

**Minister for Environment**  
**Parks Victoria**  
**Statement of Expectations – June 2025**

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I am pleased to provide you with my expectations for the Board and staff of Parks Victoria to guide strong governance and performance management, and to support a culture of continuous improvement through improved transparency and accountability.

The Board must provide strategic oversight and direction of Parks Victoria, managing key strategic risks to the organisation implementing its core functions, meeting its legal obligations and delivering government priorities. As a Board, I also want you to provide strategic advice, guidance and support to the Chief Executive Officer, as he drives the operational transformation and performance improvement of Parks Victoria.

**Legislative and Strategic Context**

While this Statement of Expectations (SoE) is not issued through a specific legislative provision, it should be read in the context of the objectives, obligations and functions outlined in the *Parks Victoria Act 2018*. This statement should also be read in the context of any other legislative and non-legislative obligations on Parks Victoria, as well as the outcomes of any reviews, audits and assessment undertaken of the organisation and its performance.

**Emerging risks and priorities**

My expectations for Parks Victoria are as follows:

*Enabling Victorians to enjoy the outdoors*

It is my expectation that Parks Victoria will focus on ensuring that our parks and reserves are open, safe and accessible to Victorians. This necessarily requires Parks Victoria to understand the condition of the assets that it manages on behalf of the State and prioritise investment in maintaining these assets to the required standard.

If, and when, assets are required to be closed for safety or any other reason, Parks Victoria should communicate with the community about the reason for the closure and the anticipated timing for reopening.

I also expect that Parks Victoria will undertake all necessary actions to see the significant capital investment program that it manages is delivered, and the community benefits from these investments are realised. Should investment choice need to be made, this should be done in accordance with Victorian Government priorities.

In doing so, Parks Victoria will appropriately manage the natural and cultural values that our parks and reserves as designed to protect for current and future generations.

*Embedding community engagement*

It is my expectation that Parks Victoria will build extensive and effective approaches for community engagement, including that it seeks to understand community aspirations for the management of Victoria's parks and reserves, and is transparent with the community about how these aspirations inform and have been considered in the decisions that it makes.

Parks Victoria should demonstrate that it is working with diverse organisations and communities to deliver good environmental, social and economic outcomes for all Victorians.

### Caring for Country and Traditional Owner Self Determination

The Government has a commitment to Aboriginal Self-Determination, Treaty and Truth and Victoria's Traditional Owners have caring for Country responsibilities and commitments.

It is my expectation that Parks Victoria will work to achieve long-term sustainable collaborations with Traditional Owners, fulfil its obligations under formal agreements, and co-design initiatives for environmental management and decision making for cultural, spiritual and economic purposes.

### Organisational improvement

I expect Parks Victoria to strengthen its organisational performance, prioritising the development of leadership and management capability, an inclusive culture and ensuring the safety and wellbeing of its staff.

It is my expectation that Parks Victoria will demonstrate good risk management and apply contemporary business strategies and operations that ensure compliance with all requirements, including that the organisation is financially sustainable. I also anticipate that Parks Victoria will continue to develop appropriate frameworks, systems and improvements to achieve its outcomes efficiently and effectively, as well as instil and demonstrate continuous improvement in delivering services to the community.

It is also my expectation that Parks Victoria will prioritise investment in park rangers.

### Working collaboratively

I expect Parks Victoria to work collaboratively with other entities in the environment and tourism portfolios, including the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority, Visit Victoria and regional tourism boards, the Victorian Fisheries Authority, the Game Management Authority and across the Victorian Government more generally, to support the efficient and effective delivery of legislative requirements and Victorian Government priorities.

Finally, I request Parks Victoria to incorporate these expectations into its annual delivery plans and include milestones for when Parks Victoria will meet these expectations. These plans should also include appropriate milestones to review the content of this letter and to advise me when it needs to be updated or renewed.

This Statement of Expectations is intended to guide Parks Victoria's operations and strategic direction. It may be reviewed or updated to reflect emerging priorities or changes in government policy. This Statement of Expectations will remain in effect until it is amended or revoked.



**Steve Dimopoulos MP**  
**Minister for Environment**

Dated: 03 / 08 / 2025