

# ALPINE RESORTS LEASING POLICY REVIEW 2019

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN – STRATEGIC OVERVIEW

### PURPOSE

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) needs to revise the 2002 Alpine Resorts Leasing Policy (Leasing Policy) to provide a consistent, contemporary and effective framework for leasing decisions on Crown land within alpine resorts. The revised policy must support relevant government policy and strategic objectives for alpine resorts.

**What are the views of alpine leaseholders/siteholders regarding improvement to leasing policy and processes?**

### PROJECT GOVERNANCE

**The Minister is the key decision-maker regarding alpine policy matters.**

*Development of a revised Leasing Policy will be:*

- Undertaken by DELWP's Land Management and Policy Division and informed by a Project Steering Group
- Influenced by stakeholder views as recommended by the Project Working Group

*Stakeholder engagement will be:*

- Overseen by the Alpine Resorts Co-ordinating Council (ARCC)
- Supported on-mountain by the four Alpine Resort Management Boards (ARMBs)
- Guided by a Project Working Group consisting of DELWP, ARCC, ARMBs, Victorian Snowsports Association (VSA) and Alpine Resorts Industry Advisor Group (ARIAG) members

### PROMISE

**The Project Working Group will:**

- Listen to what people say
- Document and record all inputs
- Report back on what we have heard
- Provide stakeholder views to the Project Steering Group
  - Provide transparent progress updates
- Identify where stakeholder views have influenced their recommendations
- Identify where stakeholder views could not be incorporated into a recommendation and clearly explain why

### OBJECTIVES & PRINCIPLES

**The objectives of engagement being undertaken as part of the leasing review are:**

- to inform stakeholders of the leasing policy review
- to provide stakeholders with an opportunity to have a say on alpine leasing
- to seek evidence-based input to support policy recommendations
- to obtain buy-in from lease stakeholders to the review process and outcomes.

**The engagement approach will be consistent with:**

- The vision, principles and commitment set out in the *Victorian Alpine Resorts Stakeholder Engagement Policy (2019 draft for consultation)*

### SCOPE

**Any changes to Leasing Policy must be:**

- Consistent with and seek to achieve the objects of the *Alpine Resorts (Management) Act 1997*
- Consistent with the purpose for which any land in each alpine resort reserved under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978* is so reserved.
- Consistent with contemporary policy considerations, including the *Climate Change Act 2017*, *Biodiversity 2037 Strategy*, *Leasing Policy for Victorian Crown Land 2018*, traditional owner partnership principles and the *Alpine Resorts Strategic Plan*.

**Negotiables:**

*Stakeholders will be invited to have a say on:*

- The criteria for determining length of lease term, including use of SISP
- Integration of leasing decisions with planning and environmental assessments
  - Lease application, assessment and approvals processes
    - Lease compliance issues
  - Leasing and green season visitation.

**Non-negotiables:**

*Matters that are out of scope for this review include:*

- Standard Alpine Lease structure, documentation and templates
- State Revenue Office and Victorian Valuer General considerations
  - Planning Scheme changes
  - ARMB charges to siteholders
    - Change in legislation
    - Rental provisions

### LEVEL OF ENGAGEMENT

**The highest level of engagement through this process is CONSULT.**

The Project Working Group will keep alpine leaseholder stakeholders informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how their input influenced its decisions/recommendations to DELWP.