

Compliance and Enforcement Review implementation: Update on progress

Information
Bulletin



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This is the second update on the progress of the implementation of the recommendations from the Compliance and Enforcement Review.

As of February 2013, more than 90 of 119 recommendations have been completed and we are still on track to have all recommendations completed by September 2013.

For a list of all the recommendations visit [EPA Victoria's website](#).

Highlights over the past six months

5.7: That EPA provide information on its website indicating the contact details for any local environmental reporting services operated by businesses and encourage first reports to be made directly to the operator, with the option of subsequently reporting directly to EPA.

Reporting services

In response to recommendation 5.7 there is now a [list](#) on EPA Victoria's website of the contact details for businesses and councils that have their own public reporting services.

These contact details have been provided so that community members can directly let those businesses and councils know if they are impacting on them. If you use one of these reporting services and find the response to be unsatisfactory you should contact EPA.

16.1: That EPA prepare an internal and external report on its compliance and enforcement activity including the number and timeliness of enforcement measures.

Annual Compliance Plan 2012/13 mid-year report

A [report](#) on the results of the first half (July to December) of EPA's 2012-13 Annual Compliance Plan has been published. The report describes how EPA is tracking against its targets and other compliance and enforcement activities. The ongoing reporting on the results of our compliance and enforcement activity addresses recommendation 16.1.

15.2: That EPA consider the technical expertise required to deal with complex and specialised subject matter within its jurisdiction.

Expertise Framework

The EPA Expertise Framework pilot project has mapped expertise across the organisation and identified experts in critical environmental outcome areas; these are waste, air quality, water quality and contaminated environments.

The Framework helps EPA to retain and develop expertise by supporting our experts with career development and by providing reward and recognition and learning and development opportunities. The experts are focused on transferring their expert knowledge across the organisation. The Expertise Framework addresses recommendation 15.2.



EPA's principal experts in air quality, contaminated environments, surface water, ground water, waste and landfills.

20.1: That EPA establishes a protocol for stakeholder participation in standard and policy setting. The protocol should include opportunities to participate in the development of regulatory standards and compliance guidance.

20.7: That EPA continue to explore opportunities to engage community and make environmental laws and policies more accessible, to educate them on EPA's role and promote awareness of the duty of care to the environment.

Engagement Policy

EPA has developed and launched an [Engagement Policy](#).

The Policy covers EPA's customer service and engagement principles, our engagement model and our approach to working with stakeholders across all areas of our operating model.

The development and implementation of the Policy addresses recommendations 20.1 and 20.7.

Post implementation reviews

EPA will soon be commencing post implementation reviews of completed recommendations. A post implementation review is a quality check completed 12 months or more after a recommendation was closed out to confirm that the intent of the recommendation is continuing to be addressed.

Background to the Review

In order to improve its effectiveness and prepare for a more challenging future, EPA commissioned an extensive independent review of its compliance and enforcement activities. The Compliance and Enforcement Review: A Review of EPA Victoria's Approach was publicly released in February 2011 and contained 119 recommendations.

More information on the review can be found on [EPA's website](#).