

Title Victorian Alpine Resorts Development Program (VARDP) Policy

Purpose To define the objective, scope, boundaries and structure of the Victorian Alpine Resorts Development Program (VARDP) to ensure clarity for the Members and Secretariat staff of the Alpine Resort Co-ordinating Council (ARCC) and the Alpine Resort Management Boards (ARMB).

Definition For the purpose of this document industry is defined as the ARMBs.

Policy **Overview**
 VARDP is a program to support ARMBs to realise infrastructure investment projects within the Victorian alpine resorts that are based on robust business cases and are aligned with resort, regional and state-wide strategic plans.

VARDP is co-ordinated by the ARCC on behalf of the ARMBs and other stakeholders in the Victorian alpine resorts.

Key Objectives

- Ensure the efficient co-ordination of the investment program for Victorian alpine resorts.
- Increase industry co-operation and cohesion to foster the advancement, improved visibility, and success of the Victorian alpine resorts.
- Deliver an industry endorsed list of infrastructure investment priorities with identified funding sources (public and private).
- Improve the probability that prioritised projects will receive funding.
- Limit duplication or additional bureaucracy, reducing red and green tape.

Program Scope

- Prioritise individual infrastructure projects across all Victorian alpine resorts.
- Determine potential funding sources (public and private).
- Assist ARMBs in applying for and securing funding for prioritised projects.

The ARCC will assist the applicants of prioritised projects in preparing funding applications and managing the funding application process. The VARDP will neither provide nor guarantee funding for project applications.

Prioritised projects will be based on individual resort infrastructure priorities consistent with Resort Master Plans and aligned to the strategic objectives of the Alpine Resorts Strategic Plan 2012. Prioritised projects will also need to be part of regional strategic plans, and aligned with Government policy to receive public funding.

Program Outputs

The key output of VARDP will be a list of prioritised projects, known as the Victorian Alpine Resort Infrastructure Project List.

This list is a comprehensive list of infrastructure projects being considered across the Victorian alpine resorts. It will be separated and categorised by type of infrastructure and project stage of development. An illustrative example is given below.

Infrastructure type	Project stage of development		
	Tier 3: Conceptual stage	Tier 2: Feasibility stage	Tier 1: Business case stage
Safety infrastructure	3 Projects	1 Project	1 Project
Maintenance of existing infrastructure	5 Projects	3 Projects	2 Projects
Growth of infrastructure	6 Projects	4 Projects	3 Projects
Environment / other	1 Project	-	1 Project

Support and assistance to access funding to develop project from concept to full business case (points to Tier 3)

Support to secure funding and approvals to move project from full business case to shovel ready & fully funded (points to Tier 1)



The list will be publically available to enable the industry, stakeholders, potential funding sources (public and private) to have a better understanding of the priorities and direction of the alpine resorts.

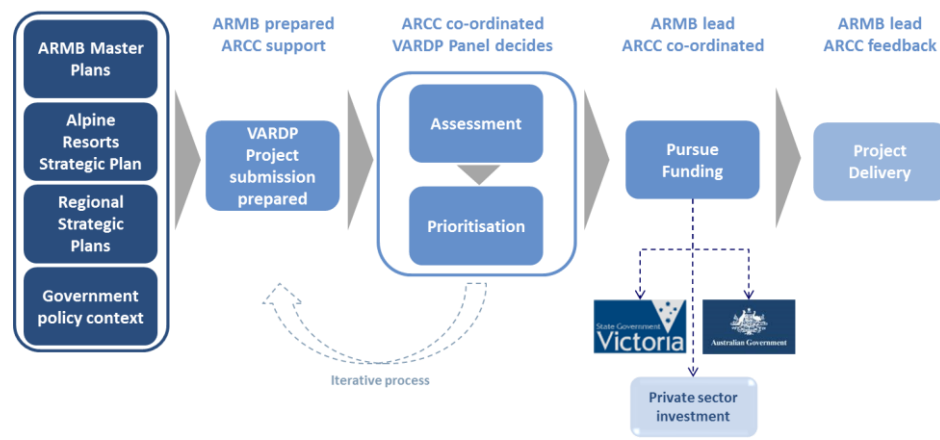
Program Eligibility

- Only ARMBs are eligible to submit VARDP Project Submissions. Submissions must be approved by the relevant ARMB(s) prior to submission.
- Other organisations are not eligible to submit VARDP Project Submissions in their own right but may partner with the ARMBs to make submissions. ARMBs may wish to partner with private companies, not-for-profits and other government agencies.
- VARDP Project Submissions must relate to an infrastructure project where:
 - The funding required is beyond the capacity of the applicant to fund;
 - The overall project requires at least \$250,000 in total capital funding; and
 - The project is aligned with the relevant Resort Master Plan, Alpine Resorts Strategic Plan and Regional Plan.
- Projects must be at one of the following stages of development:
 - Business Case Stage (Tier 1);
 - Feasibility Stage (Tier 2); or
 - Conceptual Stage (Tier 3).
- Infrastructure is broadly defined as all items requiring capital expenditure within or related to the Victorian alpine resorts.

Program Process

Applicants are required to prepare VARDP Project Submissions and submit them to the ARCC. The ARCC will then assess proposals and prepare the Victorian Alpine Resort Infrastructure Project List showing project prioritisation. The ARCC will assist the applicants of prioritised projects with securing funding.

An overview of the VARDP process is shown in the diagram below.



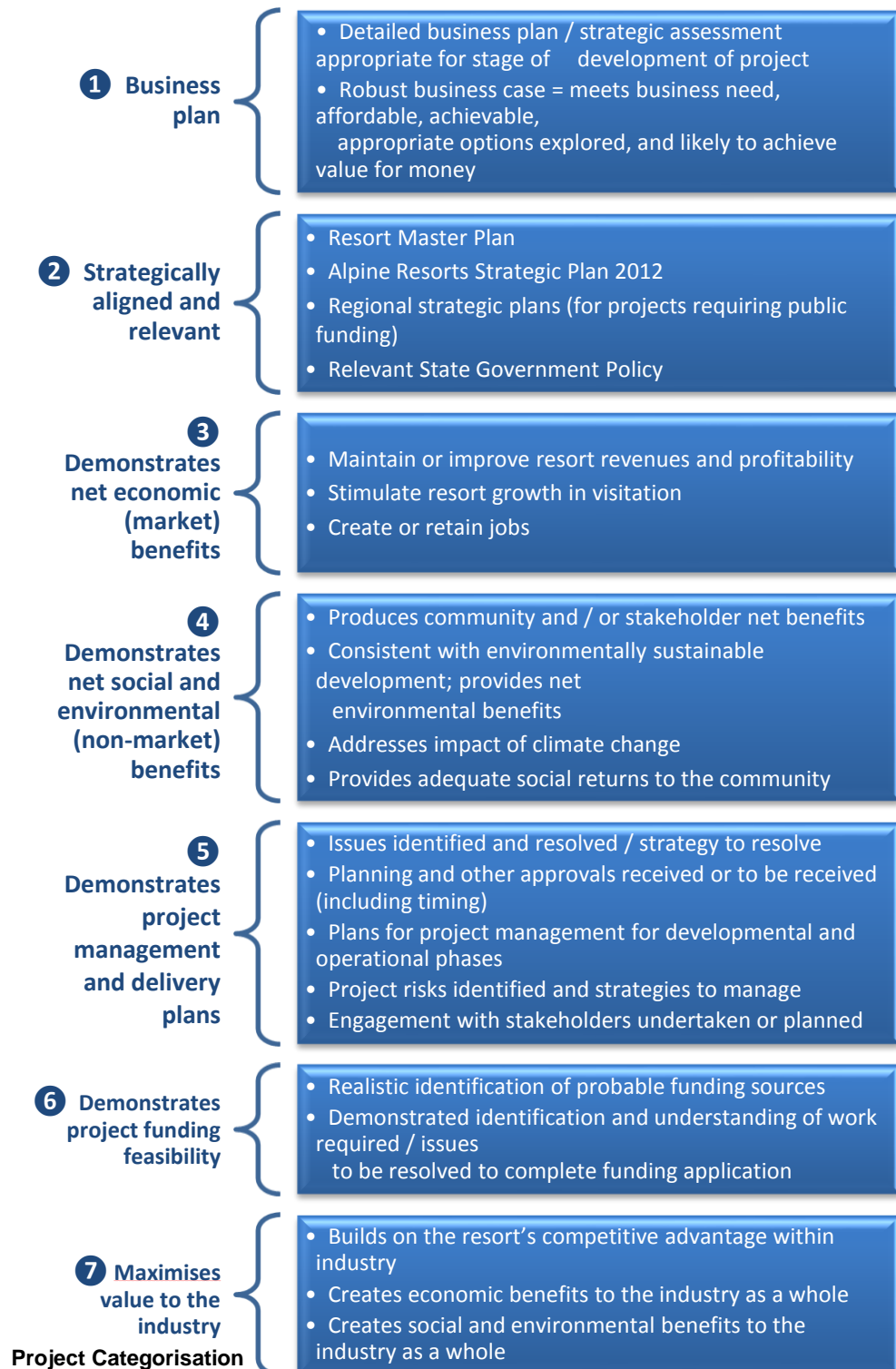
Assessment of Submitted Projects

- The VARDP Panel will assess project applications and make a recommendation of the projects to be included in the Victorian Alpine Resorts Infrastructure Project List.
- The VARDP Panel will consist of the ARCC RSP Committee in conjunction with specialist experts.
- The ARCC Co-operation Committee will provide industry expertise. In particular, it will assess Criteria 5 and Criteria 7 (detailed below).
- The final decision of projects to be included in Victorian Alpine Resorts Infrastructure Project List will be made by the full ARCC.

Assessment Criteria

The following criteria will apply to the assessment of project submissions.





Project Categorisation

Projects will be categorised according to the stages of project development (as detailed in the Department of Treasury and Finance investment lifecycle guidelines) and type of infrastructure project.

Project Stages

- **Conceptual Stage:**
 - Project is identified but at an early stage.
 - A strategic assessment has been prepared.
- **Feasibility Stage:**
 - Project has a feasibility study or preliminary business plan indicating project viability and strategic fit.
 - Potential funding sources have been identified.



- Business Plan Stage:
 - Project has a detailed business case indicating project viability and strategic fit.
 - Probable funding sources identified and ready to pursue.
 - All material planning and other approvals are well advanced.
 - Project is in regional plan (where applicable) or discussions advanced on its inclusion.

Type of Infrastructure Project

- Safety Infrastructure:
 - Urgent requirement to ensure safety.
- Maintenance of Existing Infrastructure:
 - Maintenance of existing infrastructure assets where investment is required to maintain existing resort operations.
- Growth Infrastructure:
 - Development of new resort infrastructure that is expected to have a direct contribution on increasing resort growth.
- Environment / other:
 - Environmental projects or infrastructure that do not fit other categories.

Project delivery

The ARMBs are to deliver funded projects. ARCC will assist ARMBs to liaise with funding bodies.

Program Costs

The cost of the ARCC providing the VARDP will initially be funded by equal contributions from all ARMBs.

It is intended that by the end of the third year of operation VARDP will be self-funding. A cost of using the services of VARDP will be agreed at the time of inclusion of a project on the Victorian Alpine Resorts Infrastructure Priority List. This amount will be paid by the ARMB once a project is successful in receiving funding. The cost should be capitalised against the project by the relevant ARMBs.

Policy basis

VARDP is an important element of the Alpine Resort Strategic Plan 2012, and is expected to assist the industry in meeting Strategic Objective 2: Delivering resort services and infrastructure efficiently and accountably.

Acts

[Alpine Resorts \(Management\) Act 1997](#)

Policy

[Alpine Resort Strategic Plan 2012](#)

Accompanying documentation

Victorian Alpine Resorts Development Program Submission Guidelines

Victorian Alpine Resorts Development Program Evaluation Scoring Sheet

Contact

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Metadata

The following table lists management data for this Policy.

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