

VICSES Knox

Update from the Emergency Services Infrastructure Authority

Project Update | June 2020

- The design for your unit's new facility includes six motor bays, two of which are able to accommodate the Mobile Command Vehicle, which allows for future growth.
- There is a separate vehicle storeroom with four smaller motor bays suitable for trailers or 4WD vehicles. This building contains a workroom, which is in addition to the standard provision of storage and workbenches in the main motor room.
- Landscape drawings have also been prepared with consideration of the existing indigenous planting and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's (DELWP) preference for harmonious landscape across the larger site.
- ESIA is continuing to work with DELWP to transfer the committee of management of the site to VICSES, which would see DELWP remain the Public Land Manager.
- ESIA is also working with DELWP and VICSES on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to address operational requirements and shared facilities arrangements such as meeting rooms, car park areas, security requirements and the maintenance of common assets including green areas.



Next Steps

- Completion of the 'for-tender' documentation in preparation for release to market – in progress.
- Site meeting with DELWP traffic consultant – late May 2020.
- Relocation of six seasons Indigenous garden – June 2020.
- Completion of committee of Management land transfer to VICSES – August 2020.

Project Timeline

Site identification

Complete

Site due diligence

Complete

Land tenure

In progress with DELWP

Schematic design

Completed

Town planning and zoning approvals

Completed

Detailed design

Completed

For tender documents

In progress

Procure and appoint construction firm

Mid-Late 2020

Construction commences

Late 2020

Construction concludes

Mid -Late 2021

Commissioning of facility

Mid - Late 2021

Handover of facility

Mid -Late 2021

Project governance

In previous updates we have talked about the Sector Coordination Group (SCG) and Project Control Groups (PCG), which form the governance structure for VICSES infrastructure projects managed by EISA.

But what are these governance groups and why do we need them?

Good governance is critical to project success.

Project governance establishes a framework that guides project success, creating transparency and confidence in decision making, clarity of roles and responsibilities and consideration of stakeholder interests.

Aren't governance groups just another layer of bureaucracy that contribute to unnecessary delays?

Projects, without governance, become unmanageable. Governance provides a clear and defined system of 'checks and balances' for a project. If decisions and risks aren't scrutinised by key stakeholders, projects are likely to be delivered over budget, late, or not fit-for-purpose, resulting in a new facility that is inefficient or impractical operationally, which does not serve you or the community.



The SCG considers all VICSES projects. How do we know that our project is getting the time and consideration it warrants?

The SCG assesses individual projects as well as the full program of works. This structure ensures there is consistency across all projects with due consideration of the 'bigger picture', including VICSES' operational requirements and response strategy now and into the future. An example of this was the development of concept designs and the subsequent benefits realised, including agreed standardised layouts for new VICSES unit facilities. Without an SCG, these may not have been developed with projects managed in isolation, resulting in fewer opportunities for benefits and lessons to be shared across all projects.

Why doesn't our unit controller sit on any of these governance groups?

Your Regional Manager is your voice; your representative. Along with ESIA Project Managers, they will continue to work closely with your unit to ensure that local requirements are incorporated into the project. Any concerns or feedback should be directed to ESIA via your Regional Manager in the first instance.

What does our project's governance structure look like?

The VICSES Wangaratta Unit is represented by various VICSES personnel at each level of the governance structure. Your primary representative is Regional Manager Keith O'Brien, who sits on the PCG and liaises with members of the SCG.

Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Ultimate responsibility for the delivery of VICSES built infrastructure.

Sector Coordination Group (SCG)

Responsible for the overall direction of VICSES built infrastructure projects and in ensuring these projects are delivered on time, on budget, within scope and are fit-for-purpose.

- Approve milestone deliverables
- Mitigate risk and resolve issues
- Approve changes to scope, timeline or budget

North East Project Control Group (PCG)

Enables the project to have an official forum where key stakeholders are represented, with consistent and documented input into the project objectives, functions and outputs.

- Endorse milestone deliverables
- Advise on and resolve issues and risks
- Manage direct engagement with unit

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