

Additional information available on request

In compliance with the requirements of the Standing Directions of the Minister for Finance, details of the items listed below have been retained and are available to the relevant Ministers, Members of Parliament and the public on request (subject to the provisions of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*).

To ensure the department is meeting its accountability and compliance requirements, some of this additional information has been included in the Annual Report where relevant.

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Additional information

a) A statement that declarations of pecuniary interests have been duly completed by all relevant officers of the department

Declarations of pecuniary interests have been duly completed by all relevant officers.

b) Details of shares held by senior officers as nominee or held beneficially in a statutory authority or subsidiary

No shares are held by a senior officer as nominee or held beneficially in a statutory authority or subsidiary.

c) Details of publications produced by the department about the activities of the department and where they can be obtained

Publication	Date produced	Availability
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Annual Report 2021-22	September 2022	Available online (www.delwp.vic.gov.au/our-department/annual-report and www.data.gov.au) or from our Customer Contact Centre on 136 186
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Corporate Plan 2021-25	August 2021	Available online (www.delwp.vic.gov.au/corporate-plan) or from our Customer Contact Centre on 136 186

d) Details of changes in prices, fees, charges, rates and levies charged by the department for its services, including services that are administered

Details of fees and charges are available on the department's website at www.delwp.vic.gov.au.

e) Details of any major external reviews carried out in respect of the operation of the department

Major external reviews	Conducted by	Purpose	Released
Protecting Victoria's biodiversity	Auditor-General	This audit assessed if the management of Victoria's biodiversity loss will halt the decline of threatened species.	13 October 2021
Inquiry into the 2019-20 Victorian Fire Season - Phase 2 Report	Inspector-General for Emergency Management	A report into the progress and effectiveness of immediate relief and recovery arrangements following the 2019-20 fire season.	14 October 2021
Management of spending in response to COVID-19	Auditor-General	This audit assessed if agency spending in response to COVID-19, including through the Treasurer's Advance, has been used for its stated purpose and complies with relevant laws and policies.	27 October 2021

Major external reviews	Conducted by	Purpose	Released
Supplying and Using Recycled Water	Auditor-General	This audit assessed if responsible agencies are increasing the use of recycled water to meet future water demand.	17 November 2021
Inquiry into the health impacts of air pollution in Victoria	Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee	Inquiry into the health impacts of air pollution in Victoria. Actions to minimise the health impacts of air pollution, including, but not limited to (a) statewide practical, real-time, cost-effective mitigation strategies; (b) ensuring that Victorian air quality continues to track towards meeting or exceeding current international best practice standards and is enforced; (c) the impact of economic and population growth on air pollution and health outcomes; (d) strengthening commitments across all Victorian Government portfolios to reduce air pollution and minimise the impact on health; and (e) any other related matters.	18 November 2021
Council Waste Management Services	Auditor-General	This limited assurance review assessed if local councils' waste management services provide value for money.	2 December 2021
Inquiry into ecosystem decline in Victoria	Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee	Inquiry into the decline of Victoria's ecosystems and measures to restore habitats and populations of threatened and endangered species.	2 December 2021
Inquiry into environmental infrastructure for growing populations	Legislative Assembly Environment and Planning Committee	An inquiry into the current and future arrangements to secure environmental infrastructure, particularly parks and open space, for a growing population in Melbourne and across regional centres.	9 February 2022
Implementation of government commitments in response to the Inquiry into the CFA Training College at Fiskville - Progress Report - 2021	Inspector-General for Emergency Management (IGEM)	IGEM's fourth progress report on the Victorian Government's implementation of the Fiskville Inquiry.	11 February 2022
Business Continuity During COVID-19	Auditor-General	This audit assessed if agencies' business continuity arrangements enabled the continuation of essential public services during the COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency.	23 February 2022

Major external reviews	Conducted by	Purpose	Released
Implementation monitoring of 'Review of 10 years of reform in Victoria's emergency management sector' and 'Inquiry into the 2019-20 Victorian Fire Season – Phase 1' – Progress Report – 2021	Inspector-General for Emergency Management	The first progress report on government reform in response to the Fire Season Inquiry and 10 Year Review.	14 April 2022
Offsetting native vegetation loss on private land	Auditor-General	This audit assessed if government is achieving its policy objective of no net loss to biodiversity as a result of permitted clearing on private land.	11 May 2022
Inquiry into renewable energy in Victoria	Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee	Inquiry into renewable energy in Victoria, on (a) measures to enable Victoria to transition its energy supply to 100 per cent renewable energy; (b) jobs and economic benefits and implications of Victoria transitioning to 100 per cent renewable energy; (c) investment, both public and private, required to achieve 100 per cent renewable energy generation in Victoria, including investment in grid infrastructure and energy storage; (d) further opportunities for Victoria to reduce emissions, including through finding alternatives to industrial and household gas consumption; (e) government investment or action that would be needed to support workers in impacted industries to facilitate a just transition and ensure workers and communities are not left behind as Victoria transitions to 100 per cent renewable energy; (f) the economic risks of not urgently reducing emissions by transitioning to 100 per cent renewable energy; and (g) any other related matters.	26 May 2022
Responses to Performance Engagement Recommendations: Annual Status Update	Auditor-General	This limited assurance review assessed if public sector agencies are implementing performance engagement recommendations in a timely way.	29 June 2022

f) Details of any major research and development activities undertaken by the department that are not otherwise covered either in the report of operations or in a document which contains the financial statement and report of operations

Major external reviews	Conducted by	Purpose
Building Consumer Information Support Program (BCISP) – Customer Insights Research	Today Strategic Design Pty Ltd	To gain an understanding of building consumers' online behaviour along all stages of the building journey, from seeking practitioners to formal dispute resolution.
<i>Mutual Recognition Act 1992</i> : Discussion Paper prepared for the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning on the effect of the sunset of Automatic Mutual Recognition exemptions in Victoria Building Surveyors, Building Inspectors and Plumbers	Maddocks lawyers	To understand the differences in regulatory frameworks for certain building and plumbing practitioners, for the purpose of identifying if significant risks exist to consumers, if those practitioners were able to work in Victoria under Automatic Mutual Recognition.
Assessment of Residential Strata Markets	Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Ltd.	To gain an understanding of the industries that interact with the residential strata market and determine how well these industries are positioned to support an expanding market for cladding rectification, and to identify if there is a need for further government intervention to support the impacted population.
Improving the operation of ResCode	Equipe Lawyers	To explore a new assessment model for the assessment of planning permit applications under clauses 54, 55 and 58 (ResCode) of the Victoria Planning Provisions.
Apartment siting standards	Tract Consultants	To improve the Victorian Planning Provisions through development of apartment siting standards.
Post-permit processes: issues and recommendations	Jacobs Group Australia	To identify opportunities to simplify post-planning permit approvals, reduce the time taken for post-permit approvals and improve the clarity and quality of post permit conditions and approvals.
Community services developments: draft standards for medical centres and child care centres	Tract Consultants	To draft planning standards for proposed child care and medical centre developments.
Design development overlay	Equipe Lawyers	To identify opportunities to reduce, streamline and standardise permit requirements and simplify the use and structure of the design development overlay.
Middle suburbs analysis	Tract Consultants	To review the use and application of restrictive zones and overlays in Melbourne's middle ring suburbs.

Major external reviews	Conducted by	Purpose
Victorian Water and Climate Initiative (Phase 2)	DELWP's Hydrology and Climate Science team with research by a number of different organisations including Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO	To assess changes in climate and the water cycle over time, including understanding the impacts of climate change on water resources.
Global Scan into Powerline Bushfire Safety	KPMG Australia	To investigate powerline bushfire safety technologies and regulatory instruments being implemented globally to inform future tranches of work under the Powerline Bushfire Safety Program.
Better Planning Approvals Issues and opportunities report	Nous	To identify approaches for streamlining planning permit processes in local councils.
Assessing the impact of the Planning Reform Program	SGS Economics and Planning	To independently evaluate the likely impacts of the Planning Reform Program (social, economic and environmental).
Identifying cross cutting transformational policies to accelerate Victorian emissions reductions	PWC	To identify cross cutting transformational policies to accelerate Victorian emissions reductions.
Genetic Risk Index	CESAR	To determine the genetic health of Victorian flora and fauna.
Post-fire reconnaissance surveys (Bushfire Biodiversity Response and Recovery Program)	Various including; DELWP's Arthur Rylah Institute, Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, Museums Victoria, Parks Victoria, University of Melbourne, Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation.	To understand the impact of the 2019-20 bushfires on Victoria's species. Reconnaissance surveys were carried out to identify and assess fauna, flora and habitats most at risk from post-fire threats, with the aim of understanding the immediate and short-term impacts of the bushfires.
Melbourne Strategic Assessment 2021-22	Arthur Rylah Institute	To deliver the ecological decision systems component of the Melbourne Strategic Assessment program.
Implementation of statewide deer and vegetation impact monitoring	Arthur Rylah Institute	To develop a surveillance and monitoring program that provides a broad-scale overview of regional deer populations and trends.

Major external reviews	Conducted by	Purpose
Distribution, Abundance and Trend of Four Cockatoo Species in Victoria	Arthur Rylah Institute	To assess the distribution, abundance and trend for four species of Cockatoo across Victoria that are commonly the focus of control permits, to inform management decisions for these species.
Exploring spatial patterns in the soil microbiome	Arthur Rylah Institute	To create spatial layers for Victoria representing soil microbial richness and function.
Platypus habitat restoration - development of demonstration sites for drought refuge and associated integrated catchment management	Arthur Rylah Institute	To develop demonstration sites for platypus through the Victorian Demonstration Reach Program.
Forest Biodiversity - 2021/23: Project 5	Arthur Rylah Institute	To explore the effectiveness of sedimentation control measures in protecting the habitat of key aquatic species.
Identifying changes in ecological function	Arthur Rylah Institute	To identify areas of changes in ecological function in Victoria and identify actions to address changes.
Genetic mixing trials of threatened galaxiids species	Arthur Rylah Institute	To undertake interbreeding trials for populations of threatened species of upland galaxiids in the Mountain Galaxias complex to increase genetic diversity and resilience.
Support for knowledge and research projects	Arthur Rylah Institute	To undertake critical data processing and analysis to support the Waterway Programs Knowledge and Research program. To provide technical advice and documentation support to the Waterway Programs Knowledge and Research Program.
FAME dashboard and data	Arthur Rylah Institute	To develop a user-friendly interactive dashboard that presents the statewide fuel management report metrics in an easily digestible and ecological meaningful way.
Options Paper: Access for Victorian Renewable Energy Zones (REZs)	Baringa Partners LLP	To review access and pricing arrangements for Renewable Energy Zones (REZs) and assess the benefits and limitations of three access arrangements for REZs.

g) Details of overseas visits undertaken including a summary of the objectives and outcomes of each visit

Title of officer	Destination	Objectives	Outcomes
Director, Industry Engagement and Development	Europe	To attend and present at the World Hydrogen Summit 2022 in Rotterdam, with side meetings at the Summit as well as in Madrid and Oslo, with the aim of building international awareness of Victoria’s policies and ‘value proposition’ in the rapidly evolving hydrogen and offshore wind sectors and attract international investment and expertise to help build these sectors in Victoria.	<p>Outcomes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase in DELWP’s knowledge of the latest global hydrogen policy and project developments to help inform the development of policies, programs, grants and other initiatives. • new and strengthened relationships with stakeholders in the clean energy and new energy technology sector, particularly in the emerging sectors of hydrogen and offshore wind through participation in over 25 meetings and roundtables across the Summit, Madrid and Oslo. • international awareness of Victoria’s policies and value proposition in the clean energy and new energy technology sector. • investment attraction and collaboration with international stakeholders to help the Victorian Government deliver on its energy policy objectives.

Title of officer	Destination	Objectives	Outcomes
Deputy Secretary, Land Services and First Peoples	Timor-Leste	<p>To represent the Victorian Government at two significant national events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inauguration of the new President of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste • commemoration of the Twentieth Anniversary of the Restoration of Independence. <p>Other objectives included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • following COVID-19 pandemic-related disruptions, re-establish senior level connections between the Victorian Government and Timor-Leste and discuss priorities and opportunities for continued partnership activity • follow-up on existing activities being delivered in Timor-Leste through DELWP partnerships, to support monitoring and consideration of future opportunities. 	<p>Outcomes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reinforcement of the Victorian Government's commitment to its ongoing relationship with the Government of Timor-Leste through participation in significant national events. • re-engagement with key Timor-Leste government representatives through a series of engagements with H.E. Miguel de Carvalho, Minister of State Administration and his ministry's leadership team, establishing Timorese priorities for consideration in developing future partnership activities. • re-establishment of a connection with the Executive Director of the Centro Nacional Chega, setting the foundation for opportunities for Victoria to learn from Timor-Leste's experience in truth telling and reconciliation as it progresses the Yoorrook Justice Commission. • greater understanding of progress achieved against DELWP-funded activities in Timor-Leste, and identification of future opportunities for continued activity.
Manager, Priority Projects	Timor-Leste	As above	As above
Senior Manager, Dam Safety and Regulation	France	To attend the International Committee on Large Dams (ICOLD) Congress and present a paper titled 'Climate change challenges in managing dams'.	<p>Outcomes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • international recognition of Victoria's commitment to climate change adaptation. • learnings from the conference will be used to further refine DELWP's dam safety regulatory framework and help implement the water sector climate change adaptation action plan.

Title of officer	Destination	Objectives	Outcomes
Acting Executive Director Policy, Programs and Industry Development	Germany	To join a delegation for a tour of German energy policy and projects. The delegation was organised as part of an Australia-Germany Energy Working Group and was partially funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy.	Outcomes included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a greater understanding of a range of policies in place in Germany with the aim of accelerating uptake in energy efficiency measures for residential buildings. a greater understanding of how factors such as rising global energy prices and climate change impacts are impacting on delivery of energy policies.

h) Details of major promotional, public relations and marketing activities undertaken by the department to develop community awareness of the services provided by the department

Activity	Description	Cost
Landcare awareness and promotion	<p>The Victorian Landcare and Catchment Management magazine (Victorian Landcare magazine) is published three times a year by DELWP. In 2021-22 this included the publication of the Spring 2021 and Summer 2022 issues, with the Winter 2022 issue published online in July 2022.</p> <p>The Victorian Landcare magazine is an important statewide communication vehicle for the state's Landcare and environmental volunteer community. The magazine includes stories that demonstrate best practice, learning and innovation by groups and networks. It also helps raise awareness about Landcare and natural resource management issues, and the achievements of the Landcare and environmental volunteer community. Content is contributed primarily by Landcare and environmental volunteer group and network members. Some stories are also contributed by Landcare staff, researchers, and government and agency staff. Each issue of the magazine has a theme. For example, issue 83 (Summer 2022) was a feature on biodiversity.</p>	\$91,436.95 inc GST

i) Details of assessment and measures undertaken to improve the occupational health and safety of employees

Details of initiatives undertaken to improve the health, safety and wellbeing of employees are included in the DELWP 2021-22 Annual Report – Report of Operations, under the Our People section, which is available at www.delwp.vic.gov.au.

j) General statement on industrial relations within the department and details of time lost through industrial accidents and disputes

Information about industrial relations and time lost through industrial accidents and disputes are included in the DELWP 2021-22 Annual Report – Report of Operations, under the Our People section, which is available at www.delwp.vic.gov.au.

k) List of major committees sponsored by the department, the purpose of each committee and the extent to which the purposes have been achieved

Committee	Purpose	Extent of purpose achieved
Executive Board	<p>The DELWP Executive Board is responsible for leading the governance and stewardship of the department and consists of the Secretary and Deputy Secretaries.</p> <p>The Executive Board meets in four meeting modes: Policy and Strategy, Corporate Stewardship, Operations and Performance and Transformation Taskforce.</p> <p>The Board is responsible for providing strategic advice, assurance and guidance on a range of policy, program, corporate and operational matters and for leading DELWP's transformation agenda. The Board sets the vision, purpose and direction of the department and monitors performance of DELWP's financial, OHS, risk and audit indicators and compliance with WoVG policies.</p>	<p>In 2021-22, the Executive Board met 103 times, including four special COVID-19 Business Continuity meetings.</p> <p>The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> endorsed DELWP's 2021-22 business plans and budget and monitored performance across major infrastructure, flagship and priority projects and services, and delivery against regional and groups business plans endorsed vaccination and other COVIDSafe policies, as well as policies and strategies to progress diversity, inclusion, a safe and respectful workplace, working sustainably and Aboriginal self-determination invited representatives from four staff-led networks to directly share their experiences of working at DELWP with the Board led DELWP's transformation journey towards becoming a modern, agile department and provided oversight of the department's Base and Efficiency Review initiatives endorsed a range of policies, strategies and plans relevant to DELWP's portfolios.
Self-determination Committee	<p>The Self-determination Committee provides a forum for all groups to provide coordinated One-DELWP input into key self-determination enabling policy initiatives on behalf of the Secretary and the DELWP Executive Board.</p>	<p>The Self-determination Committee met on four occasions in 2021-22 to support the delivery of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Pupangarli Marnmarnepu</i> – Aboriginal Self-Determination Reform Strategy 2020-2025 DELWP input into the Victorian Government's Yoorrook Justice Commission/Treaty process-including system reform within DELWP information sharing across groups on best practice within DELWP to enable Aboriginal self-determination providing strategic advice to the Executive Board on progress, risk and opportunities for DELWP implementation of self-determination.

Committee	Purpose	Extent of purpose achieved
People and Culture Committee	The People and Culture Committee leads, oversees and optimises DELWP's strategic people capability and organisational culture to achieve the department's strategic outcomes, in a way that promotes the responsible stewardship of DELWP's five organisational pillars.	<p>The People and Culture Committee met nine times in 2021-22.</p> <p>The committee provided strategic advice and governance to support and oversee the delivery of a broad range of people-related strategies and initiatives on behalf of the Board.</p> <p>Some of the key priorities of the committee in 2021-22 included the comprehensive review of DELWP's Safe and Respectful Workplaces Framework policy and procedure, the development of the Aboriginal Cultural Capability Framework, the development of the Access and Inclusion Plan 2021-24, and the development of the Organisational Development, Safety and Wellbeing and WorkCover Levies three-year investment strategy.</p> <p>During 2021-22 the committee participated in a range of discussions that informed organisational culture, capability building, Aboriginal self-determination, workforce strategy and people-related strategic risks.</p>
Executive Staffing and Remuneration Committee	The Executive Staffing and Remuneration Committee ensures a fair and equitable approach to the employment and setting of remuneration at the Senior Executive Service (SES), Principal Scientist (PS) and Senior Technical Specialist (STS) classification.	The Executive Staffing and Remuneration Committee met 12 times in 2021-22 to consider and manage a range of employment matters related to the executive workforce.
Safety and Wellbeing Committee	The Safety and Wellbeing Committee leads and oversees the strategic risk management of staff safety and wellbeing across DELWP in line with its legislative and statutory obligations, on behalf of the Secretary and the DELWP Executive Board.	<p>The Safety and Wellbeing Assurance Committee meets bi-monthly.</p> <p>In 2021-22 it met eight times, with additional extraordinary meetings held in October 2021 and April 2022.</p> <p>Key focus and outcomes for 2021-22 include consideration of the Safety and Wellbeing and WorkCover levy funding models, review of enduring wellbeing reforms from the 2019-20 fire season, review of the People Matters Survey organisational response, endorsement of the Safe and Respectful Workplace Framework, oversight of the Safety and Wellbeing Levy budget and three-year investment plan and the assessment and prioritisation of safety and wellbeing audit actions.</p>

Committee	Purpose	Extent of purpose achieved
Fire and Emergency Management Committee	The Fire and Emergency Management Committee oversees the delivery of DELWP's fire and emergency management policy and operational work program, and ensures that the Secretary and the Executive Board have a clear line of sight of the department's fire and emergency management activity.	<p>The Fire and Emergency Management Stewardship Committee met six times in 2021-22 to provide strategic direction and oversight of the following key priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring appropriate controls are in place to manage DELWP's strategic risk 'efficient and effective preparedness for and response to emergencies' • strengthening DELWP's capability to meet its Class 2 emergency management responsibilities through oversight of the delivery of the DELWP Class 2 State Controller Executive Program Pilot • providing oversight and direction for DELWP's input to WoVG emergency management reforms, including the Emergency Management Reform Program Governance Review and Operating Model Review • providing oversight of DELWP's implementation of changes to the Australian Fire Danger Rating System • providing oversight of the implementation of actions for which DELWP has lead or joint responsibility committed to by Government in response to the IGEM Inquiry into the 2019/20 Victorian fire season and the VAGO Reducing Bushfire Risks Audit, and advice to inform the Victorian Government's approach to working with the Commonwealth and other state and territory governments to address recommendations of the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements • ensuring preparedness arrangements were in place for the 2021-22 summer bushfire season; and • facilitating information sharing and collaboration across hazard areas (including fire, energy, water, wildlife), public land managers, and recovery managers on emerging issues and risks, mitigation strategies and operational solutions to foster continuous improvement.

Committee	Purpose	Extent of purpose achieved
Portfolio Governance and Integrity Committee	The Portfolio Governance and Integrity Committee leads and oversees the direction, management and review of DELWP's portfolio governance and integrity, across the department and its portfolio agencies.	<p>The Portfolio Governance and Integrity Committee met eight times in 2021-22.</p> <p>The committee reviewed and provided support for a range of governance reform initiatives led by the Portfolio Governance Unit, including a portfolio entity risk plan and assurance map, roles, responsibilities and capabilities of relationship managers, and a revised portfolio relationship program.</p> <p>The committee participated in the review of relevant DELWP strategic risks.</p> <p>The committee endorsed a three-year integrity strategy (2022-2024) for DELWP.</p>
Finance and Procurement Committee	The Finance and Procurement Committee leads the department's compliance with the requirements of the Victorian Government Financial Management and Procurement Frameworks to enable DELWP to achieve its strategic outcomes in an effective, efficient and economical manner.	<p>In 2021-22, the Finance and Procurement Committee met 11 times including one special meeting.</p> <p>The committee has provided governance oversight and monitoring on behalf of the Executive Board across a broad range of financial and procurement matters. The committee has focused on monthly monitoring of financial and procurement performance, financial risks, annual budget and financial accounts preparation, and updating of financial policies.</p>
Policy and Legislation Committee	The Policy and Legislation Committee leads and oversees DELWP's, policy and legislative reform agenda on behalf of the Secretary and the Executive Board, and provides advice on the oversight, direction, monitoring and review of this agenda.	<p>The Policy and Legislation Committee met seven times in 2021-22 to lead the scrutiny and oversight of DELWP's policy and legislative agenda on behalf of the Board, and to provide advice on the oversight, direction, monitoring and review of this agenda.</p> <p>Through this oversight, the committee facilitated a whole-of-department perspective on substantial policy and legislative items for endorsement by the DELWP Executive Board.</p>
Data and Technology Committee	The Data and Technology Committee leads and oversees DELWP's digital and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) capability, capacity, performance and strategic directions, including enabling it to leverage the advantages of data and technology, manage its strategic ICT risks and achieve its outcomes more effectively and efficiently.	<p>The Data and Technology Stewardship Committee met 11 times during 2021-22, including one out of session meeting.</p> <p>Key objectives achieved in 2021-22 by the committee included the governance oversight of DELWP's ICT operating model, endorsement of DELWP's Technology Strategy for recommendation to the Transformation Taskforce, oversight of DELWP's capability to be cyber secure including the safe continuity of its data and technology services, and effective oversight of data and technology risks including a comprehensive review of DELWP's information technology and cyber security strategic risk.</p>

Committee	Purpose	Extent of purpose achieved
Solar Victoria Committee	The Solar Victoria Committee oversees and provides advice on the strategic direction and delivery of the Solar Victoria Programs.	The Solar Victoria Committee met 14 times in 2021-22 to consider and provide oversight and direction to Solar Victoria on its programs.
Risk and Audit Committee	<p>The Risk and Audit Committee (RAC) provides independent assurance to the Secretary that the department's risk and control environment is operating effectively and efficiently.</p> <p>RAC is established under the <i>Financial Management Act 1994</i>, in accordance with the Standing Directions of the Minister for Finance. RAC reviews the department's systems and controls for financial management, performance and sustainability, risk management, integrity, business continuity, insurance, internal audit, external audit and review, compliance and internal controls.</p>	<p>The Risk and Audit Committee met eight times in 2021-22. Key focus areas included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020-21 annual financial statements and risk and insurance attestations • the three-year Internal Audit Plan • Internal Audit recommendations and management actions • Victorian Auditor-General Office's Audit Strategy memorandum and audit findings • quarterly risk reports and bi-annual integrity reports.

I) Details of all consultancies and contractors including:

- i) consultants/contractors engaged
- ii) services provided
- iii) expenditure committed to for each engagement.

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