



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Water and Environmental Regulation**

*We're working for
Western Australia.*



Annual report
2018-19

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

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We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land upon which we live and work, and pay our respects to their elders past and present. We recognise the practice of intergenerational care for country and its relevance to our work. We seek to listen, learn and build strong partnerships. We aim to provide genuine opportunities for Aboriginal people within our workforce and through our business.

Director General's message

Thank you for reading the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's 2018–19 annual report. It reflects our second full year of operation which has seen change, consolidation and continued delivery of the government's priorities and our services.

One of the biggest changes for our department in 2018–19 was the relocation of our headquarters and some 700 staff from the Perth central business district to Prime House in Davidson Terrace, Joondalup. Despite this significant change for our staff and stakeholders, I am very pleased that we continued to deliver on our services and priorities consistent with our vision of a healthy environment and secure water resources, valued by all, to support a liveable and prosperous Western Australia. I would like to take this opportunity to again acknowledge the Department of Finance for its role in leading and managing the commissioning of our excellent new headquarters and our move.

Over this past year, we have continued to work to fulfil the government's 'one-stop-shop' vision for the department, streamlining water and environmental approvals, improving services to the community and planning for some of the biggest challenges facing our state, such as climate change.

We do not do this work in isolation, however. We work closely with other stakeholders to seek and share information that strengthens our regulatory, policy and guidance roles. I thank our partners and stakeholders across state and local government, industry, academia and the community who have continued to work with us to find innovative solutions to the state's environmental and water challenges.

I am proud to lead an organisation that is committed to meaningful engagement with traditional owners across Western Australia. This year saw the launch of our first *Reconciliation action plan*, the continuation of our Aboriginal Water and Environment Advisory Group and our efforts to protect the extraordinary Murujuga rock art in the Pilbara, which has immense cultural and spiritual significance to Aboriginal people.

While this report provides a thorough account of our achievements and the breadth of our work, some items of note include:

- As part of the government's commitment to sustainable economic development in the Fitzroy River catchment, we will develop a Fitzroy water allocation plan in 2020. This will provide for the long-term and sustainable use of the region's water resources, while making sure the unique National Heritage-listed environmental and cultural values of the Fitzroy River are protected.
- During the past 12 months, we have reduced waste through a ban on lightweight plastic bags from 1 July 2018 and prepared for the launch of a new container deposit scheme. Containers for Change, which takes effect from 2 June 2020, will encourage people to collect drink containers covered by the scheme for a 10 cent refund, reducing litter and protecting the environment.

- We dealt with some 3000 applications for water licences, provided water and environmental advice as part of the land planning process, and made good progress on preparing the next Gngangara water allocation plan.
- The introduction of fees during the year for some water licences and increases to clearing permit fees has made more resources available to the department to improve service delivery and reduce assessment and approval times.
- The department continues to deliver on commitments designed to improve the health of six south-west estuaries as part of the Regional Estuaries Initiative.
- We have also continued our successful compliance and enforcement and industry regulation programs that protect our environment and communities.

Of course, none of these and our many other achievements would be possible without the support and commitment of our staff. One of our corporate values is 'Better Together' and I am very much reminded of this as I reflect on our collective effort during the year. I would like to take the opportunity to again thank our dedicated staff across the state who work tirelessly to achieve outcomes for our water resources and environment and for the people and businesses of Western Australia who rely on them.

It is an exciting time to be working together as we continue to play a vital role in shaping the Western Australia of the future.



Mike Rowe
Director General
26 September 2019

Statement of compliance

For the year ended 30 June 2019

Hon. Dave Kelly, MLA
Minister for Water

Hon. Stephen Dawson, MLC
Minister for Environment

In accordance with section 63 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*, I hereby submit for your information and presentation to Parliament the annual report for the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation for the financial year ended 30 June 2019.

The annual report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006*.



Mike Rowe
Director General
26 September 2019

Shortened forms

Term	Definition
AAS	Australian Accounting Standards
CALD	cultural and linguistically diverse backgrounds
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
DFES	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
DMIRS	Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
FOGO	food organics and garden organics
FTE	full-time equivalent
MLA	Member of the Legislative Assembly
MLC	Member of the Legislative Council
NAIDOC	National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee
NEPM	National Environment Protection Measure
OSH	occupational safety and health
PFAS	per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances
WALGA	Western Australian Local Government Association
WARR	waste avoidance and resource recovery
WIR	Water Information Reporting
WSS	WestState Superannuation Scheme

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The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation is responsible for ensuring the state's water resources and environment are healthy, and able to support a strong economy and thriving communities.



01 Overview

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Fast facts

3952
registered customers of Water Online

5000
requests for water information via the WIR portal

1400
alleged breaches of environmental legislation



3200
reports to Pollution Watch

387
pollution and emergency incidents



2398
groundwater bores monitored

est. 7 million
plastic bags saved from littering

3765
gigalitres of water licensed for use



287
clearing permit applications approved

4001
sites classified under the *Contaminated Sites Act 2003*



257
surface water sites monitored through telemetry

2018–19 review

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation is responsible for ensuring the state's water resources and environment are healthy, and able to support a strong economy and thriving communities. We administer legislation governing water and the environment, and deliver expert advice supported by science to the other regulators, government and the community.

As a state government entity, we are accountable under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* and the *Financial Management Act 2006*. For the purposes of the Financial Management Act, the Director General is the accountable authority for the department.

Our story

The department is responsible for:

- stewardship of the state's environment and water resources on behalf of the government and the community
- regulating the state's environment and water resources
- administering licences, clearing permits and referrals of significant projects
- providing a one-stop-shop for industry and developers.

The [Environmental Protection Authority \(EPA\)](#), the [Waste Authority of Western Australia](#) and the [Keep Australia Beautiful Council](#) operate independently of the department. We support the EPA in conducting environmental impact assessments. We also monitor compliance with the conditions of Ministerial statements. In addition, we provide services to the Waste Authority and the Keep Australia Beautiful Council to enable them to perform their functions. For more related agencies, please see [Our structure](#).



Our finances

In 2018–19, our department administered an operating budget of \$170.5 million, capital budget of \$14.5 million and managed total assets worth \$510.3 million.

Our funding enables us to monitor and protect water resources throughout the state and to ensure our environment is healthy and protected.

This summary shows the key elements of our financial performance. More detailed information is provided under our key performance indicators in the Financial statements and notes.



► Summary of key performance indicators

For a more detailed explanation of the indicators and reasons for variances, please refer to the audited key performance indicators section of this report. [Appendix B](#) shows the relationships between our indicators, outcomes and services.

► Summary of key effectiveness indicators

Outcome	Key effectiveness indicator	2017–18	2018–19			
		Actual %	Target %	Actual %	Variance %	
1 Western Australia's growth and development is supported by the sustainable management of water resources for the long-term benefit of the state	Proportion of stakeholders who perceive the department to be effectively managing the state's water as a resource for sustainable, productive use	64	60	52	(8)	↓
	Proportion of priority growth areas that have a water supply planning strategy	75	43	46	3	↑
2 Emissions, discharges and clearing of native vegetation are effectively regulated to avoid unacceptable risks to public health and the environment	Percentage of regulatory compliance activities completed as planned	78	100	98	(2)	↓
	Percentage of potential environmental risks identified during compliance monitoring program that are rectified within two months	45	80	40	(40)	↓
3 Development and implementation of strategic policy and legislation that promoted sustainable environmental outcomes	Percentage of advice and recommendations that met Ministerial approval, without the need for significant modification	97	95	92	(3)	↓
4 Waste avoided and the recovery of materials from landfill maximised	Percentage of municipal solid waste reported as diverted from landfill through recycling compared to waste strategy target in the Perth metropolitan region	33	50	40	(10)	↓
	Percentage of commercial and industrial waste reported as diverted from landfill through recycling compared to the statewide waste strategy target	46	55	45	(10)	↓
	Percentage of construction and demolition waste reported as diverted from landfill through recycling compared to the statewide waste strategy target	77	60	75	15	↑
5 Quality advice to the EPA and the Minister for Environment on significant proposals and environmental issues	The EPA's satisfaction with the department's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) service, during the year, in line with best practice principles of EIA	97	80	97	17	↑
	Percentage of project-specific conditions which did not require significant change following the appeal process	94	80	96	16	↑
	Percentage of assessments that met agreed timelines	92	75	93	18	↑
	The EPA's satisfaction with the department's provision of environmental management services during the year	90	80	93	13	↑
6 Compliance with Ministerial Statement implementation conditions are monitored effectively	The number of Ministerial Statements audited compared to targets	100	100	100	0	↑

See [Section 04](#) for more detail.

► Summary of key efficiency indicators

Service	Key efficiency indicators	2017-18	2017-18		
		Actual	Target	Actual	Variance
 Service 1 Water information and advice	Proportion of statutory referrals from decision-making authorities where advice is provided within target timeframes	95%	97%	92%	(5%) ↓
	Average cost per statutory referral assessment	\$13 072	\$11 912	\$11 442	\$470 ↑
	Average cost per water measurement site managed	\$8 754	\$7 085	\$7 118	\$33 ↓
 Service 2 Water planning, allocation and optimisation	Average cost per plan, report or guidance document to support water planning, allocation and optimisation	\$417 794	\$334 511	\$431 338	\$96 827 ↓
	Average cost per hour of scientific support for water planning, allocation and optimisation	\$196	\$194	\$145	\$49 ↑
 Service 3 Water regulation, licensing and industry governance	Average cost of assessing a water licence application by risk assessment category:				
	• Low risk	\$1 071	\$2 236	\$3 788	\$1 552 ↓
	• Medium risk	\$14 297	\$7 604	\$5 051	\$2 553 ↑
	• High risk	\$28 762	\$15 655	\$6 313	\$9 342 ↑
	Average time taken (days) to assess a licence application by risk assessment category:				
	• Low risk	73	65	57	8 ↑
	• Medium risk	134	75	133	(58) ↓
• High risk	158	95	213	(118) ↓	
 Service 4 Environmental regulation	Average cost of compliance monitoring and enforcement action	\$743	\$413	\$608	\$195 ↓
	Average cost per works approval and licence application	\$55 962	\$68 503	\$57 821	\$10 682 ↑
 Service 5 Environmental policy	Average cost per native vegetation clearing permit application	\$34 405	\$28 428	\$29 865	\$1 437 ↓
	Average cost per hour of policy advice and recommendations	\$89	\$114	\$84	\$30 ↑
 Service 6 Waste strategies	Cost of landfill levy compliance as a percentage of landfill levy income collected	1.3%	2.0%	2.1%	(0.1%) ↓
 Service 7 Environmental impact assessment services to the EPA	Cost per standardised unit of assessment output	\$34 681	\$31 467	\$33 082	\$1 615 ↓
 Service 8 Environmental management services to the EPA	Cost per standardised unit of environmental management services output	\$31 377	\$39 577	\$21 049	\$18 528 ↑
 Service 9 Compliance monitoring services to the Minister	Average cost per environmental audit completed	\$18 069	\$35 207	\$31 719	\$3 488 ↑

See [Section 04](#) for more detail.

At a glance

Plastic bag ban

Reduced environmental impact
Behaviour change campaign

P28



Working with others

Revitalised waterways
Geographe wetlands

P36



10 cent refund

Planned container deposit scheme
Countdown to June 2020

P45



15 per cent

Reduced average annual rainfall
Managing groundwater

P46

1 million images

Protecting Aboriginal heritage
Murujuga rock art strategy

P66

Lake Argyle Elders

Shared cultural responsibility
Water allocation plan

P74

40 years in the future

Water demand projected
Model attracts worldwide interest

P82

Drone power

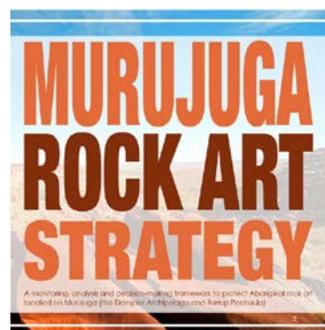
Flow data recalculated
Mt Pierre Creek

P83

New head office

Welcome to Joondalup
Prime House officially opened

P85



Tina takes the lead

Online enquiries fast-tracked
Water licensing support

P89



See [Section 02](#) for more detail.

Our workforce

Our workforce profile provides a view of some principal characteristics of our people. We have 923 employees who cover 842.75 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions.



1%
Aboriginal Australians



13%
People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (CALD)*



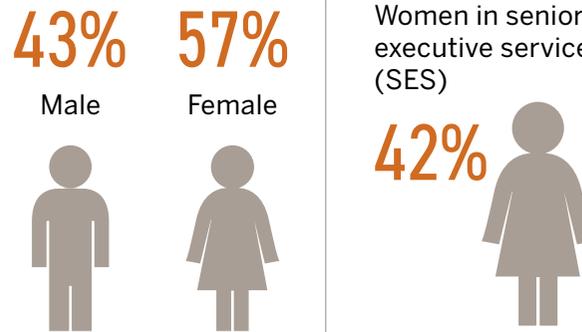
2%
People with disability

*CALD – 'First language not English' or 'country of birth not Australia, USA, Canada or UK (including individual countries)'

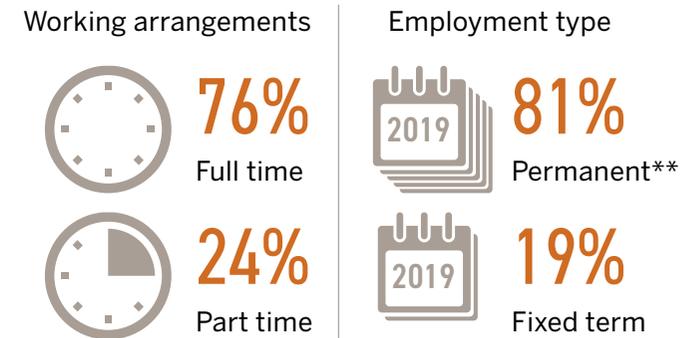
**Permanent – SES right of return considered permanent. SES without right of return considered fixed-term

The statistics above show the number of people who self-identified as belonging to their respective diversity group in a staff survey in March 2019.

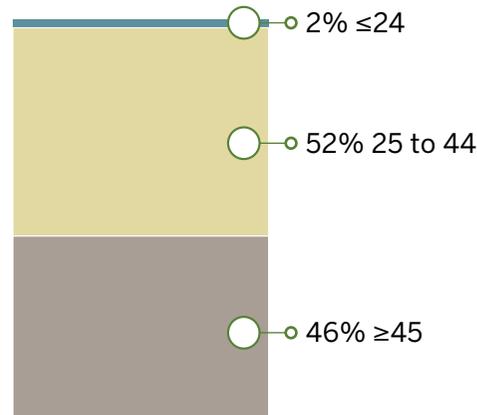
► Gender (%)



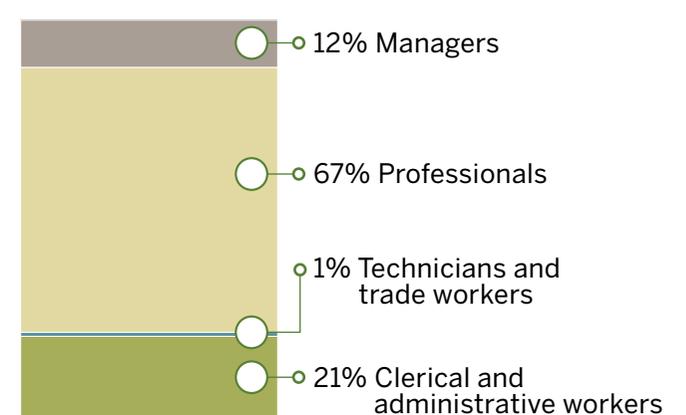
► Supporting workforce flexibility (%)



► Age profile



► Occupation category



About us

This section provides an overview of who we are, the people who lead us and how we create value.

Our Ministers, legislation and operations

► Responsible Ministers

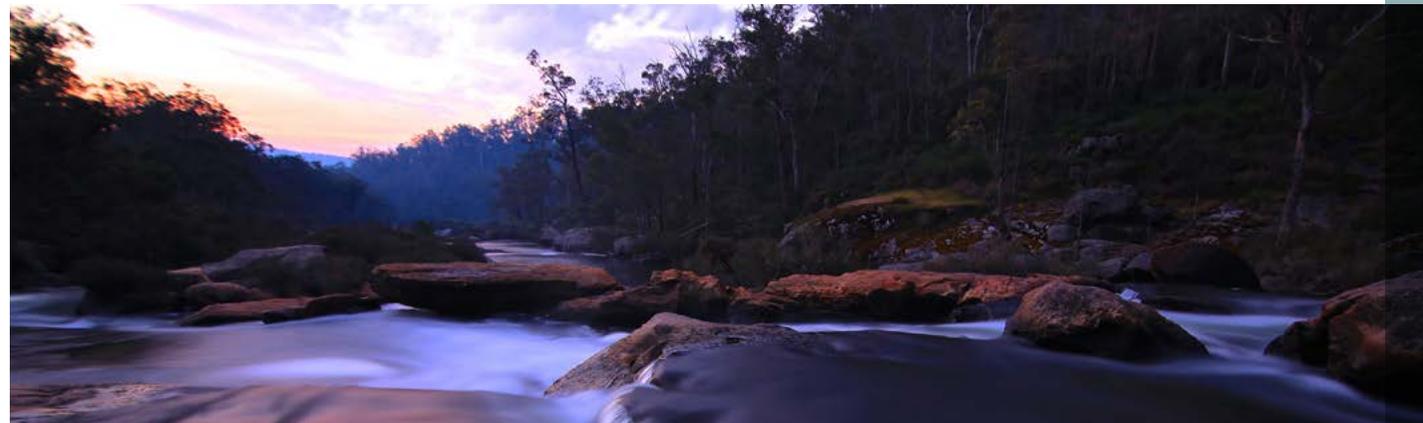
Two Ministers have responsibility for matters relating to water and environmental regulation:

Hon. Dave Kelly BA MLA
Minister for Water; Fisheries; Forestry; Innovation and ICT; Science

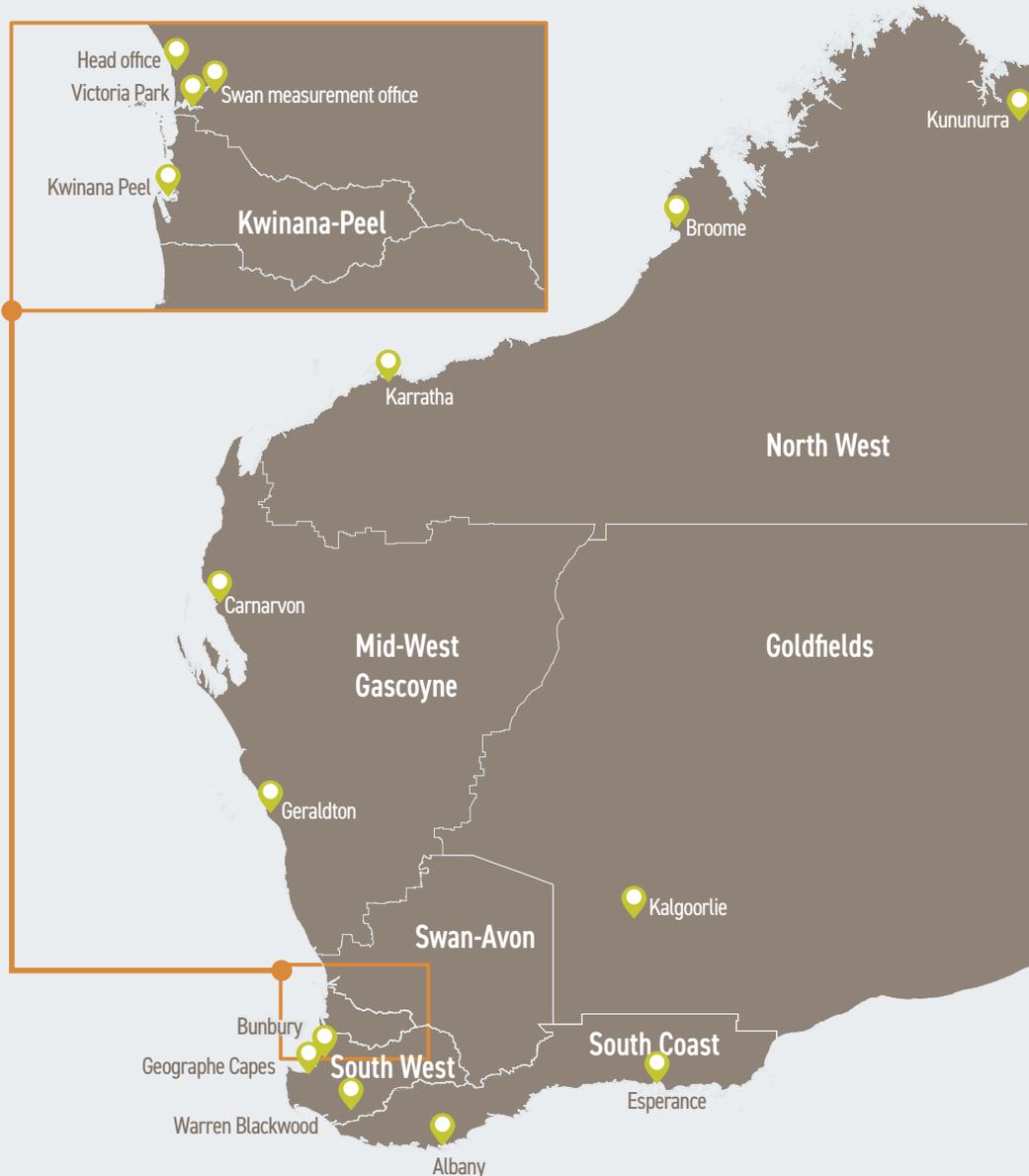
Hon. Stephen Dawson MLC
Minister for Environment; Disability Services; Electoral Affairs

► Enabling legislation

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation was established as a department on 1 July 2017 under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*.



► Department of Water and Environmental Regulation regional boundaries



► **Legislation administered**

The main legislation administered by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation as at 30 June 2019 includes:

- *Environmental Protection Act 1986*
- *Contaminated Sites Act 2003*
- *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007*
- *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*
- *Water Service Act 2012*

For the full list of legislation that we administer, please see [Appendix A](#).

► **Extent of our operations**

The department's operational areas span the state (see regional boundary map).

Whole-of-government targets

Premier Mark McGowan launched [Our Priorities: Sharing Prosperity](#) on 20 February 2019. It sets out 12 key performance indicators to hold the state government to account and targets important issues facing Western Australia. We will engage and work collaboratively with other departments and key stakeholders to achieve the targets and in particular the two targets most applicable to our department under 'Liveable Environment':

- use METRONET to drive sustainable urban development including a 45 per cent increase in the number of homes close to a public transport node by 2031
- create a cleaner, more sustainable environment starting with a goal that by 2030 at least 75 per cent of waste generated in Western Australia will be reused or recycled.

The full range of our goals, services and outcomes reported under the department's outcome-based management framework is provided in [Section 04](#).

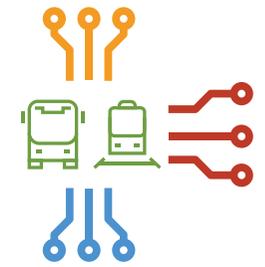


► What do we want to achieve?

METRONET

▲ 45%

in number of homes in the Perth and Peel region in close proximity to a public transport node by 2031.



Waste recycle

at least 75%

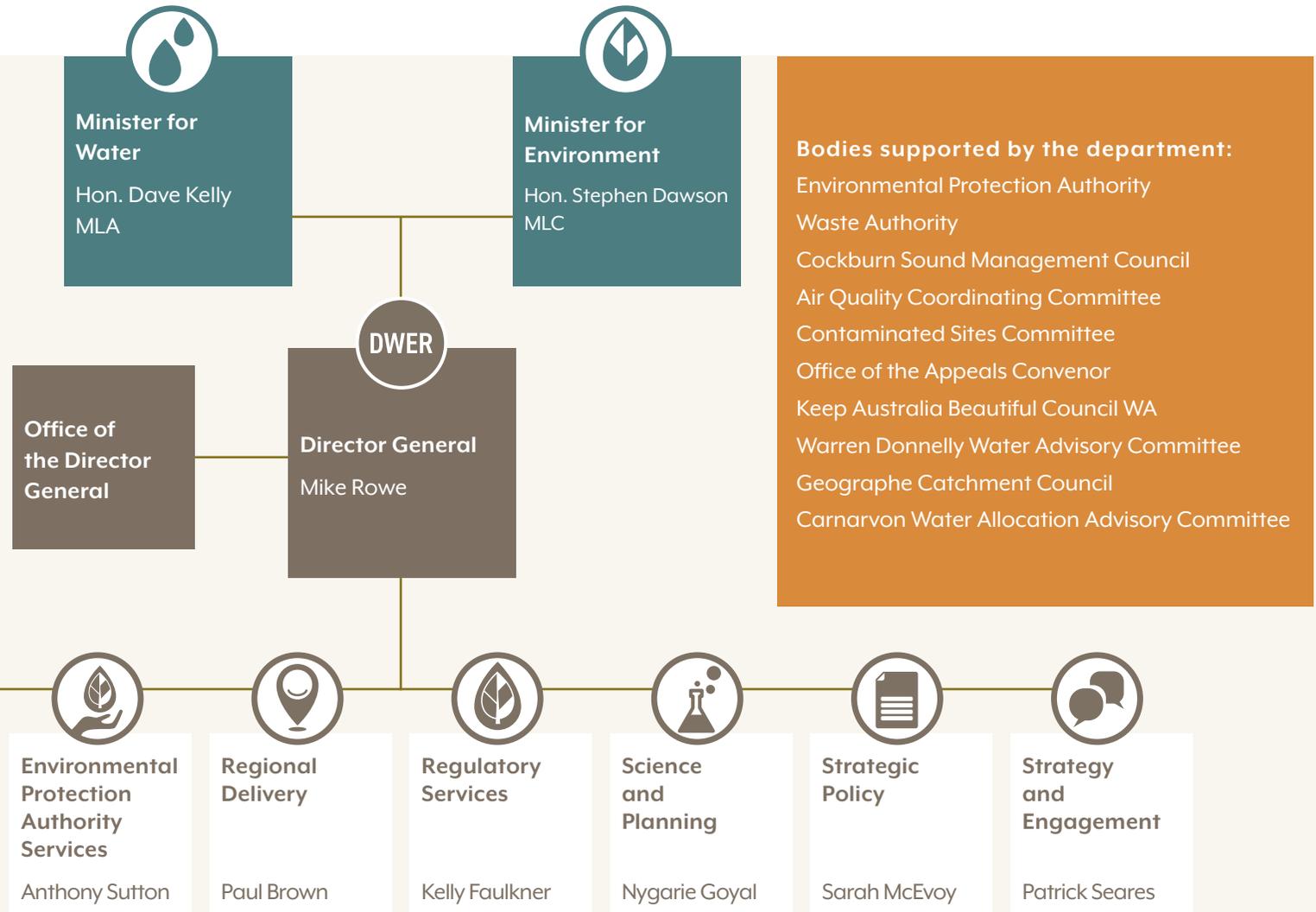
of waste generated in Western Australia is reused or recycled by 2030.



Our structure

The department is structured into eight directorates working together to manage and regulate the state's environment and water resources.

Our directorates support each other and work together, with the aim of achieving our goals and aligning our values. Our goals are guided by the five strategies outlined in our [strategic plan](#).



Our leaders

The Corporate Executive sets the strategic direction and monitors delivery of our commitments to government and the community.



Director General

Mike Rowe

Mike Rowe is the Director General of the department, which was established on 1 July 2017. Mike was appointed to the role following three years as the Director General of the former Department of Water. Mike has worked for the Government of Western Australia in a variety of leadership, policy, advisory and delivery roles since 1993.

His experience spans a number of natural resources management portfolios such as agriculture, environment and water, as well as Aboriginal affairs and central agencies including the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. Mike is on the board of Leadership Western Australia and is Vice President of the Council of the Institute of Public Administration Australia (Western Australia). He has a Bachelor of Environmental Science and holds postgraduate qualifications in social research and program evaluation, and public sector management.

► **Senior leaders**

Our executive team has a wealth of experience, expertise, diverse capabilities and backgrounds, and is committed to providing Western Australians with a leading water and regulatory administration and contemporary services. Each executive director has responsibility for different aspects of the department.



Compliance and Enforcement



Corporate Services

Stuart Cowie

Stuart leads a team of experienced staff from law enforcement, environmental science and specialist backgrounds to deliver effective compliance and enforcement services. He started his career with Western Australia Police and has worked within regulatory and emergency service public sector agencies for the past 35 years. Stuart has also chaired national and state committees on environmental reform.

► **Directorate**

Compliance and Enforcement administers our legislation, including monitoring, audit and compliance inspections, and investigates complaints and incidents.

Geoff Gilbert

Geoff has over 35 years' experience working mainly in corporate services roles across a range of state government departments, including 15 years in senior executive service roles. In addition to leading corporate services functions, Geoff has led large whole-of-government reform programs. Geoff holds an MBA and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

► **Directorate**

Corporate Services supports our financial, workforce, legal services, land management, and information systems to underpin our operations and key corporate systems.



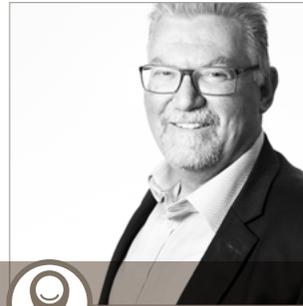
Environmental Protection Authority Services

Anthony Sutton

Anthony leads the environmental impact assessment and strategy and guidance services to the EPA. His considerable experience in the Western Australian public sector and extensive knowledge of the natural environment helps ensure the EPA is provided with quality advice to enable sustainable development in the state. Anthony has held senior roles in the public service for 25 years, including as the independent Appeals Convenor for three years. He holds a Master of Science (Environmental Science) and Graduate Certificate in Business.

► Directorate

EPA Services provides support, advice and expertise to inform the EPA's assessments, strategy, planning advice and policy.



Regional Delivery

Paul Brown

Paul has been an Executive Director with the department for eight years (six of those with the former Department of Water) and is responsible for 12 regional offices and the water licensing function. Paul delivered the e-business Water Online systems for water licensing (2015–17) and is helping to build the new Environment Online one-stop-shop system for our environmental and water regulation. Paul chairs our OSH Steering Committee and is the executive lead for agriculture and horticulture industries.

► Directorate

Regional Delivery coordinates our functions delivered in the regions, including hydrography program operations, local water compliance, water licensing and planning referrals advice. It also includes the Regulatory Capability Division set up to drive the one-stop-shop for environmental and water regulation within the department.



Regulatory Services

Kelly Faulkner

Kelly has led a dedicated team responsible for our industry and native vegetation regulation functions. She has over 30 years' broad experience managing and reforming environmental regulation, particularly native vegetation. Kelly is a former Appeals Convenor, investigating appeals for the Minister for Environment. She also chairs our Equity and Diversity Panel, which strongly aligns to her values, to build an inclusive culture that champions diversity and equal opportunity in the workplace.

► Directorate

Regulatory Services administers environmental regulation functions for works approvals, licences and clearing permits. It provides ongoing environmental management of granted instruments and supports compliance and enforcement programs, native vegetation programs and regulatory reform activities.



Science and Planning

Nygarie Goyal

Nygarie leads the Science and Planning Directorate, which consists of 200 staff who deliver water information; water resource assessments; environmental noise; air quality, terrestrial and marine ecosystem advice; contaminated sites regulation; and urban water, water source protection, water supply and water allocation planning. Nygarie previously worked in the federal public service as a Principal Veterinary Officer. She is currently studying an MBA and also has postgraduate qualifications in environmental management and veterinary science.

► Directorate

Science and Planning provides evidence-based information to help stakeholders make informed judgments about issues that affect them. Our science also supports regulatory decision-making and our stewardship obligations.



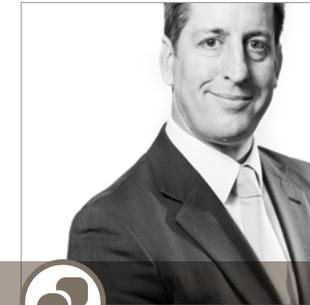
Strategic Policy

Sarah McEvoy

Sarah has worked as a senior environmental manager for the state government for more than 25 years in five different agencies. She has played an integral role in managing the state's responses to climate change, waste management, environmental offsets and native vegetation management. In January 2018, the department awarded Sarah an Australia Day Achievement Medallion as part of an Australia-wide recognition of the contribution of public servants to the nation.

► Directorate

Strategic Policy leads the review and development of the state's environmental, water and waste policies, legislation and regulations. It also supports the Waste Authority, the Keep Australia Beautiful Council, Cockburn Sound Management Council, Air Quality Coordination Committee, Water Resources Reform Reference Group, Waste Reform Advisory Group and the Aboriginal Water and Environmental Advisory Group.



Strategy and Engagement

Patrick Seares

Patrick's professional focus has predominantly been building collaboration, business improvement and devising strategic approaches to natural resource management issues.

His previous roles include Director of Strategy and Guidance at the Environmental Protection Authority, CEO at the Western Australian Marine Science Institution, and several roles at the former Department of Water. He holds a Bachelor of Science from The University of Western Australia and several program management certifications.

► Directorate

Strategy and Engagement enables us to focus on long-term strategy, portfolio and stakeholder collaboration. We do this through effective partnering together with internal and external engagement and business excellence.

Our goals

We work to ensure the state's water resources and environment are healthy and able to support a strong economy and thriving communities, now and in the future by:

- supporting whole-of-government outcomes
- enabling evidence-based decisions and actions
- delivering contemporary and tailored services
- ensuring purposeful and respectful relations
- responding to emerging challenges – climate change, increasing population and urban growth.

► Vision

A healthy environment and secure water resources, valued by all, to support a liveable and prosperous Western Australia.

► Mission

To lead and excel in the sustainable management and protection of Western Australia's water and environment.

► Strategic directions

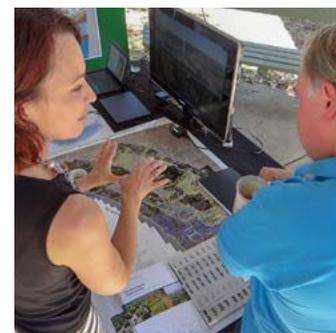
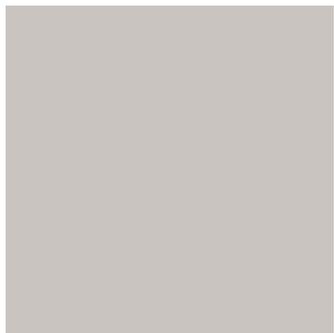
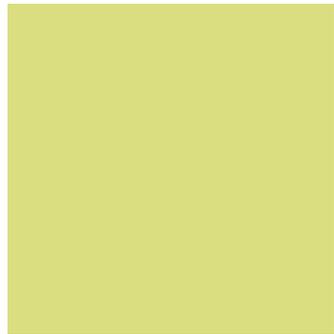
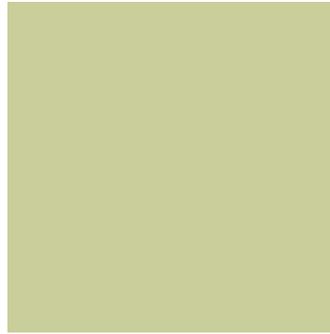
1. Share responsibility for water and the environment
2. Deliver effective legislation and policy
3. Be a responsive and credible regulator
4. Deliver trusted information, science and evidence-based advice
5. Build organisational excellence

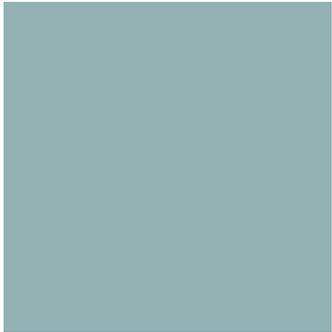
► Values and behaviours

In 2018–19, we celebrated our achievements against the following values:

- We build trust
- Better together
- We care
- Open minds
- We serve to make a difference.

In their interactions with the community, other government agencies and in the workplace, our people are also guided by the Western Australian Public Sector Standards and our Code of Ethics, which require us to be honest, fair, impartial, timely, and consider all relevant information. In our relationships with others, we are required to treat people with respect, courtesy and sensitivity, and recognise their interests, rights, safety and welfare.





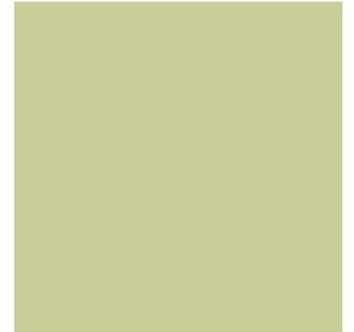
How we report this year

We discuss our performance during the year in three main sections.

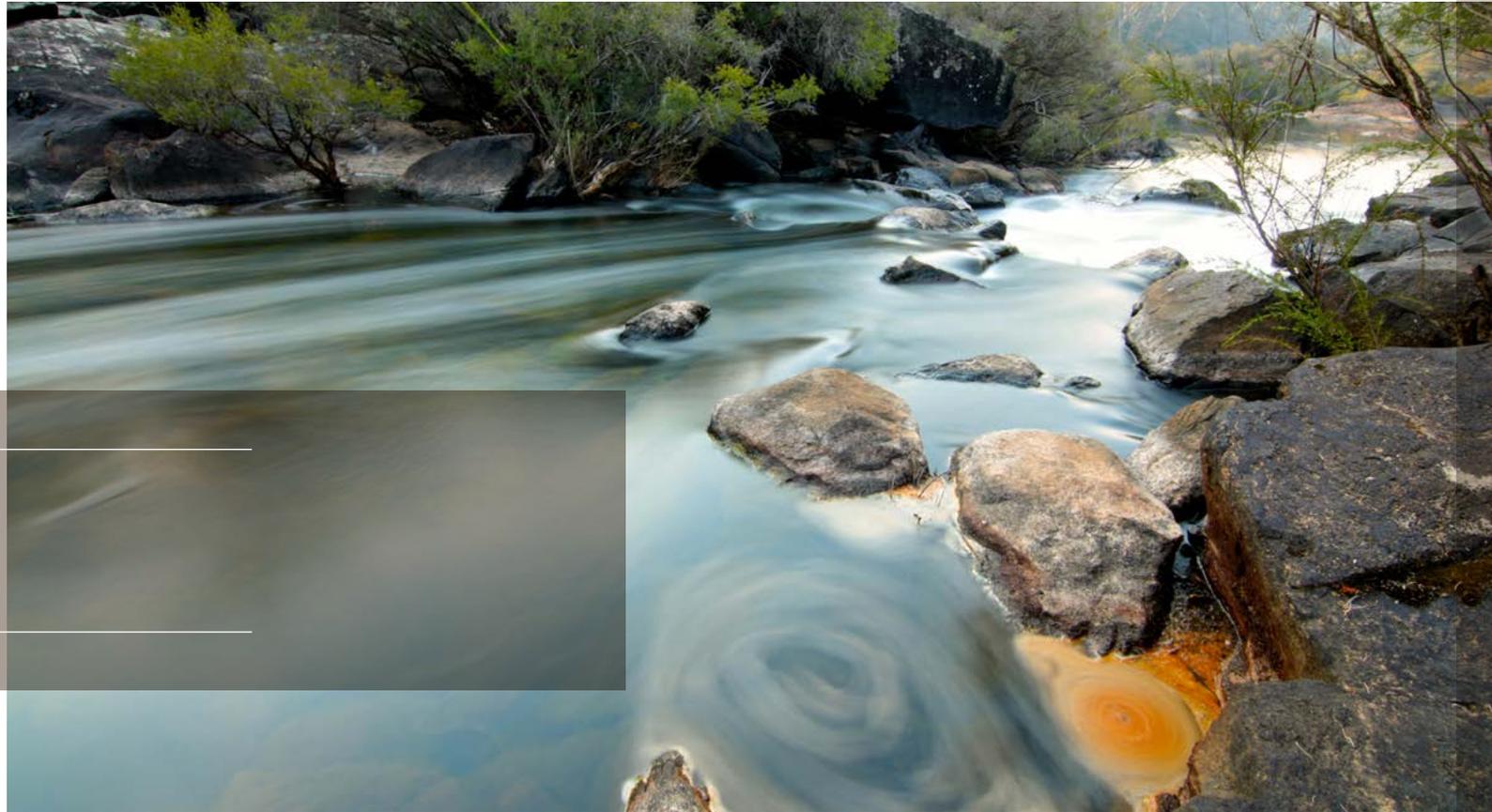
Section 02	Our achievements organised under five strategies outlined in our strategic plan
Section 03	Significant issues impacting the agency
Section 04	Disclosures and legal compliance section, including how we managed our budget for the year



Detailed financial statements are provided in [Section 04](#). An index to the articles in [Section 02](#) is provided in [Appendix C](#).



Our staff are central to our success and we will continue to create a culture of excellence and leadership, built on strong internal and external relationships. We will be inclusive and open in our interactions, influencing positive and effective change through our information, advice and programs.



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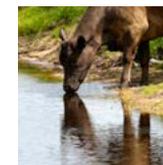
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Appendix A: Legislation

Legislation administered by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation as at 30 June 2019

- *Carbon Rights Act 2003*
- *Contaminated Sites Act 2003*
- *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947*
- *Environmental Protection Act 1986*
- *Environmental Protection (Landfill) Levy Act 1998*
- *Litter Act 1979* [The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation is the agency principally assisting the Minister for Environment in the administration of this Act assisted by the Keep Australia Beautiful Council (Western Australia)]
- *Metropolitan Arterial Drainage Act 1982*
- *Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Act 1909*
- *National Environmental Protection Council (Western Australia) Act 1996*
- *Plumbers Licensing Act 1995* (except part 5A which is administered by the Minister for Commerce principally assisted by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety) – alternative citations are *Water Services Coordination Act 1995* and *Water Licensing Act 1995*)
- *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*
- *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007* [The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation is the agency principally assisting the Minister for Environment in the administration of this Act assisted by the Waste Authority]
- *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Levy Act 2007* [The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation is the agency principally assisting the Minister for Environment in the administration of this Act assisted by the Waste Authority]
- *Water Agencies (Powers) Act 1984*
- *Water Agencies Restructure (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 1995*
- *Water Corporations Act 1995*
- *Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Act 2006*
- *Water Resources Legislation Amendment Act 2007*
- *Water Services Act 2012*
- *Water Services Coordination Act 1995*
- *Water Services Licensing Act 1995*
- *Waterways Conservation Act 1976*



Regulations administered by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation as at 30 June 2019

- Clean Air (Determination of Air Impurities in Gases Discharged to the Atmosphere) Regulations 1983
- Contaminated Sites Regulations 2006
- Country Areas Water Supply (Clearing Licence) Regulations 1981
- Environmental Protection (Abattoirs) Regulations 2001
- Environmental Protection (Abrasive Blasting) Regulations 1998
- Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004
- Environmental Protection (Concrete Batching and Cement Product Manufacturing) Regulations 1998
- Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004
- Environmental Protection (Fibre Reinforced Plastics) Regulations 1998
- Environmental Protection (Goldfields Residential Areas) (Sulfur Dioxide) Regulations 2003
- Environmental Protection (Kwinana) (Atmospheric Wastes) Regulations 1992
- Environmental Protection (Metal Coating) Regulations 2001
- Environmental Protection (NEPM-NPI) Regulations 1998
- Environmental Protection (NEPM-UPM) Regulations 2013
- Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997
- Environmental Protection (Packaged Fertiliser) Regulations 2010
- Environmental Protection (Petrol) Regulations 1999
- Environmental Protection (Plastic Bag) Regulations 2018
- Environmental Protection (Recovery of Vapours from the Transfer of Organic Liquids) Regulations 1995
- Environmental Protection (Rural Landfill) Regulations 2002
- Environmental Protection (Solid Fuel Burning Appliances and Firewood Supply) Regulations 1998
- Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004
- Environmental Protection Regulations 1987
- Litter Regulations 1981
- Noise Abatement (Noise Labelling of Equipment) Regulations (No. 2) 1985
- Plumbers Licensing and Plumbing Standards Regulations 2000
- Rights in Water and Irrigation Regulations 2000

Other subsidiary legislation affecting our activities

- Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (Container Deposit Scheme) Regulations 2019
- Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Regulations 2008
- Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Amendment Regulations 2019
- Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Levy Regulations 2008
- Water Agencies (Entry Warrant) Regulations 1985
- Water Agencies (Infringements) Regulations 1994
- Water Corporations (Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2013
- Water Services Regulations 2013
- Water Services Coordination Regulations 1996
- Water Services (Water Corporations Charges) Regulations 2014
- Waterways Conservation Regulations 1981

For all other subsidiary legislation including by-laws, notices, declarations, proclamations, approvals, exemptions, orders, policy, pollution control areas, vesting orders, irrigation districts, standards, and guidelines, please go to: www.legislation.wa.gov.au

Other key legislation affecting our activities

In the performance of our functions, the department complied with the following laws:

- *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*
- *Auditor General Act 2006*
- *Corruption and Crime Commission Act 2003*
- *Disability Services Act 1993*
- *Equal Opportunity Act 1984*
- *Financial Management Act 2006*
- *Freedom of Information Act 1992*
- *Government Employees Housing Act 1964*
- *Industrial Relations Act 1979*
- *National Environmental Protection Council Act 1997 (Cwlth)*
- *Long Service Leave Act 1958*
- *Minimum Conditions of Employment Act 1993*
- *Native Title Act 1993 (Cwlth)*
- *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984*
- *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003*

- *Public Sector Management Act 1994*
- *Salaries and Allowances Act 1975*
- *State Records Act 2000*
- *State Supply Commission Act 1991*
- *Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981*



Appendix B: Summary of our services

We support the government goal of 'Better places: A quality environment with liveable and affordable communities and vibrant regions'. The diagram below illustrates the relationship between our services and desired outcomes, and the government goal to which we contribute. See [Section 04](#) for more detail.

Government goal: Better places: A quality environment with liveable and affordable communities and vibrant regions			
Outcome	Key effectiveness indicator	Services	Key efficiency indicator
<p>1</p> <p>Western Australia's growth and development is supported by the sustainable management of water resources for the long term benefit of the state</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of stakeholders who perceive the department to be effectively managing the state's water as a resource for sustainable, productive use Proportion of priority growth areas that have a water supply planning strategy 	<p> 1. Water information and advice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of statutory referrals from decision-making authorities where advice is provided within target timeframes Average cost per statutory referral assessment Average cost per water measurement site managed
		<p> 2. Water planning, allocation and optimisation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average cost per plan, report or guidance document to support water planning, allocation and optimisation Average cost per hour of scientific support for water planning, allocation and optimisation
		<p> 3. Water regulation, licensing and industry governance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average cost of assessing a water licence application by risk assessment category Average time taken (days) to assess a licence application by risk assessment category Average cost of compliance monitoring and enforcement action
<p>2</p> <p>Emissions, discharges and clearing of native vegetation are effectively regulated to avoid unacceptable risks to public health and the environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of regulatory compliance activities completed as planned Percentage of potential environmental risks identified during compliance monitoring program that are rectified within two months 	<p> 4. Environmental regulation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average cost per works approval and licence application Average cost per native vegetation clearing permit application

Government goal: Better places: A quality environment with liveable and affordable communities and vibrant regions

Outcome	Key effectiveness indicator	Services	Key efficiency indicator
<p>3</p> <p>Development and implementation of strategic policy and legislation that promoted sustainable environmental outcomes</p>	<p>Percentage of advice and recommendations that met Ministerial approval, without the need for significant modification</p>	 <p>5. Water and environment policy</p>	<p>Average cost per hour of policy advice and recommendations</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Waste avoided and the recovery of materials from landfill maximised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of municipal solid waste reported as diverted from landfill through recycling compared to waste strategy target in the Perth metropolitan region Percentage of commercial and industrial waste reported as diverted from landfill through recycling compared to the statewide waste strategy target Percentage of construction and demolition waste reported as diverted from landfill through recycling compared to the statewide waste strategy target 	 <p>6. Waste strategies</p>	<p>Cost of landfill levy compliance as a percentage of landfill levy income collected</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Quality advice to the EPA and the Minister for Environment on significant proposals and environmental issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EPA's satisfaction with the department's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) service, during the year, in line with Best Practice Principles of EIA Percentage of project-specific conditions which did not require significant change following the appeal process Percentage of assessments that met agreed timelines The EPA's satisfaction with the department's provision of environmental management services during the year 	 <p>7. Environmental impact assessment services to the EPA</p>	<p>Cost per standardised unit of assessment output</p>
		 <p>8. Environmental management services to the EPA</p>	<p>Cost per standardised unit of environmental management services output</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Compliance with Ministerial statement implementation conditions are monitored effectively</p>	<p>The number of Ministerial statements audited compared to targets</p>	 <p>9. Compliance monitoring services to the Minister for Environment</p>	<p>Average cost per environmental audit completed</p>

Appendix C: Index to operational performance

See [Section 02](#) for more detail.

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Feedback form

Your feedback on our 2018–19 annual report would be greatly appreciated. We will use your comments to help improve the clarity and presentation of our publications. Thank you.

► Did the report help you understand the department, its purpose, services and performance?

not at all | not really | somewhat | yes | absolutely

► Did you find the design and presentation functional and effective?

not at all | not really | somewhat | yes | absolutely

► Was the report clear, concise and easy to read?

not at all | not really | somewhat | yes | absolutely

► Did you find the structural format of the report simple and logical?

not at all | not really | somewhat | yes | absolutely

When completed please return to:

Corporate Communications

Email: communications@dwer.wa.gov.au

or

Mail to:

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Please send your comments by 5 pm, 6 December 2019

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