



Office of Public
Prosecutions
Victoria

ANNUAL REPORT

Annual Report 2024–25

This document includes the following:

The 2024–25 Annual Report of the Director of Public Prosecutions pursuant to s. 12 of the *Public Prosecutions Act 1994* (Vic).

The 2024–25 Annual Report of the Office of Public Prosecutions pursuant to the *Financial Management Act 1994* (Vic).

The full financial statement for the Office of Public Prosecutions is provided in this report.

Office of Public Prosecutions

565 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000

Responsible body's declaration

In accordance with the *Financial Management Act 1994* (Vic), I am pleased to present the Office of Public Prosecutions Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2025.



Abbey Hogan

Solicitor for Public Prosecutions
Office of Public Prosecutions

19 December 2025

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Our work

Who we are

The Office of Public Prosecutions (OPP) is Victoria's largest criminal legal practice.

All prosecutions involving serious criminal offences in Victoria are brought in the name of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), Brendan Kissane KC. The DPP is supported in his functions by Crown Prosecutors' Chambers and the OPP.

Crown Prosecutors' Chambers is led by the Chief Crown Prosecutor (CCP), Diana Piekusis KC and is comprised of 7 Senior Crown Prosecutors and 17 Crown Prosecutors.

The OPP is led by the Solicitor for Public Prosecutions (SPP), Abbey Hogan and consists of 481 people made up of solicitors, social workers, and corporate and executive services staff.

The OPP also has other specialist legal practice units that support the functions of the DPP, including the Proceeds of Crime Unit and the Policy and Specialised Legal Division.

The OPP prosecutes serious offences in Victoria's County and Supreme Courts on behalf of the DPP, as well as conducting committal hearings in the Magistrates' Court. The OPP also conducts criminal appeals in the County Court, the Court of Appeal and the High Court of Australia on behalf of the DPP.

What we do

The OPP prosecutes the most serious criminal matters in Victoria on behalf of the DPP. These matters include homicide, culpable driving, armed robbery, drug trafficking, serious sexual offences, corruption, fraud, organised crime and serious assaults.

Neither the DPP nor the OPP investigate crime or decide whether to file criminal charges. These functions are undertaken by Victoria Police. On occasion the OPP does provide pre-charge advice. Once charges are filed by Victoria Police, the matter is referred to the OPP for prosecution. Throughout a prosecution, the OPP works closely with the Victoria Police member who investigated the crime (the informant).

The OPP then briefs counsel to appear in court to prosecute the case. Counsel may be a Crown Prosecutor, a private barrister with expertise in criminal law or an OPP solicitor-advocate. Counsel appears in various hearings throughout the prosecution, which may include bail applications, committal hearings in the Magistrates' Court, pleas and trials in the County and Supreme Courts, and appeals in the County Court, the Court of Appeal, the civil jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, and the High Court of Australia.

The DPP and SPP have obligations under the *Public Prosecutions Act 1994 (Vic)* to conduct prosecutions in an effective, economical and efficient manner, and to give appropriate consideration to the concerns of victims of crime.

The OPP's Victims and Witness Assistance Service (VWAS) consists of social workers who provide information and assistance to victims of crime and their families and witnesses to ensure they are supported throughout the criminal justice process.

Corporate Services supports the legal practice by managing the systems, processes and partnerships that enable the OPP to deliver high quality prosecutions independently, fairly and efficiently.

Our vision, mission and values

Our vision

- To be a leader in the criminal justice system.
- To be a dynamic organisation continually adapting to deliver effective outcomes for our community by valuing and supporting our people, applying our unique legal expertise and leveraging our digital capability.

Our mission

- To deliver high quality prosecutions independently, fairly and efficiently.

Our values

- Treat everyone with respect
- Work collaboratively
- Embrace innovation
- Demonstrate professional excellence
- Act with integrity

For more information about our vision, mission and values please refer to the OPP Strategic Plan 2022–2025 which is available on our website at opp.vic.gov.au.

Our strategic priorities

Our people

Our people are our foundation.

We aspire to invest in our people and their wellbeing to support them to succeed.

Victims and witnesses

Our support for victims and witnesses is a central focus of our work.

We aspire to be fair and supportive when we engage with victims, witnesses and other people who are affected by the criminal justice system.

Digital transformation

Digital transformation will enable us to adapt to change, deliver high quality services and enhance communication.

We aspire to use ongoing digital transformation to assist us to deliver high quality services, improve efficiency, manage workload and allocation, and enhance engagement with victims, witnesses and stakeholders.

Driving and leading reform

Driving and leading criminal justice system reform to achieve better outcomes for victims and our community.

We aspire to leverage our unique expertise and role as a leader in the criminal justice system to influence systemic reform to deliver better and more efficient justice outcomes.

Professional excellence

Professional excellence in all that we do.

We aspire to develop and build outstanding capability by investing in learning and development, embracing innovation, seeking feedback to inform continual improvement, and ensuring every person at the OPP contributes to delivery of our strategic priorities.

For more information about our strategic priorities please refer to the OPP Strategic Plan 2022 – 2025 which is available on our website at opp.vic.gov.au.

2024–25 year at a glance

722

decisions were made by the Office of the DPP in accordance with the functions and powers of the DPP under the *Public Prosecutions Act 1994 (Vic)*

2,530

indictments were signed by Crown Prosecutors.

Prosecutors appeared in

41,702 hearings

in Victorian courts, of which 12.4 per cent were in regional Victoria.

Crown Prosecutors provided advice on

9,176 matters

including 2,172 plea offers, 565 discontinuances and 6,439 occasions of giving general advice.

91.2% of completed prosecutions

resulted in a **guilty outcome**.

VWAS and OPP solicitors provided

44,240 consultations

including conferences, remote witness assistance and court tours.

In 2024–25 the OPP handled **3,167** new briefs for prosecution.

120 homicide/culpable driving matters

125 commercial crime matters

2,157 general crime matters (including serious assault, aggravated burglary and armed robbery)

417 sexual offence matters

348 drug offence matters

227 matters involved family violence

18 matters involved occupational health and safety.

2,561 new matters

were referred to Victims and Witness Assistance Service (VWAS) by OPP solicitors. Of these matters:

16.1% were sexual offence matters

4.8% were homicide/culpable driving matters

79.2% were other matter types (including armed robbery, aggravated burglary (person present) and unlawful assault)

17.8% involved family violence.

Koori Court

Solicitors trained in prosecuting Koori Court matters appeared in **369 hearings** across Victoria. There were 18 hearings in Magistrates' Koori Courts, 345 in County Koori Courts and 6 Children's Court hearings.



CCP Diana Piekusis KC, DPP Brendan Kissane KC and SPP Abbey Hogan

Director's committee

Director's committee

The Director's Committee consists of the DPP, SPP and CCP. The committee advises the DPP in relation to prosecutions in the state of Victoria, including which OPP staff may appear in court, the appointment and removal of Crown Prosecutors, and offences referred to the DPP.

When the committee is required to make a special decision, it consists of the DPP, CCP and the Senior Crown Prosecutor involved in the matter.



Director of Public Prosecutions

The DPP is an independent statutory officer, appointed by the Governor in Council with responsibility for instituting, preparing and conducting indictable proceedings on behalf of the Crown.

The DPP makes a range of decisions including authorising indictments, authorising resolutions, discontinuing prosecutions, determining whether to appeal against a sentence, authorising detention order applications, applying to confiscate proceeds of crime, authorising Occupational Health and Safety prosecutions, instituting contempt proceedings and deciding whether to take over private prosecutions.

In conducting the role, the DPP must have regard to:

- considerations of justice and fairness
- the need to ensure that the prosecutorial system gives appropriate consideration to the concerns of victims of crime
- the need to conduct prosecutions in an effective, economic and efficient manner.



Crown Prosecutors' Chambers

Crown Prosecutors' Chambers includes the CCP and Crown Prosecutors who appear in proceedings on behalf of the DPP. Crown Prosecutors are independent statutory appointees.

The CCP is an independent statutory officer appointed by the Governor in Council, who assumes the powers and duties of the DPP when the DPP is absent. The CCP manages Crown Prosecutors, subject to the direction of the DPP.

Crown Prosecutors are responsible for the most complex prosecutions and have authority to sign indictments to bring accused people to trial and to resolve matters as pleas of guilty.

Senior Crown Prosecutors have authority to decide certain types of discontinuances and consents to prosecute.



Office of Public Prosecutions

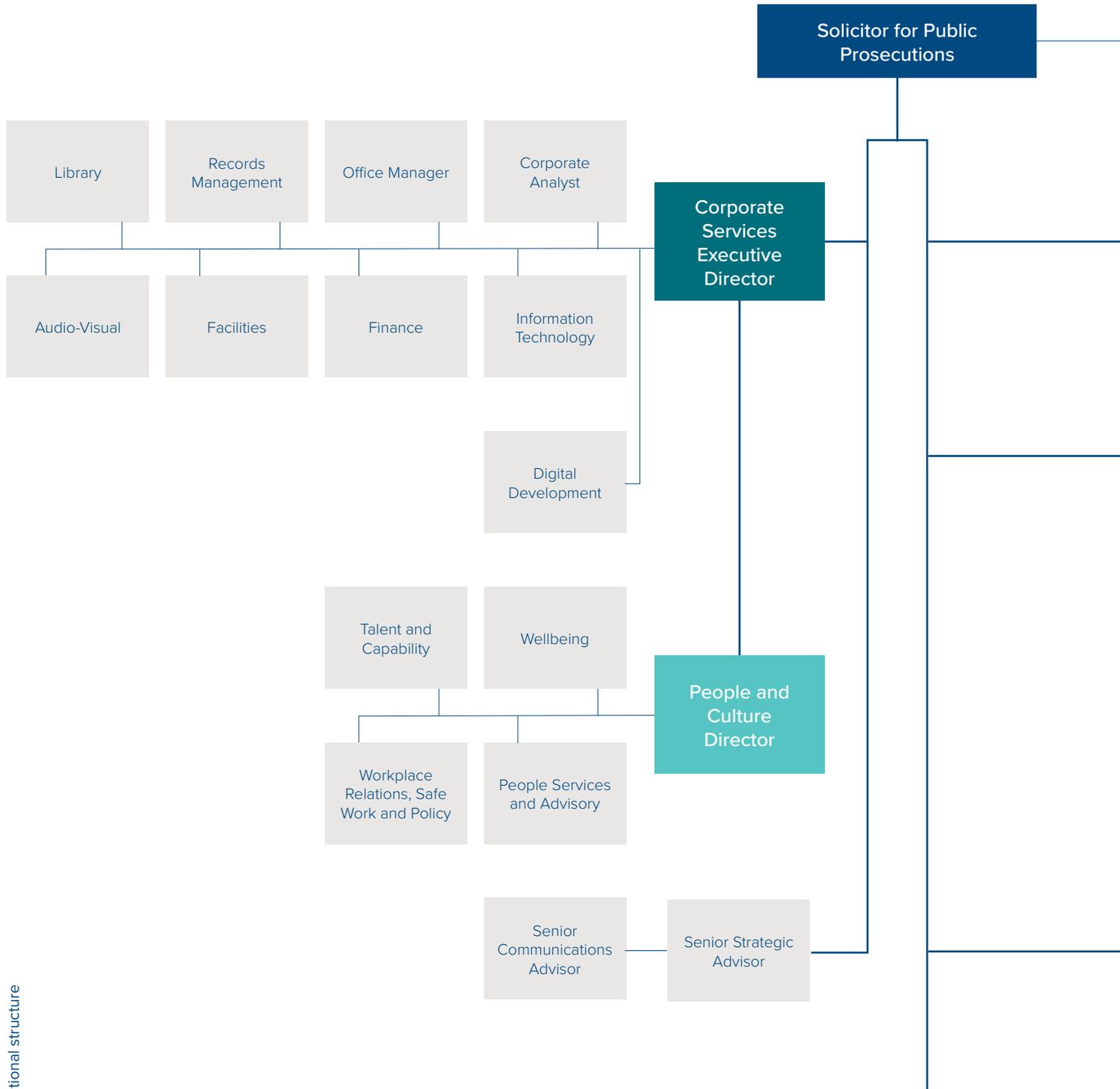
The OPP is an independent statutory entity and Victoria's largest criminal law practice. OPP staff prepare and conduct committals in the Magistrates' Court, prosecutions in the County and Supreme Courts, and appeals in the County Court, Court of Appeal and High Court, on behalf of the DPP.

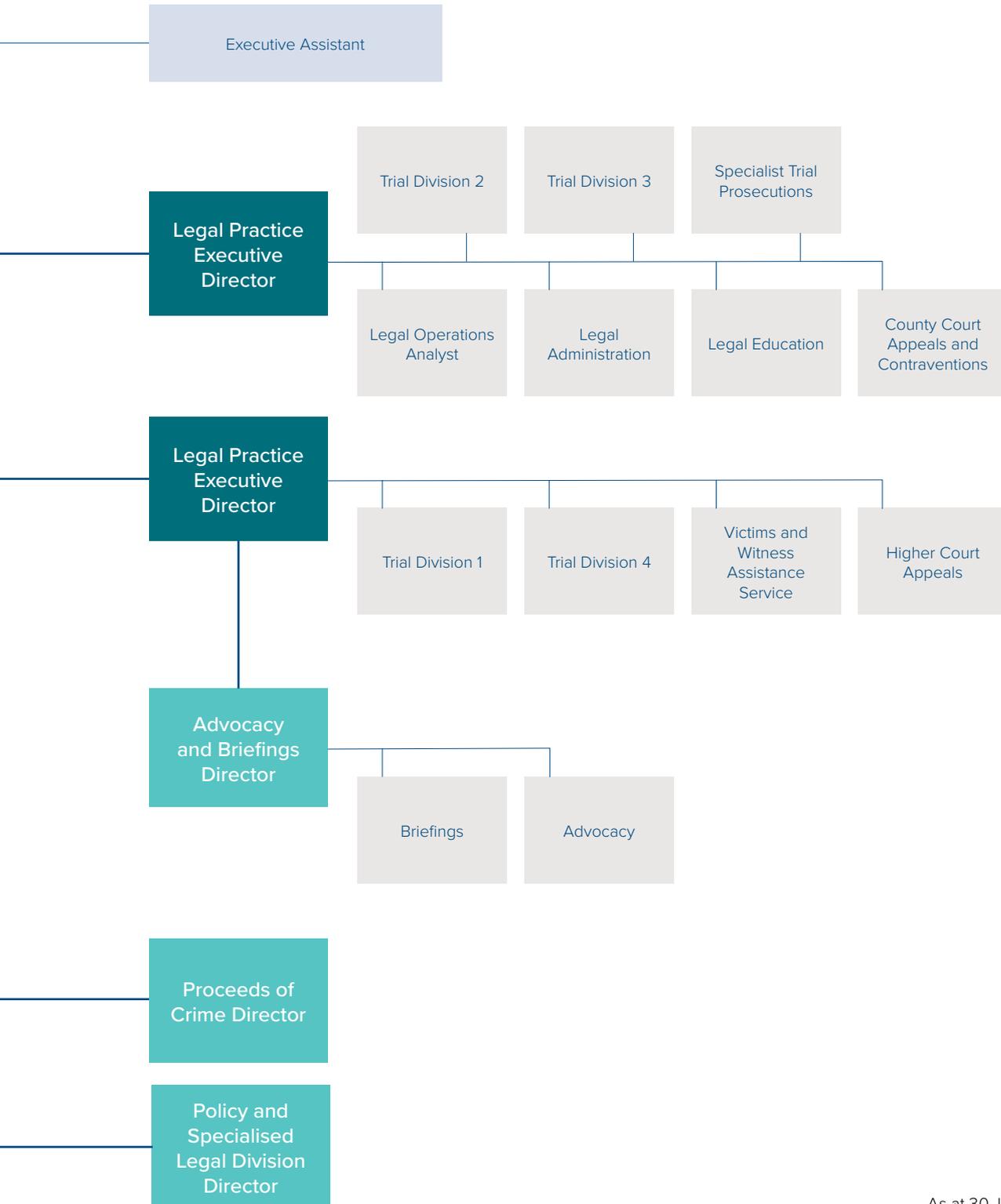
They also advise external agencies about charges, litigate proceeds of crime, contribute to law reform, and support victims and witnesses.

The SPP manages the staff and budget of the OPP. The SPP is an executive appointment under the *Public Administration Act 2004* (Vic), with responsibility for briefing Crown Prosecutors, solicitor-advocates and external barristers to appear in criminal proceedings on behalf of the DPP.

The SPP also has responsibility for ensuring that the prosecutorial system gives appropriate consideration to the concerns of victims of crime.

Organisational structure





As at 30 June 2025



Director of Public Prosecutions report

The past year has been one of transition for the Office of Public Prosecutions. It was a great honour and privilege to be appointed as Director of Public Prosecutions on 17 September 2024.

My appointment followed Kerri Judd KC's appointment to the Supreme Court of Victoria after 7 years holding the Office of the Director. Justice Judd's tireless leadership, enthusiasm, and commitment to the wellbeing and inclusion of all our people at the OPP was particularly inspiring. Her Honour's yearly themes and office-wide competitions fostered a culture of engagement and excellence throughout the organisation.

Diana Piekusis KC made history on 17 September 2024, becoming the first woman in Victoria to be appointed Chief Crown Prosecutor. In her first 9 months, Diana Piekusis KC has already demonstrated outstanding leadership.

I am grateful to Solicitor for Public Prosecutions, Abbey Hogan for her efforts in identifying cost-effective solutions during challenging budgetary circumstances and for her extraordinary management of the executive team. Her strategic leadership has been invaluable during this period of transition.

Conference of Australian Directors

I attended my first Conference of Australian Directors in Brisbane in October 2024. This bi-annual conference provides a valuable opportunity to discuss jurisdictional issues faced by Directors of Public Prosecutions across Australia.

In May 2025, I hosted the Conference of Australian Directors in Melbourne in conjunction with the National Executive Conference. This combined event facilitated further discussions on prosecution policy and practice across the country.

DPP appeals

As Director, I filed 23 appeals in the County Court and 21 appeals in the Supreme Court during 2024–25.

Significant cases

DPP v Smith

In September 2024, the High Court handed down its decision in *DPP v Smith*.

The appeal concerned the fairness of a pre-trial meeting between the judge, counsel and a child complainant in a sexual offence matter. The meeting took place before the complainant gave evidence at a special hearing and was held on the recommendation of an intermediary. It was not recorded and the accused was not present.

The Court of Appeal had found that the meeting was a fundamental irregularity that compromised the fairness of the trial. On appeal, the High Court unanimously disagreed. It found that the meeting did not breach the principle of open justice and did not require the complainant's evidence to be retaken.

The High Court confirmed that such a meeting was authorised under section 389E(1) of the *Criminal Procedure Act 2009* (Vic), which permits directions to be made for the fair and efficient conduct of proceedings. It also rejected the argument that a fair-minded observer might reasonably believe that the judge would not bring an impartial mind to the proceeding.

The King v Ryan Churchill (a pseudonym)

On 14 February 2025, I appeared before the High Court with Stephanie Clancy in *The King v Ryan Churchill (a pseudonym)*.

This was a Director's appeal from a sexual offence trial. At trial, the prosecution relied on evidence that the complainant appeared distressed when making a pre-trial complaint, to support the complainant's version of events.

The question on appeal was whether there were "substantial and compelling reasons" for the trial judge to warn the jury that:

1. They had to be satisfied there was a causal link between the complainant's distress and the alleged offending before evidence of distress could be used to support the complainant's version of events.
2. This kind of evidence generally carries little weight.

The High Court unanimously found that the Court of Appeal was wrong to hold such warnings were required. It held that where distress is admitted as indirect or circumstantial evidence, it is up to the jury to decide whether to accept it and how much weight to give it.

DPP v LH Holding Management Pty Ltd

On 27 March 2025, I appeared in the Court of Appeal in the matter of *DPP v LH Holding Management Pty Ltd*. This was a Director's appeal against sentence in Victoria's first prosecution for workplace manslaughter, following the introduction of the offence on 1 July 2020.

In July 2023, LH Holding pleaded guilty to workplace manslaughter and was convicted and fined \$1.3 million. As Director, I appealed on the basis that the sentence was manifestly inadequate. Given the maximum penalty at the time of judgement was \$18 million, the fine did not reflect the seriousness of the offence or the need to deter similar conduct.

The Court allowed the appeal, set aside the sentence imposed on LH Holding and imposed a new fine of \$3 million.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the Director’s Committee, comprising Chief Crown Prosecutor Diana Piekusis KC and Solicitor for Public Prosecutions Abbey Hogan, for their continued support.

I am thankful to Diana Piekusis KC and Senior Crown Prosecutor Mark Gibson KC for their dedicated service as Acting Director and Acting Chief Crown Prosecutor respectively.

Finally, I extend my gratitude to Kiara Shivaz, former Associate, for her assistance in ensuring a smooth transition into my role as Director, and to Imogene Hage Nebyl, who assumed the role of Associate on 1 October 2024.

Brendan Kissane KC

Director of Public Prosecutions



Chief Crown Prosecutor report

I was honoured to be appointed Chief Crown Prosecutor in September 2024, following the tenure of the now Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), Brendan Kissane KC.

As Victoria's first female Chief Crown Prosecutor, I am deeply conscious of the responsibility and opportunity this role presents. This appointment is not only a personal milestone, but it also reflects the ongoing commitment to inclusivity and representation within the OPP, and the leadership of women in criminal law.

In 2024–25, Crown Prosecutors continued to bring their expertise and independence to some of Victoria's most complex and sensitive cases, ensuring prosecutions were conducted with fairness, integrity and in the public interest.

Crown Prosecutors

Crown Prosecutors are among the most experienced criminal prosecutors in Victoria. They are appointed to work exclusively for the DPP and are allocated the most serious and complex matters.

Crown Prosecutors are responsible for signing indictments to bring accused people to trial and for authorising the resolution of matters as guilty pleas. They also prepare written openings for trials and pleas and written cases for all matters proceeding to the Court of Appeal.

Crown Prosecutors must adhere to the DPP's policy and directions, including abiding by expectations of behaviour and ethics, acting impartially and fairly, and treating victims with courtesy, respect, and sensitivity.

Chambers work

The volume of Chambers work remained high as Crown Prosecutors continued to manage increasingly complex cases, in an evolving legislative environment. I am grateful to all Crown Prosecutors for their individual efforts. Each brings independent judgment to their work and approaches their responsibilities with professionalism and dedication, contributing to the strength and integrity of our advocacy and decision making.

In 2024–25, Crown Prosecutors:

- provided advice to the OPP on 9,176 occasions, including:
 - 2,172 plea offers
 - 565 discontinuances
 - 6,439 general advice matters
- signed 2,530 indictments
- appeared in court on 1,814 days
- appeared in 175 of the 226 cases heard in the Court of Appeal, representing 77 per cent of all hearings.

Crown Prosecutors' Chambers

There were a number of changes to Chambers during this reporting period.

In December 2024, we welcomed Jim Shaw, Nadia Kaddeche, Ariadne French and Liam McAuliffe as new Crown Prosecutors. Each has brought a strong skillset and dynamism to Chambers, and I am grateful for the expertise they have already contributed.

Kristie Churchill and David Glynn were appointed Senior Crown Prosecutors in March 2025.

In April, Lauren Gurry and Daniel White were appointed as Associate Crown Prosecutors, following the launch of a pilot program aimed at further developing internal advocacy capability and ultimately strengthening the pool of OPP expertise at the Bar.

Justin Lewis SC was appointed to the County Court in February. His contribution to Crown Chambers has been greatly valued and I wish him well in this next chapter of his career.

Training

Crown Prosecutors continued to make a strong contribution to professional development across Chambers and the broader legal sector. I am consistently impressed by the way they extend their impact beyond individual practice, particularly through their commitment to training and sharing knowledge.

The OPP hosted a one-day Prosecution Advocacy Workshop for 12 junior barristers and advocates. The workshop included simulated trial exercises covering trial preparation, witness examination, jury directions and final addresses. Brendan Kissane KC (then Chief Crown Prosecutor), Dr Nanette Rogers SC, Kristie Churchill, Catherine Parkes and Penny Thorp facilitated the workshop.

Crown Prosecutors also contributed to training and engagement with external organisations. Jeremy McWilliams delivered a presentation on bloodstain pattern evidence to the Victoria Police Forensic Services Department, while Patrick Bourke KC spoke to members of the Victoria Police State Surveillance Unit about the prosecution process. I presented at Maddocks' National Conference on the role of the DPP and OPP, and to WorkSafe on prosecution policy, sentencing practices and appeals.

Together with Liz Ruddle KC, I also delivered 2 internal continuing professional development sessions on sentence appeals and insights.

The King v Erin Patterson

Dr Nanette Rogers SC, Jane Warren and Sarah Lenthall appeared in the Supreme Court in *The King v Erin Patterson*, where the accused was found guilty of murdering 3 people and attempting to murder another person through mushroom poisoning.

The trial commenced in April 2025 and ran for 10 weeks, involving 99 exhibits and 58 witnesses. The case attracted significant public interest. The level of public and media attention placed additional operational demands on the prosecution team and highlighted the evolving media environment surrounding high-profile trials. The extended duration of the trial also required substantial prosecution resources.

The jury returned guilty verdicts on all charges soon after the reporting period on 7 July 2025, with sentencing occurring later in 2025.

Acknowledgements

I want to acknowledge the dedication of Crown Prosecutors and everyone across the OPP. While some matters attract more public attention than others, all our work is complex and challenging, requiring expertise, professionalism and care.

Under the leadership of the Solicitor for Public Prosecutions, Abbey Hogan, OPP solicitors continue to play a central role in maintaining the quality and consistency of our prosecution service. The collaboration between Crown Prosecutors and OPP solicitors remains a key strength across all areas of our work.

I extend my sincere thanks to Mark Gibson KC for acting as Chief Crown Prosecutor during May and June 2025 while I was Acting DPP and then on leave. I also thank Brendan Kissane KC and Abbey Hogan for their generous support and guidance throughout the year. I value the opportunity to work closely with them as part of the Director's Committee.

One of the most rewarding aspects of this role is supporting the development of junior barristers. I feel energised by the investment we continue to make in training within Chambers and across the Bar. It is an honour to contribute to the early stages of a barrister's career and help build the next generation of prosecutors.

Looking ahead, I welcome the chance to take a longer-term view of our work in Chambers, supporting our people, building capability and strengthening our impact.

I speak for everyone at Crown Chambers when I say it is a privilege to do this work in service of the Victorian community.

Diana Piekusis KC

Chief Crown Prosecutor



Solicitor for Public Prosecutions report

In 2024–25, the OPP continued to deliver high quality prosecution services for the Victorian community, driven by the dedication and professionalism of our people, who championed innovation, collaboration and continuous improvement.

Across the OPP, there's been strong progress in how we work together and operate, to better support and enable our people and to lay the groundwork for the future.

Delivering on our strategic plan

In 2024–25, we completed the third year of our Strategic Plan 2022–2025, which outlines our organisational priorities. These priorities are central to our mission to deliver high quality prosecutions independently, fairly and efficiently.

The accompanying Implementation Plan guided our focus, helping us deliver key projects and initiatives that support our vision to be a leader in the criminal justice system and a dynamic organisation that values and supports our people, applies our unique legal expertise, and leverages digital capability to deliver effective outcomes for the community.

Importantly, we also commenced development of our next strategic plan, which will guide our direction and priorities over the next 5 years.

In 2024–25, the OPP:

- refined Amicus, our new case and document management system, during its first full year of implementation, to enhance functionality, improve data capture and strengthen integration
- completed the first 2 pilots of an online victim feedback survey, co-designed with victims and stakeholders in 2023
- piloted legal and general AI tools, and developed generative AI policy and guidelines to support ethical innovation
- established an enabling People and Culture function to drive an engaged, connected and high-performing culture
- advanced wellbeing maturity in line with best practice through a tailored program that expanded proactive one-on-one coaching and incorporated the latest trauma-informed training
- appointed a Legal Education Program Manager to build on our established Legal Education function to enhance learning and development programs
- continued to contribute to law reform initiatives, by sharing the OPP's unique expertise and insights.

Embracing digital innovation

This year marked the first full year of Amicus, our next-generation case and document management system. Its launch in March 2024 was a major milestone in our digital transformation journey, helping us reduce administrative burden, improve efficiency and support our people in their work. In 2024–25 we continued to refine and enhance its functionality. With this shift, our Digital Transformation team became the Digital Development team, reflecting its continuing focus on enhancing user experience, and integrating digital tools like Amicus with our core tasks and reporting needs to streamline our processes. I'm proud that the OPP was recognised for our innovation with a win in the Design Strategy category at the *2024 Victorian Premier's Design Awards*, celebrating our user-centred approach and strong collaboration across the organisation.

We continued to explore the potential of AI in 2024–25 with curiosity and caution, taking steps to mitigate legal, ethical, privacy and security risks. We refined our guidelines for the use of publicly available generative AI to ensure they remain responsive to, and appropriate for, the evolving landscape. These guidelines establish clear guardrails for its limited and responsible use. Building on our 2023–24 project, we continued to test a proof-of-concept bespoke AI tool for the OPP. The tool is designed to support solicitors in their initial legal analysis of matters. AI will remain a priority for us in 2025–26 due to its potential to support our people in their work.

Strengthening support for victims and witnesses

In 2024–25, we advanced 2 key initiatives that strengthen how we support victims throughout the prosecution process.

We completed 2 pilots of an online victim feedback survey, developed through a co-design process with victims and external stakeholders in 2023. The survey invites victims to share their experience with the OPP after the case is finalised. During the pilot stage, we are pleased to see that victims are engaging with the survey. We'll complete a third pilot in 2025–26, with the aim of embedding the survey into standard practice.

We also finalised a review of the OPP complaints process and delivered mandatory training across the legal practice. The updated process includes a new complaints information pack to better support victims who wish to make a complaint.

A new approach to people and culture

This year, we established a new People and Culture team reflecting our continued commitment to strengthening workforce planning, recruitment, capability, safety and wellbeing, and people experience, across all levels of the OPP.

In the first half of 2024–25 we also completed the ground-up communication project, exploring how we might better enable our people to share their questions, concerns, ideas and feedback across the OPP. The insights from this project, alongside the 2023–24 People Matter Survey results, informed the development of our People Action Plan for 2024–25.

Leading with best practice in wellbeing

Wellbeing remains a priority across the OPP. In 2024–25, we expanded the Proactive Wellbeing Service to everyone in the legal practice, offering confidential one-on-one coaching with an experienced clinician to support individual wellbeing goals. This service is considered best practice for ongoing professional development across the legal and justice sectors. We also partnered with Phoenix Australia to develop staged and bespoke vicarious trauma training, starting with introductory modules. This was complemented by team wellbeing workshops for people leaders presented by the Black Dog Institute. Our Wellbeing Manager, Mental Health First Aiders and Wellbeing Committee have continued to play an important part in fostering a culture that values mental health and wellbeing, and I thank them for their contributions.

It's encouraging to see our wellbeing efforts aligning with broader sector momentum. We were proud to support the Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner's development of the *Lawyer Wellbeing Systems Theory of Change* framework, with our people contributing insights through surveys and workshops during sector consultation.

Striving for professional excellence

In 2024–25, we continued to invest in professional excellence through learning and development, and knowledge sharing. We welcomed a new Legal Education Program Manager, Adam May, to work alongside the Legal Education Program

Lead, Laura Stevenson, to design and deliver our continuing professional development and early career programs, to support legal capability in the legal practice.

In May, the OPP hosted the national Conference of Australian Directors of Public Prosecutions and Executives, bringing together senior leaders from across jurisdictions to share insights and initiatives, and explore common challenges. The event reinforced the value of cross-agency collaboration in shaping the future of prosecution services and improving outcomes for the community, our people and the broader criminal justice system.

Acknowledgements

At the OPP, we are privileged to play a vital role in Victoria's criminal justice system, with work that directly impacts the community. While the system is complex, challenging and constantly evolving, the work remains deeply rewarding. I thank every member of the OPP team for their commitment, openness to new ways of working and willingness to embrace technology that helps us deliver better outcomes for the Victorian community. Our people continue to show remarkable adaptability and dedication ensuring we deliver high quality prosecution services even as the legislative landscape rapidly evolves.

I'm grateful to work alongside a capable and committed Executive team. Their leadership continues to guide our organisation with clarity and purpose, empowering and enabling our people to do their best work for the community we serve.

This year also saw the appointment of former Director of Public Prosecutions Kerri Judd KC as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Victoria. I'd like to acknowledge and thank Justice Judd for her leadership and contributions over 7 years as DPP and wish her the best in her new role.

In September 2024, Brendan Kissane KC was appointed as the new Director of Public Prosecutions and Diana Piekusis KC was appointed as the new Chief Crown Prosecutor. I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate Brendan and Diana on their appointments, and to thank them for ensuring a smooth transition, and for their dedication and support over the past 9 months as the OPP, DPP and Crown Chambers have continued to work together to deliver a high quality prosecution service for the Victorian community.

Abbey Hogan

Solicitor for Public Prosecutions





Legal Practice report

In 2024–25, we continued to see increasing complexity in the legal practice operating environment. This includes legislative change, technological change, changes to court practice and procedure, and the volume and diversity of evidentiary material.

We have focused on balancing workloads, wellbeing, streamlining allocations, and fostering continuous learning to ensure our people are equipped and supported to deliver high quality prosecution services.

This year, we strengthened our data analysis capability to enhance how we monitor and report on key metrics to better understand the nature and drivers of our work. We introduced a new Legal Operations Analyst role to support

the legal practice with data reporting, enabling more informed, data-driven decisions. These insights are helping us pilot tools that improve workload management and support better decision-making.

We have delivered a number of initiatives in collaboration with our corporate teams to enhance and support how we engage with victims and witnesses.

Across the practice, teams have continued to pursue early and appropriate resolution and streamlined decision-making processes.

To further strengthen our capability, we welcomed a new Legal Education team to lead our continuing professional development, legal traineeship and induction programs. Working closely with Learning and Development and our new Talent and Capability team in People and Culture, they are building partnerships with universities and other organisations to support recruitment and training.

We also created new opportunities for solicitors to take on appearance work and build their advocacy skills—supporting professional growth and helping to deliver a just and efficient prosecution service for the Victorian community.

Prosecution outcomes

The Policy of the Director of Public Prosecutions for Victoria sets out, among other things, when a criminal prosecution may proceed, when resolution may occur and the factors that must be considered when deciding whether to resolve a matter.

A prosecution may only proceed if there are reasonable prospects of conviction, and it is in the public interest.

A matter may only resolve if it is in the public interest to do so. In determining whether a proposed resolution is in the public interest, the OPP will consider a number of factors including whether there is a reasonable prospect of conviction for each offence charged, the strength of the evidence, whether the charges appropriately reflect the criminality and provide for adequate sentencing scope, and the views of the victim and informant on resolution.

In 2024–25:

- The OPP handled 3,167 new briefs for prosecution. Of these:
 - 120 were homicide/culpable driving matters
 - 125 were commercial crime matters
 - 2,157 were general crime matters (including serious assault, aggravated burglary and armed robbery)
 - 417 were sexual offence matters
 - 348 were drug offence matters
 - 227 matters involved family violence
 - 18 matters involved occupational health and safety.

- 28.9 per cent of new briefs for prosecution were regional matters.
- 91.2 per cent of prosecutions completed resulted in a guilty outcome.
- 78.8 per cent of prosecutions were finalised as a guilty plea.
- Of the guilty pleas finalised in 2024–25, 60.2 per cent were resolved at or before committal. This is an increase from 57 per cent in 2023–24 which reflects our focus on early and appropriate resolution.
- External counsel appeared in 82.1 per cent of all committals, County and Supreme Court trials and appeals. This included 92.2 per cent of County Court trials and 24 per cent of Supreme Court trials.
- Solicitors trained in prosecuting Koori Court matters appeared in 369 hearings across Victoria. There were 18 hearings in Magistrates' Koori Courts, 345 in County Koori Courts and 6 Children's Court hearings.
- The OPP serviced 13,706¹ judicial officer sitting days.
- Crown Prosecutors, external barristers with expertise in criminal law and OPP solicitor-advocates were briefed to appear on behalf of the DPP in matters in Melbourne and across regional Victoria. Prosecutors appeared in 41,702 hearings in Victorian courts, 12.4 per cent of which were in regional Victoria.
- The OPP took carriage of 124 matters from the Children's Court in 2024–25, following requests by Victoria Police and approval by the DPP. These matters involved the prosecution of serious crimes committed by children aged between 10 and 14 at the time of offending, including 9 homicide matters.

1 Figures from 2019–20 to 2023–24 were significantly affected by COVID-19-related disruptions. This measure may also be impacted by improvements in data capture.

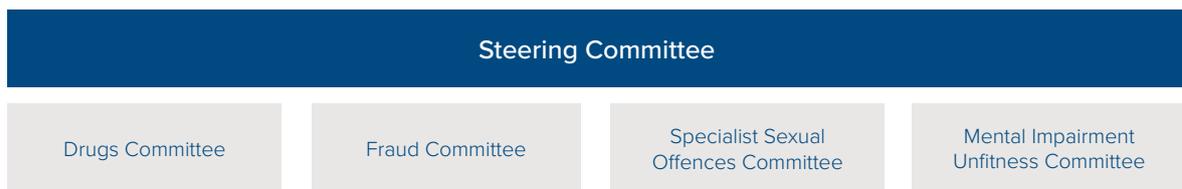
OPP specialist committees

Presently, the OPP has 4 specialist legal practice committees—Drugs, Fraud, Specialist Sexual Offences and Mental Impairment Unfitness. These committees share expertise across the legal practice by providing strategic advice and expert guidance. They also work closely with our Legal Education team to identify key trends that shape learning, development and training opportunities across the legal practice.

The specialist legal practice committees provide advice and training to external stakeholders and participate in regular meetings. For example:

- the Drugs Legal Practice Committee liaises regularly with the Drugs Analysis Unit and the Clandestine Laboratory Unit of the Victoria Police Forensic Services Department
- the Specialist Sexual Offences Committee delivers targeted training and information sessions for stakeholders, including Victoria Police, Sexual Assault Services Victoria, the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine, the Intermediary Service and international delegates such as Singaporean judicial officers who visited in 2024–25
- the Mental Impairment Unfitness (MIU) Committee liaises regularly with Forensicare.

The Steering Committee, established in June 2024, continues to oversee planning, governance and outputs of the specialist committees.



Advocacy and Briefings

Advocacy and Briefings ensure that OPP solicitor-advocates, external counsel and Crown Prosecutors are briefed to appear on behalf of the DPP in courts across Victoria. They also play an important role in the ongoing development of internal advocacy expertise at the OPP.

The Briefings team manages case allocation, ensuring each matter is assigned to the most suitable Crown Prosecutor, solicitor-advocate or external barrister based on complexity, expertise and courtroom experience.

Solicitor-advocates appear regularly on behalf of the DPP in the Magistrates' and County Courts, applying their specialist knowledge of bail and sentencing legislation and procedure. This includes contested indictable matters in the Magistrates' Court and Children's Court, and plea hearings in the County Court. Solicitor-advocates also appear in every hearing of the County Court Drug and Alcohol Treatment Court, and in around 60 per cent of County Koori Court hearings.

Building internal advocacy capability remains a key priority for the division. Through training initiatives, all OPP solicitors are supported to develop and enhance their advocacy skills. This year, Advocacy and Briefings partnered with Crown Chambers to deliver a one-day Prosecution Advocacy Workshop for junior barristers and advocates.

A new Barrister Complaints Policy was also introduced to strengthen accountability and uphold professional standards.

Looking ahead to 2025–26, Advocacy and Briefings will continue to prioritise internal capability development, courtroom performance and the refinement of briefing processes.

Supporting victims and witnesses

Victims and Witness Assistance Service

The Victims and Witness Assistance Service (VWAS) provides specialist support to victims and witnesses throughout the prosecution process. VWAS social workers conduct triage and needs assessments and offer tailored information, support and referrals during the criminal case.

VWAS prioritises assistance for victims involved in cases of homicide, sexual assault, family violence, and for particularly vulnerable victims and witnesses. All child victims are referred to the Child and Youth Witness Service. Where appropriate, referrals are also made to Victims Assistance Programs (VAPs) and other community-based support services for ongoing assistance.

VWAS maintained collaborative relationships with the VAPs and Court Network. VWAS also continued its strong partnership with Victoria Police, including ongoing engagement with the Police Academy and the Detective Training School Program. VWAS delivers regular training, education, and consultation to these organisations, supporting their efforts to provide effective assistance to victims as they navigate the court process.

During the 2024–25 reporting period, VWAS received 2,561 new referrals and provided assistance to 4,112 victims and witnesses. VWAS and OPP solicitors conducted 44,240 consultations, which included conferences, remote witness support, and court familiarisation tours.

Of the new matters referred to VWAS:

- 16.1 per cent involved sexual offences
- 4.8 per cent involved homicide or culpable driving
- 79.2 per cent related to other offences, including armed robbery, aggravated burglary (person present), and unlawful assault
- 17.8 per cent involved family violence.

Court dog program

We have supported a growing number of victims and witnesses this year through the court dog program, reflecting its increasing impact. Court dogs Lucy and Kiki provided comfort and support in 90 matters across the Melbourne Magistrates' Court, the Melbourne County Court and the Supreme Court of Victoria. A total of 110 victims and witnesses received direct support, with many more assisted informally in waiting rooms at the OPP and through Child and Youth Witness Services.

Lucy and Kiki provided support across various hearing types in a wide range of matters, including sexual assault, family violence, assault, homicide, aggravated burglary and a WorkSafe prosecution.

The OPP continues to support other jurisdictions exploring court dog programs.



Victim feedback survey pilot

In 2024–25, we completed 2 pilots of an online victim feedback survey. The survey was developed in 2023 using a co-design approach with victims, OPP people and external stakeholders. The survey offers victims the choice to provide feedback about their experience with the OPP, after a matter is finalised.

We are pleased to see that during the pilot stage, victims are engaging with the survey, providing the OPP and the legal practice with meaningful and actionable data and insights about what we are doing well, and opportunities to improve victim engagement.

We will continue the pilot in 2025–26, with the aim of refining the process and ultimately integrating it into our standard process across the legal practice.

Specialist Trial Prosecutions team

The Specialist Trial Prosecutions (STP) team continued to lead new approaches to early and appropriate resolution of matters. In 2024–25, 449 matters were resolved, remitted or otherwise diverted from trial division allocation by STP. On average, these matters were finalised within 4 to 6 months of commencement, demonstrating the impact of early assessment and triaging of matters, and streamlined decision-making processes that support early and appropriate resolution.

In 2025, a new branch of STP was introduced to support urgent work across the legal practice, provide opportunities for solicitors to strengthen their advocacy skills and continue driving early resolution. Solicitors in the branch are encouraged to appear in court regularly to further develop their advocacy skills. The group is also testing potential roles for paralegals, who work closely with solicitors on targeted tasks that progress files efficiently and enable solicitors to focus on more complex matters.

Looking ahead, STP will continue to support the trial divisions through assessing the early resolution potential of incoming matters, working to resolve matters appropriately and at an early stage, and sharing knowledge on strategies that support early and appropriate resolution.

Mental impairment and unfitness to be tried

When people who are mentally ill or cognitively impaired are prosecuted for serious crimes, they are tried under the *Crimes (Mental Impairment and Unfitness to be Tried) Act 1997* (Vic).

This Act applies when the accused person:

- is unfit to stand trial because of a current mental illness or cognitive impairment
- committed the crime but was suffering from a mental impairment at the time they committed the crime.

Mental impairment generally includes a person with a severe mental illness or disorder. Unfitness relates to the accused person’s capacity at the time of the court hearing.

These cases are generally heard in the County Court or Supreme Court and either a custodial or a noncustodial supervision order is the usual outcome. A supervision order is an indefinite order and will remain in place until it is revoked by the Court. The decision to revoke a supervision order is based on assessment of the treatment needs of the person and an assessment of risk of endangerment to the public.

This financial year 34 supervision orders were made by the County Court or Supreme Court.

External agencies

The OPP has a dedicated team that manages prosecutions initiated by agencies other than Victoria Police. In 2024–25, the OPP has continued to strengthen its relationships with agencies including WorkSafe Victoria, the Environment Protection Authority, the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC), Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV), the Victorian Fisheries Authority, the Legal Services Board, the Transport Accident Commission, the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator.

In 2024–25, the OPP received 77 new external agency prosecution matters.

Significant external agency prosecutions and developments included:

- The Sentencing Advisory Council released its report on sentencing Occupational Health and Safety offences in Victoria. It recommended 12 reforms, including the use of Victim Impact Statements, increased fines and Adverse Publicity Orders. In 2 recent cases involving a manufacturing company and a holiday park, the higher court referred to proposed reforms and ordered targeted publications—industry-specific public notices—to raise awareness and promote compliance.
- The final prosecution under the former aggravated pollution provision (section 59E) of the *Environment Protection Act 1970* (Vic) proceeded against a waste management company and its director. The company was convicted *ex parte* and fined \$1.14 million. The director pleaded guilty to lesser charges and received a conviction and \$140,000 fine. An appeal has been lodged against the sentence.
- Consumer Affairs Victoria finalised several prosecutions. One matter involved an unregistered builder who accepted deposits but failed to complete the work. The individual pleaded guilty, appeared self-represented and was convicted and fined \$16,000.
- In *Supagas Pty Ltd v The King*, the Court of Appeal refused leave to appeal against conviction and sentence in a matter involving the unsafe transport of acetylene gas cylinders. An explosion in December 2017 caused serious injuries to a worker. At trial, the company was found guilty of failing to provide a safe system of work and exposing others to risk. It was acquitted of a third charge relating to training. The Court imposed a \$550,000 fine.

Sentence reviews

OPP solicitors and Crown Prosecutors review every sentence from the Magistrates' Court, County Court, and Supreme Court to help the DPP determine whether to lodge an appeal.

In 2024–25, 150 sentence reviews were referred to the DPP for instructions on whether an appeal should be lodged, and 25 matters were appealed to either the County Court or the Court of Appeal.

Appellate work

The Higher Court Appeals team and the County Court Appeals and Contraventions team are responsible for the preparation and prosecution of most appeal matters for the DPP.

These include:

- appeals from the Magistrates' Court or Children's Court to the County Court
- civil appeals and judicial reviews from the Magistrates' Court or the County Court to the Supreme Court
- reference determinations pursuant to section 319A of the *Criminal Procedure Act 2009* (Vic)
- appeals from the County Court or Supreme Court to the Court of Appeal
- applications for special leave to appeal and appeals from the Court of Appeal to the High Court.

County Court Appeals

The DPP appears on behalf of Victoria Police to respond to appeals by an offender against their conviction or sentence in the Magistrates' or Children's Courts. Appeals to the County Court are reheard *de novo*, or afresh.

The OPP prosecuted 1,736 County Court appeals that were finalised during the year.

Of the appeals finalised:

- 76.6 per cent were sentence-only appeals
- 23.4 per cent were appeals against both conviction and sentence.

Contraventions

The OPP conducts contravention proceedings when a person has not followed the conditions of a community-based sentence from the County Court or Supreme Court. These cases usually involve breaches of Community Correction Orders.

In 2024–25, the OPP prosecuted 530 contravention proceedings.

Court of Appeal

The DPP responds to appeals lodged by any offender who has been sentenced in the County Court or the Supreme Court. An offender can appeal their conviction, the sentence imposed by a judge or both. In the first instance, the offender will seek leave to appeal from the Court of Appeal before a single judge – this can also be done on the papers. If leave is granted, the appeal is then listed for a hearing before 2 or 3 judges.

Alternatively, an applicant who is refused leave to appeal may seek to renew their application before 2 or more judges. The Court of Appeal then delivers a judgment in each case.

In 2024–25, the Court of Appeal finalised 178 appeals lodged by offenders (against conviction, sentence or conviction and sentence). Of these appeals:

- 28 sentence appeals were allowed. In 90 other cases, the Court refused permission to appeal or the appeal was dismissed, abandoned or not decided
- 29 conviction appeals were allowed. In 44 other cases, the Court refused permission to appeal or the appeal was dismissed, abandoned or not decided
 - In 16 of the successful conviction appeals, the Court ordered a retrial.
 - In 11 cases, the Court ordered an acquittal for at least one charge.
 - In 2 cases, the Court changed the verdict for at least one charge.

The Court of Appeal may refer issues or matters for determination to the Supreme Court or County Court pursuant to section 319A of the *Criminal Procedure Act 2009* (Vic). In 2024–25, one judgment was handed down in response to referral questions.

Appeals by the DPP under s. 287 of the *Criminal Procedure Act 2009* (Vic)

The DPP can appeal a sentence from the County Court or Supreme Court to the Court of Appeal. This happens when the DPP considers there is an error in the sentence and that a different sentence should be imposed, and that it is in the public interest to appeal. Details of the DPP appeals decided in 2024–25 are listed in [Appendix 3](#).

High Court

The DPP is a party to High Court proceedings that follow decisions made by the Court of Appeal in criminal matters.

In 2024–25 the DPP was a party in 15 matters. Eleven of these were finalised by the High Court. The DPP was the applicant or appellant in 4 of those cases—2 were allowed and 2 were yet to be determined as of 30 June 2025.

The DPP was the respondent to 11 special leave application or appeals. Of those, 8 were refused or dismissed, 1 was allowed and 2 were yet to be determined as of 30 June 2025.

Proceeds of Crime

Proceeds of Crime (POC) is a specialist civil litigation unit that undertakes major litigation on behalf of the DPP under the *Confiscation Act 1997* (Vic). The main goals of confiscation litigation are to deter and disrupt crime, to recover the proceeds of crime, to undermine the profitability of serious crime, and to prevent the use and enjoyment of unlawfully acquired wealth. Another important statutory purpose of confiscation litigation is to preserve assets so they can be used to compensate victims of crime.

POC solicitors work closely with partner agencies of the Victorian Asset Confiscation Scheme – the Victoria Police Criminal Proceeds Squad and Asset Confiscation Operations of the Department of Justice and Community Safety (DJCS). POC also works with other government agencies to confiscate tainted property connected to serious offences investigated and charged by those agencies.

POC's work includes applying to a court, on behalf of the DPP, for a restraining order over the assets of an accused person. It also litigates certain court applications made by people who claim an interest in property that has been restrained. If the accused person is convicted of a serious crime, the restrained property may be seized by the State or used to pay compensation to a victim.

In March 2025, new laws commenced empowering the DPP to apply for an unexplained wealth order when a police officer reasonably suspects that someone's wealth is more than what they could have lawfully earned. If the Court makes an unexplained wealth order, the Court can direct that person to pay a debt to the State, which can be recovered from their assets.

In 2024–25, POC:

- obtained 67 restraining orders in the County and Supreme Courts over assets including real estate, cash, bank accounts, cryptocurrency, luxury vehicles and personal property
- together with Scheme partners, contributed to the confiscation of \$110.2 million in illegally used assets and proceeds of crime from which \$2.95 million was paid to victims of crime in satisfaction of compensation orders.

Outcomes included:

- civil forfeiture of residential and commercial properties used to cultivate a commercial quantity of cannabis
- unexplained wealth forfeiture orders over real estate, cash seized by police, a Harley Davidson motorcycle and other vehicles belonging to an offender convicted of drug and proceeds of crime offences
- the forfeiture of real estate, seized cash and motor vehicles from a convicted serious drug offender
- unexplained wealth forfeiture of seized cash and bank account funds from people convicted of recklessly dealing with proceeds of crime
- confiscating a total of \$91.7 million in tainted property under automatic forfeiture laws from people convicted of serious profit-motivated offences.

Policy and Specialised Legal Division

The Policy and Specialised Legal Division (PASL) plays a key role in providing advice to Victoria Police and other external agencies, law reform consultation, international extradition and mutual assistance requests, sharing legal knowledge across the OPP, undertaking research, developing policies, and managing the OPP's involvement in serious offender matters.

The OPP considered 183 requests for advice from external agencies in 2024–25.

PASL is also responsible for responding to requests from agencies and members of the public regarding information collected by the OPP. Most requests are satisfied by informal process or *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Vic) requests (see [Appendix 6](#)). There were 460 informal requests for material. Additionally, PASL received 275 subpoenas for production of documents. Both informal requests and subpoenas have seen a significant rise from previous years.

Continued detention and supervision regimes

The Serious Offender team within PASL manages the OPP's involvement in the post sentence supervision and detention regime for serious sex offenders under the *Serious Offenders Act 2018* (Vic).

In 2024–25, the OPP opened 82 prosecution files for contraventions of supervision orders, demonstrating a steady increase in this prosecution area. The OPP also responded to 105 requests for materials from DJCS under section 283 of the *Serious Offenders Act 2018* (Vic).

Mutual assistance and extradition requests

PASL continues to work closely with the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department on mutual assistance and international extradition requests. In 2024–25, 141 requests were made for mutual assistance. These were primarily requests for witnesses residing overseas to give evidence by audiovisual link.

PASL continues to work with the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department and Victoria Police to manage a number of ongoing international extradition requests. An accused person was recently successfully extradited from Italy and will now face criminal proceedings in Victoria.

Legislative consultation

While the pace of legislative reform in 2024–25 has limited the scope of consultation with the OPP, PASL has worked collaboratively with teams across the office to respond to the dynamic law reform environment, including through rapid implementation of reforms from the *Bail Amendment Act 2025* (Vic) and *Youth Justice Act 2024* (Vic).

PASL has conducted internal consultation and provided feedback on behalf of the OPP in response to various proposals, including those resulting in the following legislation:

- *Justice Legislation Amendment (Committals) Act 2025* (Vic)
- *Justice Legislation Amendment (Anti-Vilification and Social Cohesion) Act 2025* (Vic)
- *Criminal Organisations Control Amendment Act 2024* (Vic).

The OPP has provided submissions to a range of inquiries from the Victorian Law Reform Commission, Australian Law Reform Commission,

IBAC and Sentencing Advisory Council. PASL continues to engage with the DJCS and the Commonwealth Attorney-General’s Department on a range of matters affecting the criminal justice system, including proposed law reform.

Royal Commission into the Management of Police Informants

PASL has continued working across the OPP to support progress toward resolution of issues arising from the recommendations of the Royal Commission into the Management of Police Informants.

Some of the notable achievements this year include:

- a successful application to the Court of Appeal to enable the Director to disclose information to 124 persons who were potentially affected by the conduct examined by the Royal Commission
- assembly and distribution of disclosure material packages to all outstanding potentially affected persons
- reporting to the Royal Commission Implementation Monitor on disclosure trends, key achievements and ongoing challenges since the Royal Commission
- ongoing training and support to OPP solicitors in relation to the prosecutorial duty of disclosure
- engagement with Victoria Police regarding disclosure requirements, including the principles of relevance and legal professional privilege
- working closely with various government agencies in relation to ongoing litigation involving affected persons and managing requests for OPP files and records in these proceedings.

OPPEdia

OPPEdia is the OPP’s knowledge management system, which is updated on an ongoing basis. A team including solicitors and research assistants within the OPP have continued to update content to reflect legal developments and feedback from our practice groups and Crown Prosecutors.

Our work in regional Victoria

In 2024–25, the OPP prosecuted 82 circuits across regional Victoria. This included 32 circuits in the Western Region—covering Geelong, Ballarat, Warrnambool and Horsham—and 50 circuits in other regional locations including Bairnsdale, Morwell, Shepparton, Wodonga, Wangaratta, Mildura and Bendigo. This year, we saw a growing number of solicitors express interest in training to instruct in a circuit. Many participated in shadowing opportunities with current circuit instructors to gain practical experience in circuit operations and grow their skills.

The Geelong office, the OPP’s only regional office, continues to play a key role in servicing the Western Region. The team includes 11 solicitors, 2 social workers and 2 legal support officers.

Legal education

In 2024–25 we welcomed a new Legal Education Program Manager to work alongside the Legal Education Program Lead to support legal capability at the OPP through learning and development programs for the legal practice, including new starters and legal trainees, and the continuing professional development (CPD) program.

CPD program

The CPD program supports legal practitioners to develop their criminal law skills and meet practising certificate requirements. In 2024–25, the Legal Education team delivered more than 20 hours of internal CPD and promoted over 20 hours of external sessions available to OPP people.

This included training for solicitors and social workers on the OPP’s updated complaints process, which includes a new complaints information pack to support victims of crime to make a complaint, should they wish to do so. While the training was delivered during the reporting period, the new process will commence in early 2025–26.

Collaborative legal training

The OPP collaborated with several agencies throughout 2024–25 on a variety of learning opportunities. For our people, this included visits to Melbourne Assessment Prison, Metropolitan Remand Centre, Dame Phyllis Frost Centre, Victoria Police Forensic Services Centre, Thomas Embling Hospital and CPD sessions presented by Victoria Police and the Victorian Government Solicitors Office.

The OPP provided training to Victoria Police members at the Police Academy and through presentations to various specialist units.

The Legal Education team is also part of the national DPP Building Legal Capability Working Group, which aims to share and jointly develop training resources for prosecutors and emerging prosecutors across public prosecution organisations in Australia.

Traineeships and clerkships

In February 2025, the OPP welcomed 7 legal trainees who completed their induction before starting rotations in County Court Appeals and Contraventions, PASL, POC and the trial divisions.

In March 2025, the 2024 OPP legal trainees were admitted to legal practice in the Supreme Court of Victoria and began work as solicitors in the trial divisions.

We also welcomed 16 seasonal clerks in 2025. Over 3 weeks, they gained practical legal experience, developed skills and explored career pathways at the OPP.

Legal Administration Practice Group

The Legal Administration Practice Group (Legal Administration), established in March 2024, delivers specialised administrative support to the trial divisions and STP. Many legal support officers and legal assistants who work in Legal Administration are studying law and looking to establish careers as solicitors at the OPP in the future and appreciate working closely with OPP people in the trial divisions and STP.

In 2024–25, Legal Administration enhanced its flexibility and responsiveness by working more collaboratively across teams. The group also focussed on surge capacity and created efficiencies in key processes.

Key initiatives included:

- streamlining urgent tasks
- refining training
- introducing paralegals in STP to pilot new ways of working
- working collaboratively with the trial division, Audio-Visual and STP teams to change jury books from paper to iPads.

Cases of note

Acting Sergeant Tim Schnepf v Jarnail Singh

The case involved a taxi driver who pleaded guilty to 36 charges reflecting 500 instances of offending between 30 June and 18 July 2023. The charges related to a variety of conduct including driving while consuming liquor, deception, unlawful assault, overcharging passengers, failing to comply with driver accreditation conditions such as safely securing wheelchairs and overloading wheelchair passengers in the taxi. All of the victims were passengers who required a wheelchair, and many victims were non-verbal or had a limited capacity to communicate. To prepare the case, the prosecution team reviewed 4 weeks' worth of footage from inside the offender's vehicle.

Many of the offences were punishable by penalty unit (fine) only. The offender was sentenced to an aggregate fine of \$20,000 with conviction. For the assaults, deception and some accreditation breaches, the offender was sentenced to a Community Correction Order for 2 years with conviction. His driver's licence was cancelled and he was disqualified from driving for 3 years. The Magistrate granted a restitution order to Safe Transport Victoria, which will ensure the money is fairly distributed to the victims who were overcharged.

Beattie v The King [2024] VSCA 218

The case involved historical offences committed in July 1996, including one count of burglary and 2 counts of rape. In 2020, a DNA sample taken at the time of the offending was matched with a sample from the accused, collected for an unrelated matter. The accused was subsequently charged.

A 2-day fitness investigation was held on 16 and 17 July 2024. On 27 August 2024, the judge found the accused unfit to stand trial. The accused was unrepresented during the investigation. Expert evidence was provided by 2 medical professionals.

Following the investigation, the judge made an order under section 197(3) of the *Criminal Procedure Act 2009* (Vic) requiring Victoria Legal Aid to provide legal representation to the accused for the special hearing. The accused sought leave to appeal both the finding of unfitness and the legal representation order. Leave to appeal was refused.

The Court of Appeal found that the judge’s decision was reasonable and supported by the evidence. It identified no error of law. The legal representation order was found not to be amenable to interlocutory appeal. Leave to appeal was refused on both grounds.

The special hearing proceeded on 25 November 2024. The accused was found to have committed the offences. On 7 July 2025, the accused was placed on a Non-Custodial Supervision Order.

Managing complaints

Anyone who feels they have been directly affected by an act, omission or decision of the OPP can make a formal complaint.

In 2024–25, the OPP processed 21 formal complaints.

Paul Fowler
Executive Director
Legal Practice

Justine McLeod
Executive Director
Legal Practice

Staff profiles – Legal Practice

Meet some of the OPP people from our legal practice as they share their insights, experiences and the meaningful work they do each day to deliver high quality prosecutions independently, fairly and efficiently.



Alexandra Baumgarten, Paralegal (STP)

At the OPP, I focus on providing dedicated legal support to solicitors, helping ease their workload while contributing to justice for the community. My career began in education, where I worked as a pre-service teacher in a regional school before moving to Melbourne to study law. Alongside my studies, I ran my own disability support service, which strengthened my ability to communicate with people in diverse settings.

Now, as a paralegal in the Specialist Trial Prosecutions team, I assist solicitors on

matters and I also have the opportunity to work on my own matters under supervision. I draft charts of evidence, prepare memos, and work closely with colleagues across the OPP, Crown Prosecutors and external stakeholders. I also observe victim conferences and court proceedings. I'm grateful for the mentorship and encouragement I've received, and I'm looking forward to building on my knowledge, contributing to more complex matters and deepening my involvement in victim engagement.



Rafael Tudehope Principal Solicitor (Training and Advice) - Fraud (Trial Division 1)

I joined the OPP as a solicitor in March 2021 after 2 years as a Judge's Associate at the County Court. I was admitted to practice in 2020, having completed a Bachelor of Arts and a Juris Doctor at the University of Melbourne. I have always wanted a career that was intellectually stimulating and made a meaningful difference in the community.

In my role within the trial divisions, I work across a broad range of matters, including fraud, homicide, drug and sexual offences. I manage cases from filing hearing through to finalisation, whether that is a plea or trial. This involves identifying legal issues, conferencing witnesses, exploring opportunities for resolution and working with counsel to prepare matters for court.

I am also the Training and Advice Principal Solicitor within the OPP's Legal Specialist Fraud Committee. In this role, I help develop practice skills and knowledge in fraud prosecutions, update practice guides to reflect changes in the law, deliver internal legal education sessions and engage with external stakeholders tackling white-collar crime.

This work would not be possible without the talented colleagues I'm privileged to work with across the OPP. I'm honoured to contribute to efforts that make a real difference for people facing challenging circumstances and demonstrating extraordinary resilience as they navigate the criminal justice system.



David Flockhart, Social Worker (Trial Division 1)

I commenced my social work role at the OPP in June 2023 after 2 years working in public mental health. Prior to this, I worked predominantly in offender treatment and rehabilitation through Corrections Victoria and Caraniche Forensic Youth Services. In these roles my focus was on clinical treatment and group based therapeutic interventions.

Given my work with individuals involved in the justice system, I had always been keen to expand my skills to working with victims and families impacted by crime, and moving to the OPP was a natural next step for me.

Working for an organisation that values the experiences of victims and the impacts the prosecution process has on them has been rewarding. I feel privileged sharing in the journey of people during the prosecution process and as they reimagine their identities in the face of complex trauma. I'm often struck by people's resilience and the unexpected strength they experience as they navigate the court process.

I think the most important aspect of this role for myself is ensuring victims and families feel seen, heard and valued. People always remember how you make them feel and this drives my work every single day.



Jelena Malobabic, Managing Principal Solicitor (Advocacy)

I've always been committed to making a positive difference to the community through the justice system.

At the OPP, I've held senior legal roles for more than 15 years, regularly appearing in the Magistrates', Children's, County and Supreme Courts. Since 2020, I've led a team of 10 solicitors, providing strategic direction, mentoring and oversight across a broad range of matters. I take great care in my role as a people leader, and I lead with emotional intelligence and empathy to help create a supportive environment where others feel empowered to do their best work. In my role, I also consider how our systems, tools and processes can better support the team and improve the way we work.

I hold a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Belgrade and completed further legal studies at the University of Auckland, leading to my admission to the

High Court of New Zealand in 2006 and the Supreme Court of Victoria in 2007.

Earlier in my career, I spent 3 years as a Duty Lawyer with Victoria Legal Aid, advocating for clients from diverse backgrounds, including people experiencing mental illness, substance dependence and socioeconomic disadvantage. The work was challenging but deeply rewarding, and it strengthened my commitment to improving access to justice for those most in need.

I value the OPP's collaborative culture and the chance to work alongside dedicated colleagues who care deeply about justice. My focus remains on supporting my colleagues, strengthening our practice and making a meaningful difference for the people and communities we serve.



Corporate Services report

Corporate Services supports the delivery of the OPP’s goals through an enabling people and culture function, technology and systems, records and information management, facilities, finance, audio-visual expertise and a library of legal resources.

Its business units work together to support the legal practice and maintain a strong corporate governance framework. This ensures the OPP meets its statutory, reporting, compliance and financial obligations, and supports the delivery of high quality prosecution services for the Victorian community.

The group also coordinates functions such as occupational health and safety, business continuity, and cyber and information security. It maintains key artefacts including risk

registers, internal policies, delegations and other materials that guide legal and corporate activity.

In 2024–25, Corporate Services continued to deliver high quality services across the organisation, with a strong focus on accessibility, innovation and continuous improvement.



Lindsey Hirschman, Sam Jones, Hugh Boyd-Wilson and Mark Vella accept the Design Strategy award for Amicus at the 2024 Victorian Premier's Design Awards.

Fit for purpose systems

In 2024–25, we built on the successful launch of our next-generation case and document management system, Amicus, by continuing to develop and release new features, fix bugs and improve system performance and integration. We transitioned from a delivery-focused project team to a new structure that supports ongoing internal capability.

The Digital Development team delivered 10 system upgrades as part of our commitment to ensuring Amicus continues to meet user needs. These upgrades included:

- a new Home screen to support individual matter management
- automation of templates, email creation and data population
- improved document management and system integrations
- enhanced functionality for different user groups to streamline data entry, capture and processes.

We were proud to receive recognition for Amicus in the 2024 Victorian Premier's Design Awards, winning in the Design Strategy category. Presented in November, the award celebrates our user-centred design approach and the strong collaboration across the organisation that shaped the system.

We continued to review and standardise the systems available to our people, focusing on reducing costs and simplifying the skills required to use multiple platforms. This included rationalising video-conferencing tools and document assembly systems. Our Records Management team also worked to automate and improve document management platforms and processes, reducing manual input and enhancing usability.

We continued to explore artificial intelligence (AI). We securely piloted several standard AI offerings and continued to test a bespoke AI prototype designed to ingest briefs of evidence, generate initial case summaries, and chart evidence. We updated our internal guidance on generative AI, and work has commenced on AI principles aligned with state and federal government frameworks. These principles will help ensure our work in this space is ethical, transparent and always includes human oversight in decision-making. AI will remain a key focus in 2025–26 due to its potential to transform appropriate workflows and support our people in their work.

Health, safety and wellbeing

During the financial year, we continued to prioritise efforts to create a workplace environment which promotes, protects and addresses the safety, mental health and wellbeing of all our people.

To support the mental health and wellbeing of our people, our Wellbeing Manager worked with OPP people to deliver key initiatives under the Wellbeing Strategy, guided by an annual roadmap. This included:

- extending the successful proactive wellbeing program pilot to the legal practice, offering one-on-one wellbeing coaching with an experienced clinician. Sessions were scheduled on an opt-out basis
- piloting a specialised support program for social workers in the Victims and Witness Assistance Service team, with evaluation planned for early 2025–26
- developing and delivering vicarious trauma training, team wellbeing sessions for people leaders, and resilience workshops
- continuing to develop a library of accessible and practical wellbeing resources for our intranet.

We continued to progress a number of other existing wellbeing initiatives in 2024–25 including:

- the psychosocial risk management process, with workgroups actively involved in reviewing emerging risks, and developing mitigation plans
- new starter check-ins
- our Mental Health First Aiders and Wellbeing Committee continued to promote and champion our wellbeing work across the organisation.

To support the physical safety of our people, we inspected regional accommodation sites used by OPP people on circuit to ensure they meet safety standards and are appropriate for our needs. We reviewed internal checklists for regular safety inspections, and our new online incident reporting system enabled prompt responses and remediation of issues. We also commenced internal development of a series of videos focused on increasing awareness of safety and emergency responses.

People and Culture

The new People and Culture delivery model, introduced in 2024, is structured around 4 streams:

- Talent and capability
- Wellbeing
- People services and advisory
- Workplace relations, safe work and policy.

Strong progress was made across all streams during 2024–25, with the engagement, development and support of our people guiding implementation and delivery.

The People and Culture team developed an overarching delivery plan to help prioritise activities. They also introduced processes to standardise service delivery, improve response times and monitor key people metrics.

During the financial year, People and Culture worked with teams and people leaders to prioritise areas and ideas for action, following the 2024 People Matter Survey results. These priorities helped to inform the development of the 2024–25 People Action Plan.

In the 2025 People Matter Survey, conducted in April, we achieved a 76 per cent response rate. We are reviewing the results and working with individual teams to develop tailored action plans. These will inform an overarching People Action Plan for 2025–26.

Flexible working for our people

In late 2024, we reviewed the operation of our Guide to Hybrid Working and surveyed OPP people about their experiences with our hybrid approach. The guide outlines expectations for regular in-office and remote working and aims to strike an appropriate balance that supports flexibility, operational needs, and a connected and supportive workplace culture.

The review and survey results show that we have successfully transitioned from COVID-19 remote working arrangements to a purposeful and established hybrid model. We continue to monitor this approach to ensure it meets the needs of our people and supports the significant in-person work required, including court hearings and victim and witness engagement. In 2024–25, in-person attendance averaged between 50 and 60 per cent.

Many of our people access flexible working arrangements to support their caring or study commitments.

Our approach to flexible working helps attract and retain a diverse workforce by supporting people with different life circumstances and ensuring they can contribute fully while balancing work and other commitments.



Audio-visual expertise

Our Audio-Visual (AV) team continues to play a pivotal role in the delivery of prosecution services for the Victorian community, providing specialised services in processing, editing, preparing and presenting digital media for court hearings. This includes records of interview, body worn camera footage, CCTV, and crime scene and covert recordings.

While job request volumes remained consistent with 2023–24 at 5,371, the number of processed AV media files requiring specialist support rose significantly to 16,964,961—up from 4,146,655 the previous year, representing a 309 per cent increase. This reflects the growing complexity and evolving formats of audio-visual evidence in the matters we prosecute and highlights the team’s capacity to adapt and deliver high-volume, high-impact support.

In 2024–25, the team met its service level standards, with an average turnaround time of 31 hours and 37 minutes per job, meeting the 48-hour benchmark.

The Prosecution Technology team supported trial preparation by delivering 104 electronic trials, down from 172 in 2023–24. While trial numbers decreased, the volume and complexity of material continued to grow.

Forecasts for 2025–26 indicate a significant increase in electronic trial numbers, reflecting continued demand for technology-enabled evidence presentation, and the effectiveness of this approach in supporting court proceedings.

Safeguarding our information

In 2024–25, we continued to strengthen the protection of our data and information assets by implementing solutions aligned with the *Essential Eight* cyber security framework. We transitioned our storage to the cloud to improve reliability and reduce reliance on physical infrastructure.

We also reviewed and updated our Records Retention and Disposal Authority (RDA)—the legal instrument that governs how we manage and dispose of public records. The updated RDA is expected to become operational in 2025–26.

Understanding our data

We improved our internal reporting capabilities by developing new reports and introducing processes to analyse, interpret and standardise data. This includes data on workloads, our activities and our people and workforce.

We continued to model the operational impacts of changing service demand and the implementation of new legislation and criminal law procedures. This evidence-based analysis helps quantify operational impacts and informs how we need to respond, either by seeking additional funding or adjusting our practices.

Strengthening connection through communication

In 2024–25, we continued to strengthen communication across the OPP through regular updates via our intranet, The Hub, our internal newsletter and quarterly face-to-face events. The Hub provides access to operational updates, policies and resources. The OPP Newsletters share organisational developments and celebrate contributions. The OPP Quarterly Updates bring people together to recognise achievements, discuss challenges and share progress on key initiatives, supporting a more connected and informed workplace.

Corporate governance

We reviewed our risk management framework to ensure that we are effectively identifying operational risks and that appropriate controls and mitigation strategies are in place. The outcomes of the review will be implemented in 2025–26.

We continued to strengthen our business continuity planning and recovery capability. As our technology changes our operational resilience is strengthened, however this has required regular updating of our plans and testing of our capabilities to withstand and respond to a disruptive event.

We also reviewed key intranet material, including policies, guidance, operating procedures and organisational updates. We improved the clarity and formatting of many resources to help ensure that our people can easily access the right information at the right time.

Sam Jones

Executive Director Corporate Services

Staff profiles – Corporate Services

Meet some of the OPP people who support our legal practice through their work in Corporate Services. They share insights into the systems, processes and partnerships that help deliver high quality prosecutions independently, fairly and efficiently.

People and Culture



Amanda Cheung, Capability Partner

At the OPP, my focus is on strengthening organisational capability through strategic learning and development. I provide advice and design programs that build long-term capability across legal and corporate teams, while also partnering in the delivery of Legal Education and leading initiatives that enhance employee experience, engagement, and inclusion. What motivates me most is seeing people succeed in their roles—knowing that when our people are supported to thrive, they are better placed to deliver outstanding outcomes for the community and the justice system.

Before joining the OPP, I worked in the private sector in People and Culture and customer service leadership roles. Leading people-focused teams, I supported staff development while driving improvements in service delivery, processes, and organisational capability.

What I value most about the OPP is the commitment and passion of its people. Supporting people in their growth means they can give their best back to the community, and it is rewarding to play a part in that journey. Creating a workplace where people feel supported, connected and proud of their impact is something we all contribute to together. That shared commitment motivates me to keep building programs that strengthen skills, wellbeing, inclusion and engagement.

I am proud to contribute to a supportive People and Culture team and the progress already made highlights the potential ahead. I look forward to building on this momentum by strengthening capability and culture and helping shape a workplace where our people can thrive.



Dolly Gahlout, Manager, People Services and Advisory

At the OPP, my focus is to lead the development of People Services and a strong partnering model that enhances both organisational performance and the employee experience.

The People Services and People Partners teams work together to support people throughout their time at the OPP. People Services manages the systems, processes and data that underpin all stages of someone’s journey — from onboarding to offboarding — including HR systems, employment contracts and workforce reporting. People Partners provide tailored advice and support to leaders and teams, helping them build capability and plan for the future.

I bring to the OPP a broad and diverse background across both the public and private sectors, having worked in industries such as education, health, telecommunications, and manufacturing and shared services.

My career has taken me across New Zealand, India and Australia, giving me a global perspective and deep appreciation for cultural and organisational diversity.

I’m passionate about building the capability of our people leaders through genuine collaboration to achieve shared goals. My experience enables me to work in true partnership with teams to foster a high-performance and values-driven culture.

In my role, I’m also focused on embedding operational excellence by improving systems and processes that make people’s work easier, more efficient and more rewarding.

I’m energised by the opportunity to contribute to an organisation and work with talented individuals who make a meaningful difference every day in the lives of the Victorian community.

Records Management



Melanie Hart, Manager

Every day is different for our busy team. The 13 Records and Depositions team members handle all the incoming briefs of evidence and mail, archive closed files, bookmark briefs and prepare depositions. As such they have an understanding of all that is happening across the OPP. The constant change in the matters being handled, new technology and supporting team members keeps the role interesting and challenging for me.

My interest in records management began in one of my first jobs after I finished my degree, at the Macmillan Brown Library for Pacific Studies at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, NZ. The library's collections include archival material (papers, photographs and architectural drawings) mainly relating to Christchurch and the wider Canterbury region. I loved looking at these unique materials from the beginnings of NZ's colonial history and began further studies for a post-graduate qualification in archives and records management.

I was told archivist roles were rare, and with the shift to digital records, organisations were increasingly focused on records management. As a result, my career moved in that direction, and since 2008 I've specialised in Content Manager (TRIM) software training and administration, which led to my current role.

The work of our team supports the OPP's strategic priority, Digital transformation, and enables solicitors to access materials in a timely manner, whether they are in the office, at court or working from home. Moving from being reliant on hardcopy to working with digital records has been a significant milestone and I look forward to continuing to integrate, improve and innovate our information management processes.

Elaine Foster, Depositions Coordinator

After 20 years in real estate, I made a career shift and joined the OPP. I started as a Depositions Officer in December 2023 and more recently stepped into the role of Depositions Coordinator.

My strengths lie in customer service, administration and teamwork. I work alongside a dedicated team of 4 team members, bringing nearly 20 years of combined experience. Together, we ensure the timely and accurate preparation of depositions, which are crucial in the prosecution process.

My role involves coordinating the Depositions team, managing workload allocation, overseeing quality assurance, and supporting staff training and induction. I also prepare depositions for my allocated team and contribute to process improvements to enhance efficiency. This role requires strong attention to detail, clear communication skills and the ability to manage competing priorities effectively.

I'm excited to be part of an organisation where continuous improvement is valued. I look forward to collaborating with colleagues across the OPP to streamline processes and drive greater efficiency in depositions.

This career change has provided the work-life balance I needed and reignited my passion for contributing to a purpose-driven team. I'm eager to continue growing and evolving in this new field.

Jordana Di Mauro, Senior Records Officer

I started as a temp in the Records team 3 years ago, focusing on archiving and bookmarking, and have since stepped into a leadership role. My professional journey began in the court system, where I developed strong administrative and client service skills that led me to Records.

Our team manages all incoming and outgoing material, ensuring it is properly processed, labelled and distributed—critical work that supports court operations. I oversee day-to-day tasks, streamline procedures and help my team maintain high standards.

A highlight of my time at the OPP has been contributing to a complex and high-profile brief, which showcased the importance of accurate records handling and cross-team collaboration.

I'm proud to be part of a team that works hard, cares deeply and supports one another. They're not only skilled and dedicated, but also kind and compassionate. We may work quietly behind the scenes but together we make a meaningful difference every day.

Financial summary

Overview

A summary of the Office of Public Prosecutions (OPP)'s financial performance in 2024–25 is set out below. Full financial details for 2024–25 are outlined in the financial statements.

In 2024–25, the OPP reported a net result (deficit) from transactions of \$2.390 million, \$2.134 million higher than the previous year. This variance was largely attributable to increases in supplier prices for goods and services and higher employee expenses incurred to meet the increasing demand for prosecution services. The allocation of government-wide budget savings also impacted OPP's financial result for 2024–25.

Net assets movements have fluctuated since 2020–21 with a decline in net assets in 2024–25 resulting from an additional year of depreciation for fixed assets, a decrease in the State Administration Unit (SAU) receivable balance linked to the timing of creditor payments and an increase in employee leave provisions reflecting an additional year of service by staff.

Net cash flows from operating activities have varied over the last 5 years reflecting the movement of receivables, accruals and provisions for employee entitlements.

Financial performance

In 2024–25, revenue increased by 3.9% from the previous year with additional funding received to meet EBA commitments including one-off cost of living pressures and wage escalations. Expenses also increased by 5.9% from the prior year mainly due to higher employee expenses as a consequence of EBA arrangements and the appointment of front-line resources to meet the operational demand pressures of delivering effective prosecution services while managing overall staff wellbeing. Higher expenditure outlays were also incurred on Information Technology goods and services linked to advancing the digitisation program within the Office to improve efficiency, the change in service models for the delivery of IT services with a move from capital intensive outlays to cloud computing and Software-as-a-Service models, and the impact of price escalations imposed by suppliers.

Financial position – balance sheet

Total assets amounted to \$28.195 million, a decrease of \$4.602 million from the previous year with movements in the SAU balance mainly accounting for this. The SAU balance is impacted by the timing of creditor and provision payments as well as debtor receipts. Investment in software development continued during 2024–25 as part of the ongoing investment in the OPP's modern and integrated case management system.

Total liabilities amounted to \$24.100 million, a decrease of \$1.876 million from the previous year. This was largely due to a decrease in payables arising from the timing of payment of invoices but offset by an increase in employee leave provisions resulting from an additional year of service by staff.

Cash flows

Net cash flows from operating activities were \$2.029 million, a decrease of \$0.706 million from 2023–24. This resulted from the timing of receipts and payments during the year. Net cash outflows from investing activities were lower than the previous year as a substantial component of the OPP's new case management system was paid in 2023–24. Net cash outflows from financing activities were however higher due to higher equity contributions during the year.

Five year financial summary

Five year financial summary	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Income from government	107,156	103,160	101,398	96,158	81,163
Total income from transactions	107,156	103,160	102,520	96,158	81,163
Total expenses from transactions	109,546	103,416	105,220	96,144	81,134
Net result from transactions	(2,390)	(256)	(2,700)	14	29
Net result for the period	(2,452)	42	(2,589)	763	393
Net cash flows from operating activities	2,029	2,735	1,129	453	2,346
Total assets	28,195	32,797	32,640	33,931	33,273
Total liabilities	24,100	25,976	26,497	24,865	24,545

Financial statements

How this report is structured

The Office of Public Prosecutions (OPP) has presented its audited general-purpose financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2025 in the following structure to provide users with the information about the OPP’s stewardship of resources entrusted to it.

Financial statements	Comprehensive operating statement
	Balance sheet
	Cash flow statement
	Statement of changes in equity
Notes to the financial statements	1. About this report
	The basis on which the financial statements have been prepared and compliance with reporting requirements.
	2. Funding delivery of our services
	Income and Revenue recognised from grants and other sources
	2.1 Income from transactions
	3. The cost of delivering services
	Operating expenses of the OPP
	3.1 Expenses incurred in delivery of services
	3.2 Other operating expenses
	4. Key assets to support output delivery
	Land, property and intangible assets
	4.1 Property, plant and equipment
	4.2 Intangible assets
	5. Other assets and liabilities
	Working capital balances, and other key assets and liabilities
	5.1 Other Assets
	5.2 Other Liabilities
	5.3 Other non-financial assets
	5.4 Other provisions
	6. How we financed our operations
	Borrowings, cash flow information and leases
	6.1 Borrowings
	6.2 Leases
	6.3 Cash flow information and balances
6.4 Commitments for expenditure	

Notes to the financial statements (continued)	7. Financial instruments, contingencies and valuation judgements
	Financial instruments, contingent assets and liabilities as well as fair value determination
	7.1 Financial instruments specific disclosures
	7.2 Contingent assets and contingent liabilities
	7.3 Fair value determination
	8. Other disclosures
	8.1 Other economic flows included in net result
	8.2 Responsible persons
	8.3 Remuneration of executives
	8.4 Related parties
	8.5 Remuneration of auditors
	8.6 Subsequent events
8.7 Glossary of technical terms	
8.8 Style conventions	

Declaration in the financial statements

The attached financial statements for the Office of Public Prosecutions have been prepared in accordance with Direction 5.2 of the Standing Directions of the Minister for Finance under the *Financial Management Act 1994*, applicable Financial Reporting Directions, Australian Accounting Standards including interpretations, and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

We further state that, in our opinion, the information set out in the comprehensive operating statement, balance sheet, statement of changes in equity, cash flow statement and accompanying notes, presents fairly the financial transactions during the year ended 30 June 2025 and financial position of the Office of Public Prosecutions at 30 June 2025.

At the time of signing, we are not aware of any circumstance which would render any particulars included in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We authorise the attached financial statements for issue on 17 November 2025



Annette Cruz
Chief Finance Officer
Office of Public Prosecutions
Melbourne
17 November 2025



Abbey Hogan
Solicitor for Public Prosecutions
Office of Public Prosecutions
Melbourne
17 November 2025



Victorian Auditor-General's Office

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Solicitor of the Office of Public Prosecutions

Opinion	<p>I have audited the financial report of the Office of Public Prosecutions (the Office) which comprises the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • balance sheet as at 30 June 2025 • comprehensive operating statement for the year then ended • statement of changes in equity for the year then ended • cash flow statement for the year then ended • notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information • declaration in the financial statements. <p>In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Office as at 30 June 2025 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of Part 7 of the <i>Financial Management Act 1994</i> and applicable Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures.</p>
Basis for Opinion	<p>I have conducted my audit in accordance with the <i>Audit Act 1994</i> which incorporates the Australian Auditing Standards. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the <i>Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report</i> section of my report.</p> <p>My independence is established by the <i>Constitution Act 1975</i>. My staff and I are independent of the Office in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 <i>Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)</i> (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.</p> <p>I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.</p>
The Solicitor's responsibilities for the financial report	<p>The Solicitor of the Office is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures and the <i>Financial Management Act 1994</i>, and for such internal control as the Solicitor determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.</p> <p>In preparing the financial report, the Solicitor is responsible for assessing the Office's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is inappropriate to do so.</p>

Auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office’s internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Solicitor
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Solicitor’s use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Office’s ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor’s report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor’s report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Office to cease to continue as a going concern.
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Solicitor regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



MELBOURNE
20 November 2025

Charlotte Jeffries
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria

Comprehensive operating statement

For the financial year ended 30 June 2025

		(\$ thousand)	
	Notes	2025	2024
Continuing operations			
Income from transactions			
Government grants	2.1.1	107,156	103,160
Total income from transactions		107,156	103,160
Expenses from transactions			
Employee expenses	3.1.1	(75,594)	(67,797)
Depreciation and amortisation	4.1.3 & 4.2	(1,536)	(1,478)
Interest expense	6.1.2	(25)	(14)
Other operating expenses	3.2	(32,391)	(34,127)
Total expenses from transactions		(109,546)	(103,416)
Net result from transactions (net operating balance)		(2,390)	(256)
Other economic flows included in net result			
Other gains/(losses) from other economic flows	8.1	(62)	298
Total other economic flows included in net result		(62)	298
Net result from continuing operations		(2,452)	42
Net Result		(2,452)	42
Other economic flows –other comprehensive income:			
Items that will not be reclassified to net result			
Changes in physical asset revaluation surplus(d)	4.1.3	-	12
Total other economic flows – other comprehensive income		-	12
Comprehensive result		(2,452)	54

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet

As at 30 June 2025

		(\$ thousand)	
	Notes	2025	2024
Assets			
Financial assets			
Cash and deposits	6.3	75	75
Receivables	5.1	17,626	22,177
Total financial assets		17,701	22,252
Non-financial assets			
Property, plant and equipment	4.1.3	5,019	6,183
Other non-financial assets	5.3	919	1,348
Intangible assets	4.2	4,556	3,014
Total non-financial assets		10,494	10,545
Total assets		28,195	32,797
Liabilities			
Payables	5.2	7,322	9,874
Borrowings - Lease liabilities	6.1	818	1,005
Employee related provisions	3.1.2	15,960	14,799
Other Provisions	5.4	-	298
Total liabilities		24,100	25,976
Net assets		4,095	6,821
Equity			
Accumulated deficit		(9,807)	(7,355)
Physical asset revaluation surplus		2,601	2,601
Contributed capital		11,301	11,576
Net worth		4,095	6,822

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Cash flow statement

For the financial year ended 30 June 2025

		(\$ thousand)	
	Notes	2025	2024
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts			
Receipts from government		111,708	104,790
Total receipts		111,708	104,790
Payments			
Payments to suppliers and employees		(109,654)	(102,041)
Interest and other costs of finance paid		(25)	(14)
Total payments		(109,679)	(102,055)
Net cash flows from/(used in) operating activities		2,029	2,735
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchases of non-financial assets		(1,588)	(3,206)
Net cash flows from/(used in) investing activities		(1,588)	(3,206)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Owner contributions by State Government		(275)	637
Repayment of principal portion of lease liabilities ⁽ⁱ⁾		(166)	(166)
Net cash flows from/(used in) financing activities		(441)	471
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		-	-
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		75	75
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	6.3	75	75

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

- (i) The OPP has recognised cash payments for the principal portion of lease payments as financing activities; cash payments for the interest portion as operating activities consistent with the presentation of interest payments and short-term lease payments for leases and low-value assets as operating activities.

Statement of changes in equity

For the financial year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	Physical asset revaluation surplus	Accumulated Deficit	Contributed Capital	Total
					(\$ thousand)
Balance at 1 July 2023		2,589	(7,397)	10,951	6,143
Net result for the year		-	42	-	42
Asset revaluation		12	-	-	12
Equity Transfers ⁽ⁱ⁾		-	-	625	625
Balance at 30 June 2024		2,601	(7,355)	11,576	6,822
Balance at 1 July 2024		2,601	(7,355)	11,576	6,822
Net result for the year		-	(2,452)	-	(2,452)
Asset revaluation		-	-	-	-
Equity Transfers ⁽ⁱ⁾		-	-	(275)	(275)
Balance at 30 June 2025		2,601	(9,807)	11,301	4,095

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

- (i) Equity transfers include ATNAB funding, offset by leasehold improvements transferred to the Department of Government Services (DGS) - Accommodation, Carpool and Library Services (ACLS) under the central asset management framework. (The central asset management framework was previously administered by the Department of Treasury and Finance).

1. About this report

The Office of Public Prosecutions (OPP) is an independent statutory authority of the State of Victoria, established under the *Public Prosecutions Act 1994*.

A description of the nature of the OPP's operations and its principal activities is included in the report of operations, which does not form part of these financial statements.

Its principal address is:

Office of Public Prosecutions

565 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Basis of preparation

These financial statements are Tier 2 general purpose financial statements prepared in accordance with AASB 1060 *General Purpose Financial Statements – Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 Entities* (AASB 1060) and Financial Reporting Direction 101 *Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards* (FRD 101).

The OPP is a Tier 2 entity in accordance with FRD 101. These financial statements are the first general purpose financial statements prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures. The OPP's prior year financial statements were general purpose financial statements prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (Tier 1). As OPP is not a 'significant entity' as defined in FRD 101, it was required to change from Tier 1 to Tier 2 reporting effective from 1 July 2024.

These financial statements are in Australian dollars and the historical cost convention is used unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

The accrual basis of accounting has been applied in preparing these financial statements, whereby assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

Consistent with the requirements of AASB 1004 *Contributions*, contributions by owners (that is, contributed capital and its repayment) are treated as equity transactions and, therefore, do not form part of the income and expenses of the OPP.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about financial information being presented. The significant judgements made in the preparation of these financial statements are

disclosed in the notes where amounts affected by those judgements are disclosed. Estimates and associated assumptions are based on professional judgements derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods that are affected by the revision. Judgements and assumptions made by management in applying AAS that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates are disclosed in the notes under the heading: 'Significant judgement or estimates'.

These financial statements cover OPP as an individual reporting entity and include all the controlled activities of OPP. There is no entity consolidated into OPP.

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest \$1,000 unless otherwise stated.

Compliance information

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 1994* (FMA) and applicable Australian Accounting Standards (AASs) which include Interpretations, issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB).

Where appropriate, those AASs paragraphs applicable to not-for-profit entities have been applied. Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported.

2. Funding delivery of our services

Introduction

The OPP provides an independent, effective and efficient prosecutions service on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions. In addition to the prosecution of serious crimes, the OPP also provides professional support to prosecution witnesses and victims of crime involved in its cases.

2.1. Income from transactions

The OPP is predominately funded by a grant from the Department of Justice and Community Safety (DJCS).

2.1.1. Grants

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Government grants		
Grants from the Department of Justice and Community Safety	107,156	103,160
Total government grants	107,156	103,160

The OPP has determined that the grant income included in the table above is to be recognised under AASB 1058 as it has been earned under arrangements that are either not enforceable and/or linked to sufficiently specific performance obligations.

Income from grants without any sufficiently specific performance obligations, or that are not enforceable, is recognised when the OPP has an unconditional right to receive cash which usually coincides with receipt of cash. On initial recognition of the asset, the OPP recognises any related contributions by owners, increases in liabilities, decreases in assets or revenue ('related amounts') in accordance with other Australian Accounting Standards. Related amounts may take the form of:

- (a) contributions by owners, in accordance with AASB 1004
- (b) revenue or a contract liability arising from a contract with a customer, in accordance with AASB 15 - *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*
- (c) a lease liability in accordance with AASB 16 - *Leases*
- (d) a financial instrument, in accordance with AASB 9 - *Financial Instruments*
- (e) a provision, in accordance with AASB 137 - *Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets*.

3. The cost of delivering services

Introduction

This section provides an account of the expenses incurred by the OPP in delivering services. In Section 2, the funds that enable the provision of services were disclosed and in this note the costs associated with provision of services are disclosed.

3.1. Expenses incurred in delivery of services

		(\$ thousand)	
	Notes	2025	2024
Employee benefit expenses	3.1.1	75,594	67,797
Other operating expenses	3.2	32,391	34,127
Total expenses incurred in delivery of services		107,985	101,924

3.1.1. Employee benefits in the comprehensive operating statement

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Defined contribution superannuation expense	6,344	5,593
Defined benefit superannuation expense	178	179
Termination benefits	-	100
Salaries and wages, annual leave and long service leave	69,072	61,925
Total employee expenses	75,594	67,797

Employee expenses include all costs related to employment including wages and salaries, fringe benefits tax, leave entitlements, termination payments and WorkCover premiums.

The amount recognised in the comprehensive operating statement in relation to superannuation is employer contributions for members of both defined benefit and defined contribution superannuation plans that are paid or payable during the reporting period.

The defined benefit plan(s) provides benefits based on years of service and final average salary. The basis for determining the level of contributions is determined by the various actuaries of the defined benefit superannuation plans.

OPP does not recognise any defined benefit liabilities because it has no legal or constructive obligation to pay future benefits relating to its employees. Instead, OPP accounts for contributions to these plans as if they were defined contribution plans under AASB 119 *Employee Benefits*. The Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) discloses in its annual financial statements the net defined benefit cost related to the members of these plans as an administered liability (on behalf of the State as the sponsoring employer).

Termination benefits are payable when employment is terminated before normal retirement date, or when an employee accepts an offer of benefits in exchange for the termination of employment. Termination benefits are recognised when the OPP is demonstrably committed to terminating the employment of current employees according to a detailed formal plan without possibility of withdrawal or providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy.

3.1.2. Employee-related Provisions

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave (LSL) for services rendered to the reporting date and recorded as an expense during the period the services are delivered.

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Current provisions:		
Annual leave	4317	4133
Long service leave	7,210	6,690
Provisions for on-costs	2,827	2,569
Total current provisions for employee benefits	14,354	13,392
Non-current provisions:		
Employee benefits - Long Service Leave	1,329	1,173
On-costs	277	234
Total non-current provisions for employee benefits	1,606	1,407
Total provisions for employee benefits	15,960	14,799

Wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave: Liabilities for wages and salaries (including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and on-costs) are recognised as part of the employee benefit provision as current liabilities, because the OPP does not have an unconditional right to defer settlements of these liabilities.

The liability for salaries and wages are recognised in the balance sheet at remuneration rates which are current at the reporting date. As the OPP expects the liabilities to be wholly settled within 12 months of reporting date, they are measured at undiscounted amounts.

The annual leave liability is classified as a current liability and measured at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid, as the OPP does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and it is not considered probable that the average sick leave taken in the future will be greater than the benefits accrued in the future. As sick leave is non-vesting, an expense is recognised in the Comprehensive Operating Statement as it is taken.

Employment on-costs such as payroll tax, workers compensation and superannuation are not employee benefits. They are disclosed separately as a component of the provision for employee benefits when the employment to which they relate has occurred.

Unconditional LSL is disclosed as a current liability; even where the OPP does not expect to settle the liability within 12 months because it will not have the unconditional right to defer the settlement of the entitlement should an employee take leave within 12 months.

The components of this current LSL liability are measured at:

- undiscounted value – if the OPP expects to wholly settle within 12 months; or
- present value – if the OPP does not expect to wholly settle within 12 months.

Conditional LSL is disclosed as a non-current liability. There is a conditional right to defer the settlement of the entitlement until the employee has completed the requisite years of service. This non-current LSL is measured at present value.

Any gain or loss following revaluation of the present value of non-current LSL liability is recognised as a transaction, except to the extent that a gain or loss arises due to changes in bond interest rates for which it is then recognised as an 'other economic flow' in the net result.

3.2. Other operating expenses

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Supplies and services		
Professional services and witness payments	19,562	21,624
Property maintenance and facilities management	6,288	6,063
Information technology	3,422	2,991
Printing, stationery & library	528	572
Postage, communication & office expenses	686	912
Interpreters	750	906
Other - travel, personal expense claims, motor vehicles	1,115	1,017
Audit services	40	42
Total other operating expenses	32,391	34,127

Other operating expenses generally represent the day-to-day running costs incurred in normal operations. It also includes bad debts expense from transactions that are mutually agreed.

Supplies and services are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are incurred. The following lease payments are recognised on a straight line basis:

- Short term leases - leases with a term 12 months or less
- Low value leases - leases where the underlying asset's fair value (when new, regardless of the age of the asset being leased) is no more than \$10,000.

Contributions of resources received free of charge or for nominal consideration are recognised at their fair value when control is obtained over them, irrespective of whether these contributions are subject to restrictions or conditions over their use. Contributions in the form of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would have been purchased if not received as a donation.

The DJCS provides certain governance, executive and support services and resources to the OPP. The value of these services which includes the use of the Department's financial and payroll systems is not recognised in the financial statements of the OPP, as the Department is centrally funded to provide these services and the fair value of such services cannot be reliably determined.

Impairment of receivables - Impairment of receivables as a result of mutual agreement with counterparty is deemed as expenses from transactions.

4. Key assets available to support service delivery

Introduction

The OPP controls assets that are utilised in fulfilling its objectives and conducting its activities. They represent the resources that have been entrusted to the OPP to be utilised for delivery of those services.

4.1. Property, plant and equipment

(\$ thousand)

	Gross carrying amount		Accumulated depreciation		Net carrying amount	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
Land at fair value	2,560	2,560	-	-	2,560	2,560
Buildings at fair value	89	89	(12)	-	77	89
Plant and equipment at fair value	9,540	9,467	(7,973)	(6,938)	1,567	2,529
Motor vehicles at fair value	1,094	1,275	(279)	(270)	815	1,005
Net carrying amount	13,283	13,391	(8,264)	(7,208)	5,019	6,183

Items of property, plant and equipment are measured initially at cost and subsequently revalued at fair value less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Where an asset is acquired for no or nominal cost, the cost is its fair value at the date of acquisition. Assets transferred as part of a machinery of government change are transferred at their carrying amount. The cost of constructed non-financial physical assets includes the cost of all materials used in construction, direct labour on the project and an appropriate proportion of variable and fixed overheads.

4.1.1. Total right-of-use assets: buildings, plant, equipment and vehicles.

(\$ thousand)

	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation	Net carrying amount	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation	Net carrying amount
	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024
Vehicles	1,094	(279)	815	1,275	(270)	1,005
Net carrying amount	1,094	(279)	815	1,275	(270)	1,005

	(\$ thousand)
	Vehicles at fair value
Opening balance – 1 July 2024	1005
Additions	217
Disposals	(239)
Depreciation	(168)
Closing balance – 30 June 2025	815

Right-of-use asset acquired by lessees – Initial measurement

The OPP recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the lease commencement date.

The right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for:

- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentive received; plus
- any initial direct costs incurred; and
- an estimate of costs to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or to restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located.

Right-of-use asset – Subsequent measurement

The OPP depreciates the right-of-use assets on a straight-line basis from the lease commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term. The right-of-use assets are also subject to revaluation.

In addition, the right-of-use asset is periodically reduced by impairment losses, if any, and adjusted for certain remeasurements of the lease liability.

Impairment of property, plant and equipment

The recoverable amount of primarily non-cash-generating assets of not-for-profit entities, which are typically specialised in nature and held for continuing use of their service capacity, is expected to be materially the same as fair value determined under AASB 13 - *Fair Value Measurement*, with the consequence that AASB 136 - *Impairment of Assets* does not apply to such assets that are regularly revalued.

4.1.2. Depreciation and amortisation

All buildings, plant and equipment and other non-financial physical assets that have finite useful lives, are depreciated. The exceptions to this rule include items under assets held for sale, cultural assets and land.

Depreciation is generally calculated on a straight line basis, at rates that allocate the asset's value, less any estimated residual value, over its estimated useful life. Typical estimated useful lives for the different asset classes for current and prior years are included in the table below:

	(years)
	Useful life
Plant and equipment	4 to 10
Motor vehicles	5
Buildings	5 to 40
Intangible assets	7 to 15

The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each annual reporting period, and adjustments made where appropriate.

Right-of-use assets are generally depreciated over the shorter of the asset's useful life and the lease term. Where OPP obtains ownership of the underlying leased asset or if the cost of the right-of-use asset reflects that the entity will exercise a purchase option, the entity depreciates the right-of-use asset over its useful life.

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives.

Indefinite life assets: Land, which is considered to have an indefinite life, is not depreciated. Depreciation is not recognised in respect of these assets because their service potential has not, in any material sense, been consumed during the reporting period.

4.1.3. Reconciliation of movements in carrying amount of property, plant and equipment (a)

	(\$ thousand)				
	Land at fair value	Buildings at fair value	Plant, equipment at fair value	Motor vehicles at fair value	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025
Opening balance	2,560	89	2,530	1,005	6,184
Additions	-	-	116	217	333
Transfer of -right-of-use assets to DGS - ACLS (under the Central Asset Management arrangements)	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	(5)	(239)	(244)
Depreciation	-	(12)	(1,074)	(168)	(1,254)
Closing balance	2,560	77	1,567	815	5,019

Note:

- (a) Fair value assessments have been performed for all classes of assets in this purpose group and the decision was made that movement were not material (less than or equal to 10 per cent) for a full re-valuation as per the requirement of FRD 103. The next scheduled full re-valuation for this purpose group will be conducted in 2026. Refer to Note 7.3 for more information.

4.2. Intangible assets

	(\$ thousand)	
	Computer software	Total
	2025	2025
Gross carrying amount		
Opening balance	3,280	3,280
Additions	1,825	1,825
Closing balance	5,105	5,105
Accumulated amortisation and impairment		
Opening balance	(266)	(266)
Amortisation	(283)	(283)
Closing balance	(549)	(549)
Net book value at end of financial year	4,556	4,556

Note:

- (i) The consumption of intangible produced assets is included in 'depreciation and amortisation' line item.

Initial recognition

Purchased intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. When the recognition criteria in AASB 138 Intangible Assets is met, internally generated intangible assets are recognised at cost. Subsequently, intangible assets with finite useful lives are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation and amortisation begin when the asset is available for use, that is, when it is in the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

An **internally generated intangible asset** arising from development (or from the development phase of an internal project) is recognised if, and only if, all of the following are demonstrated, including:

- the technical feasibility of completing the intangible asset so that it will be available for use or sale
- an intention to complete the intangible asset and use or sell it
- the ability to use or sell the intangible asset
- the intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefits
- the availability of adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the intangible asset
- the ability to measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset during its development.

Subsequent measurement

Intangible produced assets with finite useful lives, are depreciated as an 'expense from transactions' on a straight line basis over their useful lives. Produced intangible assets have useful lives of between 7 and 15 years.

Intangible non-produced assets with finite lives are amortised as an 'other economic flow' on a straight-line basis over their useful lives. The amortisation period is three to five years.

Impairment of intangible assets

Intangible assets with finite useful lives are tested for impairment whenever an indication of impairment is identified.

Significant intangible assets

OPP has capitalised software development expenditure for the development of its case management system and records management system. The carrying amount of the capitalised software development expenditure is \$4.55 million (2024: \$3.01 million). A significant component of intangible assets is the case management system with a useful life of 10 years.

5. Other assets and liabilities

Introduction

This section sets out those assets and liabilities that arose from the OPP's controlled operations.

5.1. Receivables

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Contractual		
Other receivables	154	58
Statutory		
Amounts owing from the Department of Justice and Community Safety (i)	17,472	22,119
Total receivables	17,626	22,177
<i>Represented by</i>		
Current receivables	16,020	20,770
Non-current receivables	1,606	1,407

Notes:

(i) Represents amounts receivable from the Department of Justice and Community Safety for commitments that have been incurred but not yet paid out. The amount receivable from the Department is statutory in nature and hence not in the scope of the financial instrument standards.

Contractual receivables are classified as financial instruments and categorised as 'financial assets at amortised costs'. They are initially recognised at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs. The OPP holds the contractual receivables with the objective to collect the contractual cash flows and therefore subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment.

Statutory receivables do not arise from contracts and are recognised and measured similarly to contractual receivables (except for impairment) but are not classified as financial instruments for disclosure purposes. The OPP applies AASB 9 for initial measurement of the statutory receivables and, as a result, statutory receivables are initially recognised at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction cost.

5.1.1. Impairment loss

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Impairment loss		
Impairment loss on contractual receivables		
From transactions	47	14

In accordance to FRD 114 Financial Instrument, all entities shall apply the simplified approach, which requires the loss allowance to always be measured at an amount equal to lifetime expected credit losses for all trade receivables, lease receivables and statutory receivables.

The loss allowances for receivables and contract assets are based on assumptions about risk of default and expected loss rates. The expected loss rates applied as at 30 June 2025 for receivables that are more than 90 days past due is 87%. (30 June 2024 – 100%)

Impairment of financial assets

OPP records the allowance for expected credit loss for the relevant financial instruments applying AASB 9's Expected Credit Loss approach. OPP's contractual receivables and statutory receivables are subject to AASB 9 impairment assessment.

Contractual receivables at amortised cost

OPP applies AASB 9 simplified approach for all contractual receivables to measure expected credit losses using a lifetime expected loss allowance based on the assumptions about risk of default and expected loss rates. OPP has grouped contractual receivables on shared credit risk characteristics and days past due and select the expected credit loss rate based on OPP's past history, existing market conditions, as well as forward looking estimates at the end of the financial year.

Credit loss allowance is classified as other economic flows in the net result (refer to Note 8.1). Contractual receivables are written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovery and impairment losses are classified as a transaction expense. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against the same line item.

Statutory receivables at amortised cost

The statutory receivables are considered to have low credit risk, taking into account the counterparty's credit rating, risk of default and capacity to meet contractual cash flow obligations in the near term. As a result, no loss allowance has been recognised.

5.2. Payables

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Contractual		
Supplies and services	6,884	9,638
Salaries and wages	405	203
Total Contractual payables	7,289	9,841
Statutory payables		
FBT payable	33	33
Total payables	7,322	9,874
<i>Represented by:</i>		
Current payables	7,322	9,874

Payables consist of:

- **contractual payables**, classified as financial instruments and measured at amortised cost. Accounts payable represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the OPP prior to the end of the financial year that are unpaid.
- **statutory payables**, are recognised and measured similarly to contractual payables, but are not classified as financial instruments and not included in the category of financial liabilities at amortised cost, because they do not arise from contracts.

Payables for supplies and services have an average credit period of 30 days. No interest is charged on the 'other payables' for the first 30 days from the date of the invoice. Generally, no interest is charged on the outstanding balance.

The terms and conditions of amounts payable to the government and agencies vary according to the particular agreements and as they are not legislative payables, they are not classified as financial instruments.

5.3. Other non-financial assets

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Current other assets		
Prepayments	919	1,348
Total current other assets	919	1,348

Other non-financial assets include pre-payments, which represent payments in advance of receipt of goods or services or the payments made for services covering a term extending beyond the reporting period.

5.4. Other provisions

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Current provisions		
Onerous contracts	-	298
Total current provisions	-	298
Total other provisions	-	298

Other provisions are recognised when the OPP has a present obligation, the future sacrifice of economic benefits is probable and the amount of the provision can be measured reliably. The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at reporting date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

Reconciliation of movements in other provisions

	(\$ thousand)
	2025
Opening Balance	298
Additional provisions recognised	-
Reductions arising from payments	(298)
Closing Balance	-

Onerous contracts: An onerous contract is considered to exist when the unavoidable cost of meeting the contractual obligations exceeds the estimated economic benefits to be received.

Present value obligations arising under onerous contracts are recognised as a provision to the extent that the present obligation exceeds the estimated economic benefits to be received. The provision has been measure based on the unavoidable costs of meeting the contractual obligations. The unavoidable costs are the lower of the costs of fulfilling the contract and any compensation penalties from the failure to fulfill the contract.

6. How we financed our operations

Introduction

This section provides information on the sources of finance utilised by the OPP during its operations, along with interest expenses (the cost of borrowings) and other information related to financing activities of the OPP.

This section includes disclosures of balances that are financial instruments (such as borrowings and cash balances). Notes 7.1 and 7.3 provide additional, specific financial instrument disclosures.

6.1. Borrowings

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Current borrowings		
Lease liabilities (i)	305	303
Total current borrowings	305	303
Non-current borrowings		
Lease liabilities	513	702
Total non-current borrowings	513	702
Total borrowings	818	1005

Note:

(i) Secured by the assets leased. Leases are effectively secured as the rights to the leased assets revert to the lessor in the event of default.

'Borrowings' refer to interest bearing liabilities mainly raised from public borrowings raised through the Treasury Corporation of Victoria, lease liabilities and other interest-bearing arrangements.

Borrowings are classified as financial instruments. Interest bearing liabilities are classified at amortised cost and recognised at the fair value of the consideration received less directly attributable transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

6.1.1. Terms and conditions of borrowings

(\$ thousand)					
				Maturity dates	
	Weighted average interest rate (%)	Carrying amount	Nominal amount	Less than 12 months	1-5 years
2025					
Lease liabilities					
Total	2.39	818	855	325	530
2024					
Lease liabilities					
Total	2.04	1,005	1,043	321	722

The OPP operates under the Government fair payments policy of settling financial obligations within 30 days and in the event of a dispute, making payments within 30 days from the date of resolution.

6.1.2. Interest expense

(\$ thousand)		
	2025	2024
Interest on motor vehicle leases	25	14
Total interest expense	25	14

'Interest expense' includes costs incurred in connection with the interest component of lease repayments. Interest expense is recognised in the period in which it is incurred.

The OPP recognises borrowing costs immediately as an expense, even where they are directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of a qualifying asset.

6.2. Leases

6.2.1. Right-of-use Assets

The OPP leases various multifunction devices and motor vehicles. The lease contracts are typically made for fixed periods of 3-4 years with an option to renew the lease after that date.

Leases of multifunction devices with contract terms of 1-4 years are leases of low-value items. The OPP has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for these leases.

At 30 June 2025, OPP was committed to low value leases and the total commitment at that date was \$590,433 inclusive of GST.

Right-of-use assets are presented in Note 4.1.1.

6.2.2. Expense recognised for short-term leases and leases of low-value assets

The following amounts are recognised as expense relating to short-term leases and leases of low-value assets:

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Interest expense on lease liabilities	24	14
Expenses relating to leases of low-value assets	120	144
Total amount recognised as expense	144	158

The OPP has elected to account for short-term leases and leases of low-value assets using the practical expedients. Instead of recognising a right-of-use asset and lease liability, the payments in relation to these are recognised as an expense in profit or loss included in “other operating expenses” (see Note 3.2) on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

6.2.3. Recognition and measurement of leases as a lessee

For any new contracts entered into, OPP considers whether a contract is, or contains a lease. A lease is defined as ‘a contract, or part of a contract, that conveys the right to use an asset (the underlying asset) for a period of time in exchange for consideration’. To apply this definition OPP assesses whether the contract meets three key evaluations:

- Whether the contract contains an identified asset, which is either explicitly identified in the contract or implicitly specified by being identified at the time the asset is made available to OPP and for which the supplier does not have substantive substitution rights
- Whether OPP has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from use of the identified asset throughout the period of use, considering its rights within the defined scope of the contract and OPP has the right to direct the use of the identified asset throughout the period of use
- Whether OPP has the right to take decisions in respect of ‘how and for what purpose’ the asset is used throughout the period of use.

Lease liability – initial measurement

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments unpaid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease if that rate is readily determinable or OPP’s incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise the following:

- fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments) less any lease incentive receivable
- variable payments based on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date
- amounts expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee
- payments arising from purchase and termination options reasonably certain to be exercised.

Lease liability – subsequent measurement

Subsequent to initial measurement, the liability will be reduced for payments made and increased for interest. It is remeasured to reflect any reassessment or modification, or if there are changes in-substance fixed payments.

When the lease liability is remeasured, the corresponding adjustment is reflected in the right-of-use asset, or profit and loss if the right-of-use asset is already reduced to zero.

Presentation of right-of-use assets and lease liabilities

The OPP presents right-of-use assets as 'property plant equipment' (refer to Note 4.1). Lease liabilities are presented as 'borrowings' in the balance sheet (refer to Note 6.1).

Future lease payments

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Minimum future lease payments (a)		
Not longer than 1 year	325	321
Longer than 1 year but not longer than 5 years	530	722
Longer than 5 years	-	-
Minimum future lease payments	855	1043
Less future finance charges	37	39
Present value of minimum lease payments	818	1004

Note:

(a) Minimum future lease payments include the aggregate of all base payments and any guaranteed residual.

6.3. Cash flow information and balances

Cash and deposits, including cash equivalents, comprise cash on hand and cash at bank. OPP's bank accounts are held in the Central Banking System (CBS) under the Standing Directions 2018.

For cash flow statement presentation purposes, cash and cash equivalents, are included as a financial asset on the balance sheet, as indicated in the reconciliation below.

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Cash and deposits disclosed in the balance sheet	75	75
Balance as per cash flow statement	75	75

Due to the State's investment policy and funding arrangements, the OPP does not hold a large cash reserve in its bank accounts. OPP expenditure are made via the Department of Justice and Community Safety (DJCS) public account. The public account remits to DJCS the cash required for payment to OPP's suppliers or creditors.

6.4. Commitments for expenditure

Commitments for future expenditure include operating and capital commitments arising from contracts. These commitments are recorded below at their nominal value and inclusive of GST. Where it is considered appropriate and provides additional relevant information to users, the net present values of significant individual projects are stated. These future expenditures cease to be disclosed as commitments once the related liabilities are recognised in the balance sheet.

6.4.1. Total commitments payable

(\$ thousand)				
Nominal amounts	Less than 1 year	1 - 5 years	5+ years	Total
2025				
Capital expenditure commitments	-	-	-	-
Operating commitments	8,591	1,369		9,960
Accommodation expense	-	-		-
Total commitments (inclusive of GST)	8,591	1,369		9,960
Less GST recoverable	(768)	(81)		(849)
Total commitments (exclusive of GST)	7,823	1,288		9,111
2024				
Capital expenditure commitments	-	-		-
Operating commitments	8,103	1,199		9,302
Accommodation expense	6,249	-		6,249
Total commitments (inclusive of GST)	14,352	1,199		15,551
Less GST recoverable	(672)	(109)		(781)
Total commitments (exclusive of GST)	13,680	1,090		14,770

7. Financial instruments, contingencies and valuation judgements

Introduction

It is often necessary for OPP to make judgements and estimates associated with recognition and measurement of items in the financial statements. This section sets out financial instrument specific information as well as those items that are contingent in nature or require a higher level of judgement to be applied, which for the OPP related mainly to fair value determination.

7.1. Financial instruments specific disclosures

Introduction

Financial instruments arise out of contractual agreements that give rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Due to the nature of the OPP's activities, certain financial assets and financial liabilities arise under statute rather than a contract (for example taxes, fines and penalties). Such assets and liabilities do not meet the definition of financial instruments in AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentation*.

Categories of financial assets

Financial assets at amortised cost

Financial assets are measured at amortised costs if both the following criteria are met and the assets are not designated as fair value through net result:

- the assets are held by the OPP to collect contractual cash flows, and
- the assets' contractual terms give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interests.

These assets are initially recognised at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment.

The OPP recognises the following assets in this category:

- cash and deposits; and
- receivables (excluding statutory receivables).

Derecognition of financial assets

A financial asset (or, where applicable, a part of a financial asset or part of a group of similar financial assets) is derecognised when:

- the rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired
- the OPP retains the right to receive cash flows from the asset, but has assumed an obligation to pay them in full without material delay to a third party under a ‘pass through’ arrangement
- the OPP has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from the asset and either:
 - has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset
 - has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, but has transferred control of the asset.

Where OPP has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards or transferred control, the asset is recognised to the extent of OPP’s continuing involvement in the asset.

Categories of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities at amortised cost

Financial liabilities measured at amortised costs are initially recognised on the date they are originated. They are initially measured at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, these financial instruments are measured at amortised cost with any difference between the initial recognised amount and the redemption value being recognised in profit and loss over the period of the interest-bearing liability, using the effective interest rate method. OPP recognises the following liabilities in this category:

- payables (excluding statutory payables)
- borrowings (including lease liabilities)

Derecognition of financial liabilities:

A financial liability is derecognised when the obligation under the liability is discharged, cancelled or expires.

When an existing financial liability is replaced by another from the same lender on substantially different terms, or the terms of an existing liability are substantially modified, such an exchange or modification is treated as a derecognition of the original liability and the recognition of a new liability. The difference in the respective carrying amounts is recognised as an ‘other economic flow’ in the comprehensive operating statement.

7.1.1. Financial instruments - Net gain/(loss) on financial instruments by category

(\$ thousand)

Nominal amounts	Carrying amount	Net gain/(loss)	Total interest income/(expense)	Fee income/(expense)	Impairment loss
2025					
Financial assets at amortised cost					
Cash and deposits	75				
Other receivables	154				
Total financial assets at amortised cost	229				
Financial liabilities at amortised cost					
Payables (a)	6,884				
Borrowings					
Lease Liabilities	818		24		
Total contractual financial liabilities	7,702		24		

Note:

- (a) The total amounts disclosed here exclude statutory amounts (e.g. amounts owing from the Victorian Government and taxes payable).

Nominal amounts	Carrying amount	Net gain/(loss)	Total interest income/(expense)	Fee income/(expense)	Impairment loss
2024					
Financial assets at amortised cost					
Cash and deposits	75				
Other receivables	58				
Total financial assets at amortised cost	133				
Financial liabilities at amortised cost					
Payables (a)	9,638				
Borrowings					
Lease Liabilities	1,005		14		
Total contractual financial liabilities	10,643		14		

Note:

- (a) The total amounts disclosed here exclude statutory amounts (e.g. amounts owing from the Victorian Government and taxes payable).

7.2. Contingent assets and contingent liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the balance sheet but are disclosed and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value.

Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

7.2.1. Contingent assets

Contingent assets are possible assets that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the entity.

These are classified as either quantifiable, where the potential economic benefit is known, or non-quantifiable.

Quantifiable contingent assets (arising from outside of government)

There are no quantifiable contingent assets for 2025 (2024 - nil).

7.2.2. Contingent liabilities

Contingent liabilities are:

- possible obligations that arise from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the entity; or
 - present obligations that arise from past events but are not recognised because:
 - it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligations; or
 - the amount of the obligations cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.
- Contingent liabilities are also classified as either quantifiable or non-quantifiable.

Quantifiable contingent liabilities

There are no quantifiable contingent liabilities for 2025 (2024 - nil).

7.3. Fair value determination

This section sets out information on how the OPP determines fair value for financial reporting purposes. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Land, buildings, plant and equipment are carried at fair value.

Fair value hierarchy

In determining fair values a number of inputs are used. To increase consistency and comparability in the financial statements, these inputs are categorised into three levels, also known as the fair value hierarchy. The levels are as follows:

- Level 1 – quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2 – valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and
- Level 3 – valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

The OPP determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by reassessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

The Valuer General Victoria (VGV) is the OPP's independent valuation agency. The OPP monitors changes in the fair value of each asset and liability through relevant data sources to determine whether revaluation is required.

How this section is structured

For those assets and liabilities for which fair values are determined, the following disclosures are provided:

- valuation techniques
- details of significant assumptions used in the fair value determination.

7.3.1. Fair value determination: Non-financial physical assets

Valuation techniques and significant assumptions of non-financial physical assets measured at fair value

AASB 2022-10 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets of Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities* amended AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* by adding Appendix F *Australian implementation guidance for not-for-profit public sector entities*. Appendix F explains and illustrates the application of the principles in AASB 13 on developing unobservable inputs and the application of the cost approach. These clarifications are mandatorily applicable annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024. FRD 103 permits Victorian public sector entities to apply Appendix F of AASB 13 in their next scheduled formal asset re-valuation or interim re-valuation process (whichever is earlier).

The last scheduled full independent valuation of OPP's specialised land and specialised building was performed by the Valuer General of Victoria (VGV). The valuation of land was performed using the market approach adjusted for CSO. The effective date of the valuation was 30 June 2021. Annual fair value assessment for 30 June 2025 using VGV indices does not identify material changes in value. In accordance with FRD 103, OPP will reflect Appendix F in its next scheduled formal re-valuation in 2026 or interim re-valuation process (whichever is earlier). All annual fair value assessments thereafter will continue compliance with Appendix F.

The fair value of all property plant and equipment (PPE) is categorised as level 3 for 2025. The same categorisation applied for 2024.

Specialised land and specialised building

The market approach is used for specialised land, although it is adjusted for the community service obligation (CSO) to reflect the specialised nature of the land being valued.

The CSO adjustment is a reflection of the valuer's assessment of the impact of restrictions associated with an asset to the extent that is also equally applicable to market participants. This approach is in light of the highest and best use consideration required for fair value measurement, and takes into account the use of the asset that is physically possible, legally permissible, and financially feasible. As the adjustments are considered as significant unobservable inputs, specialised land is classified as Level 3 assets.

For OPP's specialised building, the current replacement cost method is used, adjusting for the associated depreciation. As depreciation adjustments are considered as significant, unobservable inputs in nature, specialised buildings are classified as Level 3 fair value measurements.

Deferral of formal valuations for the Public Order and Safety Classification of Functions of Government Category

A formal valuation of OPP’s specialised land and building assets by the VGV was scheduled for 2025-26. This formal value was deferred to 2026-27 at the request of the VGV to help manage a disproportionately high workload for the VGV in the financial year 2025-26. Approval was provided by the Department of Treasury and Finance on the basis that each entity impacted by the deferral continues to undertake the annual managerial valuation in the intervening period to ensure that non-financial physical assets continue to be recognised at fair value in compliance with Australian Accounting Standards.

The OPP uses annual indices supplied by the Valuer-General’s Office to determine the movements in its land and building values. Indices are based on post code. As a result of applying these indices if it is determined that a material (greater than 10%) movement in the OPP’s land and building values has occurred, then a managerial re-valuation will be put through to ensure that the land and building values reflects their fair values. As at 30 June 2025, there was no material movement in the fair value of OPP’s specialised land and buildings.

Leasehold improvements

Leasehold improvements are valued using the current replacement cost method. This cost represents the replacement cost of leasehold improvements after applying depreciation rates based on the shorter of the lease term and useful life of the leasehold improvements.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is held at fair value. When plant and equipment is specialised in use, such that it is rarely sold other than as part of a going concern, fair value is determined using the current replacement cost method.

There were no changes in valuation techniques throughout the period to 30 June 2025.

For all assets measured at fair value, the current use is considered the highest and best use.

Vehicles

Vehicles are valued using the current replacement cost method. The OPP acquires new vehicles and at times disposes of them before the end of their economic life. The process of acquisition, use and disposal in the market is managed by experienced fleet managers in the OPP who set relevant depreciation rates during use to reflect the utilisation of the vehicles.

Description of significant unobservable inputs to Level 3 valuations for 2025 and 2024

2025 and 2024 Specialised land	Valuation Technique Market approach	Significant unobservable inputs Community Service Obligation (CSO) adjustment
Specialised building	Current replacement cost	Direct cost per square metre Useful life of specialised building
Leasehold improvements	Current replacement cost	Direct cost per square metre Useful life of leasehold improvements
Plant and equipment	Current replacement cost	Cost per unit Useful life of plant and equipment
Vehicles	Current replacement cost	Cost per unit Useful life of vehicles

8. Other disclosures

Introduction

This section includes additional material disclosures required by accounting standards or otherwise, for the understanding of this financial report.

8.1. Other economic flows included in net result

Other economic flows are changes in the volume or value of an asset or liability that do not result from transactions.

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Other gains/(losses) from other economic flows		
Net gain/(loss) arising from revaluation of long service liability	62	298
Total other gains/(losses) from other economic flows	62	298

8.2. Responsible persons

In accordance with the Ministerial Directions issued by the Minister for Finance under the *Financial Management Act 1994*, the following disclosures are made regarding responsible persons for the reporting period.

Names

The persons who held the positions of Ministers and the Accountable Officer in the OPP are as follows:

Attorney-General	The Hon. Jaclyn Symes, MP The Hon. Sonya Kilkenny, MP	1 July 2024 to 18 December 2024 19 December 2024 to 30 June 2025
Acting Attorney-General	The Hon. Enver Erdogan, MP	1 November 2024 to 5 November 2024
Solicitor for Public Prosecutions	Abbey Hogan	1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

Remuneration

Remuneration received or receivable by the Accountable Officer in connection with the management of the OPP during the reporting period was in the range:

\$530,000 - \$540,000 (\$540,000 - \$550,000 in 2023-24) (a)

Note:

(a) An adjustment was made to the prior period amount to remove the duplication of superannuation expense that was included in this balance.

8.3. Remuneration of executives

The number of executive officers, other than ministers and accountable officers, and their total remuneration during the reporting period are shown in the table below. Total annualised employee equivalents provides a measure of full time equivalent executive officers over the reporting period.

Remuneration comprises employee benefits (as defined in AASB 119 Employee Benefits) in all forms of consideration paid, payable or provided by the entity, or on behalf of the entity, in exchange for services rendered. Accordingly, remuneration is determined on an accrual basis.

Several factors affected total remuneration payable to executives over the year. A number of employment contracts were completed and renegotiated and a number of senior executive service members retired, resigned or were retrenched in the past year.

(\$ thousand)		
Remuneration of executive officers (including Key Management Personnel disclosed in Note 8.5)	Total remuneration	
	2025	2024
Total remuneration (a)	1,606	1,562
Total number of executives	5	6
Total annualised employee equivalents (b)	5	4

Notes:

- (a) The total number of executive officers includes persons who meet the definition of Key Management Personnel (KMP) of the entity under AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures and are also reported within the related parties note disclosure (Note 8.4).
- (b) Annualised employee equivalent is based on the time fraction worked over the reporting period.

8.4. Related parties

The OPP is a wholly owned and controlled entity of the State of Victoria. Related parties of the OPP include:

- all key management personnel and their close family members and personal business interests (controlled entities, joint ventures and entities they have significant influence over);
- all Cabinet Ministers and their close family members; and
- all departments and public sector entities that are controlled and consolidated into the whole of state consolidated financial statements.

All related party transactions have been entered into on an arm's length basis.

Significant transactions with government-related entities

The OPP received funding of \$107.156 million (2024: \$103.160 million) by a grant from the DJCS. (refer to Note 2.1)

During the year, the OPP paid the Department of Government Services (DGS) \$5.470 million for facilities management services which included accommodation management, outgoings and other management costs. An equity transfer to Department of Government Services of \$0.370 million was also processed to recognise the value of leasehold improvements undertaken by the OPP during 2024-25, as these assets are controlled by DGS under the central asset management framework.

Key management personnel of the OPP includes the Attorney-General, the Hon Sonya Kilkeny and members of the OPP Executive, which includes:

- Solicitor for Public Prosecutions, Abbey Hogan
- Executive Director Legal Practice, Justine McLeod
- Executive Director Legal Practice, Paul Fowler
- Executive Director Corporate Services, Sam Jones

Remuneration of key management personnel

The compensation detailed below excludes the salaries and benefits the Portfolio Minister receives. The Minister's remuneration and allowances is set by the *Parliamentary Salaries and Superannuation Act 1968* and is reported within the State's Annual Financial Report.

Compensation of KMPs	2025	2024
Total (a)	1,571	1,704

Note:

(a) KMPs are also reported in the disclosure of remuneration of executive officers (Note 8.3)

Transactions and balances with key management personnel and other related parties

Given the breadth and depth of State government activities, related parties transact with the Victorian public sector in a manner consistent with other members of the public e.g. stamp duty and other government fees and charges. Further employment of processes within the Victorian public sector occur on terms and conditions consistent with the *Public Administration Act 2004* and Codes of Conduct and Standards issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. Procurement processes occur on terms and conditions consistent with the Victorian Government Procurement Board requirements

Outside of normal citizen type transactions with the OPP, there were no related party transactions that involved key management personnel, their close family members and their personal business interests. No provision has been required, nor any expense recognised, for impairment of receivables from related parties.

No provision has been required, nor any expense recognised, for impairment of receivables from related parties.

8.5. Remuneration of auditors

	(\$ thousand)	
	2025	2024
Victorian Auditor-General's Office		
Audit of the financial statements	33	27
Total remuneration of auditors	33	27

8.6. Subsequent events

No events have occurred subsequent to the date of the financial report that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial report.

8.7. Glossary of technical terms

The following is a summary of the major technical terms used in this report.

Amortisation

Amortisation is the expense which results from the consumption, extraction or use over time of a non-produced physical or intangible asset. This expense is classified as an other economic flow.

Borrowings

Borrowings refers to interest-bearing liabilities mainly raised from public borrowings raised through Treasury Corporation of Victoria, finance leases and other interest-bearing arrangements. Borrowings also include non-interest bearing advances from government that are acquired for policy purposes.

Commitments

Commitments include those operating, capital and other outsourcing commitments arising from non-cancellable contractual or statutory sources.

Comprehensive result

The net result of all items of income and expense recognised for the period. It is the aggregate of operating result and other comprehensive income.

Current grants

Amounts payable or receivable for current purposes for which no economic benefits of equal value are receivable or payable in return.

Depreciation

Depreciation is an expense that arises from the consumption through wear or time of a produced physical or intangible asset. This expense is classified as a 'transaction' and so reduces the 'net result from transactions'.

Effective interest method

The effective interest method is used to calculate the amortised cost of a financial asset or liability and of allocating interest income over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial instrument, or, where appropriate, a shorter period.

Employee benefit expenses

Employee benefits expenses include all costs related to employment including wages and salaries, fringe benefits tax, leave entitlements, redundancy payments, defined benefits superannuation plans, and defined contribution superannuation plans.

Finance lease

A lease that transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an underlying asset.

Financial asset

A financial asset is any asset that is:

- (a) cash;
- (b) a contractual right:
 - to receive cash or another financial asset from another entity; or
 - to exchange financial assets or financial liabilities with another entity under conditions that are potentially favourable to the entity.

Financial instrument

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Financial assets or liabilities that are not contractual (such as statutory receivables or payables that arise as a result of statutory requirements imposed by governments) are not financial instruments.

Financial liability

A financial liability is any liability that is:

A contractual obligation:

- i. to deliver cash or another financial asset to another entity; or
- ii. to exchange financial assets or financial liabilities with another entity under conditions that are potentially unfavourable to the entity.

Financial statements

Financial statements comprise:

- (a) balance sheet as at the end of the period;
- (b) comprehensive operating statement for the period;
- (c) a statement of changes in equity for the period;
- (d) cash flow statement for the period;
- (e) notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information;
- (f) comparative information in respect of the preceding period as specified in paragraphs 38 of AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*; and
- (g) a statement of financial position as at the beginning of the preceding period when an entity applies an accounting policy retrospectively or makes a retrospective restatement of items in its financial statements, or when it reclassifies items in its financial statements in accordance with paragraphs 41 of AASB 101.

Grant expenses and other transfers

Transactions in which one unit provides goods, services, assets (or extinguishes a liability) or labour to another unit without receiving approximately equal value in return. Grants can either be operating or capital in nature.

While grants to governments may result in the provision of some goods or services to the transferor, they do not give the transferor a claim to receive directly benefits of approximately equal value. For this reason, grants are referred to by the AASB as involuntary transfers and are termed non-reciprocal transfers. Receipt and sacrifice of approximately equal value may occur, but only by coincidence. For example, governments are not obliged to provide commensurate benefits, in the form of goods or services, to particular taxpayers in return for their taxes.

Grants can be paid as general purpose grants which refer to grants that are not subject to conditions regarding their use. Alternatively, they may be paid as specific purpose grants which are paid for a particular purpose and/or have conditions attached regarding their use.

Interest expense

Costs incurred in connection with the borrowing of funds. It includes interest on advances, loans, overdrafts, bonds and bills, deposits and interest components of lease repayments.

Leases

Are rights conveyed in a contract, or part of a contract, the right to use an asset (the underlying asset) for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

Net result

Net result is a measure of financial performance of the operations for the period. It is the net result of items of income, gains and expenses (including losses) recognised for the period, excluding those that are classified as 'other non-owner movements in equity'.

Net result from transactions/net operating balance

Net result from transactions or net operating balance is a key fiscal aggregate and is income from transactions minus expenses from transactions. It is a summary measure of the ongoing sustainability of operations. It excludes gains and losses resulting from changes in price levels and other changes in the volume of assets. It is the component of the change in net worth that is due to transactions and can be attributed directly to government policies.

Net worth

Assets less liabilities, which is an economic measure of wealth.

Non-financial assets

Non-financial assets are all assets that are not financial assets. It includes inventories, land, buildings, infrastructure, road networks, land under roads, plant and equipment, investment properties, cultural and heritage assets, intangible and biological assets.

Other economic flows included in net result

Other economic flows included in net result are changes in the volume or value of an asset or liability that do not result from transactions. In simple terms, other economic flows are changes arising from market measurements. It includes:

- gains and losses from disposals, revaluations and impairments of non-financial physical and intangible assets; and
- fair value changes of financial instruments.

Other economic flows - other comprehensive income

Other economic flows - other comprehensive income comprises items (including reclassification adjustments) that are not recognised in net result as required or permitted by other Australian Accounting Standards. They include changes in physical asset revaluation surplus.

Payables

Includes short and long-term trade debt and accounts payable, grants, taxes and interest payable.

Produced assets

Produced assets include buildings, plant and equipment, inventories, cultivated assets and certain intangible assets. Intangible produced assets may include computer software, motion picture films, and research and development costs (which does not include the start up costs associated with capital projects).

Receivables

Includes amounts owing from government through appropriation receivable, short and long-term trade credit and accounts receivable, accrued investment income, grants, taxes and interest receivable.

Statutory appointment

The appointment of officers made by the Governor-in-Council. These include the Director of Public Prosecutions, Chief Crown Prosecutor and Crown Prosecutors.

Supplies and services

Supplies and services generally represent the day-to-day running costs, including maintenance costs, incurred in the normal operations of the OPP.

Transactions

Transactions are those economic flows that are considered to arise as a result of policy decisions, usually an interaction between two entities by mutual agreement. They also include flows in an entity such as depreciation where the owner is simultaneously acting as the owner of the depreciating asset and as the consumer of the service provided by the asset. Taxation is regarded as mutually agreed interactions between the government and taxpayers. Transactions can be in kind (e.g. assets provided/given free of charge or for nominal consideration) or where the final consideration is cash. In simple terms, transactions arise from the policy decisions of the government.

8.8. Style conventions

Figures in the table and in the text have been rounded. Discrepancies in the tables between totals and sums of components reflect rounding. Percentage variations in all tables are based on the underlying unrounded amounts.

The notation used in the tables is as follows:

-	zero, or rounded to zero
(xxx.x)	negative numbers
200x	year period
200x-0x	year period

The financial statements and notes are presented based on the illustration for a government department in the *2024-25 Model Report for Victorian Government Departments*. The presentation of other disclosures is generally consistent with the other disclosures made in earlier publications of the OPP's annual reports.

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Appendix 1

Output and performance measures

Budget Paper 3 Measures	2024–25		2023–24		2022–23		2021–22		2020–21	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Judicial Officer sitting days requiring prosecutors	13,000–15,000	13,706	13,000–15,000	16,423	11,500–13,500	15,458	11,000–13,000	15,882	11,000–13,000	12,353
Number of briefs prepared, and hearings attended	86,000–92,000	89,390	82,000–86,000	88,798	74,500–78,500	96,670	74,500–78,500	92,297	72,500–78,500	83,674
Number of victim and witness consultations	34,000–38,000	44,240	50,000–52,000	42,473	46,000–48,000	45,800	34,000–36,000	41,626	12,500–14,500	43,800
Guilty outcomes (guilty pleas and trial convictions) as a percentage of case completions %	89	91.2	89.0	91.4	89.0	87.8	89.0	89.7	89.0	95.3
Proportion of trials listed which did not proceed to adjournment on application of the Crown %	99	98.1	99.0	96.5	99.0	98.0	99.0	98.4	99.0	99.9

These measures are reported by the Office of Public Prosecutions to the Department of Justice and Community Safety as part of the Budget Paper 3 Output and Performance Measures reporting process.

Appendix 2

Legal functions of the DPP report

Conviction and sentence appeals

Appeals against conviction or sentence by a convicted person have a preliminary stage: an application for leave to appeal pursuant to s. 315 of the *Criminal Procedure Act 2009*. These applications must be filed within 28 days or otherwise accompanied by an extension of time application.

Leave applications can be determined by a single judge of the Court of Appeal. Conviction and sentence leave applications may proceed with or without an oral hearing. Where an application is refused by a single judge, the applicant may elect to have the matter heard by the Court (comprising of 2 or more judges).

Sentence leave applications 2024–25

A total of 119 sentence leave applications were determined (including extension of time applications):

- 14 extension of time applications refused
- 48 leave applications were refused
- 42 leave applications were granted
- 10 abandoned
- 5 not determined

Conviction leave applications 2024–25

A total of 71 conviction leave applications were determined (including extension of time applications):

- 5 extension of time applications refused
- 30 leave applications were refused (including second and subsequent applications)
- 33 leave applications were granted
- 3 abandoned

Supreme Court judicial reviews and appeals

Certain types of appeals or reviews of criminal proceedings are conducted in the civil jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in the Judicial Reviews and Appeals List. This includes:

- appeals to the Supreme Court on a question of law pursuant to s. 272 of the *Criminal Procedure Act 2009* (Vic), where the DPP acts on behalf of Victoria Police.
- the Judicial Review procedure Order 56 of the *Supreme Court (General Civil Procedure) Rules 2015* (Vic) provides a means of seeking correction of error in the nature of *certiorari*, *mandamus* or *prohibition*. The DPP uses the Order 56 procedure to review decisions in the Magistrates' Court and the County Court, where the decision infringes jurisdiction and is not amenable to other forms of appeal. This procedure is used to review the orders or actions of a judicial officer usually on the basis of error to jurisdiction, failure to exercise jurisdiction or denial of procedural fairness. The procedure is also used by unsuccessful appellants to review a County Court Appeal pursuant to s. 254 of the *Criminal Procedure Act 2009* (Vic), as this is the only avenue available for further review in respect of such proceedings.

In 2024–25 in relation to these appeals and reviews the DPP:

- received 11 requests from Victoria Police to consider an appeal on a question of law pursuant to s.272(2) of the *Criminal Procedure Act 2009* (Vic) and/or review by Order 56 of the *Supreme Court (General Civil Procedure) Rules 2015*. The DPP filed an appeal and/or review in 2 of these matters, with one still under consideration as of 30 June 2025. One County Court appeal against sentence was initiated by the DPP who declined to initiate appeal or review proceedings in the remaining matters referred.

- acted for a respondent police informant in one appeal on a question of law. The proceeding was dismissed.
- did not appear as appellant in any appeals on a question of law that were finalised.
- acted for defendant police informants and others in 11 Order 56 Judicial Reviews brought by or on behalf of persons or other agencies that were finalised. Nine proceedings were dismissed, one was abandoned and one was remitted.
- appeared as Plaintiff in 2 Order 56 Judicial Reviews. One was refused and one was struck out.

The outcomes of these appeal and review proceedings are subject to appeal. In 2024–25:

- One application for leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal against the outcome of a s.272 appeal was heard. The DPP was the respondent in this matter and the proceeding was allowed.

Discontinuance of prosecutions

- Discontinuance of prosecutions were entered in 159 cases. The DPP decided 15 of these. Some of those cases involved more than one accused and more than one count/charge on the presentment/indictment.

Indemnities from prosecution, undertakings or letters of comfort

- No** indemnities were provided by the DPP.
- No** letters of comfort were provided by the DPP.
- 6** undertakings were provided by the DPP in support of a request being made to extradite an accused.
- One** undertaking was provided by the DPP to a witness.

Consents to prosecute

The DPP, or his delegates, granted:

- One** consent to prosecute under s. 47A of the *Crimes Act 1958* (Vic) (maintaining a sexual relationship/persistently sexually abusing a child under 16)
- 33** consents to prosecute under subclause 4A(12) of schedule 1 to the *Criminal Procedure Act 2009* (Vic) (course of conduct charges)
- One** consent to prosecute under s.321 *Crimes Act 1958* (Vic) (*conspiracy*)
- 2** consents to prosecute under s. 90 of the *Estate Agents Act 1980* (Vic)
- 5** consent to prosecute under s. 7(1)(b) of the *Criminal Procedure Act 2009* (Vic)
- No** consents to prosecute under s. 186 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* (Vic)
- 2** consent to prosecute under s. 132 of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004* (Vic)
- No** consents to prosecute under s. 24(4) of the *Racial and Religious Tolerance Act 2001* (Vic)
- 2** consent to prosecute under s. 50 or 69 of the *Crimes Act 1958* (Vic) (*gross indecency*)
- No** consents to prosecute under the *Judicial Proceedings Act 1958* (Vic)
- No** consents to prosecute under the *Legal Profession Act 1958* (Vic)
- No** consents to prosecute under s. 195A(4) of the *Crimes Act 1958* (Vic)
- No** consents to prosecute under s. 129 of the *Adoption Act 1984* (Vic).

Continued detention and supervision scheme

During the 2024–25 financial year, the DPP:

- finalised one application for review of a detention order which was commenced in the previous financial year.

On 16 September 2022, the DPP filed an application for renewal of the detention order made on 10 December 2020 by the Honourable Justice Tinney with respect to JDD. On 10 March 2023 this application was granted by His Honour and the detention order was renewed for a period of 2 years. On 4 March 2024 the DPP filed notice of an application to review the 2-year detention order with respect to JDD. The review was heard by the Honourable Justice Incerti on 10–14 September and 19–20 September 2024. On 13 November 2024, Her Honour announced her intention to revoke the detention order and replace it with a supervision order. On 4 December 2024, Her Honour imposed a supervision order with respect to JDD, commencing on 23 December 2024 for a period of 7 years.

No new detention order referrals from the Secretary of the Department of Justice and Community Safety were received in the 2024–25 financial year.

As at the time of writing, there are no unconvicted prisoners subject to detention orders in the state of Victoria.

The DPP continues to assume the responsibility for contravention of supervision order proceedings initiated by Victoria Police under s.173(1) of the *Serious Offenders Act 2018* (Vic). During the 2024–25 financial year, the OPP opened 82 contravention of supervision order prosecution files.

Direct presentments/indictments

The DPP directly indicted an accused person on **15** occasions on one or more counts.

Conflicts of Interest

No matters were referred to the Attorney-General pursuant to s.29(1) of the *Public Prosecutions Act 1994* (Vic) as the result of a possible conflict of interest.

Appendix 3

Crown appeals under s. 287 of the *Criminal Procedure Act 2009* (Vic)

In 2024–25, 11 DPP appeals against sentence to the Court of Appeal were finalised. The Court of Appeal allowed 8 appeals. The Court upheld a point of principle in one appeal but exercised the residual discretion not to interfere with the sentence imposed. One appeal was abandoned. The Court dismissed the one remaining appeal.

No	Name	Status of appeal	Date of completion
1	IERARDO, Giacomo	Allowed	16 August 2024
2	TIUMALU, Terrence	Allowed	5 September 2024
3	YJ AUTO REPAIRS PTY LTD	Abandoned	9 September 2024
4	CHRISTIE, Lucas	Allowed	12 September 2024
5	RISTIC, Gary Allan	Dismissed (residual discretion)	29 October 2024
6	TALBOT, William*	Allowed	18 December 2024
7	DISSANAYAKE, Pradeep	Allowed	18 December 2024
8	HANNA, Laith	Dismissed	11 April 2025
9	LH HOLDING MANAGEMENT PTY LTD	Allowed	11 April 2025
10	LAPATIS, Apostolos	Allowed	20 May 2025
11	STAKIC, David	Allowed	20 May 2025

*Denotes name is anonymised

Appendix 4

OPP activity data

Briefs prepared and hearings attended

	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Briefs prepared and hearings attended	72,610	76,075	79,501	80,435	83,046	83,674	92,297	96,670	88,798	89,390

Judge sitting days serviced by OPP staff

	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Supreme Court	1,021	929	976	1,139	921	1,006	1,261	1,353	1,301	1,218
County Court	5,683	5,908	5,867	6,186	6,177	6,607	8,296	8,358	8,045	7,757
Circuit County and Supreme Courts	1,521	1,434	1,405	1,521	1,190	270	2,007	1,535	1,815	1,644
Total	8,225	8,271	8,248	8,846	8,288	7,883	11,564	11,246	11,161	10,619

Magistrates' Court sitting days serviced by OPP staff

	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Magistrates' Court	3,239	3,645	3,979	3,977	3,876	4,470	4,318	4,212	5,262	3,087

Guilty outcomes as a percentage of total case completions

	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Guilty pleas	77.0	78.9	80.4	77.6	79.3	88.7	77.6	72.6	79.5	78.8
Total guilty (pleas and convictions)	89.6	90.1	91.8	91.9	91.6	95.3	89.7	87.8	91.4	91.2

Trial conviction rate

	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Convictions as a percentage of all trial verdicts	58.6	55.6	60.5	65.0	60.5	58.8	55.0	56.1	63.8	65.7

Trials completed

	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Melbourne County Court	264	249	229	299	202	104	202	312	255	248
Melbourne Supreme Court	40	22	20	32	12	11	26	45	24	22
Circuit County and Supreme Courts	100	78	102	122	92	26	147	113	119	110
Total*	404	349	351	453	306	141	375	470	398	380

*The total excludes discontinuances.

Plea hearings conducted

	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Summary Pleas	465	475	523	520	466	586	580	533	502	557
Melbourne County Court	1,511	1,526	1,537	1,624	1,500	1,360	1,600	1,722	1,566	1,317
Melbourne Supreme Court	72	81	52	81	57	51	49	91	81	87
Circuit County and Supreme Courts	457	447	505	567	527	275	351	369	320	286
Total	2,505	2,529	2,617	2,792	2,250	2,272	2,580	2,715	2,469	2,247

Victim and witness referrals

	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Number of referrals	1,090	1,268	1,512	2,111	2,565	2,519	2,004	2,336	2,360	2,561

Appendix 5

Crown Prosecutor activity data

	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Number of Crown Prosecutors (FTE)*	21.5	24.0	25.8	24.6	25.3
Days in court total	1,764	2,239	2,261	2,180	1,814
Days in court per Crown Prosecutor	82	97	88	89	72
Court appearance %	37.9%	45.5%	43.4%	44.6%	37.2%
Presentments / indictments total	2,231	2,798	2,571	2,391	2,530
Presentments / indictments per Crown Prosecutor	104	122	100	97	100
Total plea offer advisings	3,116	3,414	3,312	2,056	2,172
Plea offer advisings per Crown Prosecutor	145	148	129	84	86
Total discontinuance of charges advisings	341	586	647	537	565
Discontinuance of charges advisings per Crown Prosecutor	16	24	25	22	22
General advice total	5,997	7,015	7,345	7,334	6,439
General advice per Crown Prosecutor	280	305	285	298	255
All advice total	9,454	11,015	11,304	9,927	9,176
All advice per Crown Prosecutor	441	479	439	404	363

* Note that for this data set, Crown Prosecutor FTE (full-time equivalent) is calculated across the financial year.

Appendix 6

Freedom of information report

Compliance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*

The OPP is subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the Act).

Particulars of the functions and organisation of the OPP are set out elsewhere in this Annual Report. The OPP’s website (www.opp.vic.gov.au) provides additional information including the OPP’s statement pursuant to Part II of the Act.

Further information can be obtained about the Act, and the various regulations made under that Act by visiting www.ovic.vic.gov.au

Exemption of the Director of Public Prosecutions

The *Freedom of Information Regulations 2019* exempt the DPP from the application of the Act.

Freedom of Information requests during 2024–25

The OPP received 66 requests under the Act from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. 50 requests were finalised in this period with a remaining 2 requests to be finalised within the next reporting period. An outline of the results of these requests is as follows (note that some requests may fall into more than one category):

Requests transferred by other departments	1
Requests transferred to other agencies	6
Requests relating to documents that do not exist or cannot be located	14
Access granted in full	0
Access granted in part	8
Access denied in full	6
Requests received but not finalised in 2024–25	2
Requests withdrawn/not proceeded with/Act does not apply to/outside the Act	16
Requests not processed	0
OVIC reviews	2
OVIC complaints	0
Internal review of original determination	0

Categories of documents held by the OPP

The types of documents the OPP handles include case files, policies and procedures, administrative records and audio-visual material. Documents are organised under the following categories according to the OPP's business classification scheme:

- Audio-Visual Management
- Communications Management
- Contract Establishment
- Facilities Management
- Fleet Management
- Government Relations
- Human Resources Management
- Information Management
- Systems Management
- Learning and Development Management
- Legal Matter Management
- Legal Services Management
- Occupational Health and Safety Management
- Stationery and Supplies Management
- Strategic Management

Access to documents

The *Freedom of Information Act 1982 (Vic)* aims to make the maximum amount of information available to Victorians promptly and inexpensively. To facilitate this aim, requests for access to documents held by the OPP should specify the matter to which their request relates and identify the documents or types of documents requested, to enable the OPP to identify the document/s that fall within the terms of the request.

Requests for access to documents held by the OPP must be submitted in writing to the OPP's Freedom of Information Officer. The request should include a contact telephone number and/or email address to enable the Freedom of Information Officer to contact the applicant to clarify or discuss matters relating to the request.

Upon receipt of a valid request, the OPP will process the request and may refuse to disclose all or part of a document if it contains information that is exempt under the Act. The Act outlines general categories of information that are exempt, including internal working documents, law enforcement documents, privileged documents, documents containing information relating to the personal affairs of a person and documents containing information communicated in confidence.

Where the OPP decides to deny access to all or part of a document, it will inform the applicant of the decision and give reasons in support of the decision in writing. If the applicant wishes to challenge a decision of the OPP, they may apply to the Victorian Information Commissioner for a review of the decision. If the applicant is dissatisfied with the outcome of that review, they may lodge an application for review to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

An applicant may also make a complaint to the Victorian Information Commissioner about the way the request has been handled or if they are informed that the documents requested do not exist or cannot be located.

Charges under the Act

The Act specifies that access to information be provided at the lowest reasonable cost. Current fees and charges are:

- application fee – a request must be accompanied by payment of \$32.70 (effective 1 July 2024)
- search fee – \$24.50 per hour or part thereof (effective 1 July 2024)
- supervision fee – \$24.50 per hour to be calculated per quarter hour or part of a quarter hour, where a document is inspected by an applicant at the OPP (effective 1 July 2024)
- photocopy fee – \$0.20 per A4 page
- deposits – a deposit of \$25 may be requested before the OPP will grant access if the calculated charge does not exceed \$100. If the calculated charge exceeds \$100, a deposit of 50 per cent of the calculated charge may be requested.

The application fee may be waived on financial hardship grounds.

Access charges may also be waived in certain circumstances, for example, where the applicant is impecunious, intends to use the document sought for general public interest or benefit or seeks to access documents relating to their personal affairs.

FOI Timelines

The OPP is required to process a request within 30 days. This timeframe may be unilaterally extended to 45 days where the OPP is required to consult with third parties. The processing timeframe may also be extended by periods of up to 30 days, any number of times, with the agreement of the applicant.

Amendment of personal records

After a document containing information relating to the personal affairs of a person has been released to that person, or in the case of a deceased person, that person's next of kin, the applicant can request the correction of any information held on file where it is considered that this information is inaccurate, incomplete, out of date or gives a misleading impression. In the 2024–25 period, 2 requests to amend a personal record were received by the OPP.

Requests for amendments must be made in writing and must specify:

- an address for service of notices
- particulars of why the applicant believes the information to be incomplete, incorrect, out-of-date or misleading
- the amendments that the applicant wishes to be made.

If the OPP agrees to the request, the record may be either altered or amended by an appropriate notation. If the OPP refuses to make the amendment, it must notify the applicant in writing of the decision and of:

- the findings on any material questions of fact, the material on which those findings were based and the reasons for the decision
- the name and designation of the person making the decision
- the applicant's right to a review of the decision by the Victorian Information Commissioner.

If, on further review to VCAT, the OPP's decision is affirmed, the applicant may, by written notice, insist that a notation be made to the record specifying why the applicant claims the information it contains is incomplete or otherwise inaccurate.

The notation then becomes part of the document and may be disclosed according to the Act.

Nominated officer/ contact officer

Requests for access to documents in the possession of the Office of Public Prosecutions under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* may be directed to:

Freedom of Information Officer

Office of Public Prosecutions
565 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Or via email to: foi@opp.vic.gov.au

Or via an online request and payment/request for fee waiver at: www.ovic.vic.gov.au

Appendix 7

Public interest disclosure report

The OPP is committed to the aims and objectives of the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012* (Vic). It does not tolerate improper conduct by its employees and officers or the taking of reprisals against those who come forward to disclose such conduct.

The OPP recognises the value of transparency and accountability in its administrative and management practices and supports the making of disclosures that reveal corrupt conduct, conduct involving a substantial mismanagement of public resources or conduct involving a substantial risk to public health and safety or the environment.

The OPP will take all necessary steps to protect people who make such disclosures from any detrimental action in reprisal for making the disclosure.

Reporting procedures

Disclosures of improper conduct or detrimental action by the OPP or its employees and officers, the Solicitor for Public Prosecutions or a Crown Prosecutor may be made directly to the Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission (IBAC) or the Victorian Inspectorate or the Victorian Ombudsman. Disclosures of improper conduct or detrimental action by the DPP or the Chief Crown Prosecutor must be made directly to the IBAC.

IBAC

Level 1, North Tower, 459 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
Tel: (03) 1300 735 135
Website: [ibac.vic.gov.au](https://www.ibac.vic.gov.au)

Further information

Further information about public interest disclosure reporting procedures are available on the OPP's website:

[opp.vic.gov.au/annualreports-policies-registers](https://www.opp.vic.gov.au/annualreports-policies-registers)

Appendix 8

The OPP workforce

OPP staff are employed by the Solicitor for Public Prosecutions, who has the functions of a public service body head under the *Public Administration Act 2004* (Vic) (the Act).

June 2024							
All Employees			Ongoing Employees			Fixed term / Casual	
Gender							
	Number HC	FTE	Full Time HC	Part Time HC	FTE	Number HC	FTE
Male/Man	114	112.2	81	6	85.2	27	27
Female/Woman	342	323.73	197	58	239.69	87	84.04
Self Described	1	1	1	0	1	0	0
Total	457	436.9	279	64	325.9	114	111
Age							
15–24	29	27.25	7	2	8.4	20	18.85
25–34	201	193.98	121	18	133.59	62	60.39
35–44	130	121.1	79	34	104.1	17	17
45–54	61	59.8	44	6	48.8	11	11
55–64	32	30.8	24	4	27	4	3.8
65+	4	4	4	0	4	0	0
Total	457	436.9	279	64	325.9	114	111
Classification							
VPS 1							
VPS 2	68	63.53	22	7	26.99	39	36.54
VPS 3	102	100.7	56	3	58	43	42.7
VPS 4	91	86.8	63	14	72.8	14	14
VPS 5	74	69.6	53	16	64.6	5	5
VPS 6	114	108.3	83	24	101.5	7	6.8
VPS 7							
STS	2	2	2	0	2	0	0
PS							
SMA							
SRA							
Executives	6	6	0	0	0	6	6
Other	25	24.4				25	24.4
Total	482	461.3	279	64	325.9	139	135.4

June 2025							
All Employees			Ongoing Employees			Fixed term / Casual	
Gender							
	Number HC	FTE	Full Time HC	Part Time HC	FTE	Number HC	FTE
Male/Man	127	123.73	93	6	97.4	28	26.33
Female/Woman	353	336.27	219	56	260.7	78	75.57
Self Described	1	1	1	0	1	0	0
Total	481	461	313	62	359.1	106	101.9
Age							
15-24	38	35.12	10	3	11.8	25	23.32
25-34	213	206.28	139	17	151.7	57	54.58
35-44	122	113.4	78	34	103.4	10	10
45-54	69	68.2	52	4	55.2	13	13
55-64	33	32	28	4	31	1	1
65+	6	6	6	0	6	0	0
Total	481	461	313	62	359.1	106	101.9
Classification							
VPS 1	14	14	1	0	1	13	13
VPS 2	73	67.1	37	6	41.2	30	25.9
VPS 3	86	84.5	49	5	52.5	32	32
VPS 4	103	100.2	75	12	84.2	16	16
VPS 5	82	77	60	18	73	4	4
VPS 6	114	109.2	88	21	104.2	5	5
VPS 7							
STS	3	3	3	0	3	0	0
PS							
SMA							
SRA							
Executives	6	6	0	0	0	6	6
Other	26	25.4					
Total	507	486.4	313	62	359.1	106	101.9

Employment and conduct principles

The Act describes public sector values (s. 7) and employment principles (s. 8). The Office is committed to applying the principle of merit when appointing staff. Selection processes ensure that applicants are assessed and evaluated fairly and equitably on the basis of key selection criteria and other accountabilities without discrimination. This commitment is reflected in our values, particularly those of respecting others, acting fairly and with integrity. All of our people management systems and procedures have been designed to ensure that these standards are consistently met.

The Code of Conduct for Victorian Public Sector Employees is provided to all new employees and is available on the OPP intranet. Our formal induction program highlights the importance of the Code and the values expected of our staff.

The broad framework to guide staff management decisions, and staff to access to entitlements such as flexible working arrangements and carers leave is the Victorian Public Service Enterprise Agreement 2024 (Agreement). The Victorian Public Sector Common Policies, and internal OPP policies guide staff in the interpretation and application of the Agreement.

Appendix 9

Social Procurement Framework

The Social Procurement Framework (SPF) governs how the Victorian Government undertakes social procurement. The framework applies to the procurement of all goods, services and construction undertaken by, or on behalf of, entities subject to the Standing Directions 2018 under the *Financial Management Act 1994* (Vic).

Given the specialised nature of services delivered by the Office of Public Prosecutions (OPP), there is limited scope or capacity to use social traders or enterprises to deliver goods or services required for the effective delivery of prosecution services. Further, the OPP predominantly uses whole of government contracts to deliver a number of its administrative goods and services.

Through its SPF, the OPP is however committed to procuring goods or services directly from social enterprises where these opportunities arise or through supply chains involved in the overall provision of goods or services.

During 2024–25, the OPP engaged 4 social benefit suppliers with a total spend of \$4,740 with certified social enterprises, Aboriginal businesses and disability enterprises. This included:

- \$4,585 spent on 3 aboriginal businesses
- \$155 spent on 1 Australian disability enterprise

These outcomes align with the OPP's prioritisation of the following SPF objectives:

- Opportunities for Victorian Aboriginal people
- Opportunities for Victorians with disability
- Sustainable Victorian social enterprises and Aboriginal business sectors.

Appendix 10

Occupational health, safety and wellbeing

During the course of 2024–25, the focus for OPP occupational health, safety and wellbeing included:

- Prioritising our people’s wellbeing through a commitment to provide holistic supports, initiatives and resources through the OPP’s Wellbeing Program
- Providing ongoing support and assistance to our people with the management of injuries and illnesses
- Identifying risks and hazards, and promoting the importance of reporting these through the incident reporting system
- An overarching commitment to a safe, respectful, and healthy workplace for all OPP people in different settings including the main office, at courts and when working remotely.

The OPP OHS Committee continued to play a major consultative role with regards to health and safety issues at the workplace. The Committee represents all OPP employees and comprises of co-Executive Chairs, Sam Jones and Paul Fowler, management representatives and elected employee health and safety representatives from all areas of the OPP including the legal practice and corporate services.

As required by the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (Vic)*, the Committee has been established by the OPP (as the employer), in consultation with employees and works co-operatively to:

- Identify and collaborate on health and safety issues
- Review and develop policies and procedures that improve health and safety outcomes across the OPP.

The OPP OHS Committee met on a quarterly basis throughout the reporting year and conducted workplace inspections and reviewed and actioned findings.

The OPP Wellbeing Committee was first formed at the beginning of 2023 and continued throughout the reporting year with representatives from across the OPP. The Committee is chaired at the Executive level by Ari Cassarchis with the intention to ensure OPP people have direct involvement in the delivery of the OPP’s Wellbeing Strategy, as well as a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the Wellbeing Program.

The Wellbeing Manager continued to deliver against the Wellbeing Strategy by:

- Implementing frameworks and systems that effectively manage the unique risks inherent in the work that OPP people undertake
- Creating and developing resources, programs and training with an early intervention, education and risk minimisation focus
- Providing advice, coaching and practical guidance to all levels of the organisation on how to proactively manage psychosocial risks and promote wellbeing
- Ensuring that the OPP meets and aligns with legislative requirements, standards and best practice approaches
- Connecting with other Wellbeing Professionals across the justice system, including representing the OPP on the Legal Services Board’s Wellbeing Community of Practice.

The proposed OHS amendments to psychological health regulations and obligations are considered a priority focus for the 2025–26 reporting year, and preparatory work has been undertaken.

Throughout 2024–25, the OPP delivered a range of safety and wellbeing activities to proactively improve and enhance the physical and mental wellbeing of all OPP people, including:

- The expansion of a successful pilot program for proactive wellbeing management for all legal practice staff
- Ongoing services provided by workplace psychology experts who support high-risk work groups
- A bi-monthly on-site psychologist available for Corporate Service team members
- Delivery of training in areas such as vicarious trauma, resilience, and wellbeing conversations for people leaders
- First Aid services including the ongoing maintenance of first aid kits and defibrillators and regular training for dedicated first aid officers
- Onsite flu vaccinations
- Bring Your Dog to Work day
- Ergonomic assessments of workspaces by an occupational therapist and provision of specialist equipment
- Ongoing improvements and additions to the wellbeing resource library on the OPP's intranet
- Training over 100 of our people to be accredited Mental Health First Aiders.

The OPP continued to offer employees the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) which includes a free, short-term confidential counselling service offered to employees and their immediate family via the OPP's EAP provider.

The OPP Wellbeing rooms continue to be used as a safe and peaceful space for people to use individually when they are seeking respite from work, enhancing wellbeing, contacting a counsellor / EAP provider, or praying. These rooms are designed to be a short term, safe haven which provide comfort and privacy.

The OPP P&C team partners with the DJCS/ Allianz Return to Work network, which is committed to reviewing and enhancing performance in Workcover management and return to work programs.

In October 2024, a new streamlined incident reporting process saw an increase in the number of incidents (both physical and psychological) reported, and improved mechanisms for follow up and action in relation to the incident reported.

The OPP’s performance against OH&S management measures

Measure	KPI	2024–25	2023–24	2022–23	2021–22	2020–21	2019–20	2018–19
Incidents	No. of incidents	34	29	12	10	1	9	5
	Rate per 100 FTE	7.38	6.64	2.53	2.26		2.25	1.32
	No. of incidents requiring first aid and/or further medical treatment	22	4	3	4	0	4	5
Workcover*	No. of standard claims	2	1	0	1	0	0	1
	Rate per 100 FTE	0.43	0.23	0	0.22	0	0	0.28
	No. of lost time claims	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
	Rate per 100 FTE	0.21	0.23	0	0.22	0	0	0
	No. of claims exceeding 13 weeks	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Rate per 100 FTE	0.21	0.23	0	0	0	0	0
Fatalities	Fatality claims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Claim costs	Average cost per standard claim (includes amount paid an estimate)	\$396,460	\$305,266	0	\$203,927	0	0	\$4,615
Return to work	Percentage of claims with RTW plan <30 days	0	100%	100%	100%	n/a	0%	100%
Consultation and participation	Evidence of agreed structure of designated workgroups (DWGs), health and safety representatives (HSRs), and issue resolution procedures (IRPs).	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete
	Compliance with agreed structure on DWGs, HSRs, and IRPs.	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete
	Number of quarterly committee meetings	4	4	4	4	3	4	4
Risk management	Percentage of internal audits/ inspections conducted as planned	100%	100%	75%	75%	25%	90%	97.56%
	No. of Improvement Notices issued across the OPP by WorkSafe Inspector	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Training	Percentage of new staff that have received OH&S induction training	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Acceptance of role	100%	100%	100%	73%	100%	100%	100%
	Re-training (refresher)	75%	100%	100%	87%	0%#	67%	70%

Appendix 11

Environmental report

Commitment to sustainable practices

The Office of Public Prosecutions is committed to environmental sustainability in its operations. Sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions reduction form core parts of the organisation's corporate strategy [FRD 24.4.1]. The OPP supports the Victorian public sector in adopting new technology that lowers emissions and increases environmental sustainability.

The OPP reduces the environmental impact of its operations by implementing initiatives that have an environmental payback. Actions which have been undertaken by the OPP during the last financial year include:

- working with the Department of Treasury and Finance as landlord, the 565 Lonsdale Street Melbourne building plant and equipment has been continually upgraded with more efficient technology
- reducing greenhouse gas emissions resulting from OPP's operational activities
- reducing the amount of waste and maximising the amount of reused and recycled resources in procurement
- ensuring new capital works incorporate environmentally sustainable principles in design, construction, and operation
- encouraging staff to reduce environmental impacts through behaviour change
- waste management strategies to allow the separation of waste into several streams
- donating redundant furniture to charities and sporting organisations to avoid landfill

Environmental report for 2024–25

Environmental reporting pertaining to energy and waste is based on data from the Melbourne CBD OPP office located at 565 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne where 95 per cent of office-based staff members are located. 565 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne is a government owned building and does not have a NABERS rating.

Reporting elements relating to paper and transport cover all OPP office locations and staff. This information has been prepared in accordance with the *Financial Reporting Directions* issued by the Minister for Finance (FRD 24). Building data was provided by Jones Lang LaSalle on behalf of the Department of Treasury and Finance, the owner of 565 Lonsdale Street.

Energy

Indicator	2024–25				2023–24			
	Electricity	Natural Gas	Green Power	Total	Electricity	Natural Gas	Green Power	Total
Total energy usage segmented by primary source (MJ)	3,763,119	1,932,623	0	5,695,742	3,742,239	1,955,453	0	5,697,692
Greenhouse gas emissions associated with energy use (t CO2-e)	680	97	0	777	676	98	0	774
Percentage of electricity purchased as Green Power	0				0			
Units of energy used per FTE (MJ/FTE)	8,163				9,083			
Units of energy used per unit of office area (MJ/m2)	458				455			

Notes on energy data:

- Energy data was provided by Jones Lang LaSalle, on behalf of Department of Treasury and Finance.
- Department of Treasury and Finance as landlord does not purchase green power for 565 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne.

Waste

The waste generated by processes within the OPP is divided into 3 general classes – landfill, compost, and recycling.

Indicator	2024–25				2023–24			
	Landfill	Recycled	Compost	Total	Landfill	Recycled	Compost	Total
Total units of waste disposed of by destination (kg/year)	9,654	3,747	383	13,784	11,044	1,383	1,644	14,071
Units of waste disposed of per FTE by destinations (kg/FTE)	21	8	0.8	31	25	3	4	31
Recycling rate (per cent of total waste)	27				10			
Greenhouse gas emissions associated with waste disposal (t CO ₂ -e)	12				15			

Notes on waste data:

- OPP waste disposal data was provided by Jones Lang LaSalle, on behalf of Department of Treasury and Finance.

Actions taken to reduce waste consumption:

- To minimise waste going to landfill, redundant office equipment and furniture was offered to various charity organisations.

Paper

Indicator	2024–25	2023–24
Total units of copy paper used (reams)	3,556	3,770
Units of copy paper used per FTE (reams/FTE)	7.7	8
Percentage of 75–100% recycled content copy paper purchased (%)	98	100
Percentage of 50–75% recycled content copy paper purchased (%)	0	0
Percentage of 0–50% recycled content copy paper purchased (%)	2	0

Notes on paper consumption:

- The paper consumption data was provided by Corporate Office Solutions.

Actions taken to reduce paper consumption:

- The implementation of the OPP Paperless Project has delivered reductions to paper usage across the organisation.
- While the range of paper used by the OPP is mandated by the Victorian Government Purchasing Board under the Whole of Victorian Government stationery panel arrangement, for general office usage the OPP has selected a standard white A4 paper with a high recycled content and continues to ensure that where possible all paper purchased is made in Australia to minimise the environmental impact of importation.
- Default printing is double sided.

Water

Indicator	2024–25	2023–24
Total units of metered water consumed (kilolitres)	1,807	1,930
Units of metered water consumed in offices per FTE (kilolitres/FTE)	3.9	4.1
Units of metered water consumed in offices per unit of office area (kilolitres/m ²)	0.21	0.23

Notes on water consumption data:

- Data was provided by Jones Lang LaSalle on behalf of the Department of Treasury and Finance, the owner of 565 Lonsdale Street.

Transport

The department's fleet comprises 28 vehicles, 60 per cent of which are operational vehicles, and the remainder executive fleet.

Of the operational vehicles 75 per cent are 4-cylinder petrol fuelled, and 25 per cent are hybrid fuelled.

Of the executive fleet, 40 per cent are 4-cylinder petrol fuelled, 40 per cent are hybrid, 10 per cent are diesel fuelled and 10 per cent electric vehicle.

	2024–25			2023–24		
	4 cyl	6 cyl	Total	4 cyl	6 cyl	Total
Operational Vehicles	4 cyl	6 cyl	Total	4 cyl	6 cyl	Total
Total energy consumption by vehicles (MJ)	603,671	0	603,671	907,632	0	907,632
Total vehicle travel associated with entity operations (km)	226,126	0	226,126	338,862	0	338,862
Total greenhouse gas emissions from vehicle fleet (t CO ₂ -e)	33	0	33	53	0	53
Greenhouse gas emissions from vehicle fleet per 1,000km travelled (t CO ₂ -e)	0.15	0	0.15	0.18	0	0.18

Indicator	2024–25		2023–24	
	Total greenhouse gas emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	Total greenhouse gas emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	Total greenhouse gas emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	Total greenhouse gas emissions (t CO ₂ -e)
Total travelled by aeroplane	92		90	

Indicator	2024–25	2023–24
Percentage of CBD employees regularly (>75 per cent of work attendance days) using public transport, cycling, walking, or carpooling to and from work or working from home	N/A*	N/A

Notes on transportation data:

- Vehicle fuel data was supplied by the Department of Treasury and Finance's VicFleet unit.
- Air travel includes the movement of witnesses for trial preparation or giving evidence at court as such, distance of travel can vary significantly.
- *Staff transport survey was not conducted.

Actions taken to reduce vehicle emissions:

- Ongoing program of replacing vehicles with more fuel-efficient models.
- The modern 'end of trip' facilities have encouraged more staff to walk, run or cycle to work.
- Public transport tickets are purchased for staff travel to and from external meetings and between the Melbourne and Geelong offices.

Appendix 12

Supplementary information

Audit committee membership and roles

The Audit committee consists of the following members:

- H Burjorjee, Chairperson (independent member)
- P White (independent member)
- S Jones, Executive Director, Corporate Services

The main responsibilities of the audit committee are to:

- review and report independently to the Solicitor on the annual report and all other financial information published by the OPP;
- assist the Solicitor in reviewing the effectiveness of the OPP's internal control environment covering
 - effectiveness and efficiency of operations;
 - reliability of financial reporting; and
 - compliance with applicable laws and regulations
- determine the scope of the internal audit function and ensure its resources are adequate and used effectively, including coordination with the external auditors;
- maintain effective communication with the external auditors;
- consider recommendations made by internal and external auditors and review the implementation of actions to resolve issues raised; and
- oversee the effective operation of the risk management framework.

Consultancies

Details of consultancies valued at \$10K or over

In 2024–25, there were 3 consultancies where the total fees payable to the consultants were \$10,000 or greater. The total expenditure incurred during 2024–25 in relation to these consultancies is \$0.478 million (excluding GST).

Details of individual consultancies are outlined below:

Consultant	Purpose	Start Date	End Date	Total approved project fee (\$ ex GST)	Expenditure 24/25 (\$ ex GST)	Future expenditure (\$ ex GST)
Front Foot Law	Legal Practice Process Review	01-Jul-24	16-Dec-24	\$280,000.00	\$279,933.17	-
Lucid Business Solutions Pty Ltd	Development of Workload Model	05-Jul-24	30-Dec-25	\$315,660.00	\$173,760.00	\$141,900.00
Tesserent Cyber Services Pty Ltd	Cyber Incident Response Plan and Simulation	14-Mar-25	13-Apr-25	\$25,200.00	\$25,200.00	-

Details of consultancies under \$10,000

In 2024–25, there was 1 consultancy where the total fees payable to the individual consultant was less than \$10,000. The total expenditure incurred during 2024–25 in relation to this consultant was \$6,767 (ex GST).

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) expenditure

For the 2024–25 reporting period, the Office had a total ICT expenditure of \$11,678,656 with the details shown below.

(\$ thousand)			
All operational ICT expenditure	ICT expenditure related to projects to create or enhance ICT capabilities		
Business as Usual (BAU) ICT expenditure	Non-Business As Usual (Non-BAU) ICT expenditure	Operational Expenditure	Capital Expenditure
Total	Total Operational expenditure and Capital expenditure		
\$9,416	\$2,262	\$438	\$1,824

Appendix 13

Statement of availability of other information

In compliance with the requirements of the Standing Directions 2018 under the *Financial Management Act 1994*, details in respect of the items listed below have been retained by the Department and are available on request, subject to the provisions of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*. However, in adopting best practice disclosure policies and to ensure that the OPP discharges its accountability obligations, where relevant, details about some of the following items have been disclosed within this Report of Operations:

- A statement that declarations of pecuniary interests have been duly completed by all relevant officers of the OPP.
- Details of shares held by a senior officer as nominee or held beneficially in a statutory authority or subsidiary.
- Details of publications produced by the OPP about itself, and how these can be obtained.
- Details of changes in prices, fees, charges, rates and levies charged by the OPP.
- Details of any major external reviews carried out on the OPP.
- Details of major research and development activities undertaken by the OPP.
- Details of overseas visits undertaken including a summary of the objectives and outcomes of each visit.
- Details of major promotional, public relations and marketing activities undertaken by the OPP to develop community awareness of the office and its services.
- Details of assessments and measures undertaken to improve the occupational health and safety of employees.
- A general statement on industrial relations within the OPP and details of time lost through industrial accidents and disputes.
- A list of major committees sponsored by the OPP, the purposes of each committee and the extent to which the purposes have been achieved.
- Details of all consultancies and contractors including:
 - consultants/contractors engaged
 - services provided
 - expenditure committed to for each engagement.

This information is available from:

OPP Communications

Office of Public Prosecutions
565 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
Email: opp_communications@opp.vic.gov.au

Appendix 14

Audit of decision making and consultation with victims

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (2017) recommended that state and territory Directors of Public Prosecution establish internal audit processes to audit compliance with policies for decision making and consultation with victims and informants. The OPP also has obligations towards victims pursuant to the *Victims' Charter Act 2006*. The OPP developed a framework for the conduct of an internal audit of matters worked on during financial year 2024–25.

Results show:

- Compliance with organisational policies on decision making was 98.4 per cent
- Compliance with victim consultation was 85.2 per cent.

The audit results will be utilised to inform internal training, communication and systems to improve performance.

Appendix 15

Attestation

Attestation for financial management compliance with Standing Direction 5.1.4

I, Abbey Hogan, certify that the OPP has no Material Compliance Deficiency with respect to the applicable Standing Directions under the Financial Management Act 1994 and Instructions.



Abbey Hogan
Solicitor for Public Prosecutions
Office of Public Prosecutions

Appendix 16

Disclosure index

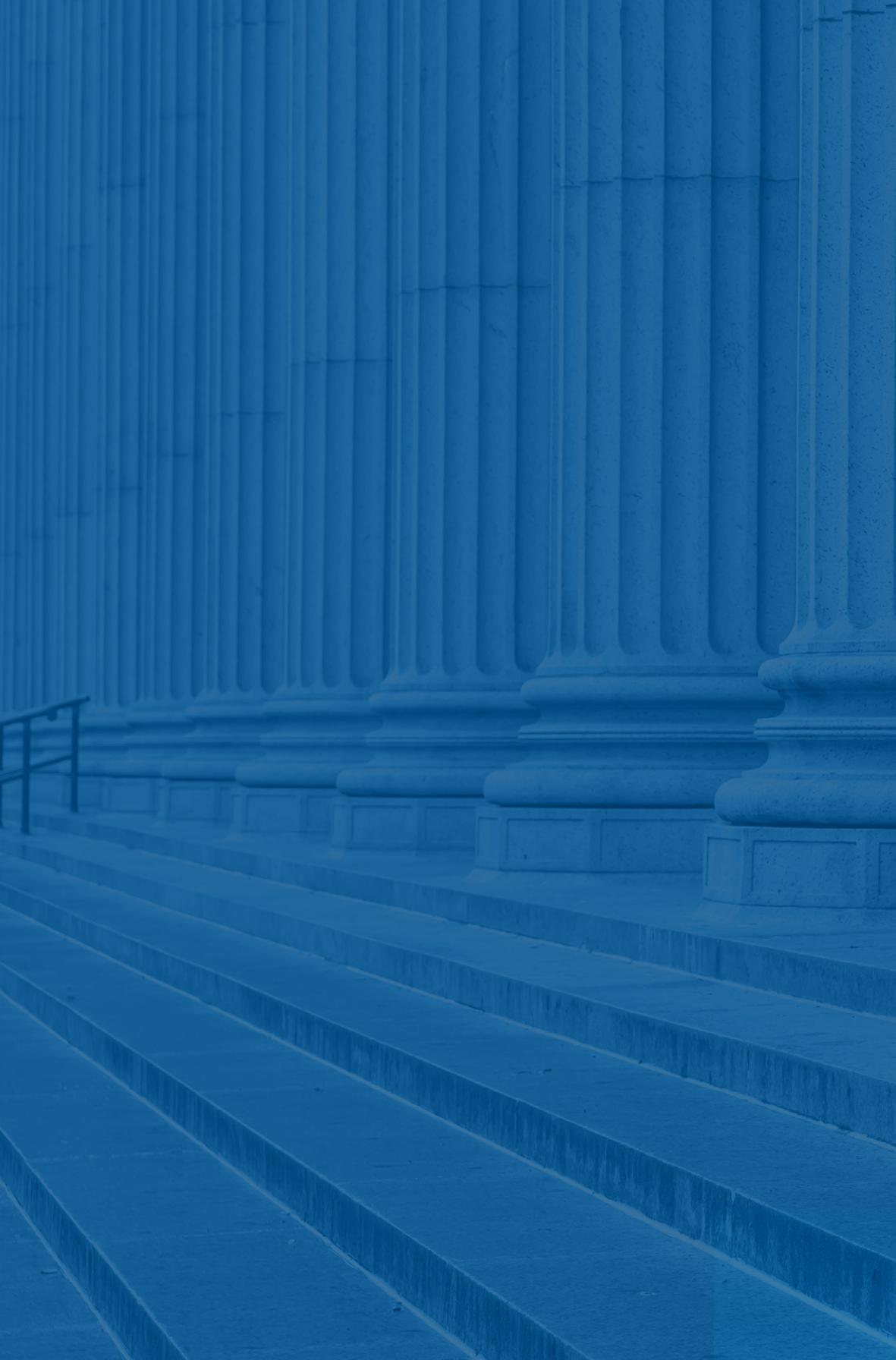
The annual report of the Office of Public Prosecutions (OPP) is prepared in accordance with all relevant Victorian legislations and pronouncements. This index has been prepared to facilitate identification of the OPP's compliance with statutory disclosure requirements.

Legislation	Requirement	Page reference
Standing Directions and Financial Reporting Directions		
Report of operations		
Charter and purpose		
FRD 22	Manner of establishment and the relevant Ministers	81
FRD 22	Purpose, functions, powers and duties	5
FRD 8	Office objectives, indicators and outputs	88
FRD 22	Key initiatives and projects	8–9 24–32 37–41
FRD 22	Nature and range of services provided	24–32
Management and structure		
FRD 22	Organisational structure	12
Financial and other information		
FRD 8	Performance against output performance measures	94
FRD 8	Budget portfolio outcomes	46–47
FRD 10	Disclosure index	116–117
FRD 15	Executive disclosures	82
FRD 22	Employment and conduct principles	102
FRD 22	Occupational health and safety policy	104–106
FRD 22	Summary of the financial results for the year	46–47
FRD 22	Significant changes in financial position during the year	46–47
FRD 22	Major changes or factors affecting performance	46–47
FRD 22	Subsequent events	83
FRD 22	<i>Application and operation of Freedom of Information Act 1982 (Vic)</i>	96–98
FRD 22	Application and operation of the <i>Public Interest Disclosure Act 2012 (Vic)</i>	99
FRD 22	Application and operation of the <i>Carers Recognition Act 2012 (Vic)</i>	102
FRD 22	Details of consultancies over \$10 000	112
FRD 22	Details of consultancies under \$10 000	112
FRD 22	Disclosure of ICT expenditure	112
FRD 22	Statement of availability of other information	113
FRD 22	Disclosure of social procurement activities under the Social Procurement Framework	103
FRD 24	Reporting of environmental data	107–110
FRD 29	Workforce Data disclosures	100–101
SD 5.2	Specific requirements under Standing Direction 5.2	1–117
Compliance attestation and declaration		
SD 5.4.1	Attestation for compliance with Ministerial Standing Direction	115
SD 5.2.3	Declaration in report of operations	2

Legislation	Requirement	Page reference
Financial statements		
Declaration		
SD 5.2.2	Declaration in financial statements	50
Standing Directions and Financial Reporting Directions		
Other requirements under Standing Directions 5.2		
SD 5.2.1(a)	Compliance with Australian accounting standards and other authoritative pronouncements	57
SD 5.2.1(a)	Compliance with Standing Directions	116–117
SD 5.2.1(b)	Compliance with Model Financial Report	48–86
Other disclosures as required by FRDs in notes to the financial statements ^{(a)(b)}		
FRD 21	Disclosures of Responsible Persons, Executive Officers and other Personnel (Contractors with Significant Management Responsibilities) in the Financial Report	81–83
FRD 103	NonFinancial Physical Assets	68–69
FRD 110	Cash Flow Statements	73
FRD 112	Defined Benefit Superannuation Obligations	59
FRD 114	Financial Instruments – general government entities and public non-financial corporations	75–80
Legislation		
<i>Freedom of Information Act 1982 (Vic) (FOI Act)</i>		
<i>Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012 (Vic)</i>		
<i>Carers Recognition Act 2012 (Vic)</i>		
<i>Financial Management Act 1994 (Vic) ^(b)</i>		

Notes:

- (a) References to FRDs have been removed from the Disclosure Index if the specific FRDs do not contain requirements that are in the nature of disclosure.



Office of Public
Prosecutions
Victoria