



Government of Western Australia
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety

Concise
Annual Report
2020-21

adapt

Message from the Director General



Kaya Wandju

Acknowledging the hard work and commitment of DMIRS staff is always a pleasure. Having commenced as Director General for only the last month of 2021, I have been impressed to learn what the staff of DMIRS have achieved over the year. This annual report is a way we can recognise and celebrate these achievements.

2020–21 was a year like no other presenting some quite unique challenges requiring us to keep thinking about how we can adapt.

While staff continued to work to deliver critical frontline services, drive the State’s COVID-19 response and prepare for Western Australia’s economic and social recovery, we stepped back to consider what matters to us the most – our people and the people of the Western Australian community.

The safety and wellbeing of our staff and the Western Australian community has been the top priority for DMIRS.

To support the State Government’s changed focus and to quickly adapt to the rapidly changing situation, we developed an interim [Strategic Plan – Response to the COVID-19 Environment](#). Our longer term plan [Strategic Plan - Towards 2024](#) was temporarily put on hold.

DMIRS is a diverse and busy department, we work across six diverse Groups. Ensuring a holistic approach addressing high-priority strategic projects, we developed a Collaboration Plan. The aim of his plan was to provide a more focused approach working collectively across our diverse department.

This approach combined with a shared commitment to our purpose of **supporting a safe, fair and responsible future for the Western Australian community, industry and resources sector** and our corporate values of being respectful, transparent, fair, ethical, responsive and forward thinking put the department in a strong position to manage the challenges of 2020–21.

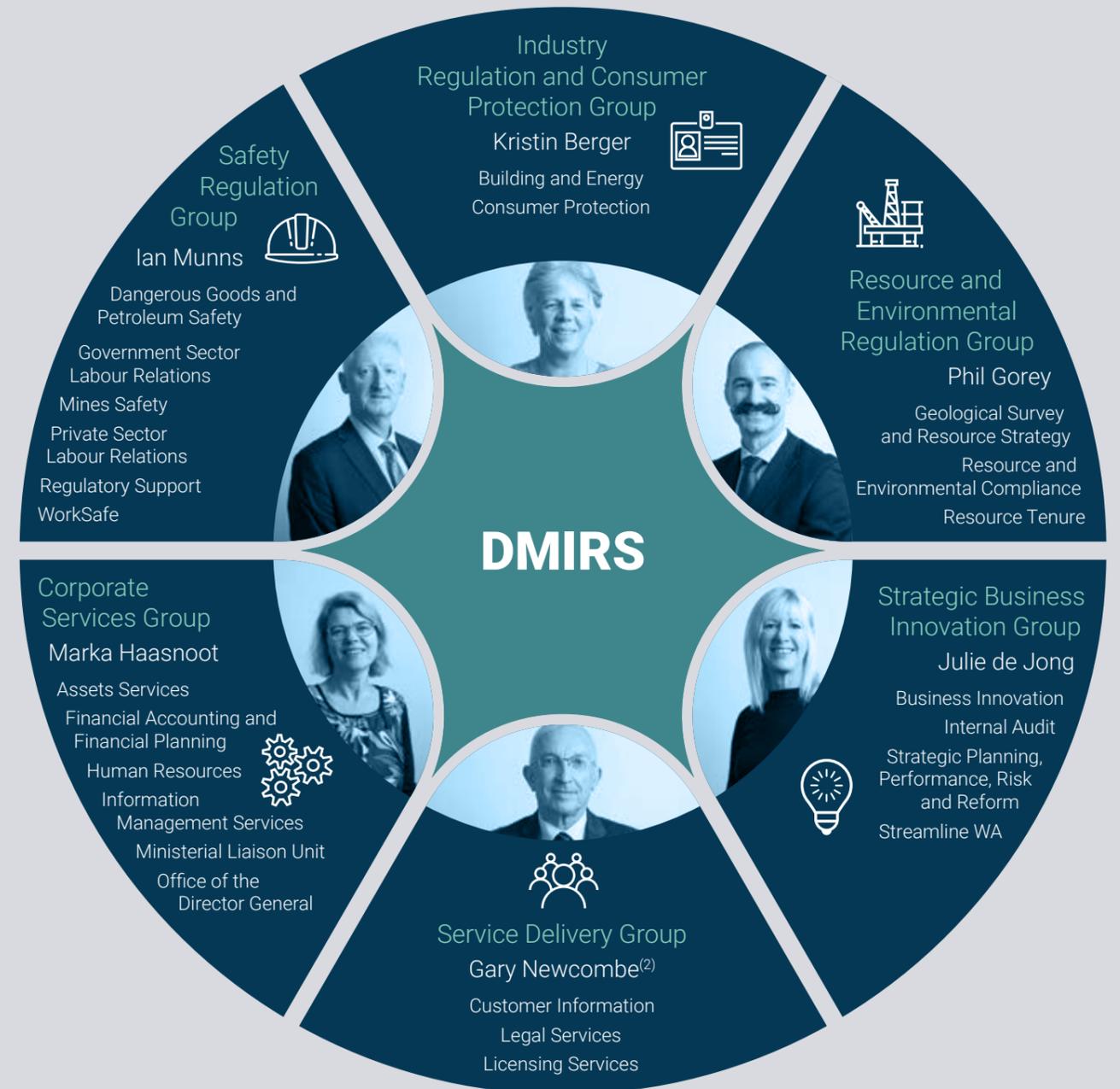
DMIRS inaugural Director General David Smith led the department until the end of May 2021. This was a time of major change within the Western Australian Public Sector and many of the achievements described in this report are a testament to David’s leadership and focus. I thank him for the outstanding contribution he made during his tenure as Director General and wish him all the best for the future.

I want to extend a big thank you to all DMIRS staff for their contribution, and I look forward to another productive year ahead as we continue to serve the people of Western Australia in 2021–22.

Richard Sellers
Director General

Organisational chart

Our six Groups with our Group heads reporting to Richard Sellers, Director General⁽¹⁾:



A stand-alone sub-department of DMIRS named Energy Policy WA was formed during 2019–20. Under the [Financial Management Act 2006](#), [Energy Policy WA](#) has its own appropriation and division in the State Budget, and is responsible for the preparation of its own annual report to Parliament.

(1) Richard Sellers was appointed to this role from 31 May 2021, prior to this David Smith was the Director General.

(2) Jennifer Shelton acted in the role of Executive Director Service Delivery Group from 1 June 2021.

Our performance snapshot

Our financial summary

\$294,624,000

Total cost of services⁽¹⁾
Target \$287,493,000
▲ Variation \$7,131,000⁽²⁾

\$170,475,000⁽³⁾

Salary expenses
Target \$159,540,000
▲ Variation \$10,935,000

\$525,155,000

Total equity
Target \$514,064,000
▲ Variation \$11,091,000

\$ 4,852,000⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾

Working cash limits
Agreed \$14,031,000
▼ Variation (\$9,179,000)

(1) Net cost of services – Actual \$134,502,000, Target \$124,205,000 and Variation \$10,297,000.

(2) For explanation on variation between Actual and Target refer to note 8.11 of the Financial Statements.

(3) Actual derived from the Department of Treasury Strategic Information Management System.

(4) Actual working cash held at the close of the financial year.

Our business

Our strategic plan outlines our intention of maintaining responsive and accessible provision of services in a changing environment. Over the year:



5,263

building, painting, plumbing, electrical and gas inspections conducted.



17,675

subscribers to online safety newsletters.



443,054

occupational licences, certificates, permits and registrations managed by licensing services.



29

public sector agreements covering wages and employment conditions were successfully negotiated for **113,014** employees.



130

WA mines were contacted to maintain effective communication, inspections and enforcement during the COVID-19 pandemic.



88%

programmes of work (mineral exploration activities) were completed within **15** business days
▲ Target **80 per cent**.

Value created

Every working day we set out to create value. Our performance over the year, reflects our strong desire to add value for our myriad of stakeholders.



643

building service and home building work contract complaints finalised.



\$1.2m

recovered in unpaid wages and other entitlements for employees.



\$5.2m

refunded to industry as part of the Government's COVID-19 economic and health relief package.



21

Mentally Healthy Workplace audits conducted across WA Mines to raise awareness of the importance of mental health.



99

new interpretive datasets delivered through the accelerated geoscience program, consisting of about **1080** new interpreted data layers.



\$7.7m

total redress achieved for **2,814** WA consumers, with the regions achieving **\$1.6 million** in redress for **558** consumers.
▲ **44 per cent** from **\$1.1 million** in 2019–20.



14,026

Residential Rent Relief Grant Scheme applications received (total), with



8,182

applications paid, totalling



\$11,407,742



3,219

residential tenancies mandatory conciliation applications received, with



2,441

conciliations completed and



1,230
Binding Orders given.

Makuru

Winter July 2020

Introduced reforms to lift red tape and reduce administrative costs for WA charities and incorporated associations.

[Industrial Relations Legislation Amendment Bill 2020](#) was introduced into Parliament.

Djilba

First spring August – September

A consultation regulatory impact statement was released in response to community concerns about the accident towing industry.

A series of roundtables discussing possible fast tracking of reforms to retirement village legislation were conducted with peak stakeholder bodies in the sector during August to October 2020.

[Industrial Relations Legislation Amendment Bill 2020](#) was passed through the Legislative Assembly.

The legislative amendments to operationalise the Government's COVID-19 economic and health relief package came into force and the process to refund fees to affected licence applicants commenced.

The successful applicants of the Exploration Incentive Scheme (EIS) co funded drilling (round 22) was announced by the Minister for Mines and Petroleum.

The [Work Health and Safety Act 2020](#) received assent.

Ran design sprint workshops across DMIRS to enable us to better embed the corporate values.



Launched the Safe Work Month 2020 website.

Second spring October – November

Kambarang

Birak

First summer December – January

Celebrated 10 years of [Australian Consumer Law](#).



A highlight was bringing together current and previous Commissioners Gary Newcombe, Lanie Chopping, David Hillyard and Anne Driscoll.

Developed and implemented an electronic system to provide all designated gas inspectors the ability while in the field to raise Inspectors Orders or Notice of Defects.

[New workplace exposure standards](#) providing increased protections for workers exposed to respirable crystalline silica in the engineered stone industry.

Strengthened silica health surveillance requirements.

Industry and community consultation was also undertaken on options for reform of laws regulating the sale of motor vehicles on consignment in Western Australia.

Bunuru

Second summer February – March

Introduced the redeveloped [SmartMove online](#) platform.



Commenced the Kalgoorlie Joe Lord Core Library extension.



Final maintenance components of Tengraph were replaced.

[Prepaid funerals code of practice](#) commenced 1 March 2021.

DMIRS Annual Report 2019–20 won a silver ARA Award.



The successful applicant of the EIS co funded drilling (round 23) was announced by the Minister for Mines and Petroleum.

Held briefing sessions and released a consultation draft of the [Streamlining Mining Amendment Bill 2021](#) for public feedback.

Developed and released the [Rehabilitation Showcase Book](#) identifying innovative rehabilitation and closure strategies by mining and petroleum companies in Western Australia.



Responded to Cyclone Seroja.

Autumn April – May

Djeran

Makuru

Winter June

Ran the first regulatory inter-agency common understanding session to bring together the major stakeholders involved in mining and environmental approvals.

The [Building and Construction Industry \(Security of Payment\) Act 2021](#) received royal assent.

The [Fair Trading Amendment Bill 2021](#) was reintroduced on 23 June 2021 to improve the operation of consumer law in Western Australia and provide for consistency with the national law.

The [Sunday Entertainment Repeal Bill](#) was passed by Parliament.

Reintroduced the [Ticket Scalping Bill 2021](#) providing new regulation prohibiting ticket scalping practices.

Implemented new online government sector labour relations advice resource.

Won a W.S. Lonnie Award for good governance in annual reporting.





Resources Advice and Regulation



70%

Stakeholder satisfaction with the department as an effective resource sector regulator.

Target
75%



\$4,514

Average cost of resource regulation per live title.

Target
\$4,641



Industry Advice and Regulation



66%

Stakeholder satisfaction with the department as an effective industry regulator.

Target
75%



\$201

Average cost per transaction to deliver Industry Advice and Regulation Services.

Target
\$192



Safety and Labour Relations Advice and Regulation



15

Number of work-related traumatic injury fatalities.

Five-year rolling average 14.

Target
0



\$4,925

Average cost per transaction to deliver safety and labour relations regulation services.

Target
\$4,752



34%

Percentage of high-risk work licence applications determined within agreed timeframes.

Target
100%

Audited KPI Report 2020-21 Snapshot