Intellectual Property Guidelines for the Victorian Public Sector

Version 1.2 – August 2024

The Secretary

Department of Government Services

1 Macarthur Street

Melbourne Victoria 3002

Australia

dgs.vic.gov.au

Authorised by the Victorian Government

1 Treasury Place, Melbourne, 3002

[](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au/)© State of Victoria (Department of Government Services) 2024

You are free to re-use this work under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 licence](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/), provided you credit the State of Victoria (Department of Government Services) as author, indicate if changes were made and comply with the other licence terms. The licence does not apply to any branding, including Government logos.

Copyright queries may be directed to [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au)

ISBN 000-0-000000-00-0

Revised August 2024. First published March 2015.

Please contact DGS by email at ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au with any queries about this publication, or to request this publication in an accessible format.

**Table of Contents**

[Chapter 1: Whole of Victorian Government Intellectual Property Policy 6](#_Toc176264793)

[1.1 Intellectual property framework in Victoria 6](#_Toc176264794)

[1.2 What is intellectual property? 6](#_Toc176264795)

[1.3 Ministerial responsibility 7](#_Toc176264796)

[1.4 Role of Department of Government Services 7](#_Toc176264797)

[1.5 IP Policy Intent and Principles 8](#_Toc176264798)

[1.6 What agencies are covered by the IP Policy and Guidelines? 8](#_Toc176264799)

[1.7 Implementing the IP Policy and Guidelines 9](#_Toc176264800)

[1.8 Significant intellectual property 9](#_Toc176264801)

[1.9 Currency 10](#_Toc176264802)

[1.10 Professional advice 11](#_Toc176264803)

[Chapter 2: Policy Intent and Principles 12](#_Toc176264804)

[2.1 IP Policy Intent 12](#_Toc176264805)

[2.2 Principles 12](#_Toc176264806)

[Chapter 3: Management of intellectual property 14](#_Toc176264807)

[3.1 When should intellectual property be managed? 14](#_Toc176264808)

[3.2 Responsibility for IP Policy within agencies 15](#_Toc176264809)

[3.3 Identifying and recording intellectual property 16](#_Toc176264810)

[3.4 Assessing and valuing intellectual property 17](#_Toc176264811)

[3.5 Risk management of intellectual property 18](#_Toc176264812)

[3.6 The State Crest and branding 20](#_Toc176264813)

[3.7 Agency branding 21](#_Toc176264814)

[3.8 Legislative and judicial material 22](#_Toc176264815)

[3.9 Human resources implications of intellectual property 22](#_Toc176264816)

[3.10 Contractors 23](#_Toc176264817)

[3.11 Temporary workers 23](#_Toc176264818)

[3.12 Transfer of State IP between agencies 24](#_Toc176264819)

[3.13 Re‑assignment or disposal of State IP 24](#_Toc176264820)

[Chapter 4: Granting rights to State IP 26](#_Toc176264821)

[4.1 Overview 26](#_Toc176264822)

[4.2 Where rights to IP must not be granted 26](#_Toc176264823)

[4.3 Where rights to IP should be granted 28](#_Toc176264824)

[4.4 How to grant rights to IP under licence 29](#_Toc176264825)

[4.5 Role of IP Coordinator 31](#_Toc176264826)

[Chapter 5: Making copyright material publicly accessible 32](#_Toc176264827)

[5.1 Copyright material that should not be made accessible 32](#_Toc176264828)

[5.2 Copyright material that should be made accessible 33](#_Toc176264829)

[5.3 Where to publish copyright material 34](#_Toc176264830)

[5.4 Terms under which to make material accessible 35](#_Toc176264831)

[5.5 Creative Commons 36](#_Toc176264832)

[5.6 Other licences for copyright material 40](#_Toc176264833)

[5.7 Copyright notice for websites 41](#_Toc176264834)

[Chapter 6: State procurement 43](#_Toc176264835)

[6.1 Overview 43](#_Toc176264836)

[6.2 Addressing IP in procurement agreements 43](#_Toc176264837)

[6.3 Securing a licence to IP 45](#_Toc176264838)

[6.4 Acquiring ownership of IP 47](#_Toc176264839)

[6.5 Template IP clauses 48](#_Toc176264840)

[6.6 Other issues 49](#_Toc176264841)

[Chapter 7: Commercialisation of State-owned IP 50](#_Toc176264842)

[7.1 Overview 50](#_Toc176264843)

[7.2 Where commercialisation is available 51](#_Toc176264844)

[7.3 Commercialisation process 54](#_Toc176264845)

[7.4 Related considerations 55](#_Toc176264846)

[Chapter 8: Protecting and enforcing intellectual property rights 57](#_Toc176264847)

[8.1 Overview 57](#_Toc176264848)

[8.2 Protecting IP rights 57](#_Toc176264849)

[8.3 Enforcing IP rights 60](#_Toc176264850)

[Chapter 9: Funding and grants 62](#_Toc176264851)

[9.1 Overview 62](#_Toc176264852)

[9.2 Addressing IP rights 62](#_Toc176264853)

[9.3 Securing a licence to IP 63](#_Toc176264854)

[9.4 Acquiring ownership of IP 64](#_Toc176264855)

[9.5 Open Access to publications 65](#_Toc176264856)

[9.6 Common Funding Agreement for not‑for‑profits 65](#_Toc176264857)

[Chapter 10: Moral rights 67](#_Toc176264858)

[10.1 Overview 67](#_Toc176264859)

[10.2 Right of attribution 68](#_Toc176264860)

[10.3 Right against false attribution 68](#_Toc176264861)

[10.4 Right of integrity of authorship 69](#_Toc176264862)

[10.5 Moral rights consent 69](#_Toc176264863)

[Chapter 11: Use by the State of third‑party IP 72](#_Toc176264864)

[11.1 Overview 72](#_Toc176264865)

[11.2 Obtaining permission to use IP 72](#_Toc176264866)

[11.3 State breaches of third‑party IP 73](#_Toc176264867)

[11.4 Copyright 74](#_Toc176264868)

[11.5 Patents 77](#_Toc176264869)

[11.6 Designs 78](#_Toc176264870)

[11.7 Other intellectual property 78](#_Toc176264871)

[Chapter 12: Compliance and reporting 79](#_Toc176264872)

[12.1 Compliance 79](#_Toc176264873)

[12.2 Compliance reporting 79](#_Toc176264874)

[12.3 Suspected and alleged breach reporting 80](#_Toc176264875)

[Chapter 13: Useful resources and reference material 81](#_Toc176264876)

[13.1 IP Policy website 81](#_Toc176264877)

[13.2 Legislation 81](#_Toc176264878)

[13.3 Policies 81](#_Toc176264879)

[13.4 Guides 82](#_Toc176264880)

[13.5 Contacts 82](#_Toc176264881)

[13.6 Websites 82](#_Toc176264882)

[Attachment 1: IP Policy 83](#_Toc176264883)

[Whole of Victorian Government Intellectual Property Policy 83](#_Toc176264884)

[Background 84](#_Toc176264885)

[IP Policy Intent 85](#_Toc176264886)

[IP Policy Principles 85](#_Toc176264887)

[Roles and responsibilities 87](#_Toc176264888)

[Attachment 2: Commercialisation summary 88](#_Toc176264889)

[Attachment 3: Moral rights consent form template 90](#_Toc176264890)

[Attachment 4: An introduction to intellectual property 93](#_Toc176264891)

[What is intellectual property? 93](#_Toc176264892)

[What types of intellectual property are relevant to your agency? 93](#_Toc176264893)

[Copyright 95](#_Toc176264894)

[Trade marks 96](#_Toc176264895)

[Patents 97](#_Toc176264896)

[Designs 98](#_Toc176264897)

[Plant breeder’s rights 99](#_Toc176264898)

[Circuit layouts 99](#_Toc176264899)

[Other forms of information 100](#_Toc176264900)

# Whole of Victorian Government Intellectual Property Policy

## Intellectual property framework in Victoria

The Victorian Government regularly creates, acquires, funds and uses intellectual property (IP).

IP is a legal term that refers to creations of the mind. Under IP laws, the owners of IP are granted certain exclusive rights.

The *Whole of Victorian Government Intellectual Property Policy Intent and Principles* (IP Policy) was endorsed by Cabinet in August 2012 and updated in August 2024. The IP Policy sets out the State’s approach to the management of IP.

These *Intellectual Property Guidelines for the Victorian Public Sector* (Guidelines) support the IP Policy and provide additional background, context and guidance.

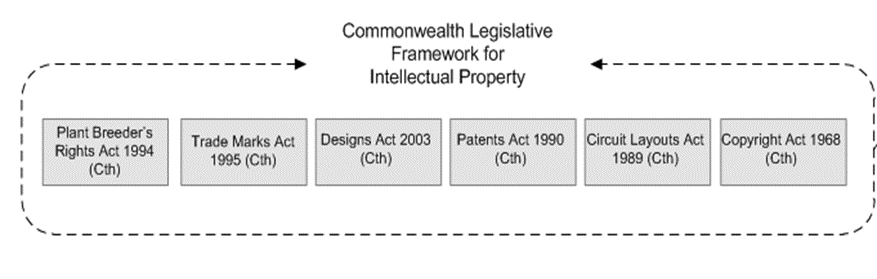
The IP Policy and these Guidelines replace all previous policies on government IP, including the *Guidelines Relating to Victorian Crown Copyright* (August 1991).

## What is intellectual property?

The term ‘intellectual property’ refers to the set of legal rights that protect the results of creative efforts including literary, artistic and scientific works, performances, broadcasts, inventions, scientific discoveries, trade marks and designs.

IP laws create a financial incentive for the creation of and investment in IP. They can also protect the moral rights of those who create copyright works.

Some forms of IP require registration for intellectual property rights to be created, and others do not. For example, a patent requires registration, while copyright does not.

The legislative framework for IP is the responsibility of the Commonwealth.

Common forms of IP dealt with by the State include:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Form | Applies to | Registration | Term |
| Copyright | Works including written documents and books, broadcasts, etc. | Not required | Varies, usually at least 50 years |
| Trade marks | Word, name, number, aspect of packaging etc. used to distinguish goods or services of a trader | Not required, but available | Unlimited, provided that it is being used |
| Patents | Device, substance, method or process that is new, inventive, and useful | Required | 20 years (standard patent) or 8 years (innovation patent) |

Copyright is a particularly significant form of IP dealt with by the State. Special provisions of the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) (*Copyright Act*) provide that certain material made by or under the direction of the State attracts ‘Crown copyright’.

See Attachment 4: An introduction to intellectual property for more information.

## Ministerial responsibility

The Minister for Government Services is the Minister responsible for administering the IP Policy through the Department of Government Services (DGS).

In particular, the Minister for Government Services must be consulted on commercialisations of State IP where IP Principle 8(b) applies.[[1]](#footnote-2)

## Role of Department of Government Services

DGS is responsible for the IP Policy. DGS is responsible for approving, managing and updating these Guidelines.

DGS supports the Victorian public sector by providing training, preparing resources, and providing a point of contact for IP queries.

DGS is responsible for negotiations with copyright collecting societies to make payment for the use of third party copyright material under the statutory licence in the Copyright Act. For more detail see Chapter 11: Use by the State of third‑party IP.

Comments and questions may be directed to DGS at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au).

## IP Policy Intent and Principles

The Policy Intent of the IP Policy is that:

* the State grants rights to its intellectual property, as a public asset, in a manner that maximises its impact, value, accessibility and benefit consistent with the public interest; and
* the State acquires or uses third party intellectual property in a transparent and efficient way, while upholding the law and managing risk appropriately.

The IP Principles build on the Intent and cover:

* management of State owned intellectual property;
* State commercialisation of intellectual property;
* procurement;
* funding and grants from the State towards the development of intellectual property;
* State use of intellectual property owned by others; and
* identification and recording of intellectual property.

Please refer to Chapter [2](#_Intellectual_Property_Intent) for a complete list of the IP Principles and Attachment 1 for a copy of the IP Policy.

## What agencies are covered by the IP Policy and Guidelines?

The IP Policy and these Guidelines apply to all agencies (that is, all departments and public bodies) of the State. ‘Department’ and ‘Public body’ are defined in the *Financial Management Act 1994*. Public bodies include State business corporations and statutory authorities.

Accordingly, departments and public bodies as defined under the Financial Management Act must implement the IP Policy and these Guidelines. Each agency must determine whether it is subject to the Policy on this basis.[[2]](#footnote-3)

Implementation of the IP Policy and these Guidelines will necessarily vary according to a number of factors, including the size, sophistication, intellectual property, data and needs of the agency. Agencies are encouraged to consider these Guidelines and to contact DGS with any queries.

## Implementing the IP Policy and Guidelines

Agencies must implement the [IP](http://www.vic.gov.au/IPpolicy/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/Intellectual-Property-Policy-Intent-and-Principles-20-August-2012.docx) Policy.

These Guidelines provide information and guidance to assist with implementation.

Subject to the IP Policy, a departmental Secretary or agency head has responsibility (which may be delegated) for applying the IP Policy to IP managed by the department or agency.

The IP Policy and Guidelines must be widely communicated to employees and be readily accessible to them.

Implementation of the IP Policy must be supported by the allocation of appropriate resources and responsibility for implementation and review. Agencies are encouraged to appoint an IP Coordinator to be responsible for day to day administration of the IP Policy.[[3]](#footnote-4)

Each agency has different objectives and responsibilities. Good IP management practices need to reflect this and there is no one strategy or IP management framework that will fit all agencies. Agencies are encouraged to use these Guidelines to review and develop their IP systems to meet their particular needs.[[4]](#footnote-5)

In the past, some departments and agencies have developed their own formal IP management policies to deal with their specific business needs. These policies may need to be amended for consistency with the IP Policy.

It is noted that an agency may have specific IP clauses in its establishing legislation. The *Transport Integration Act 2010* (Vic), for example, empowers the Secretary of the relevant Department to acquire, hold, licence, exploit or dispose of IP. Agencies should consider the interaction between the IP Policy and such specific IP clauses.

## Significant intellectual property

The IP Policy and these Guidelines apply to all State‑owned IP.[[5]](#footnote-6) However, it is recognised that some of the suggestions in these Guidelines would be unworkable if applied to less significant State IP. For example, the recommendation that agencies report suspected and alleged breaches of State IP to DGS[[6]](#footnote-7) may not be practicable in the case of a suspected minor breach of insignificant copyright material. Another example is the suggestion in these Guidelines that agencies keep an IP register.[[7]](#footnote-8) In this case, it would not be expected that agencies would record in the register every work containing copyright material.

Accordingly, certain actions in these Guidelines are only recommended where the IP in question is significant. Agencies should take a common sense approach to determining whether the threshold of significance is satisfied in a given case. For example, the IP may be significant where it:

* has significant value;
* is significant to the operations of the agency;
* contributes significantly to achieving the agency’s objectives;
* may result in breaching the law if mismanaged;
* may result in reputational damage if mismanaged;
* is an outcome of the investment of significant resources and/or expenditure;
* is subject to relevant legislation, policy or accounting standards; or
* is or may be commercialised.

References to ‘significant IP’ in the Guidelines should be read with reference to this subchapter.

In case of doubt, agencies are encouraged to contact DGS at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au).

Further detail on IP management is set out in [Chapter 3](#_Management_of_intellectual).

## Currency

This is Version 1.2 of the IP Guidelines, published in August 2024.

DGS is responsible for the maintenance of the Guidelines, and will keep a catalogue of each version. DGS welcomes feedback on the Guidelines and will review them on a regular basis. Agencies may suggest changes or additions to the Guidelines at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au).

Subsequent versions of the Guidelines may be published from time to time at the IP Policy website.[[8]](#footnote-9) DGS will inform agencies upon the publication of new versions of the Guidelines. Agencies should ensure that they are working with the current version of the Guidelines.

## Professional advice

IP law and management practices are complex and constantly evolving. These guidelines should not be used as a substitute for seeking legal, commercial or financial advice.

If an agency intends to seek external legal advice, it should be aware of the Legal Services Panel requirements for engaging legal services. The firms entitled to give advice on intellectual property issues under the Legal Services Panel are listed on the Victorian Government Procurement website.[[9]](#footnote-10) Crown copyright issues are usually an exclusive service provided by the Victorian Government Solicitor’s Office.

# Policy Intent and Principles

The following is an extract of the key parts of the IP Policy Intent and Principles. The document is reproduced in full in Attachment 1.

## IP Policy Intent

The State grants rights to its intellectual property, as a public asset, in a manner that maximises its impact, value, accessibility and benefit consistent with the public interest.

The State acquires or uses third party intellectual property in a transparent and efficient way, while upholding the law and managing risk appropriately.

## Principles

Below, the IP Policy Principles are listed and referenced to relevant chapters of these Guidelines:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Principles | Chapter |
| 1. The State manages its intellectual property in ways that are consistent, transparent and accountable. | 3 – 12 |
| 1. The State grants rights to its intellectual property with the fewest possible restrictions. | 3 – 9 |
| 1. The State may exercise its intellectual property rights restrictively for reasons of privacy, public safety, security and law enforcement, public health, commercialisation and compliance with the law. | 3 – 9 |
| 1. The State owns intellectual property created by its employees in the course of their employment. | 10 |
| 1. The State manages the moral rights of creators as required under the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth). | 10 |
| 1. The State responds to breaches of its intellectual property rights where appropriate in order to maintain its reputation or the value of its intellectual property. | 8 |
| 1. An agency should be responsive to opportunities to utilise intellectual property for commercial use that do not conflict with the agency’s legal powers, purpose and strategic priorities. | 7 |
| 1. An agency may commercialise intellectual property if: 2. it has an explicit statutory function to do so; or 3. the expected benefits from the commercialisation provide a clear net benefit to the Victorian community and: 4. the agency has consulted with the responsible Minister for this policy about the commercialisation; and 5. the responsible Minister for this policy has not given a direction to cease commercialising the intellectual property. | 7 |
| 1. When procuring goods, works or services, an agency will: 2. ensure that any rights to intellectual property (including pre-existing intellectual property) that may arise as a consequence of the procurement are adequately addressed in an agreement; 3. secure licences to the intellectual property sufficient to achieve the primary and related objectives of the procurement; and 4. only acquire ownership of the intellectual property if that would advance the primary and related objectives of the procurement. | 6 |
| 1. When the State provides a grant or similar funding for an identified purpose or project, the State: 2. addresses in an agreement any rights to intellectual property (including pre‑existing intellectual property) that may arise as a consequence of the grant or funding; 3. does not secure a licence to the intellectual property unless there is a stated purpose for doing so, and then only to the minimum extent necessary to achieve that purpose; 4. if a licence would not be adequate in the circumstances, acquires ownership of the resulting intellectual property; and 5. ensures that ownership of the intellectual property is able to be assigned to or by the State if the intellectual property is not used by the recipient for the purpose of the grant or funding within a reasonable time. | 9 |
| 1. The State deals with third party intellectual property in a manner that: 2. avoids infringing the intellectual property rights of others and complies with the law; and 3. provides equitable remuneration to intellectual property owners (whether directly or through collecting societies) in a manner consistent with the responsible spending of public moneys. | 11 |
| 1. Agencies of the State identify and record intellectual property in their possession, where that intellectual property: 2. involves statutory registration and renewal processes; 3. is critical to a deliverable or core function of the agency; or 4. requires active risk management. | 3 |

# Management of intellectual property

*IP Policy Principle 1:* The State manages its intellectual property in ways that are consistent, transparent and accountable.

*Principle 4:* The State owns intellectual property created by its employees in the course of their employment.

*Principle 12:* Agencies of the State identify and record intellectual property in their possession, where that intellectual property:

a) involves statutory registration and renewal processes;

b) is critical to a deliverable or core function of the agency; or

c) requires active risk management.

## When should intellectual property be managed?

The Victorian public sector creates, commissions, funds, owns, uses and manages significant amounts of IP across areas including health, education, public infrastructure, science, economic and industry development, information and communications technology, justice, the arts and culture.

Principle 1 of the IP Policy provides that the State manages its intellectual property in ways that are consistent, transparent and accountable.

Agencies must manage IP in a manner consistent with this Principle. These Guidelines, and applicable Victorian and Commonwealth legislation and policies, provide further guidance on how this can be achieved. Relevant policies include those concerning public sector management, procurement and funding, innovation, communication of public information and privacy.

Each agency has different objectives and responsibilities. Good agency IP management practices need to reflect this and there is no one strategy or IP management framework that will fit all agencies. Agencies are encouraged to use these Guidelines to review and develop their IP systems to meet their particular needs.[[10]](#footnote-11)

While agencies are required to manage all IP, some aspects of IP management need only be undertaken where the IP in question is significant. More guidance on the concept of ‘significant IP’ is provided in Chapter 1.8.

Important aspects of IP management include:

* 3.2: responsibility for IP Policy within agencies;
* 3.3: identifying and recording IP (including by establishing an IP register);
* 3.4: assessing and valuing IP;
* 3.5: risk management of IP;
* 3.6 the State Crest and branding;
* 3.7: agency branding;
* 3.8: legislative and judicial material;
* 3.9: human resources implications of IP;
* 3.10: contractors;
* 3.11: temporary workers, such as volunteers or students;
* 3.12: transfer of State IP between agencies; and
* 3.13: re‑assignment or disposal of State IP.

Each of these is discussed further below.

Another aspect of IP management is protecting and enforcing IP where appropriate. For example, it may be appropriate to respond to a breach of a State trade mark in order to maintain the State’s reputation. Protecting and enforcing IP is discussed in further detail in [Chapter 8](#_Protecting_and_enforcing).

## Responsibility for IP Policy within agencies

The IP Policy’s Governance framework states that a departmental Secretary or an agency head has responsibility (which may be delegated) for applying the IP Policy to intellectual property managed by the agency.

It is recommended that departmental secretaries and agency heads designate an ‘IP Coordinator’ to be responsible for the administration of the IP Policy and these Guidelines.

The appropriate person to act as IP Coordinator will vary according to the needs of the agency, and in particular, the form and quantity of the IP managed by the agency. For example, the following positions may be appropriate to fill the IP Coordinator role:

* director of communications;
* chief information officer;
* chief financial officer;
* head of corporate services; and
* legal counsel.

Important roles of the IP Coordinator include ensuring that the agency’s IP is managed appropriately, dealing with the granting of rights to IP and making copyright material publicly accessible, being involved in commercialisation proposals, ensuring that third party material is used appropriately and responding to reporting requirements.[[11]](#footnote-12)

Where dealing with IP is one component of another area of work, the relevant staff member should be responsible for dealing with the IP. For example, if an IP issue arises in the context of a procurement, the relevant procurement officer should deal with the IP issue. However, it is recommended that the responsible staff member consult the agency’s IP Coordinator to ensure that they act consistently with the IP Policy. This is particularly important in situations that are unusual or contested.

The IP Coordinator should be available to the agency’s staff to answer questions about the IP Policy and Guidelines. IP Coordinators should identify themselves to DGS, and are encouraged to consult with DGS where required, by email to [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au).

## Identifying and recording intellectual property

Principle 12 of the IP Policy provides that agencies of the State identify and record intellectual property in their possession, where that intellectual property:

* involves statutory registration and renewal processes;
* is critical to a deliverable or core function of the agency; or
* requires active risk management.

Maintaining appropriate mechanisms for identifying, recording and managing agency IP is a crucial part of good IP management practice. Among other things, it enables agencies to:

* put the IP to proper use in accordance with legislation, government policy and agency objectives;
* fulfil financial, record keeping and accountability obligations;
* ensure resources are put to efficient and effective use;
* facilitate access to the IP by knowing agency rights to use or distribute the IP;
* avoid duplication in the acquisition or creation of IP;
* better protect and enforce IP rights; and
* lower the risk of infringing the IP rights of others.[[12]](#footnote-13)

In procurement, agencies should consider the need to impose contractual requirements that contractors identify IP. Further information is provided in Chapter 6.2.

### Establishing an intellectual property register

While significant IP assets may appear on an agency’s asset register, agencies are also encouraged to establish a register or other information management system to record important information concerning any significant IP[[13]](#footnote-14) of the agency. IP registers are ideal for recording forms of IP such as patents, trade marks and designs.[[14]](#footnote-15)

An IP register should be tailored to an agency’s requirements and the nature of the significant IP that the agency holds. Relevant information to include in the register may include:

* Identity of the creator(s) or inventor(s);
* identifying details for the IP;
* details of IP registrations;
* the start and end date of the IP protection;
* important details of relevant procurement and funding agreements; and
* any important ownership and licensing details.

Additional information may also be appropriate in the circumstances.[[15]](#footnote-16)

## Assessing and valuing intellectual property

Agencies are encouraged to assess and value their significant IP[[16]](#footnote-17). The results of the valuation should be recorded.

There are a range of difficulties in valuing IP. For example, it can be difficult to determine the commercial value of a trade mark which has never been bought or sold. However, this difficulty does not mean that IP is valueless.

Some of the methods to value IP include:

* cost of development;
* comparable market transactions;
* income from royalties;
* excess profits or notional maximum royalties payable; and
* capitalisation of earnings.

IP is an intangible asset, meaning that it is an asset that is not physical in nature. There are accounting standards for intangible assets.

The Australian Government IP Manual provides relevant guidance, as follows:

The Australian Accounting Standard 138, prepared by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) deals with intangible assets. The definition of intangible asset in this standard includes brand names, mastheads and publishing titles, computer software, licences and franchises, copyrights, patents and other IP rights including service and operating agreements, recipes, formulae, models, designs and prototypes and research and development expenditure.

AASB 138 prohibits the recognition of many types of IP. For example, paragraph 63 of AASB 138 states, internally generated brands, mastheads, publishing titles, customer lists and items similar in substance shall not be recognised as intangible assets.’ In addition, agencies may only record other IP at current valuation if there is an established secondary market in the IP. Otherwise, IP must be recorded at cost.[[17]](#footnote-18)

For more information, consult the Australian Accounting Standards Board online.[[18]](#footnote-19)

IP Australia offers guidance on the valuation of IP. For more information consult IP Australia’s website.[[19]](#footnote-20)

Valuation of IP should also take into account the risks and costs involved in the IP, discussed in the following subchapter. For example, enforcements costs, flow‑on costs, maintenance costs and the effect of third party interests.

For detailed information about assessing and valuing IP, agencies may refer to the *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2018).[[20]](#footnote-21) Agencies should also consult their finance teams for further assistance.

## Risk management of intellectual property

IP risks should be considered and managed as part of an agency’s risk management framework. This is particularly important in the case of significant IP[[21]](#footnote-22).

Failure to properly manage IP risks was identified in the Victorian Auditor‑General’s Report *Managing Intellectual Property in Government Agencies (2005)* as posing a number of risks to the public sector, including those set out in the following table. The table also identifies the outcome of the risks and provides high‑level guidance on how to manage each risk. The chapter column refers to the relevant chapter in these Guidelines.

| Risk | Potential outcome | How to manage | Chapter |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Failure to protect the integrity and accuracy of copyright material | False information being disseminated to the public | Actively manage significant copyright material | 3 and 4 |
| Failure to adequately protect confidential IP | Other parties use it inappropriately | Actively manage significant IP | 3 and 4 |
| Rights granted to State IP under inappropriately broad licence | May result in breach of privacy, public safety etc. | Consider IP Policy and these Guidelines, seek legal advice | 4 |
| Procurement contracts fail to address IP | Dispute regarding ownership and use of pre‑existing and resultant IP | Ensure that procurement complies with IP Policy | 6 |
| Fund research without obtaining access to the resultant IP | Cannot use IP for the purposes of the project | Ensure that funding includes an appropriate licence and complies with IP Policy | 9 |
| Contracts do not address pre‑existing IP | Other party may be reluctant to utilise pre‑existing IP | Contracts should address pre‑existing IP | 6 and 9 |
| Contracts seek ownership of IP where licence appropriate | Time and expense acquiring unnecessary ownership | Consider scope of use required and apply IP Policy | 6 and 9 |
| State IP not protected or enforced where appropriate | Use of IP that may damage State’s reputation or value of IP | Monitor third party use of State copyright and apply IP Policy | 8 |
| Employees moral rights not managed appropriately | Claim for breach of moral rights | Seek moral rights consent in appropriate circumstances | 10 |
| Infringement of third party IP | Claim for damages and reputational damage to the State | Monitor and pay for use of third party IP | 11 |
| Risk | Potential outcome | How to manage | Chapter |
| Failure to protect the integrity and accuracy of copyright material | False information being disseminated to the public | Actively manage significant copyright material | 3 and 4 |
| Failure to adequately protect confidential IP | Other parties use it inappropriately | Actively manage significant IP | 3 and 4 |
| Rights granted to State IP under inappropriately broad licence | May result in breach of privacy, public safety etc. | Consider IP Policy and these Guidelines, seek legal advice | 4 |
| Procurement contracts fail to address IP | Dispute regarding ownership and use of pre‑existing and resultant IP | Ensure that procurement complies with IP Policy | 6 |
| Fund research without obtaining access to the resultant IP | Cannot use IP for the purposes of the project | Ensure that funding includes an appropriate licence and complies with IP Policy | 9 |
| Contracts do not address pre‑existing IP | Other party may be reluctant to utilise pre‑existing IP | Contracts should address pre‑existing IP | 6 and 9 |
| Contracts seek ownership of IP where licence appropriate | Time and expense acquiring unnecessary ownership | Consider scope of use required and apply IP Policy | 6 and 9 |
| State IP not protected or enforced where appropriate | Use of IP that may damage State’s reputation or value of IP | Monitor third party use of State copyright and apply IP Policy | 8 |
| Employees moral rights not managed appropriately | Claim for breach of moral rights | Seek moral rights consent in appropriate circumstances | 10 |
| Infringement of third party IP | Claim for damages and reputational damage to the State | Monitor and pay for use of third party IP | 11 |

These risks should be considered when assessing IP risks and mitigation plans.

## The State Crest and branding

The State of Victoria can be recognised (for example, in public documents, signs, advertising material, etc.) through the use of:

* Victorian Coat of Arms (Victorian Crest); and
* branding (including logos, logotypes, badges, design elements, symbols, slogans, and other visual and aural identification and promotional features).

The Victorian Crest and branding are integral to the State’s reputation. Accordingly, agencies must actively manage them. Further, unlike most other forms of State IP, agencies must not grant rights to them except, in the case of branding, in the limited circumstances set out below.

The Victorian Crest may only be applied to Victorian Government publications that are tabled in Parliament, such as annual reports and government statements. The Victorian Crest must not be used by any person or organisation other than the Victorian Government. Unauthorised use is subject to penalty under the *Unauthorised Documents Act 1958*. Approval for commercial use or advertising will not be given.

State branding must usually be applied to all Victorian Government communication. Third parties may only use State branding where authorised to do so by an agency in appropriate circumstances. For example, it may be appropriate for State branding to appear on a billboard at the site of a construction project that is partly funded by the Victorian Government.

The *Coat of Arms and State Badge guidelines* provide guidance on use of the State Crest and branding.[[22]](#footnote-23)

Some State branding is subject to registered trade marks. This is usually appropriate under the IP Policy to ensure that the IP in State branding is protected to avoid risks to the State’s reputation. More detail on protecting IP rights in provided in Chapter 8, and information on trade marks is provided in Attachment 4.

## Agency branding

Many agencies use branding to identify themselves and their campaigns, programs and services. In adopting brands, agencies must ensure that they do not infringe existing third party IP rights, or commit resources to the development or protection of brands that may mislead the public as to a connection between the State’s activities and those of third parties.[[23]](#footnote-24)

Agencies may be able to obtain further guidance about appropriate steps for brand development from their Strategic Communications area, and/or may seek legal advice. As a general rule, before committing resources to or adopting the use of a new brand, the agency should search public sources[[24]](#footnote-25) to establish whether it is similar to brands already in use. Where the brand is or includes a logo or emblem, agencies may need to obtain the assistance of legal advisers to conduct that search.

In the event that similar brands are located, agencies are encouraged to obtain further legal advice if they intend to proceed with use of the proposed brand or a similar brand.

Agency branding may also be registered as a trademark and/or domain name. Further information is provided in Chapter 8.2.

## Legislative and judicial material

Legislative and judicial material is a special category of IP requiring special management.

Section 182A of the *Copyright Act* allows people to make a single exact copy (in whole or part) of legislation or a judgment. This differs from the position for other State owned copyright material.

The State has exclusive printing arrangements in place, through the Office of Chief Parliamentary Counsel, for the hardcopy printing of legislation. Requests to make use of legislative material should be directed to the Office of Chief Parliamentary Counsel.

## Human resources implications of intellectual property

State employees create a significant amount of intellectual property in the course of their employment. Many employees also make use of intellectual property owned by third parties. Accordingly, it is important that the human resources implications of intellectual property are actively managed.

It should be noted that, under both the *Copyright Act* and Principle 4 of the IP Policy, the State owns intellectual property created by its employees in the course of their employment.

The following checklist of human resource practices should be used by agencies to support implementation of the IP Policy and Guidelines.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| # | Activity | Yes/No |
| 1 | Are employees notified that the State owns IP created by employees in the course of their employment? |  |
| 2 | Do agencies provide appropriate training in IP issues for employees where relevant, including:   * the IP Policy, and the importance of the management of IP in supporting the agency’s objectives; and * obligations of employees to respect IP owned by others, including moral rights? |  |
| 3 | Have agencies established appropriate induction processes to ensure new staff are aware of duties not to infringe previous employer’s IP, and exit procedures that include a reminder of responsibilities in relation to the agency’s IP, including confidential information? |  |
| 4 | Have agencies established the roles and responsibilities of the agency and staff in relation to management of IP, including authority for licensing or control of IP and accountability for management of IP? |  |
| 5 | Is a moral rights consent required in the circumstances? (See Chapter 10.5). |  |
| 6 | Have agencies considered recognising employees for innovation or creativity in management or development of IP, consistent with agency objectives and the IP Policy? |  |

The moral rights of employees must also be managed. Further detail is provided in Chapter 10.

## Contractors

In the absence of an agreement to the contrary, the ownership of IP generated by a contractor usually belongs to the contractor. The agency that paid for the work created is entitled to use the work only for the purpose for which it is created.[[25]](#footnote-26)

An exception to this general position is that copyright in material made under the direction or control of the Commonwealth or a State, or first published by the Commonwealth or a State, is taken to belong to the Commonwealth or State.[[26]](#footnote-27)

When negotiating a contract, an agency should address IP issues within the contract consistently with the IP Policy and, in particular, with Principles 9 (procurement) and 10 (funding and grants). By default, agencies should not seek ownership of IP generated by a contractor. See Chapter 6 (State Procurement) and Chapter 9 (funding and grants) for further information.

The moral rights of contractors must also be managed. Further detail is provided in Chapter 10.

## Temporary workers

Temporary workers who perform work for agencies and are not employed under *the Victorian Public Service Workplace Determination 2012* (VPS Agreement) may be involved in a wide range of activities that produce IP. If there is no agreement addressing ownership of the IP, it is possible that the worker will own the IP.

At times it is appropriate for temporary workers to retain ownership of the IP they develop, such as a student research project on placement. It is important that any agreement with temporary workers addresses the appropriate ownership issues for developed IP.

Types of temporary workers who fall into this category include volunteers, visiting research fellows and students.

Temporary workers may also use IP owned by the State as part of their engagement. Appropriate training should be considered to ensure the appropriate use of IP. Confidentiality agreements must be used if such workers have access to confidential information while working in a public sector agency.

In the case of volunteers, many agencies using volunteers already enter into written ‘volunteer agreements’ with their volunteers. Such agreements clarify the rights and responsibilities of both the volunteer and the agency. They should also address IP rights.

Further information regarding volunteers is available from a number of sources, including Volunteer Victoria[[27]](#footnote-28) and Victoria’s volunteering portal.[[28]](#footnote-29)

## Transfer of State IP between agencies

Where functions of a department or agency transfer within the public sector through a machinery of government change or new legislation, IP should be treated as any other asset and transferred in line with the functions and should be managed accordingly.

## Re‑assignment or disposal of State IP

In some circumstances, it may be appropriate for an agency to re‑assign or dispose of IP. In determining whether it is appropriate to do so, an agency should have regard to the IP Policy Intent. The question is whether re‑assigning or disposing IP will maximise its impact, value, accessibility and benefit consistent with the public interest. Agencies should consider whether other options, such as flexibly licensing the IP, would better maximise these benefits.

Agencies should note that granting an exclusive licence to IP is similar to disposing of it, given that it results in a third party acquiring long term rights over the IP against the world at large. Accordingly, the matters in this subchapter should be taken into account when considering whether to grant an exclusive licence to IP.[[29]](#footnote-30)

Circumstances where it may be appropriate to re‑assign or dispose of IP include where:

* the IP is surplus to requirement;
* the IP has reached the end of its usefulness;
* the IP can be better exploited by a third party;
* the IP has expired or is no longer serviceable;[[30]](#footnote-31)
* the State outsources or insources a function; and
* the State attains ownership of IP under a funding agreement which is not required.

In determining how to deal with the disposal of IP that has been created or is owned by the State, it is important to note that IP is an asset and subject to the State guidelines and policies that apply to the disposal of other State assets.

Disposal of IP should be conducted in an open, accountable and competitive manner, including by use of a competitive process for the selection of commercial partners where appropriate.

Agencies are encouraged to consult their Disposal Management Plan, if they have one in place. For further guidance see the Australian Accounting Standard 138 and the *Asset Management Framework.*[[31]](#footnote-32)

The Victorian Government Purchasing Board’s (VGPB) *Market Analysis and Review Policy*[[32]](#footnote-33) includes information and mandatory requirements in relation to asset disposal. Under the policy, agencies which are subject to the VGPB must develop and apply an asset disposal process that details:

* parties/business unit responsible for managing the process;
* disposal options appropriate to the nature of the asset and broader government objectives;
* management of issues of risk, liability, safety and security;
* the process for keeping the organisation’s assets register up to date; and
* issues of risk, liability, safety and security associated with the use of the asset by other parties when transferring an asset to another location or entity.[[33]](#footnote-34)

It is noted that IP contained in records may be subject to the *Public Records Act (1973)* and the Public Record Office of Victoria’s (PROV) mandatory guidelines.[[34]](#footnote-35) Given that there are a number of complex record‑keeping issues associated with disposal of IP, it is recommended that agencies contact PROV prior to disposal at [enquiries@prov.vic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@prov.vic.gov.au).

If an agency anticipates that volunteers may develop IP that could be of operational or commercial value to the agency, it is recommended that the written agreement clearly articulates how IP rights are dealt with. Consistent with the IP Policy, the agency would normally seek a licence to make use of the IP.

# Granting rights to State IP

*IP Policy Intent:* The State grants rights to its intellectual property, as a public asset, in a manner that maximises its impact, value, accessibility and benefit consistent with the public interest.

*IP Policy Principle 2:* The State grants rights to its intellectual property with the fewest possible restrictions.

*Principle 3:* The State may exercise its intellectual property rights restrictively for reasons of privacy, public safety, security and law enforcement, public health, commercialisation and compliance with the law.

## Overview

Granting rights to the State’s IP is central to the IP Policy, as reflected in the IP Policy Intent.

Granting rights to IP means providing permission to a third party, or to the public at large, to make use of the State’s IP in various ways. Usually, this is done by licensing the IP.

This Chapter deals with granting rights to State IP under the following headings:

* 4.2: Where rights to IP must not be granted;
* 4.3: Where rights to IP should be granted;
* 4.4: How to grant rights to IP under licence; and
* 4.5: Role of IP Coordinator.

The most common way to grant rights to the State’s IP is to make copyright material publicly accessible. This topic has a number of special considerations, which are discussed in detail in Chapter 5 below. In dealing with granting rights to copyright material, this Chapter should be read in conjunction with Chapter 5.

## Where rights to IP must not be granted

Before granting rights to IP, an agency must satisfy itself that doing so is appropriate and lawful.

The IP Policy provides that the State may exercise its IP rights restrictively for reasons of privacy, public safety, security and law enforcement, public health, commercialisation and compliance with the law (see Principle 3 of the IP Policy).

Examples where an agency may not grant rights to IP include where the IP:

* contains personal information;[[35]](#footnote-36)
* contains sensitive information about emergency responses that must be frequently updated; and
* contains information about the allocation of police services.

Other special circumstances may also require agencies not to grant rights to particular IP, such as the State Crest and branding (Chapter 3.6) and legislative and judicial material (Chapter 3.7).

The following circumstances may also prevent rights to IP being granted:

* where the IP is owned by a third party;
* where the material includes some IP owned by a third party; and
* where the IP has already been licensed to a third party; and
* where another agency is responsible for the IP.

Each is discussed further below.

### Intellectual property owned by a third party

The State is not ordinarily entitled to grant rights to IP owned by a third party. While it will usually be clear whether particular IP is owned by the State or a third party, in some cases it is not. For example, where the IP was created by a third party under a funding agreement or in the course of procurement, the ownership of the IP may be dealt with under an agreement between the parties. Before granting rights to IP material, agencies should confirm that the State owns the IP, or has the rights necessary to sublicence the IP.

### Material includes some intellectual property owned by a third party

Material containing IP that is owned by the State may also include IP owned by a third party or parties. For example, the State normally owns copyright in a report prepared by a department, but such a report may also contain an image subject to third party copyright, or background material which already existed and has been contributed by a consultant. Before granting rights to IP material, agencies should determine whether the State is the sole owner of the IP. If the State is not the sole owner, the agency should investigate the basis on which the third party copyright has been used to determine whether it may grant rights to the material under the terms of the proposed licence.

### Intellectual property is already licensed to a third party

IP owned by the State may already have been licensed to a third party. Such licences are sometimes granted on an ‘exclusive’ basis, meaning that the licensor (the State) is not entitled to licence the IP to any other party and ordinarily cannot use the IP material itself. This would normally prevent the material from being made publicly accessible. The State can also licence material on a ‘sole’ basis. This means the State is not entitled to licence the IP to any other party, however the State can still use the material for other purposes. Before granting rights to IP material, agencies should confirm that the material has not been exclusively or solely licensed to a third party.

In each of these situations, an agency may need to negotiate with other copyright owners before granting rights to the IP.

Even non‑exclusive licences can have terms which restrict further licensing of the IP. This includes terms which limit the territory for the application of the licensed IP.

If there is any doubt about the State’s capacity to grant rights to particular IP, agencies should contact their IP Coordinator,[[36]](#footnote-37) DGS at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au) or seek legal advice.

### Agency responsible for the IP

An agency may only grant rights to IP if it is the agency responsible for the IP in question. The responsible agency is clearly best placed to determine the appropriate terms on which to grant rights to IP, and to manage it after doing so.

Typically, an agency is responsible for IP if it developed and/or manages the IP. Chapter 3 of these Guidelines provides more information about agencies’ management of their IP, including identifying IP.

In some cases, it may be difficult to identify whether an agency is responsible for IP, particularly where it was jointly developed or managed with one or more other agencies. In such cases, agencies should ensure that they are responsible for the IP before granting rights, in consultation with other relevant agencies and with the benefit of legal advice.

## Where rights to IP should be granted

Unless there is good reason not to do so (see Chapter 4.2 above), agencies should grant rights to their IP to the greatest extent possible. There are a number of contexts in which it may be appropriate to grant rights to IP, including where:

* a third party requests permission to make use of the State’s IP. For example, a company may seek to use an agency’s educational video for internal training,[[37]](#footnote-38) or to use a State‑owned logo to promote a State‑funded project;
* a procurement or funding agreement requires particular uses of the State’s IP. For example, a contract to maintain a State‑owned ICT system would likely require the contractor to gain a licence to use relevant IP in the system;[[38]](#footnote-39)
* an agency develops an invention or innovation that would benefit the public;[[39]](#footnote-40) and
* an agency develops useful copyright material.[[40]](#footnote-41)

In these circumstances, the agency should assess whether rights to the IP should be granted, by reference to the IP Policy and this chapter of the Guidelines. Assistance may be sought from the agency’s IP Coordinator,[[41]](#footnote-42) or from DGS at ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au.

If it is appropriate to grant rights to the State’s IP, agencies should do so in accordance with Chapter 4.4 below.

## How to grant rights to IP under licence

The usual way to grant rights to other parties to use the State’s IP is through a licence. In the absence of a licence, the State is presumed to reserve all rights in its IP. For example, while a person may view the copyright material that a department has made available on its website, that person has no express right to reproduce, communicate, commercialise or adapt the material unless the department has granted a licence to that effect.[[42]](#footnote-43)

A licence may be given to the public at large, or to a particular person or organisation. The licence tells users of the material what they are permitted to do with it. Typically, it will address matters such as:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Aspects of licence | Explanation | Examples | |
| Exclusivity | Whether the IP can (nonexclusive) or cannot (exclusive) also be licensed to a third party or the world at large. | Exclusive  Nonexclusive |
| Territory | Where the licence applies. | Worldwide  Australia  State of Victoria |
| Purpose / Field of use | The uses that the other party can make of the IP under the licence. | ‘For any purpose whatsoever’  ‘For the purposes of the procurement’  ‘For internal research only’ |
| Term | How long the licence applies. | Perpetual  10 years |
| Sublicensing | Whether the other party can sublicense the IP to a third party for their use. | Sublicensable  Non‑sublicensable |
| Transferability | Whether the other party can transfer the licence to a third party. | Transferable  Non‑transferable |

The terms of the licence will vary depending on a number of considerations, including the form of IP, the purpose of the licence and the risks associated with the grant of rights. For example, a licence to grant rights in relation to an ICT system or a logo subject to trade mark would usually need to be limited, particularly in relation to purpose, sublicensing and transferability.

Agencies should note that granting an exclusive licence to IP is similar to disposing of it, given that it results in a third party acquiring long term rights over the IP against the world at large. Accordingly, the matters in this Chapter 3.13 should be taken into account when considering whether to grant an exclusive licence to IP.

Agencies must carefully consider the terms on which to grant rights to IP and, if required, contact their IP Coordinator,[[43]](#footnote-44) DGS at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au) and seek legal advice.

Chapter 5 below provides detailed information on making copyright material publicly accessible, including by applying a Creative Commons licence.

Commercialisation is another means of granting rights to IP. Commercialisation is discussed further in Chapter 7.

## Role of IP Coordinator

Granting rights to State IP is an important role of an agency’s IP Coordinator.[[44]](#footnote-45)

Typically, the agency’s IP Coordinator should:

* promote the granting of rights to IP;
* deal with requests to the agency for the right to use State IP;
* monitor and advise on the application of these Guidelines in relation to Creative Commons licences (see Chapter 5 below);
* help to ensure that the agency does not grant rights to IP in inappropriate circumstances, such as those set out in Chapter 4.2 above.

Where granting rights to IP is part of another aspect of agency work, such as procurement or funding, the staff member responsible for that work should deal with the IP issues that arise. However, it is recommended that, where appropriate, they do so in consultation with the IP Coordinator.

# Making copyright material publicly accessible

*IP Policy Intent:* The State grants rights to its intellectual property, as a public asset, in a manner that maximises its impact, value, accessibility and benefit consistent with the public interest.

*IP Policy Principle 2:* The State grants rights to its intellectual property with the fewest possible restrictions.

*Principle 3:* The State may exercise its intellectual property rights restrictively for reasons of privacy, public safety, security and law enforcement, public health, commercialisation and compliance with the law.

The State owns and continually develops a significant quantity of copyright material. Much of this material, if made publicly accessible under flexible terms, would be of significant benefit to the Victorian community. Accordingly, as part of implementation of the IP Policy, agencies should prioritise making their copyright material publicly accessible.

This chapter deals with making copyright material publicly accessible under the following headings:

* 5.1: Copyright material that should not be made accessible;
* 5.2: Copyright material that should be made accessible;
* 5.3: Where to publish copyright material;
* 5.4: Terms under which to make copyright material accessible;
* 5.5: Creative Commons;
* 5.6: Other licences for copyright material; and
* 5.7: Copyright notice for websites.

Making copyright material publicly accessible is a form of granting rights to IP. Accordingly, this chapter should be read in conjunction with Chapter 4.

## Copyright material that should not be made accessible

For various reasons, some copyright material should not be made accessible. For example, in most cases, copyright material which is owned by third parties should not be published by an agency. Some of the main reasons for restricting the release of copyright material are set out in Chapter 4.2 above.

It is often not appropriate to grant rights to the following State‑owned copyright material:

* material held by cultural institutions for the value of its expression;
* artistic works (including paintings and sculptures);
* confidential and private information; and
* sensitive material (including trade secrets and culturally sensitive information).[[45]](#footnote-46)

Legal advice should be sought before making such material accessible.

Agencies should be aware that applying a Creative Commons licence to copyright material will allow the user of that material to copy, distribute, re‑publish and commercialise[[46]](#footnote-47) it. Accordingly, if the material is not appropriate for these uses, a CC licence should not be applied. See Chapter 5.5 below for more details.

## Copyright material that should be made accessible

A broad range of copyright material should be made accessible to the public.

The following checklist[[47]](#footnote-48)provides guidance as to the types of copyright material that should be made publicly accessible. Agencies must encourage accessibility to material that meets any of the following criteria:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| # | Activity | Yes/No |
| 1 | Has material been prepared for the purpose of informing and advising the public of government policy and activities? |  |
| 2 | Has material been prepared for the purpose of providing information that will enable the public and organisations to understand their own obligations and responsibilities to government? |  |
| 3 | Has material been prepared for the purpose of enabling the public and organisations to understand their entitlements to government assistance? |  |
| 4 | Has material been prepared for the purpose of facilitating access to government services? |  |
| 5 | Has material been prepared for the purpose of complying with public accountability requirements? |  |

Examples of State‑owned copyright material generally appropriate to be made publicly accessible include:[[48]](#footnote-49)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Material | Description |
| Text‑based publications | This includes Government reports, policy papers, budget papers, annual reports, Government produced books providing Government information, text‑based information on Government websites, Hansard, Explanatory Memorandum, Parliamentary reports and official records of Parliamentary debates. |
| Legislation and legislative instruments | Includes Acts, Regulations and other Legislative instrument documents. |
| Data | Under the DataVic Access Policy.[[49]](#footnote-50) |
| Audio‑visual material | Including compact discs, DVDs and videos. |
| Visual material | For example, photographs included in a Government publication. |
| Certain material held by cultural institutions | Archival material that constitutes Government information. |

## Where to publish copyright material

Copyright material can be made accessible to the public through publication. There are a number of forums in which agencies may publish their copyright material, including:

* publishing and distributing hard copies;
* publishing material on websites, or in journals or books, produced by third parties; and
* providing material on agency websites.

The appropriate way to publish copyright material will depend on the type of material involved, the intended audience and the surrounding circumstances. For example, a scientific paper prepared by an agency may be appropriate for publication in a science journal, while a health fact sheet may find a larger audience on the agency’s website and in hard copy at public hospitals. Where possible, material should always be made accessible on an agency’s website in addition to other areas of publication.[[50]](#footnote-51)

## Terms under which to make material accessible

When an agency makes copyright material accessible, it must tell users of the material the types of uses that they are entitled to make.

In the past, agencies have often placed a notice on material stating that, in relation to copyright, ‘All rights [are] reserved’. Failing that, agencies have been silent on the issue. In either case, the user of the material is restricted in the uses they may make of it without seeking an additional permission from the agency. For example, a user would normally be entitled to view the material and to print a copy for themselves, but it would be a breach of copyright for them to reproduce, email, re‑publish or commercialise the material.

This historical position is inconsistent with the IP Policy Intent to grant rights to IP in a manner that maximises the public interest. For a great deal of the State’s copyright material, it is inefficient to expect the public to seek permission to make reasonable uses of material, and it is also inefficient for agencies to respond to these requests.

Accordingly, under the IP Policy, appropriate copyright material should be released under terms allowing flexible public re‑use without further permission.

Applying Creative Commons (CC) licensing to agencies’ copyright material is the recommended way to achieve this. CC is discussed in Chapter 5.5 below and, in the context of CC copyright notices for websites, in Chapter 5.7.

If CC is not considered appropriate, it is open to agencies to develop copyright notices or licence terms that achieve this. However, this is not recommended. See Chapter 5.6 for more detail.

It is noted that there are additional risks and clearance issues relating to licensing copyright in:

* artistic works, including paintings, sculptures and photographs, musical works and films[[51]](#footnote-52) (such as performers rights and the need to obtain collecting society clearances);
* materials held in public archives or collections; and
* software.[[52]](#footnote-53)

Accordingly, legal advice should be obtained in these circumstances as to the appropriate form of licence and related issues.

## Creative Commons

### What is Creative Commons?

Creative Commons (CC) refers to international copyright licences which have been developed for use by the owners of copyright material, including governments. CC licences are designed to provide copyright owners with an efficient way to manage the rights contained in their copyright work, and to provide copyright users with simple and flexible terms for use.

A CC licence always requires that users attribute the work in the form specified by the licensor.[[53]](#footnote-54) Attribution also requires the user to indicate if changes have been made to the work and to provide a link to the CC licence. CC also allows the copyright owner to apply one or more of three additional conditions, discussed below.

CC allows users of works to reproduce, communicate, distribute and perform those works without prior permission or payment. Some CC licences also allow users to make derivative works and to use works for a commercial purpose.

CC licences are applied by the licensor when the work is published. This process is automated via online tools. These tools include a version of the licence in ‘human readable’ form, the legal code which sets out the terms and conditions of the licence, and digital code which enables metadata to be attached to the on line version of the work.[[54]](#footnote-55)

CC licences are designed to be used ‘as is’. Each contains a non‑exclusive licence which is stated to be worldwide, royalty free, non‑exclusive and perpetual (subject to the termination provision). They do not provide for the imposition of licence fees, or licensing for a limited duration or purpose.

### Creative Commons licences

The licence recommended for use by agencies under the IP Policy is CC BY 4.0.

There are six CC licences available. Each is identified by a combination of the symbols, an acronym and a descriptive label.

The CC licences available are as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Image | Label | Acronym | Licence conditions |
| cc by | Attribution | CC BY | Attribution as required by licensor.[[55]](#footnote-56) |
| by sa real | Attribution – Share Alike | CC BY‑SA | Attributionas required by licensor;  any derivative works must be distributed under the same licence. |
| cc by nd | Attribution – No Derivative Works | CC BY‑ND | Attributionas required by licensor;  derivative works must not be made. |
| by nc | Attribution – Noncommercial | CC BY‑NC | Attributionas required by licensor;  work must not be used for commercial purposes. |
| by sa | Attribution – Noncommercial – Share Alike | CC BY‑NC‑SA | Attributionas required by licensor;  work must not be used for commercial purposes;  any derivative works must be distributed under the same licence. |
| by nc nd | Attribution – Noncommercial – No Derivatives | CC BY‑NC‑ND | Attributionas required by licensor;  work must not be used for commercial purposes;  derivative works must not be made. |

CC BY should be used with most copyright material that is made publicly accessible. However, in some limited circumstances, an alternative CC licence may be more appropriate. For example, if an agency needed to prevent any commercialisation of copyright material (which would not normally be the case under the IP Policy), CC BY‑NC may be the most appropriate licence. Agencies should carefully consider whether an alternative CC licence is appropriate, in consultation with their IP Coordinator,[[56]](#footnote-57) DGS at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au) and, if required, legal advice.

The following information in these Guidelines on CC relates to CC BY 4.0. The use of other CC licences may involve issues not addressed in the Guidelines. Legal advice should be sought before doing so.

### How to apply a CC BY 4.0 licence to new material

Prior to making appropriate State owned copyright material available to the public, a CC BY licence should be applied as follows. (For copyright material that has already been made accessible to the public, see Chapter 5.5.4 (How to licence existing copyright material) and Chapter 5.7 (Copyright notice for websites below)).

A CC BY licence may be applied to copyright material by attaching a notice to this effect to the work. Accordingly, departments and agencies are encouraged to apply CC BY licences to template documents.

In many cases, the following notice may be appropriate:

© State of Victoria ([name of agency, for example, ‘(Department of Government Services)’]) [year]

[](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)

This work, [insert title of work], is licensed under a [*Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 licence*](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au/) [link to http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/]. You are free to re‑use the work under that licence, on the condition that you credit the State of Victoria ([name of agency]) as author, indicate if changes were made and comply with the other licence terms.

[Optional addition to exclude aspects of the work from the CC licence:] The licence does not apply to [specify which aspects of the work the licence does not apply to, for example. ‘any branding’ or ‘any images or photographs’]

The ‘optional addition’ at the final sentence of the notice enables agencies to exclude aspects of a work from the CC licence. For example, it can be used to ensure that the State does not provide third parties with a licence to use its branding, in order to protect the State’s reputation. Images and photographs may also be appropriate to exclude because they are often owned by third parties. However, this exclusion should only be used in appropriate circumstances, and should not unduly limit the scope of the licence.

Agencies are encouraged to consult with their IP Coordinator,[[57]](#footnote-58) DGS at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au) and, if required, seek legal advice.

These Guidelines are licensed under CC BY 4.0. See the rear side of the cover page above for the copyright notice. More information is available at <https://www.vic.gov.au/intellectual-property-policy>.

It is recommended that the notice be accompanied by a symbol indicating the CC licence applied. The symbols are available on the CC website at

<http://creativecommons.org.au>

The CC BY symbol is as follows:



For online materials, the agency should include the Digital Code provided by CC.

The CC Australia website contains useful material relating to the application of CC licences by government.[[58]](#footnote-59)

### How to licence previously published copyright material

Agencies often receive requests from publishers and members of the community to use State owned copyright material which has already been published. For example, educational publishers sometimes contact the State to seek permission to reproduce departmental fact sheets in text books. In the past, such requests required the Attorney General’s approval under the *Crown Copyright Guidelines.* Under the IP Policy, this is no longer required.

When an agency receives a request to re‑use previously published copyright material, it must consider the matters addressed in Chapter 4 and this Chapter, and in particular, issues around ownership and capacity to licence.[[59]](#footnote-60) The IP Policy strongly encourages agencies to grant rights to IP with the fewest possible restrictions.[[60]](#footnote-61) However, the State’s IP rights may need to be exercised restrictively for reasons including privacy and compliance with the law.[[61]](#footnote-62) Agencies should ensure that they are responsible for the copyright material before providing permission.[[62]](#footnote-63)

In most cases, it is appropriate to provide permission for third parties to re‑use State owned copyright material on flexible terms. Accordingly, where appropriate, it is recommended that agencies respond promptly to requests by providing permission to re‑use the material on the terms of a CC BY 4.0 licence.

The following written response may be appropriate to achieve this:

On behalf of the State of Victoria, [Name of agency, for example, the Department of Government Services] grants you a licence to re‑use [Name of copyright work, for example, Intellectual Property Guidelines] under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 Licence [link to http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/]. You are free to re‑use the work under that licence, on the condition that you credit the State of Victoria ([name of agency]) as author, indicate if changes were made and comply with the other licence terms.

[Optional addition to exclude aspects of the work from the CC licence:] The licence does not apply to [specify which aspects of the work the licence does not apply to, for example. ‘any branding’ or ‘any images or photographs’]

Where permission is given on these terms, the agency should also make the material publicly accessible, for example, through publication on their website.

Material on agencies’ websites may also be licensed flexibly by applying a flexible copyright notice to all content on the website. See Chapter 5.7 for more detail.

Agencies are not required to refer requests for re‑use of State copyright material to DGS but are welcome to contact DGS for assistance at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au).

## Other licences for copyright material

CC licences are generic, and may not be appropriate in particular circumstances. This is particularly so where the licenced materials involve business or legal risks, or where the licence is granted as part of a funding or procurement agreement rather than for the purpose of public accessibility.

For example, CC licences provide no means to ensure that a licensee is using the most up to date information available from an agency. For example, this can be an issue in relation to important public health information. Where material of this kind is involved, the agency should consider application of the IP Principles as a whole in determining the most appropriate licence to use, which may be a more restrictive licence.

Other aspects of CC 4.0 licences that agencies should be aware of include that they:

* do not include a provision as to the governing jurisdiction;
* are not automatically terminated for breach; and
* are unlikely to be appropriate where the agency is commercialising the IP.[[63]](#footnote-64)

Where the nature of an agencies’ copyright material is such that CC may not be appropriate, agencies should seek advice from their IP Coordinator[[64]](#footnote-65), DGS IP Policy at ippolicy.vic.gov.au, or internal legal advice. Legal advice may also be required as to whether it is appropriate to use a more restrictive licence for the IP, which deals with specific disclaimers or relevant restrictions.

## Copyright notice for websites

Under the IP Policy, in most cases the copyright notice that appears on agency websites should grant rights to use State owned copyright material on the website with the fewest possible restrictions. A CC BY 4.0 licence is recommended.

DTF’s website includes a copyright notice under a CC BY 4.0 licence, as follows:

Copyright

The Department of Treasury and Finance encourages the dissemination and re‑use of information provided on this website.

The State of Victoria owns the copyright in all material produced by this department.

All material provided on this website is provided under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 licence](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au/), with the exception of:

any images, photographs or branding, including the Victorian Coat of Arms, the Victorian Government logo and the Department of Treasury and Finance logo; and

content supplied by third parties.

The licence conditions are available [here](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) [link to http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/].

Attribution

Material obtained from this website is to be attributed as:

© State of Victoria (Department of Treasury and Finance).

Third party copyright

In some cases, a third party may hold copyright in material presented on this website. Their permission may be required to use the material.

Contact us

Enquiries about copyright and use of the material on this website can be directed to: [information@dtf.vic.gov.au](mailto:information@dtf.vic.gov.au).

The DTF copyright notice is available at <http://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/Legal/Copyright>. Agencies are welcome to adapt the DTF notice for their own websites, having regard to their own needs.

The DTF copyright notice excludes content supplied by third parties. Agencies should be careful to ensure that they do not purport to licence material owned by third parties, unless they have the clear right to do so. Where possible, they should clearly identify material provided on their websites in which the copyright is owned by a third party.

Agencies should consult with their legal team prior to changing a website copyright notice.

# State procurement

IP Policy Principle 9:

When procuring goods, works or services, an agency will:

a) ensure that any rights to intellectual property (including pre-existing intellectual property) that may arise as a consequence of the procurement are adequately addressed in an agreement;

b) secure licences to the intellectual property sufficient to achieve the primary and related objectives of the procurement; and

c) only acquire ownership of the intellectual property if that would advance the primary and related objectives of the procurement.

## Overview

When carrying out procurement, agencies often use, generate, licence and assign IP. For example, a supplier might generate IP as specified in the procurement contract. IP may also arise incidentally as a result of the procurement. In these cases, IP rights and issues must be addressed.

Principle 9 applies to all procurement conducted by an agency, including procurements of goods, services and construction. As such, procurement processes and contracts adopted by agencies should be aligned to the requirements of the IP Policy.

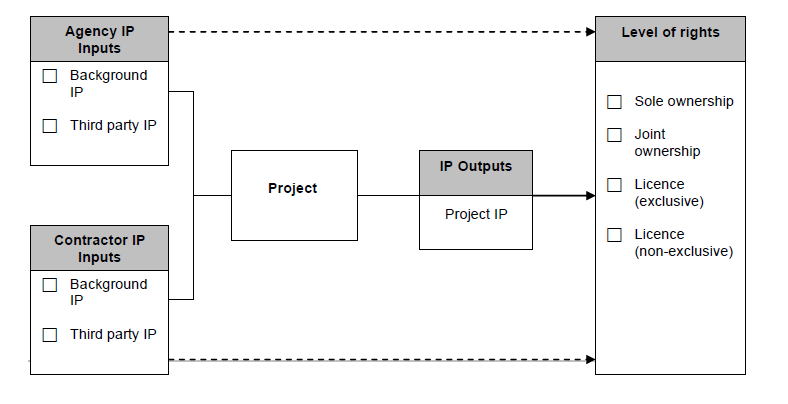
This Chapter gives further detail on how to address IP in procurement agreements (Chapter 6.2), securing a licence over IP (Chapter 6.3), acquiring ownership of IP (Chapter 6.4), template IP clauses (Chapter 6.5) and other issues (Chapter 6.6).

## Addressing IP in procurement agreements

Principle 9(a) of the IP Policy provides that procurement agreements must address any rights to intellectual property (including pre‑existing intellectual property) that may arise as a consequence of the procurement.

The State routinely enters into procurement agreements that involve IP. IP may be addressed in a procurement agreement in a number of ways:

* **IP inputs** – IP brought to the agreement by the agency and/or contractor, including:
  + **background IP** – existing IP owned by the agency or the contractor and brought to the agreement as a tool or building block, such as pre‑existing business processes;
  + **third party IP** – IP brought to the agreement by one of the parties to the contract but owned by a third party, such as software programs;
* **IP outputs** – IP generated as a result of the agreement, usually referred to as Project IP, Contract IP orDeveloped IP. There may also be improvements made to IP inputs which are created incidentally to the procurement activity. These should also be considered as part of the Project IP.[[65]](#footnote-66)

The following diagram shows how these concepts interact:[[66]](#footnote-67)

Common deliverables generated during procurement which may include project IP include:[[67]](#footnote-68)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Type of procurement | Deliverables |
| Procurement of goods | Designs, inventions, parts, specifications. |
| Procurement of services (including services to be provided on behalf of the government) | Reports, written materials, inventions or innovations, design and management of websites, confidential information, brands. |
| Procurement of software/software services | Software code, user manuals, specifications, data, software modifications. |
| Procurement of consultancy services | Design and delivery of training packages, discussion papers and reports of reviews carried out on behalf of government, IP/ confidential material similar to that produced by employees of the agency. |

Procurement agreements must address background IP, third party IP and project IP in a manner appropriate to the objectives of the procurement and consistently with the IP Policy. Appropriate contract management procedures must be followed, including the ongoing management of any IP at the time of variations to the contract and after the contract has ended.

Agencies are also encouraged, where appropriate, to adopt measures to identify any new significant IP[[68]](#footnote-69) generated by suppliers. Key measures to identify such IP need to be included in the contract and in relevant project management systems. These include:[[69]](#footnote-70)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Contractual requirement | Description |
| Identification of IP | Identify the IP to be brought to the project and the IP to be delivered. Details of pre-existing IP should preferably be included in an IP schedule, including its nature, source and ownership. Ownership of the IP deliverable(s) also needs to be specified. |
| Reporting | Contractors should regularly report on project outcomes (including new IP). |
| Rights of Inspection | Agencies may maintain appropriate rights of inspection. These rights may be exercised if IP is not being reported. |
| Review prior to disclosure | Consider a review period prior to any disclosure of materials by publication or transfer; provides opportunity to identify IP and explore protection options. |

## Securing a licence to IP

Principle 9(b) of the IP Policy provides that an agency will secure licences to intellectual property sufficient to achieve the primary and related objectives of the procurement.

Simply securing a licence over project IP will be sufficient for many procurements and may simplify negotiations and result in a lower purchase price.

Where IP inputs (background IP and/or third party IP) will be brought to a procurement agreement, the agreement must address the State’s use of those inputs.

IP developed during the course of a procurement (Project IP) may be anticipated from the outset or arise incidentally. Ownership and rights to Project IP in every procurement need to be addressed in the procurement agreement. Failure to address IP ownership and rights will result in legal uncertainty which will complicate subsequent use and management of any IP generated.

A common position for IP rights and ownership in procurements is:

* the background IP of each party remains the property of that party, along with any improvements to such background IP;
* the supplier grants the agency a licence over their background IP and any third party IP to the extent needed to allow the agency to enjoy the full benefit of the agreement;
* the agency grants the supplier a licence over their background IP and any third party IP to the extent needed to enable the supplier to perform the agreement; and
* The supplier grants the agency a non-exclusive licence over the project IP to the extent necessary to achieve the objectives of the procurement.

Depending on the circumstances, Principle 9(b) may require an agency to licence IP rights further. Agencies should carefully consider any related objectives of the procurement and, where necessary, address those objectives through additional licensing. It is intended that agencies consider the broader objectives of a procurement to determine what IP rights to licence. For example, the licence may need to allow:

* other agencies (not involved in the specific procurement) to use the IP;
* the IP to be used and adapted for subsequent projects or future procurements;
* the IP to be adapted later by another service provider engaged by government;
* the IP to be made publicly accessible; and
* other potential future uses of the IP.

For example, if an agency procured the development of a software program, it would be prudent to consider the need for a licence allowing the agency to engage a third party to repair and maintain the software. Agencies should consider undergoing an IP needs analysis to determine the appropriate form of licence.[[70]](#footnote-71)

In circumstances where it is difficult to foresee potential future uses of project IP, it may be appropriate to seek a broad licence ‘for any purpose’. This type of licence may also be a suitable option for use in pro forma agreements that will apply in a wide variety of circumstances, provided that such licence is consistent with the IP Policy. Legal advice should be obtained in respect of the drafting of any agreements and IP related provisions.

The licence must address issues such as exclusivity, territory, term, royalties, sublicense rights and (in ICT contracts) access to source code. Agencies may refer to the *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2018) for further information on these aspects of licensing.[[71]](#footnote-72) Agencies may also consider seeking legal advice on these issues.

## Acquiring ownership of IP

Principle 9(c) of the IP Policy provides that an agency will acquire ownership of intellectual property if that would advance the primary and related objectives of the procurement.

In some situations, acquiring ownership of project IP generated through procurement will result in a higher contract price, which may be contrary to the objectives of the procurement. For example, in the procurement of mass market goods, ownership of the IP will usually be contrary to the primary or related objectives of the procurement.

Ownership of IP may advance the primary and related objectives of the procurement in more complex and strategic procurements, such as:

* where development of the IP is the primary objective of the procurement (for example, where a supplier is engaged to develop enhancements to the agency’s IP);
* where the IP is an essential part of delivering a core State service;[[72]](#footnote-73)
* where control of the IP is essential beyond the relationship between the agencies and supplier;
* where the IP has a commercial application that can be leveraged by the State;[[73]](#footnote-74)
* where an existing agreement requires the State to retain ownership;
* for reasons of privacy, public safety, security and law enforcement, public health, commercialisation and compliance with the law;[[74]](#footnote-75) and
* where the intent of the IP Policy is better achieved (to maximise the impact, value, accessibility and benefit of the IP consistent with the public interest).[[75]](#footnote-76)

Agencies should not adopt a default position of acquiring ownership of IP in every procurement. Whether to acquire IP should be assessed separately for each procurement. Agencies should consider undergoing an IP needs analysis to determine whether ownership is required in each case. An IP needs analysis will identify whether acquiring ownership of the IP would advance the primary and related objectives of the procurement. An IP needs analysis consists of three steps:

* Stage 1: Identify the IP components of the proposed contract;
* Stage 2: Identify agency and other Government needs with respect to the IP; and
* Stage 3: Match agency and Government needs to appropriate rights in each IP component.

A detailed description of an IP needs analysis can be found in the *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2018), pp. 139‑145.

The need to acquire ownership of IP will be different in each procurement. In some circumstances, the benefits of IP ownership can be obtained by an exclusive licence. In other circumstances, acquiring ownership of the IP may be more appropriate.

IP can be owned jointly by two or more parties, and some procurement agreements provide for the joint ownership of project IP. However, it is generally not recommended that agencies adopt a joint ownership position due to the complex management issues which arise. Many of the perceived benefits and outcomes of joint ownership can be achieved by a combination of sole ownership and licensing.[[76]](#footnote-77)

## Template IP clauses

Agencies are encouraged to ensure that any existing template procurement contracts include IP provisions that are consistent with the IP Policy. As set out in this chapter, significant matters to address include:

* addressing IP rights such as rights in relation to project, background and third party IP;
* securing sufficient licences for the agency to use IP; and
* providing for ownership of project IP if that advances the primary or related objectives of the procurement.

The Victorian Government Purchasing Board (VGPB) sets the policies that govern procurement of non‑construction goods and services across all Victorian Government departments and some public bodies. The VGPB’s standard form contracts include IP clauses which are generally consistent with the IP Policy. Agencies are encouraged to seek legal advice and draw from these contracts in developing their own template IP clauses.[[77]](#footnote-78)

In developing template IP clauses, agencies are also encouraged to consult with Department of Government Services (DGS) at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au).

## Other issues

Agencies must be aware of other issues and requirements that impact on their procurement agreements.

Software contracts often involve complex IP issues. Agencies should be particularly careful in applying the IP Policy to software contracts, and may refer to the *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2018) for further information on these issues.[[78]](#footnote-79) Agencies may also consider seeking legal advice.

Outsourcing is another issue with IP ramifications. It is important that agencies address any IP issues that arise from outsourcing as they would in any procurement contract. If IP necessary for an agency’s current or ongoing operations is generated as a result of outsourcing, an agency should consider an adequate licence to use the IP in the agreement. This is particularly important where the IP may continue to be of value to the agency once the outsourcing agreement ends or in the case where there is a change in supplier.

Public Record Office Victoria requires agencies to consider the legislative record‑keeping requirements of outsourcing. Where an outsourcing agreement may include public records, agencies should take steps to ensure record‑keeping contract clauses are included in the agreement.[[79]](#footnote-80) This principle should also be followed for procurement generally.

# Commercialisation of State-owned IP

*IP Policy Principle 7:*

An agency should be responsive to opportunities to utilise intellectual property for commercial use that do not conflict with the agency’s legal powers, purpose and strategic priorities.

*Principle 8:*

An agency may commercialise intellectual property if:

a) it has an explicit statutory function to do so; or

b) the expected benefits from the commercialisation provide a clear net benefit to the Victorian community and:

i) the agency has consulted with the responsible Minister for this policy about the commercialisation; and

ii) the responsible Minister for this policy has not given a direction to cease commercialising the intellectual property.

## Overview

IP is commercialised when it is licensed or sold to the public or third parties on a commercial basis. Commercialisation includes:

* licensing or selling compilations of information held on registers;
* charging a fee for access to an information website;
* seeking royalty payments for the publication of State copyright material;
* licensing or selling a patent; and
* licensing or selling an IT system.

Commercialisation also includes an agency receiving royalties or other payment for the commercialisation of IP by a third party.

The main indicator of commercialisation is an intention to generate income (or avoid costs) from exploitation of the IP in the marketplace. It is not the mere fact that a fee is charged for the IP‑related product or service. For example, requiring payment of a fee to offset the cost of the service (e.g. printing or postage costs) is not commercialisation.[[80]](#footnote-81)

Principles 7 and 8 of the IP Policy deal with commercialisation. Principle 7 provides that the State should be responsive to opportunities to utilise IP for commercial use provided that it does not conflict with the agency’s legal powers, purpose and strategic priorities.

Principle 8 provides that an agency may commercialise IP if it has an explicit statutory function to do so, or the expected benefits from any proposed IP commercialisation provide a clear net benefit to the Victorian community and the Minister for Government Services has been consulted. More information on these grounds for commercialisation is set out in Chapter 7.2 below.

The commercialisation principles fit within the context of:

* the IP Policy Intent that the State grants rights to its IP, as a public asset, in a manner that maximises its impact, value, accessibility and benefit consistent with the public interest;
* Principle 2 of the IP Policy, which provides that the State grants rights to its IP with the fewest possible restrictions; and
* Principle 3 of the IP Policy, which provides that the State may exercise its IP rights restrictively for commercialisation, amongst other things.

## Where commercialisation is available

Agencies should be responsive to and seek opportunities to utilise IP for commercial use provided that it does not conflict with the agency’s legal powers, purpose and strategic priorities. Agencies can explore opportunities to leverage and share the commercial benefits of private sector investment and innovation, and to improve the agency’s and/or the State’s financial position.

Before commercialising IP, agencies should conduct an assessment of the commercial potential of the IP including associated costs and risks (this is further explained in sections 3.5 and 7.2.2).

Where IP is commercialised or disposed of, agencies must do so in a manner that is consistent with the State’s obligations set out in applicable legislation, policies and guidelines.

As noted, Principle 8 of the IP Policy provides two bases on which an agency may commercialise IP. An agency may do so if:

* it has an explicit statutory function to do so; or
* the expected benefits from any proposed IP commercialisation provide a clear net benefit to the Victorian community, and it has consulted with the Minister for Government Services.

Each basis for commercialisation is discussed further below.

### Commercialisation under explicit statutory function

An agency may commercialise IP if it has an explicit statutory function to do so. An example is the statutory function of the National Gallery of Victoria to sell books, information and reproductions in relation to pictures, works of art and art exhibits.[[81]](#footnote-82) In such cases there is no need for the agency to consult with the Minister for Government Services for commercialisation.

Some statutes may provide an agency with a power, rather than a function, to commercialise IP. Whether this allows commercialisation under the IP Policy will depend on the surrounding circumstances.

An example of this situation arises in relation to water corporations. The *Water Act 1989* (Vic) (Water Act), gives water corporations the power to commercialise IP with the Minister for Water’s approval.[[82]](#footnote-83) The Water Act also requires the corporations to act commercially. Given the commercial focus of the water corporations, commercialisation of their IP is generally acceptable under the IP Policy, subject to the requirements of the Water Act and having regard to the IP Policy.

Agencies that intend to commercialise IP under Principle 8(a) should carefully consider whether there is an explicit statutory function to do so. If there is any doubt about whether Principle 8(a) applies, an agency should consult with DGS at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au).

### Commercialisation with a clear net benefit to the Victorian community

If an agency intends to commercialise IP without an explicit statutory function to do so, it is required to demonstrate a clear net benefit to the Victorian community and consult with the Minister for Government Services under Principle 8(b) of the IP Policy.

This Principle applies when:

* an agency proposes to enter a new commercialisation arrangement in relation to existing IP (even where that IP has previously been commercialised);
* an agency proposes to develop IP to be commercialised (including developing new IP for the purpose of an existing commercialisation arrangement);
* an existing commercialisation arrangement comes up for renewal or amendment; and
* a third party approaches an agency to use existing IP.

Commercialisation is allowed where the agency has demonstrated that it will result in a clear net benefit to the Victorian community. A ‘net benefit’ is an overall positive impact on the community. It takes into account the costs and benefits related to:

* public health and safety;
* social and community impact;
* environmental impact;
* competition; and
* economic impact.

Assessment of the benefit to the community will be informed by the IP Policy Intent: that rights to IP should be granted in a manner that maximises its impact, value, accessibility and benefit consistent with the public interest.

#### Consultation

Consultation under Principle 8(b) must be made by letter from the departmental secretary, agency head or responsible Minister to the Minister for Government Services prior to commercialisation.

The letter must provide information on the proposed commercialisation (including the terms sheet or draft agreement) and explain the grounds on which the agency considers that commercialisation will result in a clear net benefit to the Victorian community, having regard to the IP Policy.

The onus is on the requesting agency to demonstrate that there is a clear net benefit to the Victorian community resulting from the commercialisation.

Agencies should consider conducting a cost benefit analysis of proposed commercialisations,[[83]](#footnote-84) and should take care to identify costs and risks associated with commercialisation. Agencies should ensure that they own and have capacity to licence the IP.[[84]](#footnote-85)

Guidance for assisting agencies in developing a summary of their commercialisation opportunity can be found in Attachment 2.

Agencies should consult with DGS at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:ippolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au) in advance of preparing its consultation letter to the Minister for Government Services.

#### Minister for Government Services response

The Minister for Government Services will respond to the agency:

* acknowledging the commercialisation opportunity; or
* may seek additional information, prior to acknowledging the opportunity and confirming that the Minister for Government Services has been consulted.

In order to protect the State’s interest, the Minister for Government Services may direct an agency to not commercialise the intellectual property. This direction may require an agency to not enter prospective opportunities and to cease current commercialisation arrangements.

#### Additional information

Should the Minister for Government Services seek additional information from an agency, it may include details relating to:

* **Opportunity** – describe what the commercialisation opportunity is;
* **Market analysis** – a general description of the initial and future markets for the IP and some indication of the size of the market;
* **SWOT analysis** – strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats analysis on the proposed commercialisation opportunity;
* **Cost/benefit analysis** – cost of commercialising versus predicted returns (revenue and other non-financial) from the commercialisation method, as well as what the net benefit is to the Victorian community;
* **Commercialisation structures** – developing commercialisation and governance structures to support the proposed commercialisation opportunity; [[85]](#footnote-86)
* **Timeline** – determine a pathway/timeline to achieve commercialisation; and
* **Risk management** – assessment of the risks and mitigation strategies for the proposed commercialisation opportunity (i.e. risk matrix assessment).

## Commercialisation process

If an agency proposes to pursue commercialisation, and has ensured that commercialisation is available under the IP Policy,[[86]](#footnote-87) it should carefully consider the issues associated with commercialisation.

Relevant issues include whether the IP is suitable for commercialisation, whether there is a commercial market for the IP, risks, resources requirements, the development of a business plan, the method of commercialisation, project management and implementation.

Agencies may refer to the *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2018) for further information on the commercialisation process.[[87]](#footnote-88)

## Related considerations

### Legal authority

An agency must have the appropriate legal authority to commercialise IP. It is important that legal advice is sought on a proposed commercialisation of IP at an early stage. Agencies must fully consider their legal powers in relation to all aspects of the IP commercialisation, which will vary depending on the circumstances of the commercialisation. Some aspects which must be considered include:

* **Ownership** – does the agency have legal authority to own IP? Is it the owner of the IP being commercialised?
* **Commercialisation** – does the agency have the legal authority to commercialise its IP?
* **Setting fees** – where relevant, does the agency have the legal authority to set any fees as part of the commercialisation?
* **Revenue retention** – where relevant, does the agency have the legal authority to retain revenue collected during the commercialisation?

Agencies commercialising IP under Principle 8(b) of the IP Policy are required to seek assurances through their legal counsel about their legal authority to carry out the proposed commercialisation prior to consulting with the Minister for Government Services.

### Revenue retention

An agency seeking to retain revenue from the proposed commercialisation must consider whether it has legal power to do so. Such a power can be given (or restricted) by specific provisions in a relevant Act. Subject to any specific legislative provisions, an agency which is a body corporate can raise, retain and spend its own revenue. However, again subject to any specific legislative provisions, under the *Financial Management Act 1994* (FMA) a department or other agency funded by annual appropriations can only retain access to revenue raised by it if the revenue is covered by an agreement in writing under section 29 of the FMA between the Treasurer and the agency’s Minister (in such cases the revenue is still required by section 9 of the FMA to be paid into the Consolidated Fund, but an amount equal to the revenue paid in is added to the department’s annual appropriation). If such an agreement does not currently exist, the Minister responsible for the administration of the item must request it from the Treasurer.

### Pricing for Value Guide

In setting fees for commercialising IP, agencies are required to apply the Pricing for Value Guide which contains a broad range of pricing principles including value-based, cost recovery and other principles. Agencies will need to consider which principles are appropriate having regard to the nature of the IP that is being commercialised.

Application of the Pricing for Value Guide (PfV Guide) is mandatory for public bodies as defined in section 3 of the *Financial Management Act 1994*. [[88]](#footnote-89)

In setting fees for commercialising IP, relevant agencies must apply the PfV Guide which replaced the previous cost recovery guidelines on 1 July 2021. The PfV Guide is a practical user guide for agencies to review and/or set fees and charges. The guide includes a broad range of pricing principles that go beyond just cost recovery, such as value-based and market pricing, allowing agencies to innovate and better serve the community. Agencies will need to consider which PfV Guide principles are appropriate for the IP that is being commercialised and be able to justify their fee setting in relation to those principles. In some circumstances set out in the PfV guide the approval of the Victorian Treasurer may need to be sought.

### Data

The IP Policy and supporting guidelines must be read in conjunction with the DataVic Access Policy[[89]](#footnote-90) and their supporting guidelines. The DataVic Access Policy provides direction on the release, licensing and management of Victorian Government data so that it can be used and reused by the community and businesses. With respect to commercialisation opportunities, given the relationship between IP and Data, agencies should also consult with Department of Government Services to ensure the correct policy framework is applied.

# Protecting and enforcing intellectual property rights

*IP Policy Principle 6:* The State responds to breaches of its intellectual property rights where appropriate in order to maintain its reputation or the value of its intellectual property.

## Overview

As managers of IP, agencies have the power to protect and enforce the State’s IP rights.

Protecting IP normally refers to seeking registration of particular types of IP or otherwise alerting third parties to the agency’s ownership of IP. It may also include keeping information confidential.

Enforcing IP normally means responding to breaches of IP by third parties.

The IP Policy requires agencies to deal with their IP in a manner that maximises value to the community. For this reason, the IP Policy only encourages the protection and enforcement of IP in limited circumstances. These are discussed further below.

## Protecting IP rights

IP protection may take a number of forms depending upon the nature of the IP and the objectives and resources of the agency. The advantages and disadvantages of each form of protection should be carefully considered. In many cases, a threshold question is whether IP protection should be pursued at all. Where IP arises automatically without a need for registration (such as copyright), IP protection considerations arise more in the context of practical and operational requirements. [[90]](#footnote-91)

Some of the factors that will need to be considered when assessing whether or not to protect IP, are set out in the following table. [[91]](#footnote-92)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| # | IP Protection assessment checklist  Factor | Yes/No |
|  | **Purpose and value** |  |
| 1 | What is the intended use and purpose for the IP asset? |  |
| 2 | What is its value to the agency (quantitatively and/or qualitatively)? |  |
| 3 | Is protection required to maintain the value (qualitatively or quantitatively)? |  |
|  | **Agency’s objectives and policies** |  |
| 4 | What are the agency’s objectives? |  |
| 5 | What are the agency’s policies with respect to IP protection? |  |  |
| 6 | Is there any specific approval process for protection of IP? |  |
| 7 | What resources does the agency have to maintain registration of the IP? |  |
|  | **Forms of IP protection available** |  |
| 8 | What type of IP applies? |  |
| 9 | What form of protection is available for each type? |  |
| 10 | Does the IP require registration? What is the cost of obtaining registration? |  |
| 11 | Does the IP asset have a short life span? Is it prone to rapid product change and development? |  |
| 12 | How will the IP rights be enforced if infringed? Will they be enforced? |  |
|  | **Determining appropriate protection** |  |
| 13 | Will registration provide any useful protection for the agency? |  |
| 14 | Do the benefits of registration merit the costs of registration? |  |
| 15 | Is registration necessary to maintain or enhance the operational or commercial value of the IP? |  |
| 16 | If protection is not sought will the operational value of the IP be lost or reduced? |  |
| 17 | Will the IP be adequately protected without registration? |  |
| 18 | Can the IP be easily reverse engineered or reproduced? |  |
| 19 | Is the need to be able to commercialise the IP asset important? |  |
| 20 | Has there been consideration of other factors such as international trade law obligations? |  |

The advantages and disadvantages, including potential costs, of protection afforded by different types of IP vary greatly. Subject matter may be protected by more than one type of IP, each with its own advantages and disadvantages, for example, some software can be protected by both copyright and patents. [[92]](#footnote-93)

The following table provides guidance on the circumstances and manner in which agencies may protect particular IP rights:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Form of IP | Circumstances requiring protection[[93]](#footnote-94) | Manner of protection |
| Copyright | Legislation, authoritative advice, public health information, etc. | Automatic |
| Patent | Commercialisation of inventions (requires approval under IP Policy – see Chapter 6.) | Registration required[[94]](#footnote-95) |
| Trade mark | Identifying a unique product or service, government branding. | Automatic or registered[[95]](#footnote-96) |
| Designs | Commercialisation of products developed with unique appearance (requires approval under IP Policy – see Chapter 6.) | Registration required[[96]](#footnote-97) |
| Plant breeder’s rights | Commercialisation of new varieties of plants that are distinct, uniform and stable (requires approval under IP Policy – see Chapter 6.) | Registration required[[97]](#footnote-98) |
| Circuit layouts | Original layout designs for integrated circuits and computer chips | Automatic |

Confidential information may also need to be protected. However, it may or may not include IP rights such as copyright. In dealing with confidential information, agencies should consider the Victorian Government information security requirements.[[98]](#footnote-99)

For detailed information about IP protection, including information on when and how to seek IP registration, agencies may refer to the *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2018).[[99]](#footnote-100)

Further information about protecting IP through registration is set out below. Information about State and agency branding is set out in Chapters 3.6 and 3.7 above.

**Protecting IP rights through registration**

Where protection of State IP requires registration, agencies should familiarise themselves with the resources required to undertake this process, including fees payable at various stages, before the decision to register is made.

While application fees payable may be small, other stages of the process can be costly. For example, where obstacles to registration are raised (by examiners of trademarks or patents) costs of legal advice, and internal resources required to meet the objections may be more substantial. Agencies need to have a clear view of the value to the State of registration and must be prepared to revisit their decision to proceed with registration where the costs of continuing with complex or contested applications is disproportionate to the value conferred.[[100]](#footnote-101)

## Enforcing IP rights

Principle 6 of the IP Policy provides that the State responds to breaches of its intellectual property rights where appropriate in order to maintain its reputation or the value of its intellectual property.

In deciding whether and how to respond to a suspected breach of the State’s IP, an agency must take into account many factors, including whether there is a need to do so for reputational or value reasons or due to the agency’s contractual obligations. It will usually be advisable for the agency to obtain appropriate legal and commercial advice to assist in its decision making. Advice on the application of the IP Policy to specific suspected breaches may also be sought from the DGS IP team at ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au.

An agency’s response to a breach of IP must take into account the IP Policy more broadly, such as the focus on maximising the value of IP to the community. Agencies should have regard to the range of potential responses, and match the response to the particular circumstances.

For example, if a third party website commercialises a document in which the State holds copyright, and that is provided free to the public on an agency’s website, it may be appropriate to respond to protect the State’s reputation as a provider of free information to the public. The appropriate response may be to ask the third party to notify users of its website that the document is also provided free by the State rather than demanding that the website stop publishing the document, or demanding compensation. Such a response, however, should not be pursued without legal advice.

Agencies should also consider informal and practical forms of dispute resolution before issuing court proceedings.[[101]](#footnote-102)

Failure to enforce the State’s IP rights in appropriate circumstances can carry several risks, including:

* reducing the value of the IP;
* damaging the reputation and image of the agency or the State generally;
* financial loss;
* failure to meet contractual obligations the agency may have to other parties, especially licensees; and
* failing to deter infringement of the IP by others.[[102]](#footnote-103)

Agencies should note the requirement to report suspected and alleged breaches of IP set out in Chapter 12.3 below.

# Funding and grants

*IP Policy Principle 10:* When the State provides a grant or similar funding for an identified purpose or project, the State:

a) addresses in an agreement any rights to intellectual property (including pre‑existing intellectual property) that may arise as a consequence of the grant or funding;

b) does not secure a licence to the intellectual property unless there is a stated purpose for doing so, and then only to the minimum extent necessary to achieve that purpose;

c) if a licence would not be adequate in the circumstances, acquires ownership of the resulting intellectual property; and

d) ensures that ownership of the intellectual property is able to be assigned to or by the State if the intellectual property is not used by the recipient for the purpose of the grant or funding within a reasonable time.

## Overview

Funding agreements, processes and contracts must reflect the requirements of the IP Policy. State provision of grants and funding is a significant feature of public sector administration. For some agencies it constitutes part of their core function. The objectives of individual grants or funding arrangements vary, and should be taken into account when agencies make IP ownership or licensing decisions.

Common types of IP generated as a result of funding and grants include written or multimedia content, reports, research results, inventions, designs, information products, data and confidential information.

Principles 10(b) and (c) are particularly relevant to consider in reaching funding and grant agreements. A licence over project IP must not be sought unless there is a stated purpose, and only to the minimum extent necessary to achieve that purpose. Ownership may only be sought where a licence is not adequate to achieve that purpose. This issue is expanded in Chapters 9.3 and 8.4 below.

Sometimes, the State is involved in joint funding arrangements with external parties such as the Commonwealth Government. In these cases, agencies should apply the IP Policy to the extent possible in the circumstances.

## Addressing IP rights

Principle 10(a) of the IP Policy provides that funding and grant agreements must address any rights to IP (including pre‑existing IP) that may arise as a consequence of the grant or funding.

A key issue to be addressed is IP ownership and licence terms, including royalties. The default position is that the recipient of the grant or funding should retain ownership, and the State may only acquire a licence where necessary for a specific purpose. The issues impacting on State licence or ownership are discussed in Chapter 9.3 and 8.4 below.

In addressing IP rights, agencies must comply with relevant IP management frameworks in relation to government funding, and clarify and manage the possibility of conflicting claims on the IP created or developed under funding agreements from other funding agencies (e.g. the Commonwealth Government, private sector, donations or bequests).

Agencies may also need to ensure that the funded body has adequate IP management policies and procedures with respect to its risks and responsibilities for IP under the funding agreement.

Agencies should consider undergoing an IP needs analysis to help determine the appropriate way to deal with IP rights under a grant agreement.[[103]](#footnote-104)

The Common Funding Agreement for not‑for‑profits, discussed in Chapter 9.5 below, provides generally for IP rights. When using the Common Funding Agreement, agencies should consider whether the general IP provisions are appropriate, and whether further provisions are required in the circumstances.

## Securing a licence to IP

In funding and grant agreements, agencies may only seek a licence over IP produced under the agreement to the extent necessary to achieve a stated purpose.

Accordingly, a licence should only be sought where the State has a genuine purpose for use of the IP, and this purpose is stated in funding agreement. For example, in a funding agreement for scientific research, it may be appropriate to secure a licence over the material to ensure that it is made accessible to the public after publication.

If that stated purpose cannot be achieved through a licence, or the circumstances otherwise require it, an agency may consider seeking ownership of the IP. More detail is provided in the next subchapter.

The Common Funding Agreement for not‑for‑profits, discussed in Chapter 9.5 below, provides generally for licensing and, if required, State ownership of IP. One of the provisions in the terms and conditions provides the State with a licence over IP to the extent needed to allow the State to enjoy the full benefit of the funding agreement. This is a stated purpose that in most cases would meet the requirements of Principle 10(b).

## Acquiring ownership of IP

In a funding agreement, State ownership of IP should only be sought where a licence is not adequate in the circumstances.

In considering whether ownership is required, agencies should consider:

* the purpose of the grant;
* the amount of existing IP contributed by the grant recipient;
* the extent of contribution (in monetary and other terms) by the grant recipient to the development of project IP;
* the extent to which imposing ownership will operate as a disincentive to the effective use or commercialisation of the project IP; and
* the benefits to the public by imposing ownership conditions on the project IP.[[104]](#footnote-105)

In some cases, such as many research or funding programs, a too restrictive approach to ownership of IP by the State could prove to be a disincentive to potential applicants. Recipients of grants or funding arrangements may be receiving funds from several sources, such as other jurisdictions or the private sector. Insistence on IP ownership may in the case of collaborative funding be impractical.

If the State is to own IP created or developed under the funding agreement, the agency must ensure the funding agreement clearly specifies the scope of the IP to be owned by the State.

Consistent with Principle 10(d) of the IP Policy, the funding agreement should provide for the situation where the IP is not used by the recipient for the purpose of the grant or funding within a reasonable time. Options include providing for a reversion of ownership of the IP to the State, or pursuing the agency for a breach of the funding agreement. What is a reasonable time for use of the IP will depend on the nature of the IP and should be addressed in the agreement.

The Common Funding Agreement for not‑for‑profits provides a means for agencies to take ownership of IP by providing written notice to the funding recipient prior to the delivery of part of the project that it will own the IP.[[105]](#footnote-106) This provision must only be used consistently with the IP Policy and the guidance given in these Guidelines.

## Open Access to publications

Open Access involves providing unrestricted access via the internet to research. This ensures that business, universities, researchers and the community have free access to important research, maximising the public interest. Open Access is utilised throughout the world, and is a standard condition for much government funded research.

The IP Policy requires the State to deal with intellectual property in a manner that maximises the public interest. Accordingly, agencies that fund research which is likely to result in published works are encouraged to require or recommend Open Access in their funding or grant agreements.

Open Access is required in the Commonwealth Government context by the Australian Research Council (ARC) [[106]](#footnote-107) and the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)[[107]](#footnote-108), which are responsible for much of the research funded by the Commonwealth Government. Both have Open Access policies that require publications[[108]](#footnote-109) arising from research they support to be deposited into a openly accessible digital database within a 12 month period from the date of publication.

Agencies are encouraged to consider the ARC and NHMRC Open Access policies in implementing their own Open Access requirements. A simple option may be to provide in relevant agreements that Open Access is required or recommended on the same terms as one of the ARC or NHMRC policies. Agencies are encouraged to consult with DGS at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au).

## Common Funding Agreement for not‑for‑profits

The Government mandated the Common Funding Agreement for not‑for‑profits (CFA) for use by departments for new funding agreements with not‑for‑profit community organisations for community services and project grants from 1 January 2013.

The CFA is made up of:

* standard, locked down **terms and conditions;**
* an editable **schedule** that is used with the terms and conditions;
* an editable **short form** for use with lower risk grants; and
* a **clause bank** of additional terms and conditions for use with the schedule or the short form.

The terms and conditions include a clause dealing with IP (clause 16). Relevantly, it provides that the funding recipient owns all IP created under the funded project. This is subject to a right of the agency to give written notice to the recipient prior to the delivery of part of the project that it will own the IP. This right must only be used consistently with the IP Policy and the guidance given in these Guidelines above.

The short form includes additional provisions dealing with IP, some of which deal with ownership issues. As with the terms and conditions, these must only be used consistently with the IP Policy and the guidance given in these Guidelines above.

The short form also includes a provision allowing agencies to require the funding recipient to make particular IP available to the public. Agencies should consider whether this provision may be appropriate where a purpose of the funding is for IP such as copyright material to be produced for the benefit of the community. The use of this provision in such circumstances may mean that there is no need for the agency to take a licence over or ownership of the IP.

When using the CFA, agencies should consider whether the general IP provisions are appropriate, and whether further provisions from the short form are required in the circumstances, consistent with the IP Policy and these Guidelines.

Agencies are encouraged to draw from the CFA in developing their own template IP clauses for funding arrangements. Agencies are also encouraged to consult with DGS at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au).

Information on the CFA can be found online.[[109]](#footnote-110)

# Moral rights

*IP Policy Principle 5:* The State manages the moral rights of creators as required under the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth).

## Overview

Part IX of the *Copyright Act* recognises that individuals[[110]](#footnote-111) (including State employees) are entitled to moral rights associated with their work, to protect their reputation and integrity. The moral rights include:

* the right of attribution;[[111]](#footnote-112)
* the right against false attribution;[[112]](#footnote-113) and
* the right of integrity of authorship.[[113]](#footnote-114)

Moral rights apply to literary, dramatic, musical and artistic works and to films, sound recordings and live performances. In general they last for the same period as copyright.

These rights are separate from copyright. Even where a creator (such as an author, artist, film producer, director or screenplay write) does not own copyright in his or her work, they retain moral rights. Moral rights may not be assigned, licensed or waived, but creators may consent to acts or omissions in relation to their works which would otherwise infringe their moral rights.

Moral rights in a work can only be held by individuals. Corporate entities and organisations, including the State and agencies, do not have moral rights.

The State as an employer is subject to the same obligations as other employers in relation to moral rights and copyright. Principle 5 of the IP Policy recognises this in providing that the State manages the moral rights of creators as required under the *Copyright Act*. Accordingly, agencies must recognise the moral rights of authors unless it is reasonable not to do so.[[114]](#footnote-115)

## Right of attribution

The *Copyright Act* provides that the author of a work has a right of attribution of ownership in respect of the work.[[115]](#footnote-116) This requires the author to be identified by any reasonable form of identification that is clear and reasonably prominent. Further, a reasonable request by the author to be identified in a particular way must be met[[116]](#footnote-117) (for example, some Indigenous creators may request to have their community noted in addition to their own name).[[117]](#footnote-118)

Failure to attribute the author may be an infringement of moral rights. However, there is no infringement if it was reasonable not to identify the author. What is reasonable in the circumstances depends on a number of factors, including the nature, purpose and context of the work and, if the work has two or more authors, their views about the failure to identify them.[[118]](#footnote-119)

For agencies, there may be circumstances in which attribution is not strictly required. This may include where there is no existing practice of attributing the author of works, or where the author has consented in writing not to be identified.

Agencies should consider whether there is a need to seek written consent from employees to not be identified as the author of copyright material, as discussed in Chapter 10.5 below.

If there is any doubt about the requirement for attribution, agencies should consult with DGS at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au).

## Right against false attribution

The *Copyright Act* provides that the author of a work has a right not to have authorship of the work falsely attributed.[[119]](#footnote-120)

This means that the State must not insert a person’s name in a work in a way that would falsely imply that the person is the author, or deal with such a work.[[120]](#footnote-121)

There is no ‘reasonableness’ defence in relation to the right against false attribution.

## Right of integrity of authorship

The *Copyright Act* provides that the author of a work has a right of integrity of authorship. This means that the work must not be subjected to derogatory treatment.[[121]](#footnote-122)

Derogatory treatment means the doing, in relation to the work,[[122]](#footnote-123) of anything that results in a change that is prejudicial to the author’s honour or reputation.[[123]](#footnote-124)

## Moral rights consent

The *Copyright Act* provides that an author, including an employee, may give a written consent to acts that would otherwise be an infringement of an author’s moral rights.[[124]](#footnote-125)

A written consent from the creator consenting to an act or omission that would otherwise infringe moral rights must:

* specify the work(s) to which the consent relates
* specify the acts or omissions covered by the consent, and
* be voluntarily given (i.e. consent will be invalid if provided under duress).[[125]](#footnote-126)

As discussed in Chapter 10.2 above, it may be reasonable for an agency to not attribute an author, particularly if there is no existing practice of doing so. However, agencies should consider the need for obtaining a moral rights consent in the circumstances indicated in the following checklists. Two checklists are provided, one for State employees and one for contractors.

The checklists relate to moral rights in literary works (such as reports, policies, manuals and other written materials). Moral rights in relation to artistic works, musical works or films (in any form) will raise particular issues which should be referred for legal advice.

Consents cannot be given by organisations on behalf of an individual. They must be signed by the consenting person.

Where a moral rights consent form is appropriate, a template form is provided in Attachment 3.

### When to seek moral rights consent from employees

Agencies should consider obtaining a moral rights consent from an employee in circumstances where they intend not to attribute the employee as the author of a work and some or all of these factors apply:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| # | Factor | Yes/No |
| 1 | Does the work contain opinion or original thought? |  |
| 2 | Does the work involve culturally sensitive material? |  |
| 3 | Is the employee recognised as an expert or leader, such as a key academic? |  |
| 4 | Does the work involve substantial contributions from a few key individuals, rather than many individuals making numerous contributions? |  |
| 5 | Is the extent of creative contribution by the employee high? |  |
| 6 | Is the employee responsible for the inspiration behind the work and the creative effort in bringing it into existence? |  |

Agencies must always seek legal advice before obtaining moral rights consents from employees, unless this is their standard practice.

The consents may either be in relation to specified works or classes of works, and for specified acts or omissions that would otherwise amount to a breach of moral rights, or a general consent with respect to all works produced in the course of employment. A general moral rights consent template is provided in Attachment 4.

### When to seek moral rights consent from contractors

Agencies may require contractors to obtain moral rights consents from creators employed by them where they intend not to attribute the contractor as the author of a work some or all of these factors apply:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| # | Factor | Yes/No |
| 1 | Does the agency require the option of making alterations to the work? |  |
| 2 | Is the work to be published, rather than used for internal purposes? |  |
| 3 | Does the work involve significant original work and creative contribution? (For example, a consent would be essential for a commissioned literary work). |  |
| 4 | Is the practice in the industry in which the contractor operates to name individuals as authors of their work? |  |
| 5 | Does the work contain opinion or original thought? |  |
| 6 | Does the work involve culturally sensitive material? |  |
| 7 | Is the creator recognised as an expert or leader, such as a key academic? |  |
| 8 | Does the work involve substantial contributions from a few key individuals, rather than many individuals making numerous and imprecise contributions? |  |
| 9 | Does the contract involve copyright material such as commissioning agreements, research agreements, consulting agreements, licence agreements, or a contract for the development or procurement of works, especially artistic works, musical works or films? |  |

The consent must be in relation to specified works or classes of works, and for specified acts or omissions that would otherwise amount to a breach of moral rights.

Template procurement contracts may include a moral rights consent form.

# Use by the State of third‑party IP

*IP Policy Principle 11:* The State deals with third party intellectual property in a manner that:

(a) avoids infringing the intellectual property rights of others and complies with the law; and

(b) provides equitable remuneration to intellectual property owners (whether directly or through collecting societies) in a manner consistent with the responsible spending of public moneys.

## Overview

The State often uses intellectual property owned by third parties. For example, printing a report or journal article is a common use of third party intellectual property. When using IP owned by third parties, agencies must comply with the law.

This Principle is particularly important when the State uses third‑party copyright material. This is discussed below.

## Obtaining permission to use IP[[126]](#footnote-127)

Occasionally an agency’s work may involve the use of other parties’ IP. For example:

* providing a third party’s information to the public in a fact sheet;
* reproducing a photograph on an agency’s website; and
* playing music at an agency function.

Use of those materials and technologies generally requires the authorisation of their owners. It is important that IP rights are considered prior to use. A failure to address IP rights at an early stage may result in damage to the reputation of the State. Early consideration of IP rights can assist in avoiding:

* delay or an inability to complete the project if IP rights are unable to be acquired;
* an inability to use the results of the project in the manner required or at all;
* an increased risk of infringement; or
* a claim which prevents implementation of the project or seeks compensation.

The diagram below outlines steps to determine whether it is necessary to obtain permission to use another party’s IP, and how to obtain that permission.

Further information on these steps and other aspects of obtaining permission to use IP is provided in the *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012).[[127]](#footnote-128)

## State breaches of third‑party IP

The State must not infringe the IP rights of others.

Agencies may take a number of measures to assist in avoiding the infringement of third parties’ IP rights, including:

* establishing processes for keeping records of IP ownership as an integral part of standard record management practices—including document management systems, website content and other publications;
* periodically conducting appropriate IP searches on registers and databases to monitor similar IP;
* ensuring that work created by employees and independent contractors is original, does not infringe the rights of others and is owned by the agency—these features should be verified in procurement and grant agreements;
* maintaining records of entities with which the agency has non‑disclosure agreements and the information disclosed under such agreements;
* implementing policies and practices for employees to ensure that they are aware of their obligations to keep information confidential;
* periodically reviewing software use within the agency to ensure that all installed software is properly authorised or licensed;
* maintain detailed records of the development and creation of IP (such as trade marks, slogans, marketing materials and inventions) to demonstrate the originality of the work and the date of its creation; and
* implementing a procedure to allow and encourage employees to report details of a possible infringement of another person’s IP.[[128]](#footnote-129)

If an agency becomes aware of a breach to third‑party IP, expert advice must be sought immediately and acted upon promptly. An internal investigation may also be required. The checklist below should be followed:[[129]](#footnote-130)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Upon becoming aware of a suspected or alleged State breach of third party IP | |
| Seek the advice of an IP lawyer immediately. | Do not act without the advice of legal counsel. |
| Maintain all correspondence, notes and other materials relating to the alleged infringement. | Do not generally make any response to the IP owner making the claim. |
| Conduct an investigation about the alleged infringement (with your lawyer’s help). | Do not admit infringement before obtaining legal advice. |
| Check whether an insurer needs to be notified. |  |
| Consider the impact of ceasing to use the IP in question and what actions you may need to take. |  |
| Seek the advice of an IP lawyer immediately. | Do not act without the advice of legal counsel. |

## Copyright

### Use of third party copyright material by the State

Under s 183 of the *Copyright Act*, the State may make use[[130]](#footnote-131) of third party copyright material without first obtaining permission from the copyright owner, and without infringing copyright, provided that:

* the use is for the services of the State; and
* the copyright owner (or a collecting society if one has been declared by the Commonwealth) is remunerated for the use (either before or after the use).

### Authorisation for agencies not within the scope of s 183

Section 183 of the *Copyright Act* applies to ‘the State’. This includes the executive and all departments. It also includes all statutory bodies whose constituting statute provides that the body ‘represents the Crown’.

However, it is less clear whether a statutory body falls within the definition of the word ‘State’ under s 183 if the constituting statute of the body provides that it ‘does not represent the Crown’, or if it is silent on the issue. To ensure that such bodies gain the protection of s 183, they must receive a written authorisation from DGS under s 183. It is important that authorisation is granted before an agency attempts to rely on s 183 by, for example, being involved in the agreements with collecting societies described in Chapter 11.4.3.3 below.

A statutory body may be provided with an authorisation where:

* it intends to rely on s 183(1) (usually, by being involved in an agreement with a collecting society); and
* there is some doubt as to whether it is the State for the purposes of s 183(1) (for example, where its constituting statute does not provide that it represents the Crown).

The authorisation will only apply to copyright acts done for the services of the State of Victoria. Any copyright acts done by an agency that are not for the services of the State – such as copying of a document by an officer for personal purposes – will not be covered by the authorisation and therefore will not fall within s 183 of the *Copyright Act*.

Any other entity apart from statutory bodies will only be provided with authorisation on a case by case basis having regard to the nature of the service that it provides to the State.

If an agency requires an authorisation, or is unsure of whether it falls within s 183, it should contact DGS at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au.](mailto:IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au.)

### Payment for use of third party copyright material

#### Statutory exceptions

The *Copyright Act* includes exceptions to infringement of copyright for particular uses of copyright material, including:

* research or study;
* criticism or review;
* parody or satire;
* reporting news; and
* judicial proceedings or professional advice.

When an agency uses copyright material for one of these purposes, s 183 does not apply and payment need not be made. However, the question of whether one of these exceptions applies in practice is difficult to determine, and is likely to require legal advice. If an agency does not have the benefit of legal advice to the effect that an exception applies, it should proceed on the basis that payment must be made in one of the ways described below.

#### Contractual arrangements

Where an agency has a contractual arrangement with an individual copyright owner providing terms for the use of that owner’s copyright material, it is entitled to make use of that material under the terms of the agreement. This also applies where there is an agreement in place with a publisher or subscription service or a voluntary agreement between the agency and a collection society.

#### Copying of third party copyright material

If a collecting society has been declared by the Commonwealth under s 183A of the *Copyright Act*, the State need only remunerate a declared collecting society for making copies of copyright material, rather than contacting each copyright owner directly. DGS is responsible for negotiating the whole of Victorian Government agreements with the collecting societies for payment under s 183A.

The State is required to reach agreements with the following collecting societies:

* Copyright Agency Limited (CAL) – for copies of works (for example, newspaper articles, journal articles and books); and
* Screenrights – for copies of sound recordings, films and broadcasts.

All departments and many statutory bodies are subject to the agreements with the collecting societies. Those bodies may make copies of third party copyright material as long as those copies are for the services of the State. Payment under the agreements is calculated on a per‑FTE per year basis at an agreed rate. Bodies will be notified of their liability each year.

There are, however, other uses of copyright material aside from copying that are not always captured by the agreements under s 183A, which must be paid for. They are discussed in the next subchapter.

#### Uses of copyright requiring direct agreement with the owner

The agreements with the collecting societies under s 183A of the *Copyright Act* are only required to apply to the reproduction of material. This includes photocopying, printing, electronic saving (such as saving to an electronic document and records management system such as Content Manager) and other similar uses. The agreements are not required to extend to other exclusive rights of copyright, being to:

* publish the material;
* perform the material in public;
* communicate the material to the public (e.g. email and website use);
* make an adaptation; and
* do any of these acts to an adaptation of the work.[[131]](#footnote-132)

If an agency does (or wishes to do) any of these acts to a third party copyright work, and the agreement with the relevant collecting society does not include the act, the agency must notify and reach terms with the copyright owner for the doing of those acts, either before or after they are done. This will usually require payment to the copyright owner or collecting society.

In practice, agencies are encouraged to make direct arrangements for the use of copyright material rather than relying on s 183A. Agreements with the owner can be tailored to the agencies needs and involve less administrative cost.

Agencies should contact DGS with any queries at ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au.

#### Copyright infringement

Copyright is infringed where a person uses copyright material owned by another without their licence, or where a person *authorises* another person to use material without licence.[[132]](#footnote-133)

Whether the State has authorised infringement depending on the circumstances of the case, including the extent of the State’s power to prevent infringement, the nature of the relationship between the State and the infringing person and whether the State took reasonable steps to prevent infringement.[[133]](#footnote-134)

For example, if an agency uploaded on its website a report in which copyright was owned by a third party, this may not constitute a breach of copyright because of section 183 of the *Copyright Act* (see discussion in Chapter 11.4.1 above). However, allowing website users to download and copy the report may be an authorisation of infringement.

In dealing with third party copyright material, agencies must ensure that they do not infringe copyright or authorise another party to infringe copyright in that material.

## Patents

Under ss 163‑165A of the *Patents Act 1990* (Cth), the State may exploit a third party patent (including a patent for which the application is pending) without first obtaining permission from the patent owner, and without infringing the patent, provided that:

* the exploitation is for the services of the State; and
* the patentee is informed and remunerated for the use (either before or after the use is made).

Unlike with copyright, there is no whole of Victorian government arrangement in place to pay for such uses of patents. Agencies are required to inform and remunerate on a case by case basis.

## Designs

Under ss 96‑98 of the *Designs Act*, the State may use a third party design (including a design for which the application is pending) without first obtaining permission from the design owner, and without infringing the design, provided that:

* the use is for the services of the State; and
* the design owner is informed and remunerated for the use (either before or after the use is made).

Unlike with copyright, there is no whole of Victorian government arrangement in place to pay for such uses of designs. Agencies are required to inform and remunerate on a case by case basis.

## Other intellectual property

The State does not have a special statutory right to use other forms of IP. Accordingly, before making use of any other IP owned by a third party, the State must ensure that either:

* its use would not constitute a breach of that party’s exclusive rights over the IP; or
* it has reached agreement with the party on the terms of its use.

Agencies may seek further information from the DGS IP team at [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au) or legal advice.

# Compliance and reporting

## Compliance

The IP Policy and these Guidelines apply to the government of the State of Victoria, including all public bodies.[[134]](#footnote-135) It is mandatory for such agencies to comply with the IP Policy.

Management of IP involves legal, regulatory and contractual obligations, as well as government policy and agency objectives. IP obligations should be included as part of an agency’s Compliance Management Framework.

Compliance management aims to:

* minimise regulatory risk through the identification and management of an agency’s compliance obligations. This includes the allocation of resources and processes for the effective treatment of any identified gaps and risks;
* develop and foster a culture of compliance that involves:
  + proactive and accountable management of an agency’s IP compliance obligations; and
  + the allocation of responsibilities for compliance through established reporting lines with clearly defined roles and responsibilities; and
* raise the level of awareness of an agency’s IP obligations by providing relevant IP related training, education and guidance.

Agencies are expected to engage with DGS to ensure compliance with the IP Policy. If an agency requires guidance to assist with implementing the IP Policy, it should contact their IP Coordinator[[135]](#footnote-136) or DGS at ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au.

DGS will actively monitor compliance with the IP Policy and these Guidelines on an ongoing basis through direct engagement with agencies and the reporting obligations set out below.

## Compliance reporting

From time to time, DGS may require agencies to report on compliance with the IP Policy. In doing so, DGS will notify agencies of the compliance reporting requirement and specify the detail required. For example, the reporting requirement may be directed at particular aspects of the policy, or compliance in general. Where appropriate, an operational tool such as a reporting checklist may be provided to assist agencies with compliance reporting.

## Suspected and alleged breach reporting

Agencies are encouraged to report to DGS:

* suspected breaches of the State’s significant IP[[136]](#footnote-137); and
* alleged breaches of third party IP[[137]](#footnote-138) by the agency.

This report should be provided as soon as the agency suspects the breach or becomes aware of the allegation, whether or not the suspicion or allegation is formally pursued.

The report should include:

* the nature and type of IP;
* details of the suspected or alleged infringement;
* a summary of how the matter has been dealt with; and
* the outcome of what has been done.

If the initial report cannot state how a matter has been dealt with or the outcome, the agency should provide a supplementary report once the outcome is known.

DGS will keep a register of all suspected or alleged breaches reported to it, and will brief the Minister for Government Services on any significant issues arising from these reports. DGS may seek additional information from an agency in relation to a report.

Reports may be provided to ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au.

# Useful resources and reference material

## IP Policy website

The IP Policy website contains information, updates and links relevant to the IP Policy:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/intellectual-property-policy>

## Legislation

Complete copies of Acts relevant to the IP Policy are available online.

*Copyright Act 1968 (Cth)*

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/C1968A00063/latest/text>

*Circuit Layouts Act 1989 (Cth)*

[*https://www.legislation.gov.au/C2004A03776/latest/versions*](https://www.legislation.gov.au/C2004A03776/latest/versions)

*Designs Act 2003 (Cth)*

https://www.legislation.gov.au/C2004A01232/latest/text

*Patents Act 1990 (Cth)*

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/C2004A04014/latest/text>

*Plant Breeder’s Rights Act 1994 (Cth)*

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/C2004A04783/latest/text>

*Trade Marks Act 1995 (Cth)*

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/C2004A04969/latest/text>

## Policies

*Whole of Victorian Government Intellectual Property Policy*

<https://www.vic.gov.au/intellectual-property-policy>

*DataVic Access Policy*

<https://www.data.vic.gov.au/datavic-access-policy>

*Pricing for Value Guidelines*

<https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/financial-management-government/pricing-value>

## Guides

The Commonwealth of Australia, *Intellectual Property Manual*

The Australian government, through the Attorney‑General’s department, has released an IP manual to assist Australian Commonwealth government agencies with the implementation of their IP Policies.

<https://www.ag.gov.au/rights-and-protections/publications/australian-government-intellectual-property-manual>

## Contacts

**Department of Government Services**

Government IP Policy   
1 Macarthur Street  
Melbourne Victoria 3002  
Australia

[ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au)

## Websites

More information on IP issues can be found on the following websites.

**Advisory Council on Intellectual Property**

<http://www.acip.gov.au>

**Arts Law Centre of Australia**

<http://www.artslaw.com.au>

**Australian Copyright Council**

<http://www.copyright.org.au>

**Buying for Victoria**

<https://www.buyingfor.vic.gov.au/>

**Creative Commons Australia**

<http://creativecommons.org.au/>

**IP Australia**

<http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/>

**World Intellectual Property Organisation**

<http://www.wipo.int>

# IP Policy

## Whole of Victorian Government Intellectual Property Policy

### Intent and Principles - August 2024

The Secretary

Department of Government Services

1 Macarthur Street

Melbourne Victoria 3002

Australia

dgs.vic.gov.au

Authorised by the Victorian Government

1 Treasury Place, Melbourne, 3002

[](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au/)© State of Victoria (Department of Government Services) 2024

You are free to re-use this work under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 licence](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/), provided you credit the State of Victoria (Department of Government Services) as author, indicate if changes were made and comply with the other licence terms. The licence does not apply to any branding, including Government logos.

Copyright queries may be directed to [ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au)

ISBN 000-0-000000-00-0

Revised August 2024. First published August 2012.

If you would like to receive this publication in an accessible format, please email ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au

Background

The State of Victoria, through its departments and public bodies, creates, acquires, funds and uses all forms of intellectual property.

The Whole of Victorian Government Intellectual Property Policy (IP Policy) is the State’s policy in relation to intellectual property. The IP Policy is supported by practical requirements and guidance in the Intellectual Property Guidelines for the Victorian Public Sector (IP Guidelines).

The IP Policy Intent is the policy’s overarching statement of purpose, which is reflected in the IP Policy Principles. The IP Policy Principles are to be read in connection with one another; they do not operate independently.

Intellectual property is a term used to describe the results of intellectual activity and creative effort. Intellectual property assets are intangible, and their economic value exists largely in the set of exclusive rights that an owner has in the asset.

Intellectual property may be protected through several forms of protection, including copyright, trademarks, patents, designs, circuit layouts and plant breeder’s rights.

Each form of intellectual property protection includes specific exclusive rights. Access to the State’s intellectual property can be enabled or controlled through the exercise of these rights.

IP Policy Intent

The State grants rights to its intellectual property, as a public asset, in a manner that maximises its impact, value, accessibility and benefit consistent with the public interest.

The State acquires or uses third party intellectual property in a transparent and efficient way, while upholding the law and managing risk appropriately.

IP Policy Principles

**Management of State-owned intellectual property**

Principle 1: The State manages its intellectual property in ways that are consistent, transparent and accountable.

Principle 2: The State grants rights to its intellectual property with the fewest possible restrictions.

Principle 3: The State may exercise its intellectual property rights restrictively for reasons of privacy, public safety, security and law enforcement, public health, commercialisation and compliance with the law.

Principle 4: The State owns intellectual property created by its employees in the course of their employment.

Principle 5: The State manages the moral rights of creators as required under the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth).

Principle 6: The State responds to breaches of its intellectual property rights where appropriate in order to maintain its reputation or the value of its intellectual property.

**State commercialisation of intellectual property**

Principle 7: An agency should be responsive to opportunities to utilise intellectual property for commercial use that do not conflict with the agency’s legal powers, purpose and strategic priorities.

Principle 8: An agency may commercialise intellectual property if:

1. it has an explicit statutory function to do so; or
2. the expected benefits from the commercialisation provide a clear net benefit to the Victorian community and:
   1. the agency has consulted with the responsible Minister for this policy about the commercialisation; and
   2. the responsible Minister for this policy has not given a direction to cease commercialising the intellectual property.

**State procurement**

Principle 9: When procuring goods, works or services, an agency will:

1. ensure that any rights to intellectual property (including pre-existing intellectual property) that may arise as a consequence of the procurement are adequately addressed in an agreement;
2. secure licences to the intellectual property sufficient to achieve the primary and related objectives of the procurement; and
3. only acquire ownership of the intellectual property if that would advance the primary and related objectives of the procurement.

**Funding and grants towards the development of intellectual property**

Principle 10: When the State provides a grant or similar funding for an identified purpose or project, the State:

1. addresses in an agreement any rights to intellectual property (including pre-existing intellectual property) that may arise as a consequence of the grant or funding;
2. does not secure a licence to the intellectual property unless there is a stated purpose for doing so, and then only to the minimum extent necessary to achieve that purpose;
3. if a licence would not be adequate in the circumstances, acquires ownership of the resulting intellectual property; and
4. ensures that ownership of the intellectual property is able to be assigned to or by the State if the intellectual property is not used by the recipient for the purpose of the grant or funding within a reasonable time.

**Use of intellectual property belonging to others**

Principle 11: The State deals with third party intellectual property in a manner that:

* 1. avoids infringing the intellectual property rights of others and complies with the law; and
  2. provides equitable remuneration to intellectual property owners (whether directly or through collecting societies) in a manner consistent with the responsible spending of public moneys.

**Identification and recording of intellectual property**

Principle 12: Agencies of the State identify and record intellectual property in their possession, where that intellectual property:

* 1. involves statutory registration and renewal processes;
  2. is critical to a deliverable or core function of the agency; or
  3. requires active risk management.

Roles and responsibilities

The IP Policy Intent and IP Policy Principles are endorsed by Cabinet. This version of the IP Policy supersedes earlier versions and replaces the *Guidelines Relating to Victorian Crown Copyright* (August 1991).

The IP Policy Intent and IP Policy Principles apply to all agencies (that is, all departments and public bodies) of the State. Agencies are supported by further guidance in the IP Guidelines.

Subject to the IP Policy Intent and IP Policy Principles, in relation to the State’s intellectual property, a departmental Secretary or an agency head has responsibility (which may be delegated) for applying this policy to intellectual property managed by the agency.

**Minister for Government Services**

The Minister for Government Services is the responsible Minister for this policy. Further information about consulting with the Minister for Government Services in relation to IP Policy Principle 8 is found in the IP Guidelines.

**Department of Government Services**

The Department of Government Services (DGS) administers the IP Policy and IP Guidelines. The department, through the DGS Secretary, releases updated versions of the IP Guidelines and occasional administrative updates to this IP Policy document, including information about the background, roles and responsibilities.

DGS is also responsible for negotiations with copyright collecting societies on behalf of the State in relation to special arrangements for the use of third-party copyright works under s 183A of the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth).

**Further enquiries**

For any enquiries about the IP Policy or IP Guidelines, please contact:

[ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au](mailto:ippolicy@dgs.vic.gov.au)

# Commercialisation summary

If an agency intends to commercialise IP and doesn’t have an explicit statutory function to do so, it must consult with the Minister for Government Services under Principle 8(b) of the IP Policy. Consultation should be initiated by letter from the departmental secretary, agency head or responsible Minister to the Minister for Government Services prior to commercialisation.

The letter should attach the following summary completed by the agency.

Chapter 7 of the IP Guidelines provides more details on commercialisation of IP and the consultation process.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | |
| 1 | What material is being commercialised (including any data)? |
| 2 | Who currently uses or licenses the material? |
| 3 | Who developed the material and who owns the IP? |
| 4 | Does any other party have rights in the IP or third-party assets included in the material? |
| **The commercialisation opportunity** | |
| 5 | What is the opportunity? |
| 6 | How does the opportunity align to your agency’s purpose and strategic priorities.? |
| 7 | How will the IP rights be commercialised (e.g. sale of IP, licensing multiple entities)? Does this include assignment of the IP or any licence which is exclusive, irrevocable or transferrable? |
| 8 | What is the proposed term of the commercialisation? How will royalties and licence fees will be structured over that term? |
| 9 | What assurances has your agency been given from your legal counsel that the proposed commercialisation opportunity is within your agency’s legal authority? (e.g. legal authority, as applicable, to own IP, commercialise IP, set fees and retain revenue) |
| 10 | Has your agency consulted with its responsible Minister, portfolio department and other Victorian government stakeholders on the commercialisation opportunity? |
| **Benefits of commercialisation** | |
| 11 | What is the clear net benefit for the Victorian community? (i.e. impact to health and safety, social and community impact, environmental impact, impact to competition, and/or economic impact) |
| 12 | What is the anticipated revenue and costs from the commercialisation opportunity? |
| 13 | Does your agency anticipate revenue will be retained or enter Consolidated Revenue? |
| 14 | What options achieve similar outcomes without commercialising the IP? Why is commercialising the IP preferrable? |
| 15 | How will the opportunity impact the current stakeholders and uses of the material? |
| **Risk assessment** | |
| 16 | What resources will your agency require to undertake the work required (internal/external)? |
| 17 | What are the risks of the commercialisation opportunity? |
| 18 | What are the risks of not proceeding with the commercialisation opportunity? |
| 19 | What products or services are available from the private sector which compete in the same market with the commercialisation opportunity? |

# Moral rights consent form template

The following moral rights consent form template is provided for use by agencies in circumstances where seeking such a consent is appropriate. See discussion in Chapter 10.5 for further detail.

The template should not be used without legal advice unless the agency has an existing practice of doing so.

Note that the template applies to departmental employees. Statutory bodies must seek legal advice on applying the form to their employees.

MORAL RIGHTS CONSENT  
IN FAVOUR OF THE STATE OF VICTORIA

Deed Poll made at …………………………. on ……………………. 20…….

By: ………………………………… of [insert address] **(Author)**

In favour of: The State of Victoria **(State)**

**Recitals:**

1. The Author is an employee of the State pursuant to the Victorian Public Service Workplace Determination 2012 / Executive Contract of Employment] dated [x] **(Contract).**
2. In the course of the Author’s employment pursuant to the Contract, the Author has created or may create material in which copyright subsists for the purposes of the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) (as amended).

**This deed poll provides:**

1. **Definitions and Interpretation**
   1. **Definitions**

In this Deed:

* + 1. **Material** means anything created by the Author in the course of their employment in which copyright subsists pursuant to the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth), whether created before or after the date of this Deed; and
    2. **Moral Rights** has the meaning given to that term in the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth).
  1. **Construction**

Unless expressed to the contrary:

* + 1. words importing:
       1. the singular includes the plural and the plural includes the singular;
       2. any gender includes the other gender;
    2. if a word or phrase is defined cognate words and phrases have corresponding definitions;
    3. a reference to the State includes its assigns.

1. The Author:
   1. warrants that he or she will not sue, enforce any claim, bring any action or exercise any remedy in respect of any breach or alleged breach of the Author’s Moral Rights by:
      1. the State; or
      2. any third party to whom the State sub‑licences any copyright that the State has in, or in relation to, any Material;
   2. without limiting paragraph (a), consents to the State or any third party referred to in 2(a)(ii):
      1. failing to acknowledge or attribute the Author’s authorship of any Material;
      2. falsely attributing authorship of any Material; and
      3. making any modification, variation or amendment of any nature whatsoever to the Material, whether or not:
         1. it results in a material distortion of or destruction or mutilation of the Material; or
         2. it is prejudicial to the honour or reputation of the Author; and
   3. without limiting paragraph (a) or (b), consents to the State or any third party referred to in 2(a)(ii):
      1. using any Material other than for the purpose for which it was intended at the time the Material was created;
      2. altering any Material by adding to, removing elements from, or rearranging elements of, the Material, including (without limitation) by combing elements of the Material with any other material; or
      3. changing, relocating, demolishing or destroying any building, any artistic work affixed to or forming part of a building or other Material, whether or not such building, artistic work or Material incorporate, are based on or are constructed in accordance with, any Material.
2. The Author confirms that in executing this Deed the Author did not act in reliance on any representation made by any person as to the future use of the Material or any other matter.
3. The Author agrees that this consent survives the termination of the Author’s employment by the State.
4. A term or part of a term of this Deed that is unenforceable may be severed from this Deed and the remaining terms or parts of terms of this Deed will continue to have full force and effect.

**Executed as a deed poll.**

**SIGNED**

by ……………………………………….. )

this ……………… day of …………… 20…….. ) ………………………………………….  
 (signature)

in the presence of: )

………………………………………….. ) ………………………………………….  
(name of witness) (signature of witness)

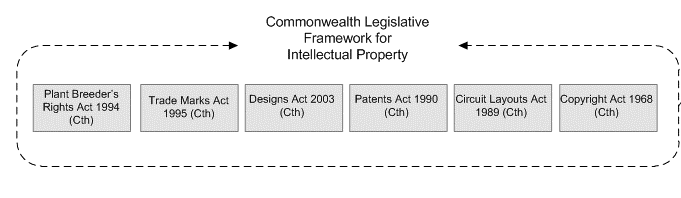
………………………………………….. )  
(address of witness)

# An introduction to intellectual property

## What is intellectual property?

IP is the result of intellectual activity and creations in science and industry, literary products and artistic fields.

In order to foster innovation, the law provides creators with certain exclusive rights over their creations.

The legislative framework for IP is the responsibility of the Commonwealth.

Policy responsibility for IP within the Commonwealth is as follows:[[138]](#footnote-139)

## What types of intellectual property are relevant to your agency?[[139]](#footnote-140)

Most government employees will use copyright material on a daily basis; for example, email, written reports, software, letters, web content, photographs and databases. Patents, trade marks and designs may be important in some agencies, whilst plant breeder’s rights and circuit layout rights, arise only in specialised circumstances.

The table below provides examples of the different types of subject matter that IP can protect. The table is not exhaustive and is only intended as a guide to identifying the types of IP that may arise in agency operations. Also, it is important to note that material may be subject to more than one form of IP protection. For example, some computer programs may be protected by copyright and be the subject of a patent.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Subject matter | Examples | Type of IP | Is registration necessary? |
| Works of art  Literature  Music  Films  Broadcasts | Photographs Illustrations Reports Website TV and radio advertisements | Copyright | No |
| Computer software | Word processing package  Source code  Executable code | Copyright | No |
| Software directed to the operation of a computer | Patents | Yes |
| Slogan  Logo  Sound  Smell  Shape  Aspect of packaging | The State’s logo | Trade mark | Yes |
| No (Some protection is available under Common Law, such as passing off) |
| Visual features of shape  Configuration  Pattern or ornamentation | Artwork imprinted on stationery, mugs, pens | Designs | Yes |
| Artistic works Architectural plans | Copyright | No |
| Device  Substance  Method  Process | A new form of insecticide  A threat assessment system and process. | Patent | Yes |
| Plant variety | Plants produced through biotechnology | Patents | Yes |
| New plant variety | Plant breeder’s rights | Yes |

## Copyright

Copyright protects the original expression of ideas. It is free and automatically safeguards original works of art and literature, music, films, sound recording, broadcasts and computer programs from copying and certain other uses, for a defined period of time.[[140]](#footnote-141) No registration is required for copyright protection.

Copyright material includes email, written reports, software, letters, internet content, photographs and databases. Most State employees will use copyright material on a daily basis.

Under the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) (Copyright Act), the owner of copyright has exclusive rights to reproduce the work, perform it in public, broadcast it, publish it and make an adaptation of it, or to licence another party to do so. The owner’s specific rights vary according to the nature of the work. For example, the exclusive rights associated with an artistic work such as a photograph differ slightly from the rights associated with literary works.[[141]](#footnote-142)

The exclusive rights are limited by time, which varies according to the nature of the work. For example, literary works owned by the State are protected for 50 years from first publication, while photographic works owned by the State vary in the term of protection according to when they were made.[[142]](#footnote-143) The rights are also subject to defences and exceptions, which allow other parties to make use of the work without licence in particular circumstances.

Accordingly, addressing questions of ownership is important when creating and using copyright material.

The copyright laws of Australia comprise two distinct groups of rights: economic rights (discussed below) and moral rights.

Under s 31(1) of the Copyright Act, the owner of copyright in a literary, dramatic, musical or artistic work has the exclusive right to:

* reproduce the work in a material form;
* publish the work;
* perform the work in public;
* communicate the work to the public; and
* make an adaptation of the work.

There are two ways in which the State may hold copyright, apart from the general provisions of the Copyright Act:

* Crown prerogative copyright, which exists for legislation and possibly other judicial materials.[[143]](#footnote-144) This provides copyright protection indefinitely.
* Crown copyright under ss 176 and 178 of the Copyright Act, which provides that the State owns copyright in original works and other materials made by or under the direction or control of the State[[144]](#footnote-145), although these provisions may be varied by agreement. This subsists for 50 years from the date of publication of the material.

Where a person (including the State) exercises one of the exclusive rights of a copyright holder without their licence, they may infringe the Copyright Act. This may result in an award of damages against the infringing person.

However, the State of Victoria, in its right as the Crown, is subject to a special statutory licensing scheme to perform acts comprised in third parties’ copyright if the acts are for the services of the State. This is discussed further in Chapter [11](#_Reporting_and_compliance).

## Trade marks

A trade mark is a sign used, or intended to be used, to distinguish the goods or services of one trader from those of another (*Trade Marks Act 1995* (Cth), s 17). A trade mark can be a word, name, number, aspect of packaging, shape, colour, sound or scent, or any combination of these. Trade marks may be registered or unregistered.

The owner of a registered trade mark has exclusive rights which include the exclusive right to use the trade mark in relation to the goods or services for which it is registered. A registered trade mark is personal property.

The user of an unregistered trade mark does not have a property right, but may still defend the use of the mark through an action in passing off or under the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth)[[145]](#footnote-146).

A trade mark does not have to be registered. There is protection against misrepresentation under trade practices and fair trading legislation. However, it is considered good practice to register trade marks to avoid costly and time consuming litigation if the need to enforce an agency’s rights to a trade mark arises.

There is no requirement under the *Trade Marks Act* to identify a trade mark with a ™ or ® symbol, although it is good practice as it allows users of the works to understand their rights and obligations in the use of the mark. Using a trade mark symbol can also act as a deterrent to potential infringers.

IP Australia is the Australian Government agency responsible for granting rights in trade marks. More information on trade marks and their registration process can be found on IP Australia’s website at [http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get‑the‑right‑ip/trade‑marks/](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get-the-right-ip/trade-marks/)

## Patents

A patent is a right that is granted on registration for any device, substance, method or process that is new, inventive, and useful.

A patent is legally enforceable and gives the owner the exclusive right to exploit the invention commercially for the life of the patent (a fixed term of 20 years in the case of standard patents and eight years in the case of innovation patents). The grant of patent rights depends on registration of the invention.

There are various hurdles to registering a patent. The invention must be a manner of manufacture, be new, involve an ‘inventive’ or ‘innovative’ step, be useful, and not have been used in trade or commerce. Because of these requirements, gaining a patent is usually complex, time consuming and expensive. It is highly recommended that a person seeking a patent seek the advice of a patent attorney.

Only the inventor (or a person assigned the right by the inventor) may patent an invention.

The Patents Act allows the State, or an authority of the State, to exploit a third party owned patent where this is ‘for the services of the State’. Patent holders are entitled to payment for this use.[[146]](#footnote-147)

IP Australia provides the following advice on the process for registering when considering registering a patent:

* **Search** [patent databases](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get-the-right-ip/patents/search-for-a-patent/#AusPat), sales brochures and magazines to ensure your invention meets the criteria for a patent. If your invention was publicly known before you apply for a patent, you won’t be able to get a valid patent.
* **Decide which type of patent** best suits your invention. You may wish to file a provisional application first; then decide between filing a [standard](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get-the-right-ip/patents/patent-application-process/standard-patent-application-process/), [innovation](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get-the-right-ip/patents/patent-application-process/innovation-patent-application-process/) or [PCT patent](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get-the-right-ip/patents/international-patents/application-process/) application.
* **Once it is filed, your application is checked and published**. Please note that [fees are payable](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get-the-right-ip/patents/time-and-costs/) at different stages of the patent process. An innovation patent is checked to ensure it satisfies the formality requirements, then granted and published in the [official journal](http://pericles.ipaustralia.gov.au/ols/epublish/content/olsAOJPatentPDFs.jsp). A standard patent is normally published in the official journal before examination.
* **Examination** is mandatory before a standard patent can be granted and must be requested by the applicant. An innovation patent will be examined if examination is requested but this is not a requirement for an innovation patent to be granted. Examination of an innovation patent can only happen after it is granted. For either an innovation or standard patent to be enforceable, it must have been examined. Examination can also be [expedited for standard patents](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get-the-right-ip/patents/patent-application-process/expedited-and-modified-examination-for-standard-patents/), or expedited under the [Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH)](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get-the-right-ip/patents/patent-application-process/examination-under-the-patent-prosecution-highway/).
* **Acceptance and grant** of an innovation patent occurs if it has satisfied the formality requirements. It is then published as such in the official journal. A standard patent application is accepted once it has been examined and is then published. The standard patent is then granted if it is not opposed.
* **Pay annual fees** to maintain your patent. Innovation patents can be renewed for up to eight years and standard patents can be renewed for up to 20 years (up to 25 years for pharmaceuticals).[[147]](#footnote-148)

IP Australia is the Australian Government agency responsible for granting rights in patents. More information on patents and their registration process can be found on IP Australia’s website.[[148]](#footnote-149)

## Designs

The *Designs Act 2003* (Cth) (*Designs Act*) confers property rights on the registered owner of a design. A design refers to the overall appearance of a product resulting from one or more of the shape, configuration, pattern and ornamentation of the product which, when applied to a product, gives the product a unique appearance (*Designs Act*, ss 5‑7).

The exclusive rights of the owner of a registered design include the right to make a product which embodies the design, to deal in that product and to use the product in any way for the purposes of a trade or business.

The *Designs Act* allows the State, or a person authorised by the State, to use a third party owned design for the services of the State. Owners of designs are entitled to be informed of and remunerated for this use.[[149]](#footnote-150)

IP Australia is the Australian Government agency responsible for granting rights in designs. More information on designs and their registration process can be found on IP Australia’s website.[[150]](#footnote-151)

## Plant breeder’s rights

Plant breeder’s rights are used to protect new varieties of plants by giving exclusive commercial rights to market a new variety or its reproductive material (*Plant Breeder’s Rights Act 1994* (Cth)). Registration of these rights is required. To be eligible for registration, the plant variety must be distinct, uniform and stable.[[151]](#footnote-152) They are personal property.

Plant breeder’s rights are legally enforceable and give the breeder the exclusive right to commercially exploit a plant variety for 20 years (25 years for trees and vines).

IP Australia is the Australian Government agency responsible for granting plant breeder’s rights. More information on plant breeder’s rights and their registration process can be found on IP Australia’s website.[[152]](#footnote-153)

## Circuit layouts

Circuit layout rights automatically give ownership in original layout designs for integrated circuits and computer chips to the person who makes an integrated circuit layout. (*Circuit Layouts Act 1989* (Cth)). These rights are personal property. No registration is required.

The exclusive rights of the owner of an eligible layout include the right to copy the layout, make an integrated circuit in accordance with the layout, and exploit it commercially.

As the owner of an original circuit layout, you have the exclusive right to:

copy the layout in a material form;

make integrated circuits from the layout; and

exploit it commercially in Australia.

Commercial exploitation may occur by importation, sale, hire or distribution of a layout or an integrated circuit made according to the layout. [[153]](#footnote-154) This is likely to require approval from the Minister for Government Services under the commercialisation principle, discussed in Chapter 7 above.

For more information on circuit layouts rights see IP Australia, [http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get‑the‑right‑ip/other‑types‑of‑IP/circuit‑layout‑rights/](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get-the-right-ip/other-types-of-IP/circuit-layout-rights/)

## Other forms of information

In addition, the following categories of information are conventionally considered in the context of IP, although they do not represent property in a legal sense.

### Confidential information

The law protects a person who has secret information against a person seeking to misuse the information, but the rights protected are the obligations arising from a relationship of confidence, rather than the information itself.

The obligations of confidence may arise under contract or common law. A common form of confidential information is trade secrets, although any sort of information that has not been disclosed can be subject to an obligation of confidence.

Confidential information may be protected by written agreement. Such an agreement will typically define the specific information that is considered confidential, will set out the rights and obligations of the parties with respect to the information’s disclosure and use and provide a degree of certainty.

### Indigenous cultural property and traditional knowledge

The term ‘traditional knowledge’ is generally used to refer to ‘tradition‑based’ IP. While some traditional knowledge may come within the recognised categories of IP, other forms of traditional knowledge are not IP, and the law relating to IP is not always appropriately matched to traditional knowledge.

### Domain names

A domain name is an internet address (e.g. [www.dtf.vic.gov.au](http://www.dtf.vic.gov.au)) that corresponds to the alpha numeric internet protocol address which computers read. Once registered, a domain name is internationally valid and cannot be used by someone else. However, domain names are not as such technically IP.

A domain name can include a trade mark. A person seeking to register a domain name may infringe a third party’s trademark, or may be prevented from doing so if registration involves passing off.

1. See Chapter 7. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Guidance as to the applicability of the Financial Management Act can be sought by checking the Financial Report (incorporating Quarterly Financial Report No. 4) for the State of Victoria. The report usually includes a list of significant controlled entities. All of the agencies in the controlled entities list are subject to the IP Policy and Guidelines. However, this list does not include all agencies subject to the Policy, and should therefore only be used indicatively. If an agency is unsure whether it is a public body under the Financial Management Act, it should seek legal advice. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. See Chapter 3.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Adapted from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012) p. 20. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. As well as other matters, such as the State’s use of third party IP. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. See Chapter 12.3. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. See Chapter 3.3.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. <https://www.vic.gov.au/intellectual-property-policy> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. <https://www.buyingfor.vic.gov.au/legal-services-panel-contract> [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. Adapted from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012)*,* p. 20*.*  [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. See, respectively, Chapters 3, 4, 5, 7, 11 and 12. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. Commonwealth of Australia, *The Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012)*,* p.67 [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. More guidance on significant IP is provided in Chapter 1.8. Most copyright works owned by the State would not constitute significant IP for the purpose of an intellectual property register. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
14. Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012) p. 79. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
15. See, for example, the list provided in Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012) p. 78. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
16. More guidance on significant IP is provided in Chapter 1.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
17. Commonwealth of Australia*,* *The Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012),pp.124‑125 [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
18. [http://www.aasb.gov.au/Pronouncements/Current‑standards.aspx](http://www.aasb.gov.au/Pronouncements/Currentstandards.aspx) [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
19. [http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/manage‑your‑ip/review‑your‑ip/valuing‑your‑ip‑assets/](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/manage-your-ip/review-your-ip/valuing-your-ip-assets/) [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
20. Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2018), Chapter 6. Note that this document does not bind agencies or impact on the IP Policy, and should be used for guidance only. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
21. More guidance on significant IP is provided in Chapter 1.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
22. <https://www.vic.gov.au/coat-arms-state-badge-guidelines> [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
23. This is consistent with Principle 11, that the State avoids infringing the IP rights of others and complies with the law. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
24. For example, ASIC registered business names and company names, ATMOSS searches for existing trademarks or pending trade mark applications and general internet searches for organisation and domain names. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
25. This content reproduced from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 24. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
26. This content reproduced from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 24. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
27. <http://volunteeringvictoria.org.au/> [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
28. [www.volunteer.vic.gov.au/](http://www.volunteer.vic.gov.au/) [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
29. See also Chapter 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
30. This factor does not apply in the case of patents or plant breeder’s right as upon expiry they become public property. More information is provided in Attachment 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
31. [http://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/Investment‑Planning‑and‑Evaluation/Understanding‑investment‑planning‑and‑review/What‑is‑asset‑management](http://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/Investment-Planning-and-Evaluation/Understanding-investment-planning-and-review/What-is-asset-management) and [http://www.aasb.gov.au/Pronouncements/Current‑standards.aspx](http://www.aasb.gov.au/Pronouncements/Currentstandards.aspx) [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
32. <https://www.buyingfor.vic.gov.au/market-analysis-and-review-goods-and-services-policy> [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
33. <https://www.buyingfor.vic.gov.au/market-analysis-and-review-goods-and-services-policy> [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
34. See <https://prov.vic.gov.au/recordkeeping-government/transferring-records> [↑](#footnote-ref-35)
35. In accordance with the *Information Privacy Act 2000* (Vic). [↑](#footnote-ref-36)
36. See Chapter 3.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-37)
37. See, for example, the Department of Justice’s Social Media Policy video, which has been re‑used by a number of private organisations: <https://www.justice.vic.gov.au/socialmedia/social-media-policy>. [↑](#footnote-ref-38)
38. For further detail, see Chapters 6 (Procurement) and 9 (Funding and grants). [↑](#footnote-ref-39)
39. Assuming that the invention or innovation is not being commercialised. See Chapter 7. [↑](#footnote-ref-40)
40. Making copyright material publicly available is discussed in Chapter 5 below. [↑](#footnote-ref-41)
41. See Chapter 3.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-42)
42. It should, however, be noted that the exclusive rights associated with copyright are subject to a variety of exceptions found in the *Copyright Act* which are discussed further in Chapter 1 and Attachment 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-43)
43. See Chapter 3.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-44)
44. IP Coordinators are discussed in Chapter 3.2 above. [↑](#footnote-ref-45)
45. Adapted from Commonwealth of Australia, Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual (2012), p. 185. [↑](#footnote-ref-46)
46. Unless the ‘non‑commercial’ Creative Commons licence is applied. See Chapter 5.5.2 below for more details. [↑](#footnote-ref-47)
47. Adapted from the *Intellectual Property Principles for Australian Government agencies*. [↑](#footnote-ref-48)
48. Table adapted from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 184. [↑](#footnote-ref-49)
49. The DataVic Access Policy requires agencies to provide public access to datasets via the repository at data.vic.gov.au. Visit [http://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/Victorias‑Economy/Victorian‑Government‑intellectual‑property‑and‑data‑policies/DataVic‑Access‑Policy](http://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/Victorias-Economy/Victorian-Government-intellectual-property-and-data-policies/DataVic-Access-Policy) or contact [data.vic@dtf.vic.gov.au](mailto:data.vic@dtf.vic.gov.au) for more information. [↑](#footnote-ref-50)
50. In some cases, it may be a condition of publication in a third party journal or website that the agency does not republish the material elsewhere. In general, agencies should avoid agreeing to such conditions unless the benefit of publishing there clearly outweighs the detriment of being unable to distribute the material to a wider audience. [↑](#footnote-ref-51)
51. CC licences state that they may apply to any copyright work, but they are less suitable for use by agencies in relation to these works. [↑](#footnote-ref-52)
52. In particular, CC Licences should not be used for software. [↑](#footnote-ref-53)
53. For example, by attributing the name of the author or copyright owner. [↑](#footnote-ref-54)
54. This metadata, which can be added to by the licensor, allows works to be readily searched online. [↑](#footnote-ref-55)
55. A user of the work must attribute it as required by the licensor. For example, agencies should request that users of their copyright material attribute it to the State of Victoria. This condition also requires the user to indicate if changes have been made to the work and provide a link to the CC licence. [↑](#footnote-ref-56)
56. See Chapter 3.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-57)
57. See Chapter 3.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-58)
58. <https://au.creativecommons.net/area/government/> [↑](#footnote-ref-59)
59. See Chapter 4.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-60)
60. See IP Policy Intent and Principle 2. [↑](#footnote-ref-61)
61. See IP Policy Principle 3. [↑](#footnote-ref-62)
62. See Chapter 4.2.4. [↑](#footnote-ref-63)
63. See Chapter 7 for more information on IP commercialisation. [↑](#footnote-ref-64)
64. See Chapter 3.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-65)
65. Information adapted from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 139. [↑](#footnote-ref-66)
66. Source of diagram: Commonwealth of Australia, *The Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 139. [↑](#footnote-ref-67)
67. The following table adapted from Commonwealth of Australia, *The Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 132. [↑](#footnote-ref-68)
68. More guidance on significant IP is provided in Chapter 1.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-69)
69. This content and the following table adapted from Commonwealth of Australia, *The Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 77. [↑](#footnote-ref-70)
70. For information on conducting an IP needs analysis see Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2018), pp. 138‑145. [↑](#footnote-ref-71)
71. Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2018), pp. 147‑149. Note that this document does not bind agencies or impact on the IP Policy, and should be used for guidance only. [↑](#footnote-ref-72)
72. See Chapter 8.2 for more detail. [↑](#footnote-ref-73)
73. See Chapter 7 for more detail. [↑](#footnote-ref-74)
74. See Principle 3 of the IP Policy. [↑](#footnote-ref-75)
75. See IP Policy Intent. [↑](#footnote-ref-76)
76. Adapted from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2018), p. 149. See pp. 146‑147 for more information. [↑](#footnote-ref-77)
77. <https://www.buyingfor.vic.gov.au/goods-and-services-standard-contract-templates> [↑](#footnote-ref-78)
78. Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2018), pp. 153‑159. Note that this document does not bind agencies or impact on the IP Policy, and should be used for guidance only. [↑](#footnote-ref-79)
79. See Public Record Office Victoria, *PROS 19/04  Operational Management Standard*, 2020, https://prov.vic.gov.au/recordkeeping-government/document-library/pros-1904-operational-management-standard [↑](#footnote-ref-80)
80. Adapted from Commonwealth of Australia, Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual (2012), p. 200. [↑](#footnote-ref-81)
81. *National Gallery of Victoria Act 1966*, section 13(1)(d). [↑](#footnote-ref-82)
82. Section 129. [↑](#footnote-ref-83)
83. The Department of Transport publishes *Guidelines for Cost‑Benefit Analysis* which are available from [http://www.transport.vic.gov.au/about‑us/corporate‑governance/guidelines‑for‑cost‑benefit‑analysis](http://www.transport.vic.gov.au/about-us/corporate-governance/guidelines-for-cost-benefit-analysis) [↑](#footnote-ref-84)
84. See discussion in Chapter 4.2 for more detail. [↑](#footnote-ref-85)
85. The Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual (2018), Chapter 10 includes some guidance on the potential forms of commercialisation, which is available from Australian Government intellectual property manual (infrastructure.gov.au). [↑](#footnote-ref-86)
86. See Chapter 7.2 above. [↑](#footnote-ref-87)
87. Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2018), Chapter 10. Note that this document does not bind agencies or impact on the IP Policy, and should be used for guidance only. [↑](#footnote-ref-88)
88. [Pricing for value A guide for government services Pricing principles (dtf.vic.gov.au)](https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/Pricing%20for%20Value%20Guide%20-%20Pricing%20Principles.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-89)
89. The DataVic Access Policy is currently in the process of being updated. [↑](#footnote-ref-90)
90. This content reproduced from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 83. [↑](#footnote-ref-91)
91. Table reproduced from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 83. [↑](#footnote-ref-92)
92. This content reproduced from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 84. [↑](#footnote-ref-93)
93. These are examples of circumstances in which this form of IP may require protection. They do not apply in all cases and agencies should consider on a case by case basis whether particular material requires protection in the context of the IP Policy. [↑](#footnote-ref-94)
94. For detail on the registration process, see Attachment 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-95)
95. For detail on the registration process, see Attachment 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-96)
96. For detail on the registration process, see Attachment 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-97)
97. For detail on the registration process, see Attachment 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-98)
98. See <https://ovic.vic.gov.au/information-security/information-security-resources/> [↑](#footnote-ref-99)
99. Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2018), Chapter 5. Note that this document does not bind agencies or impact on the IP Policy, and should be used for guidance only. [↑](#footnote-ref-100)
100. There may be situations where the State has a contractual obligation to register intellectual property, where these issues will not apply – for example, under some collaboration agreements. Typically these would oblige the relevant party to take reasonable steps to register the IP, and may provide for cost sharing among participants. [↑](#footnote-ref-101)
101. See Commonwealth of Australia, *Intellectual Property Manual* (2012) p. 219‑222. [↑](#footnote-ref-102)
102. Adapted from Commonwealth of Australia, *Intellectual Property Manual* (2012) p. 218. [↑](#footnote-ref-103)
103. For information on conducting an IP needs analysis for grant agreements see Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), pp. 166‑169. [↑](#footnote-ref-104)
104. Commonwealth of Australia, *Intellectual Property Manual* (2012) p.167 [↑](#footnote-ref-105)
105. See clauses 16.3 and 16.4 of the CFA terms and conditions. [↑](#footnote-ref-106)
106. ARC Open Access Policy: [www.arc.gov.au/applicants/open\_access.htm](http://www.arc.gov.au/applicants/open_access.htm). [↑](#footnote-ref-107)
107. NHMRC Open Access Statement: [http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/book/nhmrc‑funding‑rules/section‑nhmrc‑funding‑rules/a15‑open‑access‑statement](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/book/nhmrc-funding-rules/section-nhmrc-funding-rules/a15-open-access-statement). [↑](#footnote-ref-108)
108. The ARC policy covers all publication outputs including books, whereas the NHMRC covers journal articles only. [↑](#footnote-ref-109)
109. <https://www.vic.gov.au/victorian-common-funding-agreement> [↑](#footnote-ref-110)
110. *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) s 190 [↑](#footnote-ref-111)
111. *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) s 193 [↑](#footnote-ref-112)
112. *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) s 195AC [↑](#footnote-ref-113)
113. *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) s 195AI [↑](#footnote-ref-114)
114. See discussion of reasonableness in Chapter 10.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-115)
115. *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) s 193 [↑](#footnote-ref-116)
116. *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) s 195‑195AB [↑](#footnote-ref-117)
117. Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 30. [↑](#footnote-ref-118)
118. *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) s 195AR [↑](#footnote-ref-119)
119. *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) s 195AC [↑](#footnote-ref-120)
120. *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) s 195AD‑195AH [↑](#footnote-ref-121)
121. *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) s 195AI [↑](#footnote-ref-122)
122. Including a literary, dramatic or musical work, an artistic work or a cinematograph film. [↑](#footnote-ref-123)
123. *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) s 195AJ‑195AL [↑](#footnote-ref-124)
124. *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) ss 195AW and 195AWA [↑](#footnote-ref-125)
125. Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 31. [↑](#footnote-ref-126)
126. This subchapter adapted from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 171. [↑](#footnote-ref-127)
127. Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), pp. 171‑177. [↑](#footnote-ref-128)
128. Adapted from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 181. [↑](#footnote-ref-129)
129. Checklist adapted from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 182. [↑](#footnote-ref-130)
130. Making use of copyright material refers to reproducing it, emailing it, uploading it to the internet, publishing it and other acts of copyright set out in section 31 of the Copyright Act. [↑](#footnote-ref-131)
131. Copyright Act, s 31(1). [↑](#footnote-ref-132)
132. *Copyright Act 1968*, section 36(1) [↑](#footnote-ref-133)
133. *Copyright Act 1968*, section 36(1A) [↑](#footnote-ref-134)
134. See discussion in Chapter 1.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-135)
135. See Chapter 3.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-136)
136. More guidance on significant IP is provided in Chapter 1.8. [↑](#footnote-ref-137)
137. See Chapter 11.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-138)
138. Table adapted from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012)*,* p. 21. [↑](#footnote-ref-139)
139. The content in this subchapter, including the table, reproduced from Commonwealth of Australia, *Australian Government Intellectual Property Manual* (2012), p. 22. [↑](#footnote-ref-140)
140. The duration of copyright protection depends on the type of material involved. It is usually at least 50 years from the date the work is made. For more information see the Australian Copyright Council’s information sheet G023v16 *Duration of Copyright*, available from its website [www.copyright.org.au/find‑an‑answer/](http://www.copyright.org.au/find-an-answer/) [↑](#footnote-ref-141)
141. See section 31 of the Copyright Act. [↑](#footnote-ref-142)
142. See section 180 of the Copyright Act. [↑](#footnote-ref-143)
143. Section 8A of the Copyright Act preserves these prerogative rights. There is some debate as to whether these also apply to Court judgments. [↑](#footnote-ref-144)
144. Under s 177, the State also owns copyright in original works first published in Australia if first published by or under the direction or control of the State. However this does not apply to works in which copyright would otherwise be owned by a third party, where publication is unauthorised; see ss 29(6) and (7) of the Copyright Act. [↑](#footnote-ref-145)
145. Formerly the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (Cth). [↑](#footnote-ref-146)
146. See ss 163 to 165 Patents Act. [↑](#footnote-ref-147)
147. IP Australia, 2012, [http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get‑the‑right‑ip/patents/patent‑application‑process/](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get-the-right-ip/patents/patent-application-process/) [↑](#footnote-ref-148)
148. [http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get‑the‑right‑ip/patents/](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get-the-right-ip/patents/) [↑](#footnote-ref-149)
149. See ss 96 to 98 Designs Act. [↑](#footnote-ref-150)
150. [http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get‑the‑right‑ip/designs/](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get-the-right-ip/designs/) [↑](#footnote-ref-151)
151. Section 43 Plant *Breeder’s Rights Act 1994* (Cth) [↑](#footnote-ref-152)
152. [http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get‑the‑right‑ip/plant‑breeders‑rights/pbr‑application‑process/](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get-the-right-ip/plant-breeders-rights/pbr-application-process/) [↑](#footnote-ref-153)
153. IP Australia, [http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/get‑the‑right‑ip/other‑types‑of‑IP/circuit‑layout‑rights/](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/gettherightip/othertypesofIP/circuitlayoutrights/) [↑](#footnote-ref-154)