3 summarises the 266 applications for the use and/or development of coastal Crown land that were approved by delegates of the Minister during 2017–18.

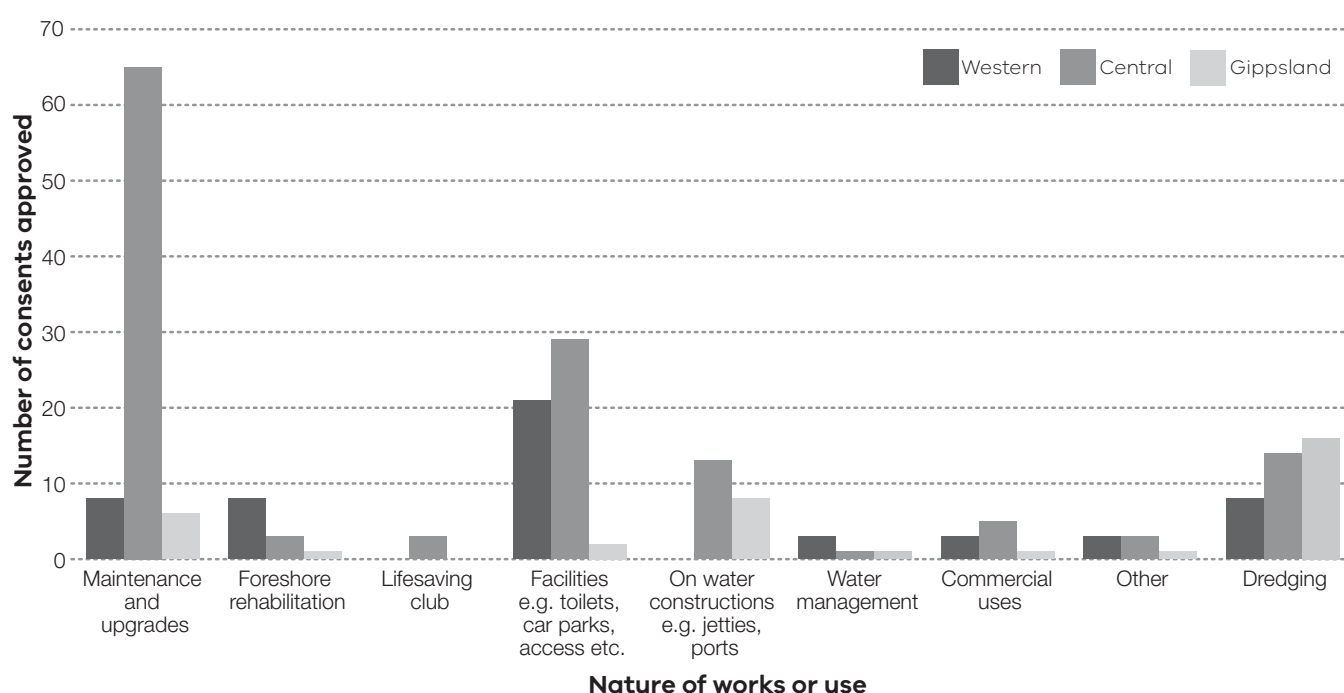


Figure 3: Number and type of Coastal Management Act consents issues for each region in 2017–18.

4. Regional Coastal Boards

In Victoria in 2017–18, there were three regional coastal boards (RCBs) which were established under the *Coastal Management Act 1995*:

- Western Coastal Board (WCB)
- Central Coastal Board (CCB)
- Gippsland Coastal Board (GCB)

The roles and responsibilities of each RCB were outlined in Section 12 of the Act and include: to advocate for coastal issues; to facilitate the application of the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014 (VCS) at a regional level; and to provide advice on coastal planning and management issues.

RCBs have a critical role in implementing the VCS. While the VCS establishes principles and policies to guide coastal planning and management at a state-wide level, these need to be applied regionally and locally with the benefit of regional and local knowledge and context.

4.1 Western Coastal Board (WCB)

4.1.1 Western Coastal Region

Victoria's western coastal region extends for 476 kilometres from Breamlea to the South Australian border and includes the municipalities of Surf Coast, Colac Otway, Corangamite, Moyne, Glenelg, and the City of Warrnambool. The west coast features iconic attractions such as the Great Ocean Road, the Twelve Apostles and Bells Beach. Major coastal centres include Portland, Warrnambool and Torquay, and smaller villages and settlements include Port Fairy, Apollo Bay, Lorne and Port Campbell. The increasing popularity of the Victorian coast has seen significant increases in both residential and holiday populations of towns, with many people becoming aware of the special values of the western coastal region.

4.1.2 WCB Membership

The following members were appointed to the Western Coastal Board (WCB) on 22 September 2015 until 30 June 2018:

- Cr Jill Parker – Chair
- Mark Edmonds
- Kim Irons
- Oliver Moles
- Raymond Page
- Alex Rankin
- Carole Reid
- Glenn Wallace

4.1.3 Key Projects

WCB Business Plan Progression

The Board's three-year business plan outlined activities that will be done throughout the term of the Board to implement the Western Regional Coastal Plan 2015–2020 (RCP), key legislative responsibilities and actions allocated to the Board in the VCS. The Business Plan identified six priorities, key actions and outcomes with timeframes until 30 June 2018.

The last progress report for the business plan showed most actions were complete, except for the Visitation Framework, the statutory review of the Boating Coastal Action Plan and the sun-setting of outdated Coastal Actions Plans under priority six. These actions will be progressed by DELWP following the cessation of the regional coastal boards under the new Marine and Coastal Act.

The priorities:

1. A regional approach to coastal planning and management

A key action for the Board under this priority was to ensure there are current Coastal Management Plans (CMPs) in place throughout the region. Following the release of DELWP's Guidelines for the Preparation of Coastal Management Plans 2017, the Board wrote to coastal Crown land managers in the western coastal region, promoting the benefits of developing CMPs and encouraging use of the Guidelines to do so.

The Board has continued to support the incorporation of cultural heritage and traditional owner input into coastal and catchment planning tools and management agreements, and efforts to work with Traditional Owners in preparing multi park plans that include coastal areas. In its submission to the Belfast Coastal Reserve Draft Coastal Management Plan, the Board noted its concern over commercial horse training taking place in the reserve's sand dunes with respect to Aboriginal cultural heritage management, and emphasised the need for Aboriginal Corporation views to be more strongly considered in the plan. In its response to the Governance of the Great Ocean Road Issues Paper, the Board specified it would like to see the Great Ocean Road's significant Aboriginal cultural heritage better protected.

2. Managing and protecting coastal values

The Board worked with partners to share information and participate in events to build regional capacity, collaboration and resourcing, and has provided opportunities for



networking and knowledge exchange between coastal communities, planners, managers and other stakeholders.

In July 2017, the Board hosted a facilitated workshop in Camperdown that brought together several agencies responsible for delivering actions in the implementation plan for the RCP: DELWP, Parks Victoria, Glenelg Hopkins and Corangamite Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs), Glenelg, Moyne and Colac Otway Shire Councils, Warrnambool City Council, Regional Development Victoria, and the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee. This workshop enabled agencies to network and share information on the progress of their actions in the RCP, and provided DELWP Land Management Policy with an opportunity to update those attending on the progress of the new Marine and Coastal Bill. DELWP's Biodiversity branch also presented on the Victorian Coastal Monitoring Program.

3. Communities supported to care for the coast

The Board has promoted, acknowledged and supported the work done by local coastal and marine community groups. Using the WCB website, its quarterly stakeholder newsletter and Twitter, the Board has promoted Summer by the Sea, EstuaryWatch, the Coastcare Victoria Community Grants Program and the 2018 Victorian Coastal Awards. At its meeting held in Portland, the Board encouraged the Chair of the South West Action Network (whose members include Coastcare groups and 'friends of' groups) to nominate for the Victorian Coastal Awards. It also encouraged the CEO of Glenelg Shire Council to nominate for these awards, as part of its thank you letter to the council for hosting the WCB field trip to Portland.

4. Managing regional population and tourism pressures

The VCS recognises the need for strategic planning to address how increasing tourism and visitor use will be experienced and managed along the coast. The Western, Central and Gippsland regional coastal plans similarly include actions to plan for visitor use on the coast and map and categorise recreational infrastructure throughout the region using a service level hierarchy, similar to the approach used in the Boating Coastal Action Plans.

Strengthening Victoria's Marine and Coastal Management: A proposed Transition Plan includes an action to develop a Visitation Framework to:

- capture and understand the current recreation opportunities in coastal and marine areas across the state
- provide the best information available and a planning tool for land managers to address visitor experiences and help meet future challenges and
- help identify priorities for investment and/or improved management of visitor experiences.

DELWP and the regional coastal boards have been progressing this project based on recommendations made by the Project Steering Group, which has met four times this year to discuss and clarify the scope of the project. The Steering Group has agreed that the Visitation Framework will align as closely as possible with Parks Victoria's Visitor Experience Framework to support integrated and seamless decision making across land managers. The immediate priority for the project is on creating the statewide spatial datasets required as the project's foundational element.

5. Adapting to climate change and increased coastal hazards

Building on its promotion of Victoria's Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2017–2020 last financial year, this year

the Board has ensured its stakeholders are aware of the Victorian Coastal Monitoring Program, which aims to provide communities with information on coastal condition, change, hazards, and the expected longer-term impacts associated with climate change that will support decision making and adaptation planning.

6. Policy and operations

Building upon the success of the Western Regional Coastal Plan implementation workshop held in August 2016, the Board hosted another facilitated workshop in Camperdown as an opportunity for partner agencies to discuss progress on achieving their actions in the implementation plan. Feedback gathered at the workshop was used to inform an implementation progress report.

During 2017–18, the Board received regular updates on the progress of developing the Marine and Coastal Act and Transition Plan, including providing feedback on the then proposed Transition Plan at its joint meeting with the CCB and GCB on 13 June 2018.

Progress on the 5-year review of the Western Victorian Boating Coastal Action Plan and on the sunset of outdated CAPs is considered under Implementation of RCP/CAPs below.

The Board completed a review of its performance, as required by DELWP, covering the performance of individual members, the Board collectively, and the Chair. The results were documented in the minutes of its 17 November 2017 meeting.

The Board consistently updated the VCC on its activities at VCC meetings including the status of regional coastal board-led actions in the VCS.

With the commencement of the MACA, the three RCBs and the Victorian Coastal Council will be replaced by a Marine and Coastal Council. Following the end of the WCB's term on 30 June 2018, any outstanding actions in the business plan will be completed by DELWP.

Implementation of the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014

The VCS Implementation Plan (April 2017) provides a progress update compiled by DELWP on all actions in the VCS. It shows that most actions in the VCS are either complete or in progress.

The Western Regional Coastal Plan addresses many actions assigned to the RCBs, including the development of a Visitation Framework to provide strategic direction for how increasing tourism and visitation will be experienced and managed along the coast.

Implementation of RCP/CAPs

Progress in implementing the Western Regional Coastal Plan has been considered under Policy and Operations. Planners and managers continue to use these plans, however, as outlined in the Review of Coastal Action Plans in the Western Coastal Region June 2012, it is expected that over time most of these existing plans will transition into appropriate local and regional planning tools, such as Coastal Management Plans.

The Board has commenced a full statutory review of its Western Victoria Boating Coastal Action Plan (Boating CAP). The review will focus on an overall assessment of the outcomes of the Boating CAP, address specific priorities addressed in the Interim Review of the Boating CAP done in July 2013, and if necessary will incorporate policy or planning changes into a revised CAP.

Working with Stakeholders

The Board held its meetings at various locations across the western coastal region to gain local perspectives. In Portland, the Glenelg Shire Council hosted the Board on a coastal field trip where the Board saw the impacts of coastal erosion from Dutton Way through to Cape Bridgewater, and the proactive approaches the council is taking to balance amenity and natural buffer such as the sand dune ramp and sand capture shade / barbecue structure at Nuns Beach. The Board was also updated on the Bridgewater Bay Foreshore Master Plan, the Portland Foreshore Master Plan, and the Portland Coastal Management Plan.

The Board has regularly communicated to its stakeholders via Twitter, its website, and its quarterly stakeholder newsletter 'WCB News' (published on the WCB website and distributed directly to stakeholders via email). It continued membership of the Glenelg Hopkins Coastal and Marine Working Group.

The Board has also learned, shared and engaged with other coastal experts through representation at conferences and seminars including:

- Catchment Management Authority 'Our Catchments, Our Community' Steering Committee meeting
- Central Coastal Board 'Connecting Coastal Champions' forum, St Kilda, November 2017
- Great Ocean Road Taskforce Workshops, Torquay and Warrnambool, February 2018
- Applying the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – Determining Socio-Economic Indicators for Victoria's Environment Workshop, Melbourne, February 2018
- Australian Coastal Council Conference, Geelong, March 2018
- Victorian Coastal Awards, St Kilda, May 2018.

4.2 Central Coastal Board (CCB)

4.2.1 The Central Coastal Region

The Central Coastal Region, from Breamlea to Inverloch, covers 990 kilometres of coastline. It includes the cities of Melbourne and Geelong, 1.6 million hectares of hinterland catchment, the two large bays of Port Phillip, Western Port and coastal waters and islands. The 13 local government authorities comprising this area are home to three quarters of the Victorian population.

4.2.2 CCB Membership

The following CCB members were appointed on 22 September 2015 until 30 June 2018:

- Ross Kilborn – Chair
- Dr Sandra Brizga
- Greg Hunt
- Dr Rosalind Jessop
- Dr Rebecca Koss
- Jeff Weir
- Nick Wynn

4.2.3 Key Projects

CCB Business Plan Progression

The Board's three-year business plan reflected its objectives under the Coastal Management Act and included the actions to implement the Central Regional Coastal Plan 2015–2020.

On 1 August 2018, the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* (MACA) came into effect, replacing the Coastal Management Act. Under the MACA, the three regional coastal boards and the Victorian Coastal Council were replaced by a Marine and Coastal Council. Following the end of the CCB's term on 30 June 2018, any outstanding actions in the business plan will be completed by DELWP.

The business plan identified six priorities which were the focus for the board's activities during the year.



1. Facilitate implementation of the Central Regional Coastal Plan (RCP)

The RCP Implementation Committee was established in 2016 to share information and discuss opportunities and any issues related to implementing actions in the Central RCP. The group met in August 2017 to discuss remaining priority actions including planning for the Connecting Coastal Champions forum and the Visitation Framework.

The Board commenced the mid-term review of the Recreational Boating Facilities Framework (RBFF). The RBFF provides an inventory of the region's boating facilities, including local port facilities, and classifies each of them into five different categories based on the level of service they provide. The focus is on describing a hierarchy of boating facilities that will assist facility managers with future infrastructure planning and maintenance. The mid-term review gauges the usefulness of the RBFF through a stakeholder survey, with the survey responses used to draft the mid-term review. The final report from the review was submitted to DELWP in June 2018.

2. Develop a Sustainable Visitation and Tourism Framework

The Victorian Coastal Strategy (VCS) recognises the need for strategic planning to address how increasing tourism and visitor use will be experienced and managed along the coast. The Western, Central and Gippsland regional coastal plans similarly include actions to plan for visitor use on the coast and map and categorise recreational infrastructure throughout the region using a service level hierarchy, similar to the approach used in the Boating Coastal Action Plans.

Strengthening Victoria's Marine and Coastal Management: A proposed Transition Plan includes an action to develop a Visitation Framework to:

- capture and understand the current recreation opportunities in coastal and marine areas across the state
- provide the best information available and a planning tool for land managers to address visitor experiences and help meet future challenges
- help identify priorities for investment and/or improved management of visitor experiences.

DELWP and the regional coastal boards have been progressing this project based on recommendations made by the project Steering Group, which has met four times this year to discuss and clarify the scope of the project. The Steering Group has agreed that the Visitation Framework will align as closely as possible with Parks Victoria's Visitor Experience Framework, to support integrated and seamless decision making across land managers. The immediate priority for the project is on creating the statewide spatial datasets required as the project's foundational elements.

3. Promote leadership, coordination and capacity building for the coast

In November 2017, the CCB hosted Connecting Coastal Champions, a one-day coastal forum at the Novotel in St Kilda. The target audience was coastal decision makers and the people that influence them, with coastal land use and policy being at the forefront of discussions.

Attracting over 180 coastal decision makers and managers from a wide variety of coastal organisations around Australia, the forum successfully raised several key issues and ideas, and provided a platform for experts to examine leading examples and future alternatives to pressing concerns

regarding Victoria's coastal environments and champion the need for coastal reform.

The forum was successful in connecting people, enabling them to share knowledge on plans, policies, and practices, from both within Victoria and interstate. The Board recognised the potential value of a coastal forum held in alternative years to the national Coast to Coast conference and hoped it will continue as a regular event for Victoria.

In addition to the forum, the Board has remained actively engaged in key strategic coastal issues, including providing a letter of support to the proposed upgrade of the Corinella boating facilities, advice on the Coronet Bay boat ramp, and a letter of support for the Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority tender for the National Landcare Program – Regional Land Partnerships.

Board members, particularly the Chair, participated on coastal working groups and other opportunities including sponsorship of the Association of Bay Municipalities (ABM) 2018 Annual Dinner, at which the Chair was a guest speaker, and attendance at the 2018 Victorian Coastal Awards.

4. Co-ordinate input to the Marine and Coastal Act (MACA) Review

The Marine and Coastal Act formed a major focus for the board in 2017–18. Building from the CCB Chair's involvement in the March 2017 Ministerial Roundtable, the Board continued to receive regular updates on the progress of the new MACA and Transition Plan. This included providing feedback on the then proposed Transition Plan at a joint meeting with the three RCBs on 13 June 2018.

5. Meet other requirements of the Act

The Board submitted its 2017–18 annual report to the VCC and held six meetings during the year. All members have adopted the DELWP model policies and guidelines for good governance.

The Board continued to update its Communications Plan as an internal document to support its activities with stakeholders. It published a quarterly stakeholder newsletter, prepared a quarterly update for the Minister and ensured its website includes 'what's new' and all current events.

6. Implementation of the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014

The VCS Implementation Plan (April 2017) provides a progress update compiled by DELWP on all actions in the VCS. It shows that most actions in the VCS are either complete or in progress.

The Central RCP addresses many actions assigned to the RCBs, including the development of a **Visitation Framework** to provide strategic direction for how increasing tourism and visitation will be experienced and managed along the coast.

Implementation of RCP/CAPS

Progress in implementing the Central Regional Coastal Plan 2015–2020 has been considered in the section on progressing the Board's business plan.

The RBFF is integrated into the Regional Coastal Plan and replaces the Boating Coastal Action Plan 2007. It provides information on the current state and preferred future of recreational boating facilities in the region. The mid-term review of the RBFF is also addressed under the section on progressing the Board's business plan.

Working with Stakeholders

The Board regularly updated the VCC on its activities at VCC meetings. The Board regularly communicated with its stakeholders and with the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, via quarterly newsletters (published on the CCB website and emailed directly to a list of over 500 stakeholders), quarterly written updates, regularly updating the CCB website and by hosting 180 key stakeholders at their Connecting Coastal Champions Forum.

This Forum was an excellent networking opportunity led by the CCB and provided an invaluable platform for discussion and collaboration. It provided a chance to share knowledge and discuss key issues for the management of the unique Victorian coastline.

Key issues from feedback included the need for improved access to data and information, the lack of guidance in current policy and the lack of funds and resources to effectively manage the coast.

The Board Chair was also interviewed as part of the consultation process for the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) 2017 *Protecting Victoria's Coastal Assets* audit, to determine whether natural and built assets on Victoria's coastline are being effectively protected against coastal erosion and inundation.

The Association of Bayside Municipalities (ABM) annual dinner was held in Frankston in March 2018. The CCB sponsored the dinner as a valuable opportunity to learn, share and engage with some of the leading coastal thinkers and managers. As a guest speaker, the CCB Chair presented on the learnings and discoveries from the 2017 Connecting Coastal Champions forum. With so much momentum generated from the Forum, the Board would like to see this held as a regular event to bring the Victorian coastal community together.

4.3 Gippsland Coastal Board (GCB)

4.3.1 The Gippsland Coastal Region

The Gippsland coastal region, from Anderson Inlet in the west to the New South Wales border in the east of the state, covers 700 kilometres. It is home to thousands of residents living in or near one of the many coastal towns and iconic Gippsland Lakes.

Gippsland's coastal region includes three municipalities: South Gippsland Shire Council, Wellington Shire Council and East Gippsland Shire Council.

The Gippsland coast remains in a largely natural state, being characterised by diverse natural environments, including important habitat for flora and fauna species protected by national parks, reserves and public foreshore land. Significant tourism and recreation destinations include Wilsons Promontory National Park, Gippsland Lakes, Corner Inlet and Ninety Mile Beach.

4.3.2 GCB Membership

The following GCB members were appointed on 22 September 2015 until 30 June 2018:

- Cr Dick Ellis – Chair
- Joanne Andrews
- Allan Bawden
- Michelle Dickson
- Susan Lloyd
- Paul Smith
- Rodney Thomas

4.3.3 Key Projects

GCB Business Plan Progression

The board's three-year business plan reflected its objectives under the Coastal Management Act and included the actions to implement the Gippsland Regional Coastal Plan 2015–2020.

The development of the Marine and Coastal Act formed a major focus for the Board in 2017–18. Building from the GCB Chair's involvement in the March 2017 Ministerial Roundtable, the Board continued to receive regular updates on the progress of the MACA and Transition Plan, and provided feedback on the then proposed Transition Plan at a joint meeting with the three RCBs on 13 June 2018.



With the commencement of the MACA, the three regional coastal boards and the Victorian Coastal Council will be replaced by a Marine and Coastal Council. Following the end of the GCB's term on 30 June 2018, any outstanding actions in the business plan will be completed by DELWP.

The Business Plan identifies key priorities which have been the focus for the Board's activities during the year.

1. Contributing to the protection of priority coastal values

The GCB continued to advocate and engage with stakeholders for the protection and enhancement of Gippsland's natural, social, economic and cultural values. A GCB representative regularly participates in the quarterly Coastal Agencies Liaison meetings and Corner Inlet Partnership meetings.

The Board also continued to work with traditional owner groups to provide support and information to the community through presentations about indigenous cultural heritage values and projects along the Gippsland coast.

2. Facilitating regional management of the coastal environment and infrastructure

The Victorian Coastal Strategy (VCS) recognises the need for strategic planning to address how increasing tourism and visitor use will be experienced and managed along the coast. The Western, Central and Gippsland regional coastal plans similarly include actions to plan for visitor use on the coast and map and categorise recreational infrastructure throughout the region using a service level hierarchy, similar to the approach used in the Boating Coastal Action Plans.

An action to develop this 'Visitation Framework' is included in *Strengthening Victoria's Marine and Coastal Management: A proposed Transition Plan*. The framework aims to:

- capture and understand the current recreation opportunities in coastal and marine areas across the state
- provide the best information available and a planning tool for land managers to address visitor experiences and help meet future challenges and
- help identify priorities for investment and/or improved management of visitor experiences.

DELWP and the regional coastal boards have been progressing this project based on recommendations made by the project Steering Group, which has met four times this year to discuss and clarify the scope of the project, which builds on the work GCB did to produce a scoping report at the beginning stages of the project.

The Steering Group has agreed that the Visitation Framework will align as closely as possible with Parks Victoria's Visitor Experience Framework, to support integrated and seamless decision making across land managers. The immediate priority for the project is on creating the statewide spatial datasets required as the project's foundational element.

3. Adapting to climate change and increased coastal hazards

The Board addressed coastal climate change issues through advocacy and implementation of the Gippsland RCP. The Board worked with regional stakeholders to raise awareness of climate change issues in the region. Implementation of the RCP is addressed below.

4. Leading in supporting communities to care for the coast

The GCB website was improved during the year and new security measures put in place so that it provided a useful communication tool for the Board, its stakeholders and community groups.

5. Practising good governance

The GCB has submitted this year's Annual Report to the VCC and held five meetings during the year. All GCB members have adopted the DELWP model policies and guidelines for good governance. The Board kept its website and its internal Communications Plan up to date to support its activities with stakeholders. It regularly updated the VCC on its activities at VCC meetings.

Implementation of the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014

The VCS Implementation Plan (April 2017) provides a progress update compiled by DELWP on all actions in the VCS. It shows that most actions in the Strategy are either complete or in progress.

The Gippsland RCP addresses many actions assigned to the RCBs, including the development of a Visitation Framework to provide strategic direction for how increasing tourism and visitation will be experienced and managed along the coast. The Coastal Action Plans (CAPs) also implement the VCS in the region, particularly the Boating CAP with its focus on boating precincts that help identify investment priorities.

Implementation of RCP and CAPs

Progress in implementing the Gippsland Regional Coastal Plan 2015–2020 has been considered in the section on progressing the Board's business plan.

The Board commenced a full statutory review of the Gippsland Boating Coastal Action Plan (Boating CAP). The review focused on an overall assessment of the outcomes of the Boating CAP and incorporated policy or planning changes into a revised CAP.

Following the end of the GCB's term on 30 June 2018, any outstanding actions in the RCP will be completed by DELWP.

Working with Stakeholders

The Board's coastal liaison activities promoted networking, knowledge exchange and community participation. Board meetings were opportunities to gain local perspectives and over the past year the board scheduled its meetings in different locations across the Gippsland region including Traralgon and Sale.

The board has included a variety of stakeholders to present at their meetings including:

- Victorian Coastal Monitoring Program (VCMP) presentation by Lawrance Ferns, DELWP Marine Diversity Policy and Programs (Traralgon 23 August 2017)
- MACA presentation by Jeremy Reiger (Traralgon 11 October 2017)
- Hazelwood Mine, Brett Davis via teleconference (Traralgon 11 October 2017).

GCB members attended the following conferences and seminars:

- VCC Roundtable, attended by the Chair – 31 August 2017
- Central Coastal Board – Connecting Coastal Champions Forum, attended by the Chair – November 2017
- Victorian Coastal Awards 2018
- Australian Coastal Awards
- Gippsland Lakes Climate Change Forum, attended by member Michelle Dickson – 3–4 April 2018.

5. Operations

5.1 Contact

Council's office is located at 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne, 3002.

The postal address for the Council is PO Box 500, East Melbourne, 8002.

Telephone: 03 9637 8893

Email: vcc@delwp.vic.gov.au

Website: www.vcc.vic.gov.au

5.2 Workforce Data

On 30 June 2018:

- The Council employed 3 staff (2.6 full time equivalent), compared to 4 staff (2.5 full time equivalent) on 30 June 2017.
- The proportion of women was 23 %, compared to 60 % on 30 June 2017.

Employees have been correctly classified in workforce data collections.

Table 2: Staff Numbers by employment status as at 30 June 2018 (full time equivalent)

Employment Type	2017–2018			2016–2017		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Executive Officers	0	1.0	1.0	0.5	0	0.5
Senior Managers	0	0	0	0.4	1.0	1.4
Administration Staff	0.6	1.0	1.6	0.6	0	0.6
Field Staff	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0.6	2.0	2.6	1.5	1.0	2.5
Fixed Term*	0.6	2.0	2.6	0.5	1.0	1.5
Temporary Employees *	0	0	0	1.0	0	1.0
Total	0.6	2.6	2.6	1.5	1.0	2.5

Notes:

- All figures reflect employment levels during the last full pay period in June of each year.
- Excluded are those on leave without pay or absent on secondment and external contractors/consultants.
- Ongoing employees includes people engaged on an open-ended contract of employment and executives engaged on a standard executive contract who were active in the last full pay period of June.
- Fixed term staff were seconded from DELWP for the 2017–18 year.
- The self-described category is nil.

5.3 Employment and Conduct Principles

The Council uses DELWP processes. The Council and DELWP are committed to applying merit and equity principles when appointing staff. The selection processes ensure that applicants are assessed and evaluated fairly and equitably based on the key selection criteria and other accountabilities without discrimination. Employees have been correctly classified in workforce data collections.

5.4 Statement of Pecuniary Interests

All members of the Council and the Executive Officer have completed declarations of pecuniary interest for the current reporting period including details of shares held by members.

5.5 Consultancies over \$10,000

In 2017–18 the Council engaged one consultancy to complete work valued over \$10,000:

- Aither Pty Ltd for development of the monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework for implementation of the VCS 2014; \$18,155.45 (excluding GST).

The Council engaged the following contractors to complete work valued over \$10,000:

- Scientell Pty Ltd for authoring the VCC Science Panel report on impacts of climate change on the Victorian coast; \$18,690.91 (excluding GST)
- Stakeholder Engagement & Event Management Services for event management of the 2018 Victorian Coastal Awards; \$18,262.68 (excluding GST)
- Amello Pty Ltd for hire of the venue and catering for the 2018 Victorian Coastal Awards; \$15,975.83 (excluding GST).

5.6 Consultancies under \$10,000

In 2017–18 the Council did not engage any consultancies to deliver work valued under \$10,000. The Council engaged the following contractors to complete work valued under \$10,000:

- Green Scribble Pty Ltd for design and production of material for the 2018 Victorian Coastal Awards; \$9,975.00 (excluding GST)
- Scientell Pty Ltd for printing of the two reports about the impacts of climate change on the Victorian coast; \$3,486 (excluding GST)
- David Hobday for design and production of the trophies for the 2018 Victorian Coastal Awards; \$2,450 (excluding GST)
- Judy Bennett Design for design and printing of the 2016–17 Council Annual Report; \$1,955.00 (excluding GST)
- Hodge Environmental Pty Ltd for design of the full report about climate change impacts, research gaps and priorities



for the Victorian coast; \$1,045.00 (excluding GST)

- Judy Bennett Design for design of the 2017–18 Council Annual Report; \$909.19 (excluding GST)
- Sound Please Audio Post Production for the pre-recorded voice-over for the 2018 Victorian Coastal Awards; \$900 (excluding GST).

5.7 Major Contracts

During 2017–18 the Council did not enter into any contracts valued over \$10 million.

5.8 Government Advertising Expenditure

Government policy requires disclosure of all Government Advertising Expenditure with a total media buy of \$150,000 or greater (exclusive of GST). No Government Advertising Expenditure was incurred by the Council during the reporting period.

5.9 Competitive Neutrality Policy

The Council adheres to the principles of the Competitive Neutrality Policy to ensure that any business competition with private entities takes place in an environment where the Council has no competitive advantages.

5.10 Freedom of Information (FOI)

The *Freedom of Information Act 1982* allows the public a right of access to documents held by the Council. The purpose of the Act is to extend as far as possible the right of the community to access information held by government departments, local councils, Ministers and other bodies subject to the Act. An applicant has a right to apply for access to documents held by a public body. This comprises documents both created by the body or supplied to the body by an external organisation or individual, and may also include maps, films, microfiche, photographs, computer printouts, computer discs, tape recordings and videotapes. The Act allows a public body to refuse access, either fully or partially, to certain documents or information. Examples of documents that may not be accessed include: cabinet documents; some internal working documents; law enforcement documents; documents covered by legal professional privilege, such as legal advice; personal information about other people; and information provided to a public body in-confidence.

If an applicant is not satisfied by a decision made by the Department, under section 49A of the Act, they have the right to seek a review by the Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner (OVIC) within 28 days of receiving a decision letter.

The Council operates in accordance with FOI procedures established through the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP). There was no FOI request made to the Council in 2017–18.

The Council has determined that DELWP is its authorised officer. FOI requests can be lodged online at www.foi.vic.gov.au. An application fee of \$28.90 applies. Access charges may also be payable if the document pool is large, and the search for material, time consuming. Access to documents can also be obtained by writing to the Department's Freedom of Information Unit, as detailed in s17 of the Act (PO Box 500 East Melbourne 3002, Email: foi.unit@delwp.vic.gov.au, Tel: 03 9637 8331).

Further information about the operation and scope of FOI can be obtained from the Act, regulations made under the Act and foi.vic.gov.au.

5.11 Public Administration Employment and Conduct Principles

Consistent with requirements of the *Public Administration Act 2004*, the Council has adopted a range of policies designed to promote good governance in all its decision making and operations. These policies comprise: Code of Conduct; Conflict of Interest; Dispute Resolution; Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality; Meetings and Decision Making; and Performance Assessment.

5.12 Women, Youth and Indigenous Affairs

The Council is committed to involving Victoria's community, including women, youth and Aboriginal Victorians in the management and enjoyment of the coast. The VCS 2014 identifies actions to implement indigenous cultural outcomes and to improve communications with Aboriginal communities in coastal areas. Council's Business Plan includes actions to strengthen community involvement in coastal planning and management and the Council operates in an environment which ensures equity of processes and participation by stakeholders.

5.13 Protected Disclosures Act 2012

The *Protected Disclosures Act 2012* encourages and assists people to make disclosures about improper conduct by public officers and public bodies. The Act provides protection to people who make disclosures in accordance with the Act and establishes a system for the matters disclosed to be investigated and rectifying action to be taken.

The Council does not tolerate improper conduct by employees, nor the taking of reprisals against those who come forward to disclose such conduct. It is committed to ensuring transparency and accountability in its administrative and management practices and supports the making of disclosures that reveal corrupt conduct, conduct involving a substantial mismanagement of public resources, or conduct involving a substantial risk to public health and safety or the environment.

The Council will take all reasonable steps to protect people who make such disclosures from any detrimental action in reprisal for making the disclosure. It will also afford natural justice to the person who is the subject of the disclosure to the extent it is legally possible.

Please note that the Council is not able to receive protected disclosures.

A protected disclosure about the Council, a Council member, or DELWP employees can be made by contacting the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC):

Level 1, North Tower, 459 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000

GPO Box 24234, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001

Internet: www.ibac.vic.gov.au

Phone: 1300 735 135

Email: see the website above for the secure email disclosure process, which also provides for anonymous disclosures.

The Protected Disclosure Policy and Procedures, which outline the system for reporting disclosures of improper conduct or detrimental action by the Council, DELWP or any of its employees and/or officers, are available on the DELWP website.

In 2017–18, there were no disclosures under the Act related to the Council.

5.14 Overseas Travel

No overseas travel was conducted in 2017–18.

5.15 Building Act 1993

To perform its functions, the Council makes use of buildings and facilities controlled by DELWP. The Council does not own or control any buildings.

5.16 Occupational Health and Safety Policy

Operations are managed in accordance with DELWP procedures and guidelines for occupational health and safety, industrial relations, and related issues (refer to DELWP Annual Report).

5.17 Risk Management

While the Council examines the risks associated with the delivery of its work functions and objectives on an ongoing basis, it relies on DELWP's risk management framework and internal audit of financial and other administrative systems which are used by the Council's Secretariat. Please refer to the DELWP Annual Report for further information.

5.18 Compliance with DataVic Access Policy

Consistent with the Victorian Government's DataVic Access policy, the Council intends that data tables which it may produce in the future will be available at:
<http://data.vic.gov.au/> in machine readable format.

5.19 Office-based Environmental Impacts

The Victorian Government's aim of improved environmental management is supported by a requirement that Departments disclose their ongoing performance in managing and reducing the environmental impacts of their office-based activities. The Council makes use of DELWP offices and facilities to perform its functions and the reporting requirement of the office is met by DELWP. The Council Secretariat participates fully in a range of environmental programs operating within DELWP, including:

- separation of reusable, recyclable, compostable and landfill waste
- use of Green power
- use of flow restricted taps and waterless urinals
- use of recycled paper and duplex printing
- environmentally sustainable fitouts; and
- regular use by staff of public transport, cycling or walking to and from work.

5.20 Statement of Availability of Other Information

Additional information included in Annual Report

Details in respect of the following items have been included in this report:

- Details of publications produced and how these may be obtained
- Details of major research and developments undertaken
- Details of major promotional, public relations and marketing activities undertaken to develop community awareness of the entity and its services
- Details of overseas visits undertaken
- Assessments and measures undertaken to improve the occupational health and safety of employees
- A list of the Council's committees
- A statement of completion of declarations of pecuniary interests, including shares held by Council members and senior officers
- a list of the Council's major committees, the purposes of

each committee, and the extent to which the purposes have been achieved

- details of all consultancies and contractors, including consultants/contractors engaged, services provided, and expenditure committed for each engagement.

The following information is not relevant to Council:

- Details of changes in prices, fees, charges, and levies charged
- A statement on industrial relations
- Details of any major external reviews carried out by Council.

5.21 Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Expenditure

The Council falls under the umbrella of DELWP in relation to ICT and the provision of business ICT services. Please refer to DELWP Annual Report 2017–18.

5.22 Local Jobs First – Victorian Industry Participation Policy

During the year, Council did not enter into any contracts to which the Local Job First – Victorian Industry Participation Policy applied.

6. Council expenditure

6.1 Expenditure and Financial Management

Council's operating budget is provided within the budget of DELWP. Financial operations of the Council have not been separately audited. Audited statements are incorporated into the overall financial statements of the DELWP Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2018. It is considered unnecessary for Council to retain a separate audit committee.

DELWP undertakes an annual assessment of financial management compliance with all applicable requirements in the *Financial Management Act 1994*, Standing Directions and Instructions. This includes the financial management of the Council's activities. DELWP also periodically audits this compliance.

The following table shows the operating expenditure of the Council for the 2017–18 financial year (excluding salaries and agency staff costs) and provides a comparison with the previous four financial years.

6.2 Operating Position

6.2.1 Summary of Financial Results of the Year

Financial Year	Council operations *
2013–2014	\$199,202
2014–2015	\$244,500
2015–2016	\$276,703
2016–2017	\$334,661
2017–2018	\$224,975

* Includes all members sitting fees, reimbursements, payroll tax, superannuation contribution, WorkCover levy, secretariat expenses, training, and items such as annual report, consultants and events. The 2017–18 figure includes \$28,645.45 that was transferred from the VCC budget to the DELWP Land Management Policy budget for the Financing the Coast – State 1 project.

6.2.2 Statement of Availability of Other Information

Information relevant to the headings listed in Financial Reporting Direction 22H of the *Financial Management Act 1994* is held at the Council's office and is available on request, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.

6.2.3 Significant Changes in Financial Position During the Year

There were no significant changes in financial position during the reporting period.

6.2.4 Major Changes or Factors Affecting Performance

There were no major changes affecting performance.

6.2.5 Subsequent Events

The *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* was passed in the Victorian Parliament on 20 June 2018. When this Act comes into effect in early 2018–19, the *Coastal Management Act 1995* will be repealed, and the Victorian Coastal Council and the three regional coastal boards will cease to exist. The Marine and Coastal Council will be established under the Marine and Coastal Act.

6.2.6 Victorian Industry Participation Policy

Departments and public bodies are required to apply VIPP in all tenders over \$3 million in metropolitan Melbourne and \$1 million in regional Victoria. The Council has not commenced or completed any contract in 2017–18 to which VIPP applies.



7. Disclosure Index

The 2017–18 Annual Report of the Victorian Coastal Council is prepared in accordance with all relevant Victorian legislation and pronouncements. This index has been prepared to facilitate identification of the VCC compliance with statutory disclosure requirements.

FRD – Financial Reporting Direction **SD** – Standing Direction **MRO** – Model report of operations

Legislation	Requirement	Page no.
Accountable Officer's declaration		
SD 5.2.3	Sign off requirements	2
Charter and purpose		
FRD 22H	Purpose, functions, powers and duties	5, 10
FRD 22H	Enabling Act, manner of establishment and responsible Minister	5
FRD 22H	Nature and range of services provided	5
Management and structure		
FRD 22H	Organisational structure	6
FRD 22H	Board committees	8
Financial information		
FRD 22H	Summary of the financial results for the year	22
FRD 22H	Five-year financial summary	22
FRD 22H	Significant changes in financial position during the year	22
FRD 22H	Major changes or factors affecting performance	22
FRD 22H	Subsequent events	22
Other information		
FRD 10A	Disclosure index	23
FRD 12B	Disclosure of major contracts	20
FRD 22H	Employment and conduct principles	19
FRD 22H	Occupational health and safety policy	21
FRD 22H	Application and operation of Freedom of Information Act 1982	20
FRD 22H	Compliance with building and maintenance provisions of Building Act 1993	21
FRD 22H	Statement on Competitive Neutrality Policy	20
FRD 22H	Application and operation of the Protected Disclosure Act 2012	20
FRD 22H	Details of consultancies over \$10,000	19
FRD 22H	Details of consultancies under \$10,000	19
FRD 22H	Disclosure of Government advertising expenditure	20
FRD 22H	Disclosure of ICT expenditure	21
FRD 22H	Statement of availability of other information	21
FRD 24D	Reporting of office based environmental impacts	21
FRD 25C	Victorian Industry Participation Policy disclosures	21
FRD 29, FRD 22H & 29B	Workforce data disclosures	19
MRO	Compliance with DataVic Access Policy	21
SD 5.2.3	Declaration in report of operations	2
Legislation		
<i>Coastal Management Act 1995</i>	Carrying out of Council functions	5
<i>Public Administration Act 2004</i>		
Print and design		
FRD 30D	Standard requirements for the design and print of annual reports	

8. Appendices

Appendix A: Coastal Management Plans

Table 1: Coastal Management Plans Approved in 2017–18

Title of Coastal Management Plan	Responsible Agent
GIPPSLAND COASTAL BOARD REGION	
None	
CENTRAL COASTAL BOARD REGION	
None	
WESTERN COASTAL BOARD REGION	
None	

**Table 2: Other Coastal Plans
Gippsland Coastal Board Region**

Title of Plan	Status	Responsible Agent
Andersons Inlet Fisheries Reserve Management Plan	Implementation	DEDJTR/DPI Fisheries Victoria
Bemm River Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation	DELWP/EGSC
Beware Reef Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Cape Howe Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Corner Inlet Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
East Gippsland Regional Catchment Strategy	Implementation	East Gippsland CMA
Lakes Entrance Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation	DELWP/EGSC
Lake Tyers Beach Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation	DELWP
Lake Wellington Wetlands Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Loch Sport Crown Reserves Management Plan	Implementation	DELWP/CoM
Mallacoota Inlet Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation	DELWP/EGSC
Marlay Point Foreshore Reserve Management Plan	Implementation	DELWP
Marlo Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation	DELWP/EGSC
Metung Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation	DELWP/EGSC
Newlands Arm Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation	DELWP/EGSC
Ninety Mile Beach Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Point Hicks Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Port Franklin Reserves Management Plan	Implementation	DELWP/CoM
Sandy Point Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation	DELWP/CoM
Shallow Inlet Foreshore Management Plan	Draft	DELWP/CoM
Walkerville Foreshore Coastal Management Plan	Implementation	DELWP / COM
West Gippsland Regional Catchment Strategy 2013–2019	Implementation	West Gippsland CMA
Wilsons Promontory Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Woodside Beach Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation.	DELWP/CoM

Central Coastal Board Region

Title of Plan	Status	Responsible Agent
Anderson Inlet Fisheries Reserve Management Plan 2006	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Avalon Beach Management Plan (Draft) 2001	Implementation	DELWP
Barwon Bluff Marine Sanctuary Management Plan 2007	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Barwon Coast Coastal Management Plan 2013/14 to 2015/16	Implementation	Barwon Coast Committee of Management
Bayside Coastal Management Plan 2014	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Black Rock – Beaumaris Foreshore Master Plan 2000	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Breamlea Foreshore Masterplan and Management Plan Update 2010	Implementation	City of Greater Geelong
Brighton Foreshore Master Plan 1999	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Buckley Park Coastal Management Plan Vegetation Strategy 2005	Implementation	City of Greater Geelong
Bunurong Marine National Park Management Plan 2006	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Cannons Creek Foreshore Reserve Draft Management Plan 2012	Implementation	Cannons Creek Foreshores Reserve CoM
Cape Paterson Foreshore Reserve Management Plan 1998	Implementation	Bass Coast Shire Council
Clifton Springs Coastal Management Plan 2008	Implementation	City of Greater Geelong
Collins Settlement Future Directions Management Plan 2002	Implementation	Parks Victoria & Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
Corangamite Fishery Management Plan 2008	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Corinella Foreshore Reserve Management Plan 2015	Implementation	DELWP
Draft Green Point Precinct Landscape Conservation Management Plan 2012 (now part of the wider Bayside Coastal Management Plan 2014)	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Draft Ricketts Point and Ricketts Point Landside Management Plan 2013 (now part of the wider Bayside Coastal Management Plan 2014)	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Draft Rye Recreational Boating Precinct Master Plan 2013	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Dromana Foreshore Coastal Management Plan 2010	Review	Dromana Foreshore CoM & DELWP
Eastern Port Phillip Bay Aquaculture Fisheries Management Plan 2005	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria

Table 2: Other Coastal Plans continued

Title of Plan	Status	Responsible Agent
Flinders Aquaculture Fisheries Reserve Management Plan 2005	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Flinders Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2010	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Flinders Pier Master Plan 2008	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Foreshore Management Plan 2011 (City of Port Phillip) 2012	Implementation	City of Port Phillip
French Island National Park Management Plan 1998	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Geelong Arm Aquaculture Fisheries Reserve Management Plan 2005	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Halfmoon Bay Master Plan 2008	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Hampton Foreshore Master Plan 1997	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Hastings Foreshore Precinct Plan	Draft	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Hastings South Coastal Management Plan 2015	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Hastings South Coastal Management Plan & Recreational Boating Precinct 2008	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Jawbone Marine Sanctuary Management Plan 2007	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Kingston Coastal Management Plan 2015	Implementation	Kingston City Council
Lang Lang Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2012	Implementation	DELWP
Limeburners Bay Management Plan Stage 2 Review 2008	Implementation	City of Greater Geelong
Merricks Beach Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2012	Draft	Merricks Beach Foreshore CoM & DELWP
Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan 2012	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Mordialloc Creek Masterplan 2012	Implementation	Kingston City Council
Mordialloc: Pride of the Bay Structure Plan 2004	Implementation	Kingston City Council
Mornington Coastal Management Plan	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Mornington Harbour Precinct Plan 2013	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Mornington Peninsula National Park and Arthurs Seat State Park Management Plan 1998	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Mount Eliza Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2004	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Mount Martha Coastal Management Plan 2008	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Mushroom Reef Marine Sanctuary Management Plan 2007	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Phillip Island Nature Parks Strategic Plan 2012–17	Implementation	Phillip Island Nature Parks Board of Management
Pinnacle Channel Aquaculture Fisheries Reserve Management Plan 2005	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Point Cook Coastal Park and Cheetham Wetlands Future Directions Plan 2005	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Point Cooke Marine Sanctuary Management Plan 2007	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Point Henry Foreshore Management Plan 2006	Implementation	City of Greater Geelong
Point Leo Coastal Management Plan 2012	Draft	Point Leo Foreshore CoM & DELWP
Point Lonsdale Foreshore Master Plan 2009	Implementation	Borough of Queenscliffe & Greater Geelong
Point Nepean National Park and Point Nepean Quarantine Station Management Plan 2009	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Point Nepean National Park Master Plan 2013	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Port Phillip (Western Shoreline) & Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar Site Strategic Management Plan 2003	Implementation	Parks Victoria & DELWP
Port Phillip and Western Port Fisheries Management Plan 2009	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Port Phillip Heads Marine National Park Management Plan 2006	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Portarlington Safe Harbour Master Plan 2009	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Portsea Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2004	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Queenscliffe Coastal Management Plan 2006	Implementation	Borough of Queenscliffe
Ricketts Point Marine Sanctuary Management Plan 2005	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Rosebud Activity Centre Structure Plan 2012	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Rosebud Activity Centre Urban Design Framework 2012 2012	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Rosebud Coastal Management Plan 2012	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Rosebud Foreshore Coastal Management Plan	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
Rye Foreshore Reserve Landscape Master Plan 2008	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Safety and Environment Management Plan for the local port of Western Port 2005	Implementation	Parks Victoria
San Remo Foreshore Reserve Management Plan 2010	Implementation	DELWP
Sandringham Foreshore Coastal Management Plan 2010	Implementation	Bayside City Council, DELWP, Parks Victoria
Sandringham Foreshore Master Plan and Management Plan 1998	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Seaford Life Saving Club Precinct Master Plan 2004	Implementation	Frankston City Council
Shoreham Foreshore Reserve Management Plan 2008	Implementation	Shoreham Foreshore CoM & DELWP
Somers Foreshore Reserve Management Plan 2011	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Sorrento Recreational Boating Precinct Plan 2011	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Sorrento Coastal Management Plan	Draft	Mornington Peninsula Shire
South Channel Fort Conservation Management Plan – Part 1 & 2 2006	Implementation	Parks Victoria
St Kilda Harbour Concept Plan 2010	Implementation	Parks Victoria
St Kilda Pier Conservation Management Plan 2004	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Stony Point and Hastings Foreshore Management Plan 2001	Implementation	Foreshore CoM
The Northern Bellarine Foreshore Plan 2012	Implementation	Bellarine Bayside Foreshore Committee of Management
The Pillars, Mt Martha Long-term Management Plan	Draft	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Tooradin Foreshore and Boating Infrastructure Master Plan 2009	Implementation	Tooradin Foreshore CoM & DELWP
Truganina Explosives Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2013	Draft	City of Hobsons Bay

Table 2: Other Coastal Plans continued

Title of Plan	Status	Responsible Agent
Victorian Wild Harvest Abalone Fishery Management Plan 2014	Implementation	DEDJTR Fisheries Victoria
Victorian Eel Fishery Management Plan 2002	Implementation	DEDJTR Fisheries Victoria
Victorian Giant Crab Fishery Management Plan 2003	Implementation	DEDJTR Fisheries Victoria
Victorian Rock Lobster Fishery Management Plan 2009	Implementation	DEDJTR Fisheries Victoria
Warneet Foreshore Coastal Management Plan 2012	Implementation	Warneet Foreshore Reserve CoM
Western Port Marine National Parks Management Plan (Yaringa, French Island & Churchill Island) 2007	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Western Port Ramsar Site Strategic Management Plan 2003	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Whitecliffs to Camerons Bight Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2012	Implementation	Whitecliffs to Camerons Bight Foreshore CoM
Williamstown Foreshore Strategic Plan 2010	Implementation	Parks Victoria

Western Coastal Board Region

Title of Plan	Status	Responsible Agent
A Guide to the Management of Native Fish: Victorian Coastal Rivers and Wetlands	Completed	Corangamite CMA on behalf of five coastal CMAs and Melbourne Water
Apollo Bay Settlement Boundary and Urban Design Review	Completed	Colac Otway Shire Council
Apollo Bay Structure Plan – (GORRS Funded)	Completed	Colac Otway Shire Council
Apollo Bay Structure Plan – PSA Implementation C55	Completed	Colac Otway Shire Council
Barwon South West Regional Trails Master Plan	Implementation	Colac Otway Shire Council on behalf of the Barwon South West Region
Belfast Lough Environmental Management Plan 2006	On hold	Moyne Shire Council
Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2015–2018	Review	Surf Coast Shire Council
Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve Implementation Plan 2015–2018	Implementation	Surf Coast Shire Council
Bridgewater Bay Foreshore Master Plan	Implementation	Glenelg Shire Council
Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study – PSA Implementation (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Commenced	Corangamite Shire Council
Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study – PSA Implementation (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Complete	Surf Coast Shire Council
Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study and GOR Region Landscape Assessment Study – PSE Implementation C21 (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Completed	Moyne Shire Council
Colac Otway Shire Public Open Space Plan	Implementation	Colac Otway Shire Council
Colac Otway Shire Rural Living Study	Completed	Colac Otway Shire Council
Colac Structure Plan – PSA Implementation C55 (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Completed	Colac Otway Shire Council
Corangamite Fishery Management Plan	Ongoing	DELWP
Corangamite Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Strategy	Completed	Corangamite CMA
Corangamite Native Vegetation Plan	Completed	Corangamite CMA
Corangamite Region Wetland Strategy	Completed	Corangamite CMA
Corangamite Regional Catchment Strategy 2013–2019 (RCS)	Commenced	Corangamite CMA
Corangamite Regional River Health Strategy (2006–2011) and Addendum	Completed	Corangamite CMA
Corangamite Salinity Action Plan	Completed	Corangamite CMA
Corangamite Soil Health Strategy	Completed	Corangamite CMA
Corangamite Waterway Strategy 2014–22	Implementation	Corangamite CMA
Cultural Heritage Management Plan	Draft report completed	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Curdies River Estuary Management Plan	Completed	Corangamite and Moyne Shire Councils
Deep Creek Master Plan	Implementation	Surf Coast Shire Council
Discovery Bay Marine National Park Management Plan	Completed	Parks Victoria
Environment and Land Management Plan	Implementation	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Anglesea River and Estuary Management Plan 2012–2020	Implementation	Corangamite CMA
Anglesea Riverbank Master Plan	Implementation	Surf Coast Shire Council
Apollo Bay Harbour Master Plan	Completed	Colac Otway Shire Council
Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve Master Plan	In progress	Otway Coast Committee
Environmental Sustainability Strategy	Completed	Moyne Shire Council
Fitzroy Estuary Management Plan	Completed	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Flood Study for Port Fairy	Completed	Glenelg Hopkins CMA and Moyne Shire Council
Futurescapes – Climate Change Demonstrator Project	Completed	Glenelg Shire Council
Glenelg Environment Strategy	Completed	Glenelg Shire Council
Glenelg Hopkins Fishery Management Plan	Completed	DELWP
Glenelg Hopkins Regional Catchment Strategy	Completed	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Glenelg Hopkins River Health Strategy 2004–2009	Completed	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Glenelg River Estuary Management Plan	Completed	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Glenelg Strategic Futures Plan	Completed	Glenelg Shire Council
GOR Region Landscape Assessment Study – PSA Implementation C55 (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Completed	Colac Otway Shire Council
Great Ocean Road Coast Committee Coastal Management Plan 2013	Review	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Strategic Master Plan for the Great Ocean Road Region Visitor Economy 2015–2025	Implementation	Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism Ltd
Great Otway National Park and Otway Forest Park Management Plan	Completed	Parks Victoria
Hopkins River Estuary Management Plan	Completed	Glenelg Hopkins CMA

Table 2: Other Coastal Plans continued

Title of Plan	Status	Responsible Agent
Indigenous Cultural Heritage Conservation Manual	Implementation	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Indigenous Partnership Strategy	Completed	Parks Victoria
Kooyang Sea Country	Completed	Framlingham Aboriginal Trust and Winda Mara Aboriginal Corporation
Local Coastal Hazard Assessment Port Fairy	Completed	Moyne Shire Council and DELWP
Lorne Central Foreshore Masterplan	Implementation	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Marengo Reefs Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Completed	Parks Victoria
Merri Estuary Management Plan	Completed	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Merri Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Completed	Parks Victoria
Narrowwong Coastal Engineering Study	Completed	Glenelg Shire Council
New Corangamite Waterway Strategy (CWS) for the health of rivers, estuaries and wetlands	Commenced	Corangamite CMA
Ngootyoong Gunditj Ngootyoong Mara South West Management Plan	Implementation	Gunditjmara Traditional Owners, Parks Victoria, DELWP
Open Space Strategy 2015–25	Implementation	Surf Coast Shire Council
Otway Coast Committee Coastal Management Plan 2013	Implementation	Otway Coast Committee of Management
Painkalac Creek Environmental Flow Determination	Completed	Corangamite CMA
Painkalac Creek Estuary Management Plan	Completed	Surf Coast Shire Council
Pathway strategy 2012	Pathway strategy 2006	Surf Coast Shire Council
Peterborough UDG Amendment – PSA Implementation C29	Completed	Moyne Shire Council
Point Addis Marine National Park, Point Danger Marine Sanctuary and Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Completed	Parks Victoria
Point Danger Coastal Management Plan	In progress	Point Danger Committee of Management
Point Grey and Slaughterhouse Master Plan	In progress	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Pollution Source Investigation for Lorne (Erskine River)	In progress	Surf Coast Shire Council
Port Fairy Coastal and Structure Plan	In progress	Moyne Shire Council
Port Fairy East Beach Coastal Erosion Engineering and Feasibility Study	Completed	Moyne Shire Council and DELWP
Port Fairy Night Soil Site Management Plan	Completed	DELWP
Port of Portland Marine Master Plan	Completed	Glenelg Shire Council
Portland Bay Coastal Engineering Study	Completed	Glenelg Shire Council
Portland Bay Coastal Infrastructure Plan	Completed	Glenelg Shire Council
Portland Coastal Management Plan	Implementation	Glenelg Shire Council
Portland Foreshore Master Plan	On hold	Glenelg Shire Council
Princetown Urban Design Framework – Urban Futures Consulting	Completed	Corangamite Shire Council
Princetown Urban Design Framework (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Completed	Corangamite Shire Council
Shipwreck Coast Master Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria, Corangamite Shire, Moyne Shire, Tourism Victoria
South Warrnambool Crown Land Precinct Master Plan	Completed	Warrnambool City Council
South Warrnambool Flood Study	Completed	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Sturgess Point/Beacon Point Geotechnical Investigation, Port Campbell	Completed	DELWP
Surry Estuary Management Plan	Completed	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Surry River Flood Study	Completed	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
The Craggs Management Plan	Completed	Moyne Shire Council
The future of Surf Life Saving in the Surf Coast Shire	Implementation	Surf Coast Shire Council
Torquay Central Master Plan	Implementation	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Torquay North Outline Development Plan	Completed	Surf Coast Shire Council
Sustainable Futures Plan Torquay – Jan Juc 2040	Final draft	Surf Coast Shire Council
Torquay/Jan Juc Structure Plan – PSA Implementation C37 (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Completed	Surf Coast Shire Council
Tower Hill Design Guidelines (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	In progress	Moyne Shire Council
Twelve Apostles Marine National Park and The Arches Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Completed	Parks Victoria
Warrnambool City Council Coastal Management Plan	Implementation	Warrnambool City Council
Warrnambool Foreshore Precinct Framework Plan	Draft for consultation	Warrnambool City Council
Warrnambool Safer Harbour Study	Completed	Warrnambool City Council
Water Supply Demand Strategy 2012–2062	Completed	Wannon Water
Weed Control and Native Vegetation Action Plan	Implementation	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Wye River/Sep Creek/Kennett River Structure Plan	Completed	Colac Otway Shire Council
Wye River/Sep Creek/Kennett River Structure Plan – PSA Implementation C58 (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Completed	Colac Otway Shire Council
Yambuk Lake Estuary Management Plan	Complete	Glenelg Hopkins CMA

Appendix B: 2018 Victorian Coastal Awards Winners and Finalists

Nominee	Project Name	Finalists/Winner	Award Category
Kingston City Council	Mordialloc Life Saving Club and Aboriginal Gathering Place	Winner	Improving the Physical Environment
Tambo Bluff CoastCare Group	Tambo Bluff Restoration	Special Commendation	Improving the Physical Environment
Parks Victoria	Portarlington Safe Harbour	Finalist	Improving the Physical Environment
Gippsland Ports	Gippsland Lakes Migratory and Shore Bird Habitat Restoration	Winner	Biodiversity Conservation
The Nature Conservancy	Restoring the Lost Shellfish Reefs of Port Phillip Bay	Finalist	Biodiversity Conservation
BirdLife Australia – Friends of the Hooded Plover Far West Victoria	Restoring the Balance for Hooded Plovers in the West	Finalist	Biodiversity Conservation
Project Banjo Action Group, Victorian Fisheries Authority, FutureFish, Boating Industry Association Victoria, Fishcare	Safeguarding Stingrays	Winner	Planning and Management
Bass Coast Shire Council	Inverloch Surf Beach Erosion Response	Finalist	Planning and Management
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	Sorrento Seawall	Finalist	Planning and Management
Great Ocean Road Coast Committee	Great Ocean Road Coastal Education – the next generation of coastal protectors.	Winner	Education
Melbourne Down Under		Finalist	Education
Bellarine Catchment Network	Caring for Our Bays	Finalist	Education
EstuaryWatch Victoria	EstuaryWatch	Winner	Community Engagement
Middle Island Project Working Group	Conserving Little Penguins on an island using guardian dogs	Finalist	Community Engagement
Barwon Estuary Project		Finalist	Community Engagement
BeachPatrol Australia	Beach Cleanup	Finalist	Community Engagement
Deakin University, Parks Victoria, The University of Melbourne	Victorian Marine Park Habitat Mapping and Monitoring	Joint Winner	Partnerships in Research and Monitoring
Victorian Wader Study Group	Victoria's Migratory Waders and Terns – Four decades of research	Joint Winner	Partnerships in Research and Monitoring
Melbourne Water	Understanding the Westernport environment to protect its internationally significant natural values	Finalist	Partnerships in Research and Monitoring
Dr Sarah McSweeney – School of Geography, The University of Melbourne	Artificial estuary openings along the Victorian coast	Finalist	Partnerships in Research and Monitoring
Marg O'Toole		Winner	Outstanding Individual Achievement

9. Abbreviations and Acronyms

ABM	Association of Bayside Municipalities
CAP	Coastal Action Plan
CCB	Central Coastal Board
CMA	Catchment Management Authority
CMP	Coastal Management Plan
CoM	Committee of Management
Council	Victorian Coastal Council
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water, and Planning
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
FRD	Financial Reporting Direction
FOI	Freedom of Information
GCB	Gippsland Coastal Board
IBAC	Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission
LSIO	Land Subject to Inundation Overlay
MACA	Marine and Coastal Act
MAV	Municipal Association of Victoria
MER	Monitoring, evaluation and reporting
NCCARF	National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility
NCP	National Competition Policy
OCES	Office of the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability
PPWCMA	Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority
RCB	Regional Coastal Board
RCP	Regional Coastal Plan
SD	Standing Direction
RBFF	Recreational Boating Facilities Framework
SPPF	State Planning Policy Framework
VAGO	Victorian Auditor-Generals Office
VCC	Victorian Coastal Council
VCS	Victorian Coastal Strategy
VIPP	Victorian Industry Participation Policy
WCB	Western Coastal Board



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