

Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority FACT SHEET

An independent statutory authority, the *Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority* will be established with a skill-based board and independent chair, to manage the coastal Crown land and marine waters along the Great Ocean Road.



- Over time the new Authority will assume responsibility for management of all public land along the length of the Great Ocean Road. Currently there are 11 different managers of Crown land operating in different geographical locations with different responsibilities, stakeholders, priorities and time frames.
- The Authority will also play a lead role in managing visitation and government investment in the region.
- An implementation and transition plan will be developed over the next few months to ensure the transition from current land management arrangements to the Authority will be as seamless as possible. This transition plan will be complete by late 2019.
- The new Authority will work closely with Parks Victoria who retain responsibility for broad-acre parks management in National Parks.
- This will not alter the underlying management tenure and conservation objectives of any national parks areas for which the new Authority assumes responsibility.
- Police, ambulance and fire will continue to operate independently.

Action #4

A GREAT OCEAN ROAD COAST AND PARKS AUTHORITY

Timing: It is envisaged the Authority will commence operations in mid to late 2020

- The new Authority is not directly responsible for emergency management. It will however, work with emergency services to support any required response to emergency situations. It will also support local communities and volunteer organisations that provide emergency services.
- The Authority will have some responsibilities for managing emergency services on public land it manages, such as professional lifeguard services and fire risk-reduction and preparedness activities.
- The new Authority will have community and environment advisory committees appointed at a later date.
- Traditional Owners will be part of the board of the new Authority. This will ensure Traditional Owners are involved in decision making.
- Some funding for the new Authority will come from revenue from the existing entities (such as caravan park management), however other aspects of the funding model are still being considered.
- Until the new Authority is in place, there will be no change to the responsibilities of the bodies managing public land along the Great Ocean Road.
- The lead minister for the Great Ocean Road Coasts and Parks Authority is the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, the Honorable Lily D'Ambrosio MP.
- As a state road, the quality of the Great Ocean Road will continue to be the responsibility of Regional Roads Victoria. Many of the connecting roads are non-state roads and will remain the responsibility of local councils.
- The new Authority will work with VicRoads and local councils to ensure sufficient investment in the upgrade or maintenance of roads and due consideration to visitor needs and facilities, such as parking and pull-off lanes.

Work is currently underway to prepare the legislation that will protect the Great Ocean Road and its environment and create a new body, the ***Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority***



Great Ocean Road Action Plan

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