

APPENDIX E

Policies and compliance

Delegations

Under the Act, we have to report the names of any persons to whom the Auditor-General delegated the power to express a written audit opinion. In 2020–21, the Auditor-General delegated this power to the following financial audit directors:

- Simone Bohan
- Sanchu Chummar
- Travis Derricott
- Charlotte Jeffries
- Janaka Kumara
- Paul Martin
- Tim Maxfield
- Dominika Ryan.

Building Act

We do not own or control any government buildings and therefore, have no responsibilities under the *Building Act 1993*.

Government advertising expenditure

We have no advertising expenditure to report.

Major contracts

We have no major contracts to report.

Local jobs first—Victorian Industry Participation Policy

During 2020–21, VAGO commenced one Local Jobs First Strategic Project, valued in excess of the \$50 million threshold, to refresh our Financial Audit Services Panel. The project is based in metropolitan Melbourne representing 97 per cent of estimated local content, as advised by the Minister for Industry Support and Recovery.

The local content and jobs outcomes of this strategic project have not been finalised as this project is still in progress.

National Competition Policy

We comply with the National Competition Policy, including complying with the requirements of the Department of Treasury and Finance's Competitive Neutrality Policy.

Oversight by the Victorian Inspectorate

In 2020–21, we had nothing to report to the Victorian Inspectorate as per requirements under the Act, and the Inspectorate did not review any of our activities.

We have previously worked with VI to develop a self-reporting tool about the exercise of our coercive powers. We did not exercise these powers during the financial year.

VI made no recommendations to VAGO during the year.

Work arrangements

We offer flexible work arrangements for staff in response to staff demand and legislative obligations for employers to provide flexible working conditions. We encourage our staff to take advantage of these arrangements.

We operate under the Victorian Public Service Enterprise Agreement 2020 in providing leave for carers, as defined in the Carers Recognition Act 2012.

Merit and equity

We have a range of policies that reflect our commitment to a workplace free from discrimination, harassment and bullying, and that support merit-based recruitment practices.

We also comply with the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and the Code of Conduct for Victorian Public Sector Employees of Special Bodies.

Our selection processes ensure that applicants are assessed and evaluated fairly and equitably on the basis of the key selection criteria and other accountabilities without discrimination. We also ensure that employees have been correctly classified in workforce data collections.

Public interest disclosures

Under the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012*, we cannot receive public interest disclosures.

Disclosures about VAGO officers may be made to the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission or the Victorian Inspectorate.

Further information on VAGO's responsibilities is available at:
www.audit.vic.gov.au/complaints-about-vago

Freedom of information

The Act broadly precludes us from disclosing information we gather during an audit, other than reporting to Parliament.

The Act also precludes third parties from accessing any audit-related information and documents we hold.

Our administrative processes come under the state's freedom of information legislation. For the 12 months ending 30 June 2021, we received three requests for information, two of which were for audit evidence that we cannot provide, and one that did not proceed as it was an invalid request.

Further information on our obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 is available on our website.

Requests for access to non-audit-related information and documents we hold can be made to the Freedom of Information Officer:

- by email (enquiries@audit.vic.gov.au)
- by phone (03 8601 7000)
- in writing (Freedom of Information, Victorian Auditor-General's Office, Level 31, 35 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000).