







Why Melbourne must evolve

Cities are defined by people.
They are defined by the ways
in which we live and work, move
from place to place, and interact
with each other. That is why
—as we change—our cities
need to adapt.







Vibrant cities are those that evolve and endure—evolve by keeping up with the changing and growing needs of the people they serve, and endure by retaining the characteristics that attracted people in the first place.

Founded on land that Aboriginal people have lived on for at least 40,000 years, Melbourne is a vibrant city that has evolved and endured for more than 180 years. What began as a settlement on the muddy banks of the Yarra has gone through generations of change—including the wild years of the Gold Rush, the wealth of Marvellous Melbourne, the devastation of the 1890s depression, the shocks of two World Wars and the Great Depression, the post-War migrant boom and the awakening of the 1956 Olympics, and, now, another boom in investment and population driven by the opportunities of the Asian Century.

Along the way, Melbourne developed a unique character, winning renown as a multicultural and tolerant, liveable and affordable, sporting and creative city.

Those characteristics made Melbourne one of the marvels of the 19th century and a major financial services hub in the late 20th and early 21st centuries. In the decades ahead, Melbourne must evolve again in order to endure—retaining its marvellous liveability and culture while continuing to be a global city of the 21st century.

What we are planning for between now and 2050

					
Population	Jobs	Housing	Transport	Environment	Community and liveability
Melbourne's population is projected to grow from 4.5 million to almost 8 million — with Victoria's total population set to top 10 million by 2051	The economy will need to adapt and grow, creating another 1.5 million jobs for a changing workforce	The city will need to build another 1.6 million homes in places where people want to live	The city's transport network will need to cater for around 10 million more trips a day — an increase of more than 80%	The city will have to cope with more extreme heat and longer droughts, as well as increased risks of extreme bushfires, storms and floods	As it grows, Melbourne needs to protect its liveability and sense of community

Every Victorian has a role to play

It is up to this generation to tip the balance towards a future where Victoria is socially and economically strong, environmentally resilient, and engaged with the opportunities of a rapidly changing world.

How we respond to the challenges we face will define the prosperity, sustainability and liveability of our city and state for generations to come. Melbourne has no time to waste. We need to plan and invest wisely to cater to the needs of a more diverse and ageing population; break the link between congestion and growth; address housing affordability; mitigate and adapt to climate change; and ensure social and economic opportunities are accessible to all.

That is why Plan Melbourne matters.

Plan Melbourne is transformational. It is a long-term plan designed to respond to the statewide, regional and local challenges and opportunities Victoria faces between now and 2050. It revises the 2014 version of Plan Melbourne to reflect current policies and priorities—creating continuity, clarity and certainty for communities, businesses and governments.

It is a blueprint for a generation of action. With Melbourne's population forecast to reach 8 million by 2050, we have 8 million reasons to get Plan Melbourne right.



How we will plan for Melbourne

To remain the world's most liveable city, Melbourne must address challenges and create opportunities

Managing population growth

There will be more clarity about where growth will go. Population and housing growth will be kept within the existing urban growth boundary by the careful development of growth areas and the selective redevelopment of underutilised areas within existing communities.

Growing the economy

There will be more jobs close to where people live, which is more important than ever in a changing economy. Opportunities for new industries will be created through the redevelopment of strategic sites close to central Melbourne, through the creation of national employment and innovation clusters, and through the strengthening of existing precincts for sectors such as health, education, large manufacturing and freight and logistics.

Creating affordable and accessible housing

There will be more affordability and choice, as more of the housing we need is delivered in the right places.

Improving transport

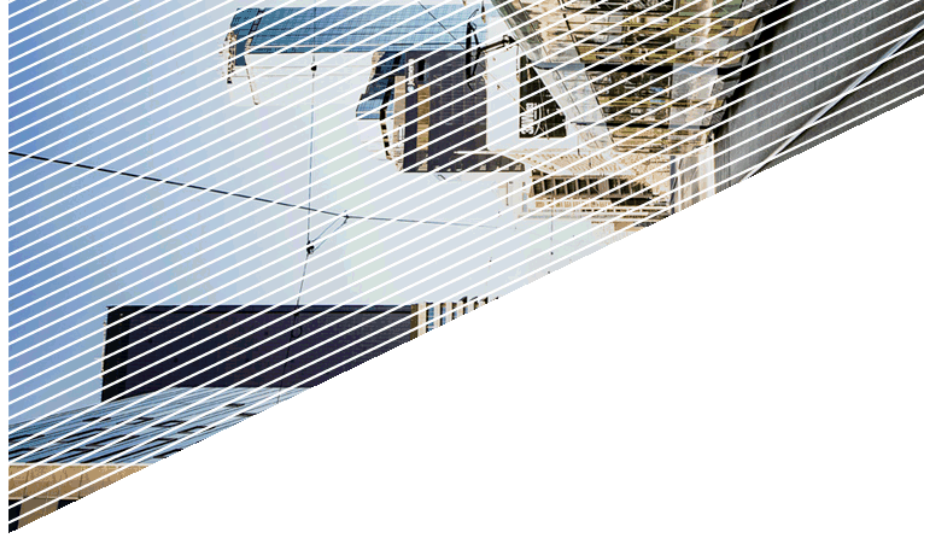
We will continue to invest in our transport network — building the Metro Tunnel and major road projects across the city and suburbs. Government will respond to Infrastructure Victoria's independent assessment of transport priorities by mid-2017.

Responding to climate change

Victoria will reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050. The city and state will also grow a cleaner economy while preparing for higher temperatures and more frequent extreme weather events.

Connecting communities

Melbourne will be a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods. Residents will still commute out of their area for work, but most of their daily needs will be a short walk, bike ride or public transport trip away.



How Plan Melbourne works

Plan Melbourne is a long-term vision with a tangible implementation plan

It is a 35-year blueprint to ensure Melbourne grows more sustainable, productive and liveable as its population approaches 8 million.

The implementation plan is a separate five-year plan of actions that need to be taken to make the ambitions of the Plan a reality.

The five-year Implementation Plan will be regularly updated to keep up with the needs of Melbourne as it grows. It will also be refreshed every five years.

The 35-year Plan Melbourne is a formal planning document to guide planners, councils, developers and the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

To achieve this, Plan Melbourne is structured around:

9 principles

To guide policies and actions

7 outcomes

To state the ambitions of the plan

32 directions

To outline how the outcomes will be achieved

90 policies

To detail how directions will be turned into actions



How we will be defined

Vision: A global city of opportunity and choice

PRINCIPLES

<p>Principle 1</p> <p>A distinctive Melbourne</p>	<p>Principle 4</p> <p>Environmental resilience and sustainability</p>	<p>Principle 7</p> <p>Strong and healthy communities</p>
<p>Principle 2</p> <p>A globally connected and competitive city</p>	<p>Principle 5</p> <p>Living locally — 20-minute neighbourhoods</p>	<p>Principle 8</p> <p>Infrastructure investment that supports balanced city growth</p>
<p>Principle 3</p> <p>A city of centres linked to regional Victoria</p>	<p>Principle 6</p> <p>Social and economic participation</p>	<p>Principle 9</p> <p>Leadership and partnership</p>





OUTCOME

1

Melbourne is a productive city that attracts investment, supports innovation and creates jobs

In the decades ahead, globalisation, the economic rise of Asia, digital disruption and the ageing population will continue to drive rapid changes in Australia and Victoria.

Melbourne and Victoria need to adapt to handle this social and economic transition.

The central city will continue to be Melbourne's largest concentration of employment. National employment and innovation clusters in the suburbs will be a focus for knowledge-based and high-productivity jobs. Together with key industrial precincts, transport gateways, health and education precincts and metropolitan activity centres, these clusters will attract investment and stimulate employment.

Targeting development and infrastructure investment in these key employment areas will maximise the city's productivity—positioning Melbourne as Australia's pre-eminent knowledge economy, services sector and freight hub.

Directions	Policies
Create a city structure that strengthens Melbourne's competitiveness for jobs and investment	Support the central city to become Australia's largest commercial and residential centre by 2050 Plan for the redevelopment of major urban renewal precincts in and around the central city to deliver high-quality, distinct and diverse neighbourhoods offering a mix of uses Facilitate the development of national employment and innovation clusters Support the significant employment and servicing role of health and education precincts across Melbourne Support major transport gateways as important locations for employment and economic activity Plan for industrial land in the right locations to support employment and investment opportunities Plan for adequate commercial land across Melbourne
Improve access to jobs across Melbourne and closer to where people live	Support the development of a network of activity centres, linked by transport Facilitate investment in Melbourne's outer areas to increase local access to employment Support the provision of telecommunications infrastructure
Create development opportunities at urban renewal precincts across Melbourne	Plan for and facilitate the development of urban renewal precincts Plan for new development and investment opportunities on the existing and planned transport network
Support the productive use of land and resources in Melbourne's non-urban areas	Protect agricultural land and support agricultural production Identify and protect extractive resources (such as stone and sand) important for Melbourne's future needs

OUTCOME

2

Melbourne provides housing choice in locations close to jobs and services

New housing needs to be well planned and affordable. It needs to be in the right places, close to jobs and services.

There will be more housing choices for people in their local areas so they can downsize or upsize without having to leave behind neighbourhoods and community.

That means finding opportunities for new housing: in the central city, in targeted areas within suburbs, and within growth areas on the city's fringe.

That also means increasing the supply of social and affordable housing—so that no one is left behind.

Our suburbs will also become more liveable. Within neighbourhoods, people will be able to walk, cycle or take a short public transport trip for most of their daily needs—making the city easier to live in, easier to get around and more sustainable.

Directions	Policies
Manage the supply of new housing in the right locations to meet population growth and create a sustainable city	Maintain a permanent urban growth boundary around Melbourne to create a more consolidated, sustainable city Facilitate an increased percentage of new housing in established areas to create a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods close to existing services, jobs and public transport Plan for and define expected housing needs across Melbourne's regions Provide certainty about the scale of growth in the suburbs
Deliver more housing closer to jobs and public transport	Facilitate well-designed, high-density residential developments that support a vibrant public realm in Melbourne's central city Direct new housing and mixed-use development to urban renewal precincts and sites across Melbourne Support new housing in activity centres and other places that offer good access to jobs, services and public transport Provide support and guidance for greyfield areas to deliver more housing choice and diversity
Increase the supply of social and affordable housing	Require development in growth areas to be sequenced and staged to better link infrastructure delivery to land release Utilise government land to deliver additional social housing Streamline decision-making processes for social housing proposals Strengthen the role of planning in facilitating and delivering the supply of social and affordable housing Create ways to capture and share value uplift from rezonings
Facilitate decision-making processes for housing in the right locations	Support streamlined approval processes in defined locations Facilitate the remediation of contaminated land, particularly on sites in developed areas of Melbourne with potential for residential development
Provide greater choice and diversity of housing	Facilitate housing that offers choice and meets changing household needs Provide a range of housing types in growth areas

OUTCOME

3

Melbourne has an integrated transport system that connects people to jobs and services and goods to market

Melbourne needs an integrated 21st-century transport system to connect people to jobs and services. Creating an integrated transport system will require:

- the completion of the Metro Tunnel project
- significant improvements to arterial road connections across Melbourne, and improved efficiency of the motorway network
- the removal of level crossings across Melbourne's suburbs
- better transport infrastructure and services in newer suburbs—including new bus services for outer suburbs and, where there is sufficient demand, expansions to the rail network
- significant investments in new suburbs to create pedestrian- and cyclist-friendly neighbourhoods
- ensuring Melbourne's air transport remains efficient for passengers and freight, with the potential to establish another airport in Melbourne's south-east
- enhancing the efficiency of Melbourne's freight network by upgrading road and rail freight infrastructure, creating new intermodal freight terminals in Melbourne's north and west, and increasing the volume of interstate freight transported by rail
- enhancing Melbourne's freight network through the Port Capacity project, the Western Distributor project and the possible establishment of a second container port.

Directions	Policies
Transform Melbourne's transport system to support a productive city	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a metro-style rail system with 'turn up and go' frequency and reliability Provide high-quality public transport access to job-rich areas Improve arterial road connections across Melbourne for all road users Provide guidance and certainty for land use and transport development through the Principal Public Transport Network and the Principal Freight Network Improve the efficiency of the motorway network Support cycling for commuting
Improve transport in Melbourne's outer suburbs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve roads in growth areas and outer suburbs Improve outer-suburban public transport
Improve local travel options to support 20-minute neighbourhoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create pedestrian-friendly neighbourhoods Create a network of cycling links for local trips Improve local transport choices Locate schools and other regional facilities near existing public transport and provide safe walking and cycling routes and drop-off zones
Improve freight efficiency and increase capacity of gateways while protecting urban amenity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support sufficient gateway capacity with efficient roadside access Increase the volume of freight carried on rail Avoid negative impacts of freight movements on urban amenity

OUTCOME

4

Melbourne is a distinctive and liveable city with quality design and amenity

Melbourne is renowned for its buildings, parks, creative culture and liveability.

As Melbourne's population grows, we need to ensure the city and suburbs also grow more liveable.

That means we must promote quality design that focuses on people, environment and cultural identity—reflecting the past, present and future of Melbourne and Victoria.

Heritage will continue to be one of our greatest strengths. In particular Aboriginal cultural heritage must be recognised and protected as a part of the contemporary and social life of Melbourne.

The city needs to enhance its reputation as a great place to live and work—and use liveability as a magnet to attract new people, new ideas and new opportunities.

Directions	Policies
<p>Create more great public places across Melbourne</p>	<p>Support Melbourne's distinctiveness</p> <p>Integrate place-making practices into road-space management</p> <p>Strengthen Melbourne's network of boulevards</p> <p>Protect and enhance the metropolitan water's edge parklands</p>
<p>Build on Melbourne's cultural leadership and sporting legacy</p>	<p>Strengthen Melbourne's civic legacy of great places</p> <p>Support the growth and development of Melbourne's cultural precincts and creative industries</p> <p>Plan and facilitate private-sector tourism investment opportunities</p>
<p>Achieve and promote design excellence</p>	<p>Promote urban design excellence in every aspect of the built environment</p>
<p>Respect Melbourne's heritage as we build for the future</p>	<p>Recognise the value of heritage when managing growth and change</p> <p>Respect and protect Melbourne's Aboriginal cultural heritage</p> <p>Stimulate economic growth through heritage conservation</p> <p>Protect Melbourne's heritage through telling its stories</p>
<p>Plan for Melbourne's green wedges and peri-urban areas</p>	<p>Strengthen protection and management of green wedge land</p> <p>Protect and enhance valued attributes of distinctive areas and landscapes</p>
<p>Strengthen community participation in the planning of our city</p>	<p>Create diverse opportunities for communities to participate in planning</p>

OUTCOME

5

Melbourne is a city of inclusive, vibrant and healthy neighbourhoods

The concept of the 20-minute neighbourhood is simple. It's all about giving Melburnians the ability to live locally—meeting most of their everyday needs within a 20-minute walk, cycle or local public transport trip of home.

Many of us will still need to travel outside our local area to go to work, but everyday needs such as schools, shops, meeting places, open spaces, cafés, doctors, childcare and access to public transport will be only 20 minutes away.

Many of Melbourne's established suburbs already have the ingredients for a 20-minute neighbourhood. Plan Melbourne aims to make the 20-minute neighbourhood a reality for every suburb and every Melburnian.

Access to local services—including early years centres, primary and secondary schools, parks and sporting fields, and medical centres—is needed at the early stage of a neighbourhood's development. Connecting people to these services and facilities via frequent public transport services and safe and convenient pedestrian and cycle routes (which avoid arterial roads wherever possible) will be integral to the creation of a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods.

Local communities will also be encouraged and supported to become actively involved in the delivery of local parks and greening of their neighbourhoods. The city needs to make better use of existing public land—including schools, underutilised road space and easements.

Directions	Policies
Create a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods	Create mixed-use neighbourhoods of varying densities Support a network of vibrant neighbourhood activity centres
Create neighbourhoods that support safe communities and healthy lifestyles	Improve neighbourhoods to enable walking and cycling as a part of daily life
Deliver social infrastructure to support strong communities	Facilitate a whole-of-government approach to the delivery of social infrastructure Create health and education precincts to support neighbourhoods Support not-for-profit community services to build social capital and stronger communities Provide and protect land for cemeteries and crematoria
Deliver local parks and green neighbourhoods in collaboration with communities	Develop a network of accessible, high-quality, local open spaces Support community gardens and productive streetscapes

OUTCOME
6 **Melbourne is a sustainable and resilient city**

The Melbourne of 2050 will need to be a low-carbon city designed to cope with the effects of climate change.

To achieve those aims Victoria will reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero emissions by 2050 while creating new jobs, driving innovation within new and traditional industries and reducing household energy bills. In addition, areas at risk from natural hazards will be identified and planned for.

Urban areas will be designed to encourage more active modes of transport and reduce car dependency. Buildings will be designed to improve energy efficiency, collect and re-use water and to generate energy from local renewable sources and distributed energy technologies.

The city will generate less waste, with resource recovery technologies extracting economic value from recycling of waste streams. Melbourne will be greener, cooler and more liveable. The community's access to open space and nature will be enhanced and biodiversity and ecological processes will be safeguarded for future generations.

An integrated approach to managing the urban water cycle will make the best use of all water sources and transform Melbourne into a water-sensitive city—protecting the health of the city's waterways and bays, reducing the risk of flooding and keeping parks, gardens and street trees thriving.

Directions	Policies
Transition to a low-carbon city to enable Victoria to achieve its target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve energy, water and waste performance of buildings through environmentally sustainable development and energy efficiency upgrades Facilitate the uptake of renewable energy technologies
Reduce the likelihood and consequences of natural hazard events and adapt to climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigate exposure to natural hazards and adapt to the impacts of climate change Require climate change risks to be considered in infrastructure planning
Integrate urban development and water cycle management to support a resilient and liveable city	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce pressure on water supplies by making the best use of all water sources Improve alignment between urban water management and planning by adopting an integrated water management approach Protect water, drainage and sewerage assets
Make Melbourne cooler and greener	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support a cooler Melbourne by greening urban areas, buildings, transport corridors and open spaces to create an urban forest Strengthen the integrated metropolitan open space network

Continued overleaf

OUTCOME

6

Continued

Directions	Policies
Protect and restore natural habitats	<p>Create a network of green spaces that support biodiversity conservation and opportunities to connect with nature</p> <p>Protect and enhance the health of urban waterways</p> <p>Protect the coastlines and waters of Port Phillip Bay and Western Port</p>
Improve air quality and reduce the impact of excessive noise	<p>Reduce air pollution emissions and minimise exposure to air pollution and excessive noise</p>
Reduce waste and improve waste management and resource recovery	<p>Improve the economic recovery of waste and reduce reliance on landfill</p> <p>Improve waste and resource recovery systems to meet the logistical challenges of medium- and higher-density developments</p> <p>Protect waste management and resource recovery facilities from urban encroachment and assess opportunities for new waste facilities</p>



OUTCOME
7
Regional Victoria is productive, sustainable and supports jobs and economic growth

Continuing to invest in regional Victoria will support housing and economic growth, enhance social and economic participation and grow strong, healthy communities.

Growing regional cities means stronger local labour markets that can sustain local employment as well as regional scale services (such as hospitals and universities).

Creating high-quality freight and passenger transport connections to regional cities and towns will also facilitate the growth and competitiveness of the regions.

The government will continue to make improvements to infrastructure and services to stimulate employment and growth in the state's 10 largest regional cities.

Development in regional Victoria will need to be in keeping with the character, attractiveness and amenity of individual cities and towns. It will also need to be balanced with protecting productive land, economic resources and biodiversity assets that are critical to the state's economic and environmental sustainability.

Directions	Policies
Invest in regional Victoria to support housing and economic growth	Stimulate employment and growth in regional cities Support planning for growing towns in peri-urban areas
Improve connections between cities and regions	Improve transport and digital connectivity for regional Victoria Strengthen transport links on national networks for the movement of commodities

What Plan Melbourne will mean for you

You will still be living in one of the world's most liveable cities — because the environment has been protected and new housing built in places with the right services and infrastructure

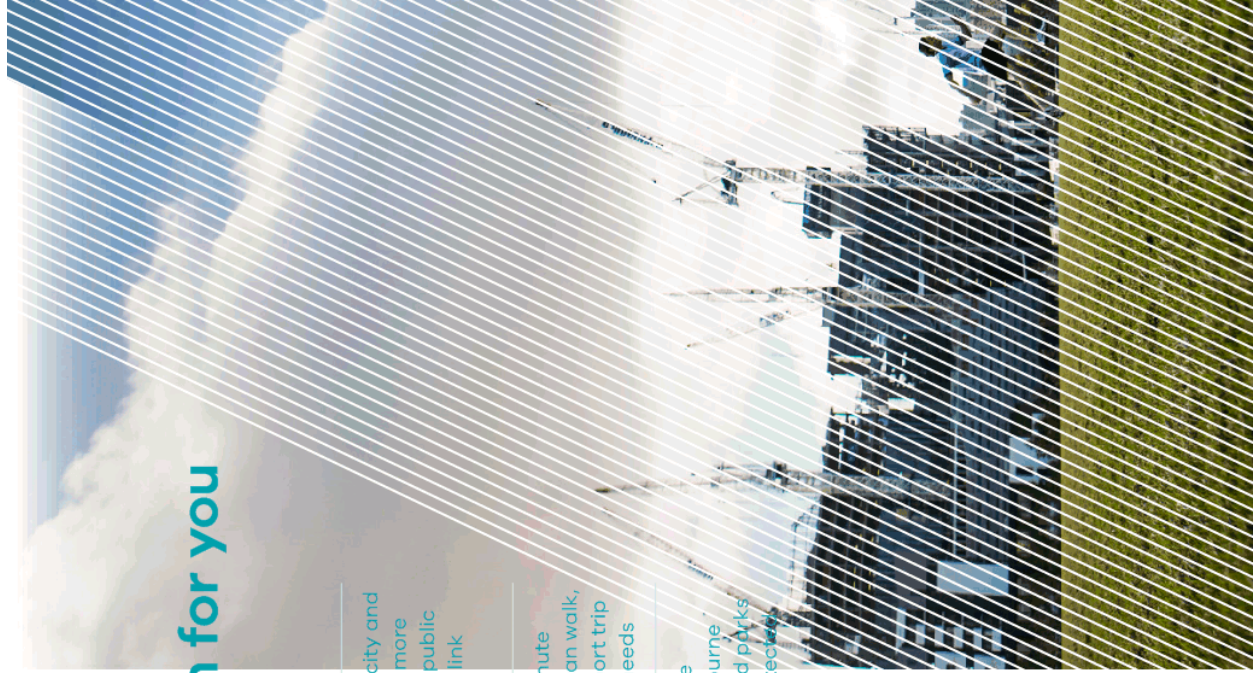
You will be able to work or study closer to where you live — because job clusters in the suburbs have grown and been linked by better transport infrastructure and services

You will have a real choice about how and where you live — because a wide range of affordable and accessible housing is available for rent and sale

You will be able to get around the city and suburbs more easily — because a more integrated and efficient road and public transport network has broken the link between growth and congestion

You will be living in a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods — because you can walk, cycle or take a short public transport trip to access most of your everyday needs

You will be living in a greener, more sustainable city — because Melbourne has become a low-carbon city, and parks and green wedges have been protected and improved







For further information please visit
planmelbourne.vic.gov.au

Accessibility

If you would like to receive this publication in an alternative format, please telephone the DELWP Customer Service Centre on 136 186, email customer.service@delwp.vic.gov.au, or via the National Relay Service on 133 677 www.relay.vic.gov.au. This document is also available on the internet at www.delwp.vic.gov.au

© The State of Victoria Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning 2017
This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International licence. You are free to re-use the work under that licence, on the condition that you credit the State of Victoria as author. The licence does not apply to any images, photographs or branding, including the Victorian Coat of Arms, the Victorian Government logo and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) logo. To view a copy of this licence, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

Printed by Impact Digital, Brunswick
ISBN 978-1-76047-503-1 Print
ISBN 978-1-76047-504-8 Online (pdf/word)

Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.



Environment,
Land, Water
and Planning