# Victorian Public Service Executive Classification Framework

## Summary of classification framework

1. The classification framework for executives within the Victorian Public Service (VPS) aims to provide clarity on the expectations of executives at different levels. It sets a consistent and transparent assessment methodology for classifying public service executive positions into one of three bands, using tailored work value assessments.

## Key elements

1. The key elements of the classification framework include:

* a methodology that applies work level standards that clearly differ in complexity and responsibility across the three executive bands;
* a tool for assessing classification;
* the renaming and re-ordering of bands to Senior Executive Service (SES) with SES1 being the lowest classification and SES3 being the highest classification, so that there is greater consistency with other jurisdictions and to improve the ability to attract and retain high performing executives; and
* standard position titles which include Deputy Secretary (SES3), Executive Director (SES2) and Director (SES1), so that clear relationships between classification, titles and positions are in place to better assist in mobility and remuneration benchmarking.

## Work value assessment methodology

1. The classification framework uses a work value assessment methodology, where executive positions are assessed and classified using work level standards that differ in complexity and responsibility across three executive bands, as follows:

* knowledge;
* relationships;
* judgement and risk;
* independence;
* strategic change;
* breadth;
* impact; and
* resource management.

1. Each executive position is to be assessed by a skilled assessor using the work value assessment methodology and position information to develop a classification recommendation.
2. Under the framework the relevant public sector body Head will have the final determination on the classification of a position.
3. Options are available to the public sector body Head to manage an outcome, where an assessment results in a different classification than that currently held. For example, a position could be found to be classified lower and the decision may be made to reclassify the position once vacant or modify the duties of the current position to raise its work value.

## Implementation and application of work value assessments

1. Commencing in 2019, VPS organisations will be able to assess the classification of all VPS executive positions using the classification framework.
2. To support departments to implement the endorsed Executive Classification Framework in the two-year timeframe agreed by the Victorian Secretaries Board (VSB) in September 2018, the Victorian Public Sector Commission (VPSC) has established a time-limited team to deliver executive classification assessment services for departments and their connected service agencies through a fee for service agreement. The services the VPSC can provide include:

* the provision of an information session/s and draft communications;
* the assessment of the work value classification of all VPS executive positions;
* the development of in-house capability to enable internal assessments in the long term including the provision of a training session and 1:1 coaching;
* the development of detailed individual work value assessment reports; and
* the development of an overarching findings report to the public sector body Head.

1. This approach will build the organisation’s internal position assessment capability. It will also provide confidence that there is consistency in executive position classification across the VPS.

## Implementation of standard position titles

1. The framework includes the application of standard position titles at the associated classification band. This includes: Deputy Secretary (SES3), Executive Director (SES2) and Director (SES1).
2. There is flexibility for non-standard titles to be used within each of the three bands, providing that the integrity of the three band classification titles - Deputy Secretary, Executive Director and Director - remains. This approach will allow organisations flexibility for technical positions and/or legislated position titles and accommodates the diverse nature of the VPS. Such titles would be applied at an 80/20 standard to non-standard ratio.
3. To align with the requirement for standard position titles, and to improve consistency and transparency across the executive cohort, organisations must have standard titles in place within two years of classification assessments being undertaken. This provides VPS organisations with appropriate time to align where titles are currently spread across bands.

## Introduction of the Senior Executive Service (SES)

1. The framework incorporates a re-titling of executive bands from Executive Officer to Senior Executive Service to align with other jurisdictions. This shift would reinforce the important stewardship and leadership position of VPS senior executives, achieving consistency with other jurisdictions and further professionalising the service.
2. This shift will be implemented concurrently with the new VPS executive remuneration bands to be set by the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal (Tribunal), operating out of the Department of Premier and Cabinet (anticipated date is September 2019).

## Application to Administrative Office Heads

1. The framework is applicable to determining the classification of Administrative Office (AO) Heads. In the case of AO Heads, the Premier is the employer and will make the final determination of the classification of a position.
2. The executive standard position titles model (paragraph 10, 11 and 12) do not apply to AO Heads. Although AO Heads will be assessed using this framework, the final classification of an AO Head will be in accordance with the following:

* AO Head Band 1 corresponds to SES Band 1;
* AO Head Band 2 corresponds to SES Band 2; and
* AO Head Band 3 corresponds to SES Band 3.

## Governance

1. The VPSC will provide overarching guidance, advice and support and the VPSC Commissioner will continue to monitor these arrangements and report to the VSB biannually on the application of work value assessment outcomes and the standardisation of position titles across the VPS.

## Advice and Assistance

1. There will be a dedicated resource at VPSC available for ongoing support on the Executive Classification Framework.
2. The framework and resources are available on the VPSC website.

# Victorian Public Service Classification Framework

## 1 Purpose and context

### 1.1 Purpose

The Victorian Public Service (VPS) Executive Classification Framework provides clarity on the expectations of executives at different levels. It sets a consistent and transparent assessment methodology for classifying public service executive positions into one of three bands, using tailored work value assessments.

### 1.2 Scope

This framework is relevant to all executives within the VPS. It applies to the classification of all executive positions, including current, new and vacant positions.

VPS executives are defined as executives employed under Part 3 of the Public Administration Act 2004. These executives are seen as public servants and would be subject to the public service executive contract and the executive remuneration structure.

This definition extends to persons employed as an Administrative Office Head under section 12 of the PAA in relation to an Administrative Office established under section 11 of the Public Administration Act 2004; and declared authorities where a public entity employs executives on arrangements which mirror those in the VPS, under an Order in Council under section 104 of the Public Administration Act 2004.

### 1.3 Design

The framework was informed by extensive research and consultation to ensure that it reflects the work value expectations and requirements of diverse executive positions within a modern and contemporary public service.

The framework provides:

* a clear methodology for classifying positions and a good foundation for classification decisions, including consideration of exceptions to classification; and
* an assessment methodology that is easy to understand, simple to use, and can easily be applied to executive positions across the VPS.

The framework was tested through two pilots, where the methodology was found to be applicable to the VPS and robust in purpose. Lessons learnt throughout the work value assessment process were also incorporated into the framework’s final design.

### 1.4 Context

The framework uses a work value assessment methodology, where executive positions are assessed and classified using work level standards that differ in complexity and responsibility across three executive bands. The assessment methodology is simply designed for Human Resources (HR) practitioners to apply.

[Figure](#_bookmark14) 1 provides a summary of the work value assessment methodology process:

* a skilled assessor evaluates an executive position using the work value assessment methodology to:
* gather information about the position and conduct interview/s;
* use work level standards to evaluate the work value of the position;
* validate the work value of the position against its appropriate work stream; and
* determine assessment outcome from available options.
* an organisation’s Remuneration Committee may be consulted on an assessment outcome.
* the public sector body Head makes the final determination on the position classification.

Figure 1: Work value assessment methodology overview

**Outcome**

Gather information about position and conduct interview

Assess position work value using   
work -level standards

Validate position work value against work stream

Report on and recommend assessment outcome

Organisation endorsement and implementation of assessment outcome

**Executive work value   
assessment process**

### 1.5 Executive classification bands

There are three executive classification bands. Each band increases in levels of: accountability; complexity of work undertaken, managed and overseen; associated risk; and, levels of authority to make decisions and form policy and provide advice/recommendations to the government of the day.

### 1.6 Administrative Office head classifications

Acknowledging the diversity of AO Head positions, the framework allows for an AO Head to be assessed as sitting in any one of the three SES Bands. The position is assessed using the work value methodology applied to all executive positions. The final classification of an AO Head will be in accordance with the following:

* AO Head Band 1 corresponds to SES Band 1;
* AO Head Band 2 corresponds to SES Band 2; and
* AO Head Band 3 corresponds to SES Band 3.

## 2 Work level standards and streams

### 2.1 Work level standards

The executive work level standards (WLS) provide the basis for describing and determining the classification of executive positions into the three bands described above. The standards increase in complexity and accountability.

There are eight core areas, summarised below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Competency | Definition |
| Knowledge | level of required knowledge, skills and expertise; proficiency in a specialised discipline; level of authority; and depth of understanding of the work environment. |
| Relationships | requirement to influence and negotiate; interact with internal and external stakeholders; and level of sensitivity and complexity of issues and interactions. |
| Judgement and risk | level of required judgement and degree of ambiguity inherent in the position; degree to which position must consider alternative courses of action; level of risk to be mitigated. |
| Independence | requirement to make decisions without support; authority and freedom to plan objectives; and requirement to contribute to or lead whole of entity strategic direction. |
| Strategic change | extent of responsibility for significant strategic change management or reform agenda; contribution to business improvement; and impact and complexity of change. |
| Impact | scope of the position’s impact within an organisation, into the sector, across the state or national / international impact. |
| Breadth | diversity of activities; geographical breadth of responsibility; variety of products and services managed by the position. |
| Resource management | number of staff and size of resources and budget. |

The WLS are indicative, rather than prescriptive. This means that the WLS do not attempt to describe in detail all the possible components of positions at each band across the VPS. Rather they focus on the core components that need to be taken into account in any classification decision.

Definitions should be regarded as general in nature and will require interpretation, depending upon specific position requirements. This model requires organisations to exercise judgement in applying the WLS to individual positions across the VPS and provides flexibility in application to positions that can be quite diverse in content.

### 2.2 Work value streams

The work value streams outline the typical tasks and responsibilities that executive positions undertake in the VPS. Work value streams can be used to validate the assessment outcome derived from the WLS.

There is significant diversity of positions within the executive structure. Executive positions may include responsibility for:

* large-scale service delivery;
* the direction of program or project-based delivery functions;
* development or implementation of public policy;
* development and implementation of compliance and enforcement programs; or
* the provision of expertise which ensures the integrity of decision making and planning processes of government.

Typically, although any given executive position may incorporate many of these elements, the position may have a more significant contribution in one of these areas or work streams (although, it may span two or more work streams).

The following five work value streams organise the diverse executive positions across the VPS into the most efficient groupings:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Stream | Definition |
| Delivery | In this stream, the most significant contribution of positions is service delivery. This may include development of delivery responses for policy objectives within a sector, or may include delivery of services within an organisation, such as financial, human resource or IT services. This stream would also include many operational positions. |
| Policy | In this stream, the most significant contribution of positions relates to the provision of policy formulation, implementation and advice. This advice reflects research and analysis of financial and other implications and stakeholder views obtained through consultations, and articulation of policy in policy statements, regulatory or financial measures and legislation. |
| Portfolio and Program | In this stream, the most significant contribution of positions relates to the planning, management and ongoing implementation of major project and program initiatives. |
| Regulatory | The most significant contribution of positions in this stream relates to information gathering and risk assessment, and the design and implementation of compliance and enforcement programs within a governance framework. |
| Professional/Specialist | The most significant contribution of positions in this stream is the provision of technical, professional, specialist, or strategic advice at a very high level with a commensurate very high level of complexity and risk, and accountability for high impact outcomes. This advice has a primary influence on adopted strategies, plans and targets in terms of effectiveness or efficiency. |

The complete WLS and work value streams by executive band are provided at Appendix 1.

## 3 Work value assessment methodology

The work value of a position is assessed through a process of position analysis. Position analysis is an evidence-based methodology that gathers information about a position in a structured and systematic way. There are two main phases to the work value assessment process, outlined at Appendix 2.

The first phase involves information gathering. A skilled assessor collects the relevant information (i.e. corporate documentation) on the executive position. An interview is then conducted with the position incumbent and/or manager to obtain detailed and accurate information about the position. An interview protocol is provided at Appendix 4.

In phase two the assessor analyses the position in relation to the work-level standards, using the work value assessment scoring template (Appendix 3). Each factor is assigned a score, noted in the scoring template, which indicates the appropriate executive classification.

### 3.1 Work value assessment outcomes

After the evaluation process has been completed there are several possible classification outcomes. Public sector body Heads make the final decision on outcomes. Classification decisions may not necessarily result in changes to remuneration or duties undertaken, as this depends on the selected classification outcome.

For the positions assessed to be over classified, under classified and borderline, Figure 2 outlines the proposed actions for consideration.

An organisation may choose to not take immediate action and instead re-design a position after it becomes vacant. If the position holds a substantive executive employee, the decision can be implemented during the term of the substantive employee’s employment contract, or immediately following the expiry of said contract.

Figure 2: Options for work value assessment outcomes

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Possible outcome | Possible action |
| ‘Borderline’ classification | The public sector body Head may decide to:   1. re-examine the position, drawing on assessment information gathered and any new information sources; and/or 2. following a second independent assessment, make a decision on the appropriate classification. |
| Under classified (position is assessed at a higher classification) | The public sector body Head may decide to:   1. remove certain tasks and responsibilities or accountabilities to lower the work value of a position to create a better fit of the position to its current classification; or 2. reclassify the position. |
| Over classified  (position is assessed at a lower classification) | The public sector body Head may decide to:   1. add certain tasks and responsibilities or accountabilities to raise the work value of a position to create a better fit of the position to its current classification; or 2. reclassify the position. |

## 4 Model for standard executive titles

### 4.1 Standard titles for similar positions

The standard position titles model seeks a consistent application of position title connected to executive classification band: Deputy Secretary titles aligned to an SES3, Executive Director titles aligned with an SES2 and Director titles aligned with an SES1.

The benefits of this model are that it creates clear relationships between classification, titles and positions while assisting strengthened mobility and remuneration benchmarking.

Standard position titles are applied at the associated classification band, where there can be no deviation.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Classification | Title |
| Senior Executive Service Band 3 | Deputy Secretary |
| Senior Executive Service Band 2 | Executive Director |
| Senior Executive Service Band 1 | Director |

There is flexibility for non-standard titles to be used within each of the three bands, providing that the integrity of the three band classification titles - Deputy Secretary, Executive Director and Director - remains. This approach will allow organisations flexibility for technical positions and/or legislated position titles and accommodates the diverse nature of the VPS. Such titles are to be broadly applied at an 80/20 standard to non-standard ratio.

A non-exhaustive list of examples of position titles that the 20 percent may comprise could include: Area Executive Director, Regional Executive Director, Area Director, Regional Director, Chief Financial Officer or Chief Information Officer.

## 5 Classification responsibilities

### 5.1 Governance

#### Victorian Public Sector Commission (VPSC)

On an ongoing basis, the VPSC will provide overarching guidance, advice and support to VPS organisations on the Executive Classification Framework.

The methodology for classifying executive positions is designed for use ‘in-house’ by organisations, with the VPSC providing central advice and support.

The VPSC can provide training and ad hoc assessments on a fee for service basis.

#### Public sector body Heads

The public sector body Heads within the VPS have the authority to endorse assessment outcomes and have discretion over the final classification decision. The public sector body Head can determine the level of detail and involvement of their remuneration committee.

#### Human Resources

Human resources promote and undertake work value assessments within their organisation. As required, human resources will provide guidance and support and participate in discussions.

Human resources have the ability to train HR practitioners to be a work value assessor, share new information as it becomes available and contribute to strategic organisational initiatives. With such involvement, the human resources function is able to play a pivotal position in workplace culture, capability development and workforce planning.

Human resources have input into the development of position descriptions, using the work value standards.

### 5.2 Conflict of interest and confidentiality

Prior to undertaking a work value assessment for a position, a confidentiality and conflict of interest form should be completed by the nominated assessor. This supports a transparent process and ensures conflicts of interest are declared upfront so appropriate mitigating actions can be undertaken. To maintain confidentiality HR practitioners need to store all assessment records securely.

# Executive Classification Framework Resources

## A1 Executive work level standards and streams by executive band

### Senior Executive Service Band 1 Work value standards

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Knowledge | * Apply comprehensive knowledge and skills, acquired through formal (tertiary) training or relevant professional, technical or management experience * Be considered an authoritative source of strategic advice and expertise which has influence on organisation decision making in an area of knowledge or practice * Apply a highly developed understanding of policy, service delivery, regulatory, and/or legislative processes gained through experience in public or private sector management or specialist roles, with commensurate understanding of the social, political, environmental and economic contexts, including State-wide, national or international matters in a specific area of expertise |
| **Relationships** | * Facilitate and lead relationships; liaise, engage and influence internal and external stakeholders in relation to a specific area of responsibility * Negotiate outcomes, enlist cooperation, consult and resolve conflict while maintaining relationships and collaborative networks * Develop and maintain effective senior relationships within government and non-government sectors to integrate and coordinate policy, regulation, and delivery of services * Interact, liaise and engage with senior management of the organisation and provide strategic advice to senior management and ministerial advisers in order to influence and persuade * Participate as a member of a range of committees, working groups and other fora, including inter-organisation groups and industry/community sector groups, and represent the organisation at conferences, meetings and seminars * Engage stakeholders during times of change, resolving conflict and managing sensitivities within constrained timeframes |
| **Judgement  and Risk** | * Apply astute judgement in decision making about issues affecting the business unit with sensitivity to issues impacting the organisation and across government * Make effective judgements under pressure, consider alternative courses of action, devise action plans and advocate new approaches to complex issues * Resolve problems, taking into account established management systems, professional standards, budget parameters or known equipment capacity * Make judgements and assess risk under guidance provided by policy, service delivery and/or regulatory frameworks, guidelines and precedents * Identify, anticipate and manage complex risk, undertaking risk mitigation and management activities to ensure the achievement of business unit and organisational goals |
| **Independence** | * Make decisions that impact the business unit and other areas of the organisation, with the potential to flow into industry or other non-government sectors in the short to medium term * Approve decisions and recommendations of others within the area of responsibility and provide recommendations to higher level senior management which are relied upon in wider organisational decision making * Exercise high level delegations in relation to legal, governance, human resource management, project and program, and regulatory decisions for a discrete number of functions * Create and implement annual business plans for a business unit and adopt a 2 to 3-year horizon, ensuring alignment with whole-of-organisation planning |
| **Strategic Change** | * Manage change associated with government reforms and transformational change, and take responsibility for continuous improvement processes within the business area * Regularly monitor and respond to a changing operating and/or policy environment, working with an understanding of the relevant context and emerging social, political, environmental and technological change * Provide a significant contribution to strategic change management within an organisation, including longer term planning for major change initiatives, and/or changes in the strategic, long term vision of an organisation * Manage change projects and programs that constitute a major piece of work over an extended timeframe and where this is the primary responsibility of the position |
| **Impact** | * Influence policy and strategic direction of an organisation through contribution to executive leadership and advice to higher level positions, including the Secretary and Minister where required * Have some impact into industry or the wider community through ensuring the effective delivery of services and/or through engagement with government bodies, external peak bodies, groups and associations at an equivalent level * Contribute to the organisation’s strategic planning and culture, as a member of the senior executive, and take full responsibility for developing the strategic direction for the business unit, ensuring elements integrate to support higher organisational strategic goals. |
| **Breadth** | * Be responsible for a wide range of activities that relate to an area of responsibility or, in a smaller organisation, a number of areas of responsibility * Manage staff and/or activities that may be geographically dispersed such as across offices in different parts of a city, or that occur in offices in regional areas |
| **Resource Management** | * Manage the staff and resources of a portion of an organisation, such as a business unit/branch * Manage a resource base which may include operational, capital and/or project/program/grants funding and be accountable for the development and management of budgets, finances, procurement and expenditure within a business unit/branch |

### Senior Executive Service Band 1 Work Streams

Positions at this level lead and manage in one or more of the functional streams below and may undertake any of the following tasks and responsibilities:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Delivery | * Provide comprehensive, authoritative advice and expertise in relation to the effective delivery of services * Lead and manage a business unit responsible for effective delivery of services * Oversee the management of contracts in relation to the delivery of services and provision of regular performance and compliance reports in accordance with specified standards, terms and conditions * Manage one or more of a range of functions to deliver services to staff of an organisation, including HR services, financial services, and ICT services * Ensure the effective delivery of services to a range of customer bases, including specialist services * Oversee the development, measurement and analysis of customer service standards, systems and processes to ensure continuation of a high level service culture |
| **Policy** | * Lead the development and review of policy and implement policy frameworks within area of responsibility * Review policy drafted by others for sign-off * Maintain policy frameworks, in line with wider government direction * Monitor legislative context and ensure policies align with changes or implementation of new legislation * Develop and review draft papers and briefs for presentation to more senior staff and/or Ministers * Liaise with government, industry sectors, community and other stakeholder groups in relation to legislative and policy direction and development * Negotiate policy outcomes and options with a range of internal and external stakeholders * Provide comprehensive, expert advice on an area of expertise in relation to policy development |
| **Portfolio & Program** | * Assume responsibility for a project of large scale or major program significance * Lead organisational business unit in implementing programs, major projects and initiatives * Liaise across the organisation to build collaborative approaches to portfolio and program initiatives * Assume overall project/program delivery responsibility, including the co-ordination of resources and expertise and maintaining project/program within agreed policy, project specification and budgetary constraints. * Report regularly on progress of projects to the Secretary (delegate) and relevant project steering committees, recommend action, identify and refer major policy issues. * Ensure that each project complies at all stages of implementation with government financial, social, budgetary, audit and procurement policies and probity requirements. |
| **Regulatory** | * Lead a business unit that is responsible for compliance, enforcement, audit, investigation and/or regulatory policy * Contribute to the development and maintenance of governance frameworks * Oversee the implementation of compliance programs, including audit and investigation activities * Oversee intelligence programs, managing risk and assessing threat * Be responsible for high-level delegations in relation to compliance and enforcement decisions * Oversee and manage complex compliance, investigation and enforcement activities, applying significant work knowledge and established legislation and policy to sensitive situations * Liaise, engage and negotiate with key stakeholders to establish standards, policy, and precedent in a regulatory environment |
| **Professional / Specialist** | * Act as a chief point of professional advice to key stakeholders within and outside the organisation * Show intellectual leadership by providing specialist input to policies, new legislation, program reform and business improvement initiatives * Provide specialist expertise and professional knowledge and skill in relation to specific areas of organisational responsibility * Oversee a business unit performing specialist or technical work in a profession or area of practice * Engage with and participate in relevant professional bodies and associations to ensure information exchange and continuing professional development * Oversee the provision of specialist and technical training and the development of education products in a technical or specialist field, including guidelines, manuals, policies and processes |

### Senior Executive Service Band 2 Work value standards

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Knowledge | | * Apply extensive knowledge and skills, acquired through formal (tertiary) training or relevant significant professional, specialist or management experience, including knowledge and skills over a broad range of activities or very deep technical and specialist knowledge pursuant to a senior expert in a field * Provide strategic, evidence-based advice and recommendations and act as an authoritative source of critical advice which impacts organisational decision making in a functional area * Apply an extensive understanding of policy, service delivery, regulatory, and/or legislative processes gained through substantial experience in public or private sector senior management or specialist positions, with commensurate understanding of the social, political, environmental and economic contexts, including statewide, national or international matters across one or more functions, specialisations or areas of practice | |
| **Relationships** | | * Lead and oversee critical stakeholder engagement, including the need to engage, inform and advise a diverse range of very senior stakeholders in relation to highly complex issues * Negotiate major outcomes, and provide persuasive advice in the face of divergent views or conflicting agendas while maintaining strong relationships and collaborative networks with key stakeholders at senior levels across government and non-government sectors * Interact, liaise and engage with the senior executives of the organisation and provide highly influential, strategic advice to Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries and Ministers, and, where relevant, advocate for a position or viewpoint * Participate as a member or chair a range of committees, working groups and other fora, including inter-organisation groups and industry/community sector groups, and represent the organisation or the government in negotiations * Engage and manage stakeholders through change, resolving conflict and managing sensitivities in a complex environment | |
| **Judgement and Risk** | | * Make judgements and assess risk in the context of uncertainty and innovation * Apply lateral thinking and develop innovative solutions that impact onto the area of responsibility and influence decision-making across the organisation * Identify, anticipate and manage highly complex issues and problems, and develop strategic risk minimisation plans and risk frameworks using guidance that is less defined within the context of broad policy service delivery and/or regulatory frameworks, priorities and strategic direction * Use robust investigation to consider a wide range of alternative courses of action in highly complex and sensitive situations * Identify and take into account emerging statewide and national issues and formulate long term plans to mitigate risk and ensure the achievement of the wider government agenda; be aware of the international context where relevant | |
| **Independence** | | * Work with a high level of independence and the freedom to make critical decisions about the way in which goals are achieved and priorities are defined * Make decisions that impact other areas of the organisation, and flow into industry or other non-government sectors in the medium to long term with the authority to make statements on behalf of the organisation * Work with a high level of credibility and standing in the area of responsibility * Exercise high-level delegations in relation to legal, governance, human resource management, project and program, and regulatory decisions * Adopt a 2 to 3-year focus for primary planning with an understanding of longer term implications where applicable * Act with full accountability for the integration of strategic policy, regulatory, delivery and/or program initiatives for a group of business units or functions | |
| **Strategic Change** | | * Regularly manage change associated with critical or large-scale organisational reforms * Identify and coordinate responses to widely impacting organisational change, working with a strategic understanding of the relevant context and emerging social, political, environmental and technological issues * Oversee multiple, integrated change initiatives with outcomes that have a significant impact on communities, stakeholders and services, or undertake the management of large-scale change projects and programs that constitute a significant piece of work over an extended timeframe and where this is the primary responsibility of the position | |
| **Impact** | | * Strongly influence policy and strategic direction of an organisation through membership of the executive leadership and contribute to organisation-wide goals * Provide advice and recommendations to the senior executive and the Secretary, and directly to the Minister when required * Have impact into industry or the wider community through oversight of the delivery of major services and/or through leading engagement with external peak bodies, groups and associations at senior levels * Contribute to shaping the organisation’s strategic vision and culture as a member of the senior executive, and take full responsibility for developing the strategic direction for the area of responsibility, integrating a range of activities, programs and functions to support organisational goals and priorities * When supporting the work of an organisation through the provision of corporate services or the setting of overarching policy and regulatory frameworks, actions and decisions will impact across the organisation as a whole | |
| **Breadth** | | * Be responsible for an extensive range of activities that relate to a specific major function such as human resource management, information and communication technologies, financial services in a larger organisation, or a number of functions that are interrelated and of high complexity such as both policy and program responsibilities * Operate within multiple frames of reference and have accountability for a number of business areas * Manage staff and/or functions that are geographically dispersed such as across offices in different parts of a city, or offices in regional areas | |
| **Resource Management** | | * Manage the staff and resources of a division/group or set of business units within an organisation * Manage a large resource base which may include operational, capital and/or project/program/grants funding, tactically balancing resources across areas of responsibility * Be accountable for the development and management of budgets, finances, procurement and expenditure for a division/group or set of business units and influence the allocation of resources over the long term | |

### Senior Executive Service Band 2 Work Streams

Positions at this level lead and provide direction in one or more of the functional streams below and may undertake any of the following tasks and responsibilities:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Delivery | * Provide expert, high level authoritative advice and expertise in relation to the planning, establishment and implementation of services * Establish, lead and direct the delivery of services, products and systems * Lead and manage a group of business units that undertake service delivery in one or more specified areas * Oversee one or more of a range of functions to deliver services to staff of an organisation, including human resources services, financial services, and information and communication technology services * Provide strategic management and corporate direction to the provision of portfolio support and advice services, policy development and implementation and leadership in the delivery of services * Continually monitor and review current systems and practices and develop innovative strategies for the realisation of organisation priorities and goals |
| **Policy** | * Lead the development and review of policy frameworks over a range of policy areas, including highly complex and sensitive contexts * Ensure that policy frameworks and accompanying policy documents align with current and future government direction * Lead and manage a group of business units undertaking policy functions in a range of generalist or speciality areas * Provide expert and high-level advice to heads of agencies and Ministers in relation to a range of policy development and review * Engage and consult with senior government, industry sector, community and other stakeholder representatives to achieve consensus in critical areas * Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of policy initiatives and provide advice regarding social and economic impacts of policy changes or new policy |
| **Portfolio & Program** | * Lead the strategic implementation of programs and initiatives * Take full accountability for major projects * Undertake program development and planning, including resource negotiation * Initiate new programs and be responsible for major change initiatives * Provide leadership on a range of cross-functional project teams and taskforces designed to deliver breakthrough outcomes critical to the integrated delivery of programs across an organisation * Provide leadership and direction on matters associated with financial, budget and output management, strategic and business planning, particularly for evidence-based new initiative proposals |
| **Regulatory** | * Establish and maintain strong and effective governance and regulatory frameworks * Provide leadership and strategic management for a group of business units that are responsible for regulatory activities * Oversee the development and implementation of intelligence and compliance programs, including audit and investigation activities * Oversee very complex compliance, investigation and enforcement activities, applying significant work knowledge and established legislation and policy to highly sensitive situations * Lead engagement and negotiation with non-government and government stakeholders to ensure the government’s regulatory objectives are met * Provide leadership and strategic management for a diverse range of infringement and enforcement services |
| **Professional / Specialist** | * Act as the chief point of professional advice to critical stakeholders within and outside the organisation * Provide expert advice on specialist and technical issues to Departmental Secretaries, or Head of Organisation, requiring considerable depth and breadth of knowledge and experience in a complex, professional field * Show intellectual leadership by providing specialist input that shapes the development of policies, new legislation, program reform, and underlying infrastructure * Provide specialist expertise and professional knowledge and skill in relation to highly complex and critical areas of importance for the organisation * Oversee a group of business units performing specialist or technical work in a profession or area of practice * Engage with and participate in relevant professional bodies and associations to ensure information exchange and continuing professional development |

### Senior Executive Service Band 3 Work value standards

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Knowledge | * Provide whole-of-organisation leadership through advanced knowledge and skills, acquired from extensive professional or executive management experience * Apply cumulative knowledge and extensive expertise to a broad and diverse area of responsibility that encompasses a large portion, or the whole of, an organisation * Provide highly complex, strategic and critical advice in relation to issues that impact on government policy, services and programs, and act as the principal source of strategic advice for organisational decision-making on which the organisation or the government is dependent * Act as the major source of advice to ministers and set the parameters under which others advise |
| **Relationships** | * Lead and oversee highly critical stakeholder engagement, including the need to engage, inform and advise a diverse range of very senior and highly influential stakeholders in relation to extremely complex, high-profile, high-risk, and sensitive issues * Negotiate major outcomes, and provide persuasive advice in the face of divergent views or conflicting agendas while maintaining strong relationships and collaborative networks across government and non-government sectors at the highest levels * Have the authority to present and negotiate highly contentious issues, with technical, policy and/or legal complexity, and represent the organisation, Minister and government at the national and international level * Chair or act as a senior member of a range of critical stakeholder groups and committees * Lead stakeholder relationships through complex change, resolving conflict and managing contextual and political sensitivities |
| **Judgement and Risk** | * Make judgements and assess very complex risk in the context of uncertainty and innovation * Give guidance on the development of new policy frameworks and make judgements about the integration of information provided by specialists * Focus on whole-of-organisation and whole of government issues that are usually sensitive and/or contentious and which impact across sectors, industry and/or the wider community in situations where there is an absence of guidelines or precedents, and where analysis requires very complex investigation * Identify critical long-term risks and strategies for mitigating these in the context of significant ambiguity, including making judgements about the appropriateness and integrity of legislation, policy, service standards and regulation * Set or influence emerging statewide or national issues and formulate long-term plans which shape the achievement of the wider government agenda; identify and take the international context into account. |
| **Independence** | * Work with significant independence and freedom to make critical decisions about the way in which goals are achieved and priorities are defined for the organisation as a whole or a substantial part of an organisation * Make decisions that impact all areas of the organisation, and flow into industry or other non-government sectors in the long term * Exercise the authority to make statements and decisions on behalf of the organisation and have a very high level of credibility and standing * Exercise full delegated authority in respect of management of a major component or the full range of an organisation's functions or programs and provide a governance focus that is fundamental to the organisation’s performance in delivering policy or program outcomes * Adopt a 3 to 5-year focus for primary planning with an understanding of longer-term implications where applicable * Be fully accountable for the integration of strategic policy, regulatory, service delivery and program initiatives across an organisation |
| **Strategic Change** | * Regularly manage change associated with highly critical or very large-scale government reforms * Regularly identify and coordinate responses to change, working with a strategic understanding of the relevant context and emerging social, political, environmental and technological issues * Oversee very complex, multiple, integrated change initiatives in the context of innovation, political sensitivity and high levels of risk * Undertake the management of very large-scale change projects and programs that constitute a highly significant piece of work over an extended timeframe and where this is the primary responsibility of the position * Manage change in an environment of innovation with government-wide, community-wide or whole-of-sector impact |
| **Impact** | * Lead policy development and the strategic vision of an organisation through membership, or as head of, the executive leadership * Routinely provide very high-level, strategic and critical advice and recommendations to the Secretary, and directly to the Minister * Have impact into, sector, industry or the wider community, through leading engagement with external peak bodies, groups and associations at the most senior levels * As a lead member of the senior executive, be accountable for leading the development of the organisation’s strategic vision, culture and direction, integrating a range of activities, programs and functions to achieve organisational goals and priorities * Lead initiatives that impact statewide and/or that may influence policy and program development or service delivery nationally or internationally |
| **Breadth** | * Lead multiple functions in a large organisation or manage all functions within a small or medium-sized organisation * Operate within multiple frames of reference and have accountability for a number of integrated functions or operations * Manage staff and/or functions that are widely geographically dispersed, including management of a number of regional offices and/or functions that are delivered regionally |
| **Resource Management** | * Manage a substantial proportion of the staff of a larger organisation or manage the whole of a smaller one * Manage a very large resource base which may include operational, capital and/or program funding across multiple areas of responsibility or for a whole organisation * Be accountable for the development and management of very substantial budgets, finances, procurement and expenditure for a substantial portion of an organisation and plan the allocation of resources over the long term |

### Senior Executive Service Band 3 Work Streams

Positions at this level provide leadership and strategic vision in one or more of the following functional streams:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Delivery | * Lead the development of service delivery strategy and new initiatives, and manage large-scale strategic change with substantial impact on service delivery models and implementation * Oversee and manage service delivery issues that are highly sensitive and extremely complex to ensure that critical risks are minimised * Lead and promote a culture of innovation and adaptability, taking into account leading edge technology, best practice approaches and key strategic service delivery outcomes |
| Policy | * Provide thought and corporate leadership to matters of strategic planning, quality management strategies, governance, establishing organisational priorities and direction, and the development of key whole of government policies * Provide highly complex, strategic, expert advice to ensure the development of evidence-based policy frameworks, recommendations and decisions * Lead and maintain long-term strategic partnerships with critical government, industry and community stakeholders at the highest level to inform policy construction |
| Portfolio and Program | * Lead the development of new program initiatives and manage large-scale strategic change with substantial program impact * Direct the implementation, review and evaluation of programs, set expectations and performance standards at a whole-of-organisation level * Drive program evaluation frameworks and program planning to ensure return on investment at a financial, human resources and infrastructure level |
| Regulatory | * Endorse government frameworks and make determinations regarding the application of regulatory interpretations, ensuring the integrity of legislative systems * Drive the development and implementation of regulatory frameworks and substantial, highly complex regulatory programs, ensuring alignment with government direction and organisational vision * Lead and manage responses to highly complex regulatory, enforcement, and compliance issues, managing and mitigating risk, including financial, reputational, and safety risks * Oversee a substantial portion of an organisation, or whole organisation that is responsible for regulatory, compliance and/or enforcement activities, including policy and delivery |
| Professional / Specialist | * As a specialist, provide strategic and critical advice based on extensive and advanced professional and technical experience in a highly complex field * Drive the development of specialist knowledge, through the leadership of a significant portion, or whole, of an organisation, undertaking specialist functions, including the delivery of professional services, education services, research and analysis, and the provision of highly complex professional advice and information |

## A2 Executive work value assessment methodology and guidelines

### Purpose

These materials support the process to define the work value of an executive position at a particular level, providing a consistent and transparent framework for classifying public service executives.

### Work value assessment methodology

The work value of a position is assessed through a process of position analysis. Position analysis is an evidence-based methodology that gathers information about a position in a structured and systematic way. The information is compared to the standards that have been agreed for each of the executive classification levels in the Work Level Standards (WLS) through the use of the work value assessment tool.

The work value assessment tool uses the descriptors from the work value standards. The different sets of descriptors are assigned a score. The assessor examines the information gathered through the assessment process, compares it with the descriptors in the tool, and allocates a score for each factor. The combined score will sit within a range indicating the appropriate executive classification. Positions may sit anywhere within the range. This reflects the diversity of positions within each classification level, with more diversity expected at the lower levels, reflected by a wider score range for these positions.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Classification** | **Scores** |
| Senior Executive Service Band 1 | 21 to 35 |
| Senior Executive Service Band 2 | 36 to 47 |
| Senior Executive Service Band 3 | 48 to 56 |

### Principles of evaluation

There are a number of important principles that should be followed when conducting a work value assessment and when using the work value assessment tool.

1. **Evaluate the position, not the person.** When assessing the classification level of a position, it is important to focus only on the position itself and not on the performance, strengths, and/or specific expertise that the incumbent may bring to a position. If the incumbent leaves the position, the responsibilities and complexities of the position remain the same. If these change, the position should be re-evaluated based on the new expectations.
2. **Work value (and therefore classification level) does not equal remuneration.** Do not use classification level to address a remuneration issue such as the need to offer higher salaries to attract critical skills. Where there is a market shortage, it is better to negotiate remuneration separately, not increase the classification level of the position.
3. **Ignore the existing classification of current executive positions.** It is important to ignore the current classification of the position and focus on assessing the work value of the position as it is presented in the information gathered.
4. **Determine the classification according to the highest function(s) undertaken by the position.** Most positions will comprise work (duties and responsibilities) with a range of work value. It is important that the position is assessed according to the highest function(s) undertaken, taking into account the percentage of the position that these functions comprise. For a position to be classified at a particular level, 70-80 per cent of the work undertaken by the position must equal the work value of that level.
5. **Take into account both importance and frequency of tasks undertaken.** Related to the principle above, this principle states that the assessment of a position’s work value should be a balance between the importance of the tasks and the frequency of their occurrence. An assessment should not overly focus on tasks that are done infrequently, even if they are considered important.
6. **Avoid duplication.** When allocating scores for each of the factors, avoid using the same information about a position to give ‘credit’ over more than one factor. It is important to separately assess the different factors and evaluate each aspect of the position on its own merits.
7. **Workload does not equal work value.** Workload (the ‘busyness’ of a position) is not related to work value and should not be used as a basis on which to classify a position. Where there are workload issues for a position, these are best dealt with via a structural adjustment in the overall working environment and a consideration of the FTE required to complete the work
8. **Fully understand the position.** The most important principle of evaluation is that of understanding the position to be evaluated. It is not possible to conduct an accurate and reliable analysis and evaluation of a position when the position is not fully understood. It is imperative that the information gathered about the position gives a full and detailed view of the current activities, duties, accountabilities, complexities and relationships that the position is responsible for now and for the foreseeable future. Information should be gathered from a range of accurate and detailed sources, with a critical source of information being the interview(s).

### Step by step evaluation

Position evaluation is a multi-step process, however there are two main phases. First, the assessor collects the relevant information. Secondly, the assessor analyses the position against the factors using the work value assessment tool and compares the position with the expected standards in the WLS. Once the assessment is complete, then the assessor can make a recommendation about the appropriate classification level of the position.

### Phase One: Information gathering

#### Step One – Documentation

A skilled assessor will collect the relevant information on the position. There are usually a number of corporate documents that are relevant to understanding the position. These include the following:

* organisational Chart (either existing or proposed)
* position description (current or proposed)
* business plans for the business unit/division/area of responsibility
* performance agreement (for existing positions)
* list of delegations held by the position
* list of committees or working groups with which the position is involved (as either member or chair)
* budget or cabinet papers/new policy proposal documentation
* government or ministerial statements
* press Releases or other media material
* annual report

#### Step Two – Interview

During the information-gathering stage it is important to source as much information as possible, from as many relevant sources as possible, in order to fully understand the position. One of the most important sources of information is an interview with a person who knows detailed and accurate information about the position. This is usually the incumbent and/or the supervisor, however it could be any person who knows the position well such as a former incumbent or manager-once-removed. Where a position is new, any person such as the proposed supervisor of the position can be interviewed. It may also be useful to interview stakeholders and/or clients or colleagues of the position. An Interview Protocol document is included that will help guide the interview process. During the interview, remember to:

1. Use the Interview Protocol document, starting with the initial questions and moving through to the key responsibilities. At this point, use the interviewee’s responses to guide the use of the other questions. As the interviewee talks about their key responsibilities, they will often cover off on other information such as their accountability, decision-making, authority etc. It is not necessary to ask each question separately, or in the order presented in the protocol, if these areas have already been covered. However it is essential that enough information is gathered to assess the position accurately.
2. Ask as many clarifying questions as possible to ensure that you fully understand the position and all its responsibilities. Even if the position is one that seems familiar, ensure that no information is missed as there may be aspects of the position that are different to other positions of the same ‘type’. Do not be concerned that the interviewee may expect you to understand the position. If there is any aspect of the position or ‘jargon’ used that you do not fully understand, ask questions to clarify your understanding.
3. Ensure that the interviewee has given enough information to cover off on all of the work value factors in the work value assessment tool. This includes staffing numbers, budgets, a list of key stakeholders, as well as information about the complexity and accountability of the position and its upward reporting lines.
4. Take notes during the interview. Do not rely on memory to assess the position. The position must be assessed according to the evidence gathered during the interview and through the examination of the documentation. Notes are the only source of evidence for the interview so ensure they are detailed.
5. Concentrate on the tasks and responsibilities of the position NOT the capabilities required. Technical knowledge and experience needed to competently perform the position should be covered, however ‘soft’ skills are focused on the person, not the position. Use the ‘Knowledge’ factor definition to understand the information needed for the assessment of technical knowledge and experience.

### Phase Two: Assessing the position

#### Step One – Use the work value assessment tool

In phase two the assessor analyses the position in relation to the work level standards, using the work value assessment scoring template. The process is explained in detail below.

1. Assess each factor separately, comparing the information gathered with the descriptors for each score. Use the work value factor definitions to better understand what dimensions of the position are being assessed by each factor. Choose the set of descriptors that most closely match the information about the position.
2. Score each factor by allocating the score (1, 3, 5, 7) indicated by the set of descriptors. ‘Half’ scores may be allocated (e.g. 2, 4, 6) where the position appears to fit some of the higher-level score, but not all.
3. Add up the scores to arrive at the total score for the position.
4. Use the scoring sheet template to find the recommended classification level for the position (band 1, band 2 or band 3).
5. If the total score is below the cut-off point SES1, the position is said to be ‘below band 1’ but should not immediately be assumed to be VPS 6 or STS 7. The position needs to be compared against the VPS6 and STS7 grade descriptors in the Victorian Public Service Enterprise Agreement.

#### Step Two – Final comparison with work streams

Compare the WLS evaluation with the information in the work streams, which provides typical tasks and responsibilities for each of the executive bands. This step helps to confirm that the assessment against the factors has been accurate.

#### Step Three – Consider any special circumstances

At times there may be factors other than those in the work value assessment tool that warrant a classification level for a position that is not apparent through the assessment process. This situation is expected to be rare, and usually applies to positions that are created for special purposes in the context of very high risk and political sensitivity. Positions such as these are often time limited.

#### Step Four – Report

At the end of the process, a recommendation regarding the appropriate classification level for the position can be made. Use the work value assessment scoring sheet template to outline the scores chosen for each factor and the rationale for each choice.

#### Post-evaluation

After the evaluation process has been completed, there are four possible outcomes.

1. The position is at the expected classification
2. The position is a ‘borderline’ position
3. The position is lower than the current classification i.e over classified
4. The position is higher than the current classification i.e under classified

If the position is found to be at the expected classification level, no further action is needed. However, some positions may score either just below or just over the minimum for a particular classification; this is referred to as a ‘borderline’ position. If this happens, re-examine the information about the position and possibly seek further information from other sources. There may be a need to re-interview, obtain additional information or have a second person complete the assessment again. Once further information has been gathered and assessed, or a second independent assessment has been conducted, discussions can occur and a decision can be made.

Other outcomes that are possible include ‘under-classification’ or ‘over-classification’, where the score for the position fits within the range either above or below the current classification of the position. Where this occurs, it is necessary for the organisation to make decisions about how this can be corrected. Some options are:

* add certain tasks and responsibilities or accountabilities to lower the work value of an under-classified position (where the position scores higher than its current classification)
* remove certain tasks and responsibilities or accountabilities to raise the work value of an over- classified position (where the position scores lower than its current classification)
* restructure the work area to create a better fit of the position to its current classification
* reclassify the position to fit the recommended classification (and transfer the incumbent if necessary)
* take no action until the current incumbent leaves the position and then redesign the position to ensure a better fit with the intended classification

Organisations are best placed to make a decision about options for change within the context of current and future planning, strategic direction and organisational goals. There may be other factors that influence these decisions or a decision to take no action for the foreseeable future.

### Dispelling evaluation myths

There are a number of areas of misunderstanding that occur in the evaluation process.   
These include:

1. **A position cannot be evaluated if there is no incumbent.** This applies to both new positions and positions where the position is vacant. It is still possible to evaluate the position using other sources of information such as interviewing the (potential) manager, colleagues, the past incumbent or clients/stakeholders, and examining documentation such as position descriptions, business plans, and other corporate materials.
2. **You should only talk to the manager.** Although the manager is a good source of information about a position, it is always important to talk to an incumbent where possible as it is the incumbent that should best understand the details of the position.
3. **You should only talk to the incumbent.** The incumbent is usually one of the best sources of information about a position, however there are times when the incumbent may not be performing at the level expected of the position or may be bringing individual strengths to a position that would not be expected if the position was re-advertised and filled by a new person. It is always best to interview both the incumbent and the manager and, where relevant, colleagues or stakeholders to get a full understanding of the position.
4. **The process is completely objective.** Although the work value assessment tool uses a scoring mechanism to arrive at a recommended classification level, the judgements made by the assessor are necessarily somewhat subjective, as they involve interpretation of the descriptors and the full WLS. The work value assessment tool and the WLS help to make the process more objective than pure guess work alone.
5. **The higher the score in the range, the better.** There are some managers and incumbents that believe that a ‘higher’ score in a range is a better one. It is expected that, across an organisation, positions will score variably within their classification levels and this is reflected in the rationale for the scoring ranges with lower level positions having more room for diversity (and therefore a larger ‘range’ of scores) than higher level positions. Positions would also be expected to score variably across factors, with, for example, more specialist positions scoring higher in the knowledge factor and independence factor, and policy positions scoring higher in the judgement and risk factor and impact factor. This further reflects the diversity of positions that can be expected within an organisation.

## A3 Work value assessment tool

## Knowledge factor

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 3 | | 5 | | 7 | |
| Apply advanced knowledge and skills in a field or discipline acquired through professional, technical or management experience.  Be considered a source of well-developed, complex advice in a narrow area of expertise.  Use knowledge of structures, processes of government, the sector and the organisation to develop policies and new program or project initiatives. | | Apply comprehensive knowledge and skills, acquired through formal (tertiary) training or relevant professional, technical or management experience.  Be considered an authoritative source of strategic advice and expertise which has influence on organisational  decision-making in an area of knowledge or practice.  Apply a highly developed understanding of policy, service delivery, regulatory, and/or legislative processes gained through experience in public or private sector management or specialist positions, with commensurate understanding of the social, political, environmental and economic contexts, including statewide, national or international matters in a specific area of expertise. | | Apply extensive knowledge and skills, acquired through formal (tertiary) training or relevant significant professional, specialist or management experience, including knowledge and skills over a broad range of activities or very deep technical and specialist knowledge pursuant to a senior expert in a field.  Act as an authoritative source of critical advice which impacts organisational decision-making in a functional area.  Apply a strategic, extensive understanding of policy, service delivery, regulatory, and/or legislative processes gained through significant experience in public or private sector senior management or specialist positions, with commensurate understanding of the social, political, environmental and economic contexts, including statewide, national or international matters across one or more functions, specialisations or areas of practice. | | Provide whole-of-organisation leadership through advanced knowledge and skills, acquired from extensive professional or executive management experience.  Apply cumulative knowledge and extensive expertise to a broad and diverse area of responsibility that encompasses a large portion, or the whole of, an organisation.  Provide highly complex, strategic and critical advice in relation to issues that impact on government policy, services and programs, and act as the principal source of strategic advice for organisational decision-making on which the organisation or the government is dependent.  Act as the major source of advice to Ministers and set the parameters under which others advise. |

## Relationships Factor

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 3 | | 5 | 7 |
| Initiate and maintain effective relationships with a broad range of internal and external stakeholders.  Initiate and manage negotiations with peers (internal and external to work unit) to gain commitment to projects, and delivery of activities to meet timelines.  Represent own work area with external stakeholders, and effectively manage feedback.  Represent the agency with external peers and negotiate within parameters agreed with immediate manager.  Liaise and consult with stakeholders during times of change, resolving issues and meeting expectations. | Facilitate and lead relationships; liaise, engage and influence internal and external stakeholders in relation to a specific area of responsibility. Negotiate outcomes, enlist cooperation, consult and resolve conflict while maintaining relationships and collaborative networks.  Develop and maintain effective senior relationships within government and non-government sectors to integrate and coordinate policy, regulation, and delivery of services. Interact, liaise and engage with senior management of the organisation and provide strategic advice to senior management and Ministerial advisors in order to influence and persuade.  Participate as a member of a range of committees, working groups and other fora, including inter-organisation groups and industry/community sector groups, and represent the organisation at conferences, meetings and seminars.  Engage stakeholders during times of change, resolving conflict and managing sensitivities within constrained timeframes. | Lead and oversee critical stakeholder engagement, including the need to engage, inform and advise a diverse range of very senior stakeholders in relation to highly complex issues.  Negotiate major outcomes, and provide persuasive advice in the face of divergent views or conflicting agendas while maintaining strong relationships and collaborative networks with key stakeholders at senior levels across government and non-government sectors.  Interact, liaise and engage with the senior executives of the organisation and provide highly influential, strategic advice to Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries and Ministers, and, where relevant, advocate for a position or viewpoint.  Participate as a member or chair on a range of committees, working groups and other fora, including inter-organisation groups and industry/community sector groups, and represent the organisation or the government in negotiations.  Engage and manage stakeholders through change, resolving conflict and managing sensitivities in a complex environment. | | Lead and oversee highly critical stakeholder engagement, including the need to engage, inform and advise a diverse range of very senior and highly influential stakeholders in relation to extremely complex, high-profile, high-risk, and sensitive issues.  Negotiate major outcomes, and provide persuasive advice in the face of divergent views or conflicting agendas while maintaining strong relationships and collaborative networks across government and non-government sectors at the highest levels.  Have the authority to present and negotiate highly contentious issues, with technical, policy and/or legal complexity, and represent the organisation, Minister and government at the national and international level.  Chair or act as a senior member of a range of critical stakeholder groups and committees.  Lead stakeholder relationships though complex change, resolving conflict and managing contextual and political sensitivities. |

## Judgement and Risk Factor

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 3 | 5 | 7 |
| Apply good judgement to solve problems through the application of established techniques, methods, systems or policies.  Undertake analysis and interpretation in choosing a course of action to manage complex or sensitive issues within the sphere of responsibility.  Identify and respond to new and emerging issues impacting on the operating environment and maintain awareness of current developments in the field of work, responding appropriately to mitigate risk. | Apply astute judgement in  decision-making about issues affecting the business unit with sensitivity to issues impacting the organisation and across government. Make effective judgements under pressure, consider alternative courses of action, devise action plans and advocate new approaches to complex issues.  Resolve problems, taking account of established management systems, professional standards, budget parameters or known equipment capacity.  Make judgements and assess risk under guidance provided by policy, service delivery and/or regulatory frameworks, guidelines and precedents.  Identify, anticipate and manage complex risk, undertaking risk mitigation and management activities to ensure the achievement of business unit and organisational goals. | Make judgements and assess risk in the context of uncertainty and innovation. Apply lateral thinking and develop innovative solutions that impact onto the area of responsibility and influence decision-making across the organisation.  Identify, anticipate and manage highly complex issues and problems. Develop strategic risk-minimisation plans and risk frameworks using guidance that is less defined within the context of broad policy, service delivery and/or regulatory frameworks, priorities and strategic direction. Use robust investigation to consider a wide range of alternative courses of action in highly complex and sensitive situations.  Identify and take into account emerging statewide and national issues and formulate long-term plans to mitigate risk and ensure the achievement of the wider government agenda. Be aware of the international context where relevant. | Make judgements and assess very complex risk in the context of uncertainty and innovation. Give guidance on the development of new policy frameworks and make judgements about the integration of information provided by specialists.  Focus on whole-of-organisation and whole of government issues that are usually sensitive and/or contentious and which impact across sectors, industry and/or the wider community in situations where there is an absence of guidelines or precedents, and where analysis requires very complex investigation.  Identify critical long-term risks and strategies for mitigating these in the context of significant ambiguity, including making judgements about the appropriateness and integrity of legislation, policy, service standards and regulation.  Set or influence emerging statewide or national issues and formulate long-term plans which shape the achievement of the wider government agenda. Identify and take the international context into account. |

## Independence Factor

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 3 | 5 | 7 |
| Work under broad direction with autonomy in setting priorities, developing work programs and determining how work is done for the team.  Make decisions that may affect the day-to-day operation of the work area and/or have a direct impact on the outcome of a program or major project.  Provide analysis and authoritative recommendations to more senior staff.  Have broad decision-making authority in relation to the management of the work area, including staffing, and financial management. | Make decisions that impact the business unit and other areas of the organisation, with the potential to flow into industry or other non-government sectors in the short to medium term.  Exercise the authority to approve decisions and recommendations of others within the area of responsibility and provide recommendations to  higher-level senior management which are relied upon in wider organisational decision making.  Exercise high level delegations in relation to legal, governance, human resource management, project and program, and regulatory decisions for a discrete number of functions.  Create and implement annual business plans and adopt a 2 to 3-year horizon, ensuring alignment with whole-of organisation planning. | Work with a high level of independence and the freedom to make critical decisions about the way in which goals are achieved and priorities are defined.  Make decisions that impact other areas of the organisation, and flow into industry or other non-government sectors in the medium to long term with the authority to make statements on behalf of the organisation. Work with a high level of credibility in the area of responsibility.  Exercise high level delegations in relation to legal, governance, human resource management, project and program, and regulatory decisions for a range of functions.  Adopt a 2 to 3-year focus for planning with an understanding of longer term implications where applicable. Act with full accountability for integration of strategic policy, regulatory, service delivery and/or program initiatives. | Work with significant independence and freedom to make critical decisions about the way in which goals are achieved and priorities are defined for the organisation as a whole or a substantial part of an organisation.  Make decisions that impact all areas of the organisation, and flow into industry or other non-government sectors in the long term.  Exercise the authority to make statements and decisions on behalf of the organisation and have a very high level of credibility.  Exercise full delegated authority for management of a major component or an organisation’s full functions or programs and provide a governance focus that is fundamental to the organisation’s performance in delivering policy or program outcomes.  Adopt a 3 to 5-year focus for planning with an understanding of longer-term implications where applicable. Be fully accountable for the integration of strategic policy, regulatory, service delivery and program initiatives. |

## Strategic Change Factor

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 3 | 5 | 7 |
| Manage change projects associated  with organisational reform and  implement change in the work area.  Respond to a changing operating  environment, including relevant  contextual variables.  Contribute to strategic change  management within an organisation,  including longer term planning for major change initiatives. | Manage change associated with  government reforms and take  responsibility for continuous  improvement processes within the  business area.  Regularly monitor and respond  to a changing operating and/or  policy environment, working with  an understanding of the relevant  context and emerging social, political,  environmental and technological  change.  Provide a significant contribution to  strategic change management within  an organisation, including longer term planning for major change initiatives, and/or changes in the strategic,  long- term vision of an organisation.  Manage change projects and programs that constitute a major piece of work over an extended timeframe and where this is the primary responsibility of the position. | Regularly manage change associated with critical or large-scale government reforms.  Identify and coordinate responses  to widely impacting organisational  change, working with a strategic  understanding of the relevant  context and emerging social, political, environmental and technological issues.  Oversee multiple, integrated change  initiatives with outcomes that have a  significant impact on communities,  stakeholders and services, or undertake the management of large-scale change projects and programs that constitute a significant piece of work over an extended timeframe and where this is the primary responsibility of the position. | Regularly manage change associated with highly critical or very large-scale government reforms.  Regularly identify and coordinate  responses to change, working with a  strategic understanding of the relevant context and emerging social, political, environmental and technological issues.  Oversee very complex, multiple,  integrated change initiatives in  the context of innovation, political  sensitivity and high levels of risk or  undertake the management of very  large-scale change projects and  programs that constitute a highly  significant piece of work over an  extended timeframe and where this is the primary responsibility of the position.  Manage change in an environment  of innovation with government-wide,  community-wide or whole-of-sector  impact. |

## Impact Factor

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 3 | | 5 | | 7 | |
| Develop policy frameworks within area of expertise or responsibility based on defined organisational priorities and provide advice to senior management.  Develop policies, programs and initiatives that impact on programs or major functional areas within the organisation.  Contribute to business unit planning and develop direction for the team.  Lead a team and contribute to the organisation’s impact into industry, or the sector, through involvement with a range of external bodies and groups. | | Influence policy and strategic direction of an organisation through contribution to executive leadership and advice to higher level positions, including the Secretary and Minister where required.  Have some impact into industry or the wider community through ensuring the effective delivery of services and/or through engagement with government bodies, external peak bodies, groups and associations at an equivalent level.  Contribute to the organisation’s strategic planning as a member of the senior executive, and take full responsibility for developing the strategic direction for the business unit, ensuring elements integrate to support higher organisational strategic goals. | | Strongly influence policy and strategic direction of an organisation through membership of the executive leadership and contribute to organisation wide goals. Provide advice and recommendations to Deputy Secretaries and the Secretary, and directly to the Minister when required.  Have impact into industry or the wider community through oversight of the delivery of major services and/or through leading engagement with external peak bodies, groups and associations at senior levels.  Contribute to shaping the organisation’s strategic vision as a member of the senior executive, and take full responsibility for developing the strategic direction for the area of responsibility, integrating a range of activities, programs and functions to support organisational goals and priorities.  When supporting the work of an organisation through the provision of corporate services or the setting of overarching policy and regulatory frameworks, actions and decisions will impact across the organisation as a whole. | | Lead policy development and the strategic vision of an organisation through membership, or as head of, the executive leadership. Routinely provide very high-level, strategic and critical advice and recommendations to the Secretary, and directly to the Minister.  Have impact into the sector, industry or the wider community, through leading engagement with external peak bodies, groups and associations at the most senior levels.  As a lead member of the Senior Executive, be accountable for leading the development of the organisation’s strategic vision and direction, integrating a range of activities, programs and functions to achieve organisational goals and priorities.  Lead initiatives that impact statewide and/or that may influence policy and program development nationally or internationally. |

## Breadth Factor

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 3 | | 5 | | 7 | |
| Have responsibility for a broad range of activities, or services within a specific area of expertise.  Manage staff and activities that are not geographically dispersed but are co- located such as a regional office or team. | | Be responsible for a wide range of activities that relate to an area of responsibility or, in a smaller organisation, a number of areas of responsibility.  Manage staff and/or activities that may be geographically dispersed such as across offices in different parts of a city, or that occur in offices in regional areas. | | Be responsible for an extensive range of activities that relate to a specific major function such as human resource management, ICT or financial services in a larger organisation, or a number of functions that are interrelated and of high complexity such as both policy and program responsibilities. Operate within multiple frames of reference and have accountability for a number of business areas.  Manage staff and/or functions that are geographically dispersed such as across offices in different parts of a city, or offices in regional areas. | | Lead multiple functions in a large organisation or manage all functions within a small or medium sized organisation. Operate within multiple frames of reference and have accountability for a number of integrated functions or operations.  Manage staff and/or functions that are widely geographically dispersed, including management of a number of regional offices and/or functions that are delivered regionally. |

## Resource Management Factor

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 3 | 5 | 7 |
| Oversee the work of fewer than 20 staff and/or expenditure under $10m pa | Oversee the work of 20 to 100 staff and/or expenditure between $10m and $100m pa | Oversee the work of 100 to 1,000 staff and/or expenditure between $100m and $1b pa | Oversee the work of more than 1,000 staff and/or expenditure above $1b pa |
| Manage the staff and resources of a team or work area.  Manage a resource base which may include operational, capital, and/or project/program/grants funding and be responsible for the development of budgets and expenditure within area of responsibility. | Manage the staff and resources of a portion of an organisation, such as a business unit/branch.  Manage a resource base which may include operational, capital and/or project/program/grants funding and be accountable for the development and management of budgets, finances, procurement and expenditure within a business unit/branch. | Manage the staff and resources of a division/group or set of business units within an organisation.  Manage a large resource base which may include operational, capital and/or project/program/grants funding, tactically balancing resources across areas of responsibility.  Be accountable for the development and management of budgets, finances, procurement and expenditure for a division/group or set of business units and influence the allocation of resources over the long term. | Manage a substantial proportion of the staff and resources of a larger organisation or manage the whole of a smaller one.  Manage a very large resource base which may include operational, capital and/or program funding across multiple areas of responsibility or for a whole organisation.  Be accountable for the development and management of budgets, finances, procurement and expenditure for a substantial portion of an organisation and plan the allocation of resources over the long term. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Work value assessment scoring sheet | | |
| **Position title** |  | |
| **Department/agency** |  | |
| **Evaluation date** |  | |
| **Work value standard** | **Score** | **Rationale** |
| Knowledge |  |  |
| Relationships |  |  |
| Judgement and risk |  |  |
| Independence |  |  |
| Strategic change |  |  |
| Impact |  |  |
| Breadth |  |  |
| Resource management |  |  |
| **TOTAL SCORE** |  | |
| **RECOMMENDED CLASSIFICATION** |  | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Classification** | **Scores** |
| Senior Executive Service Band 1 | 21 to 35 |
| Senior Executive Service Band 2 | 36 to 47 |
| Senior Executive Service Band 3 | 48 to 56 |

## A4 Interview protocol

Begin with introductions and the background and purpose of the work value assessment. Explain the process and the possible outcomes of the work value assessment. Establish the purpose of the position and where it sits within the organisation.

1. What supervisory responsibilities does the position have? How many direct reports (employees for which the position takes a management/supervisory position including performance agreements/feedback/training and development identification/setting of work priorities)? How many staff overall (indirect reports and contract staff if the work is directed and overseen by the position) Where are they based? (geographically)
2. What are the key responsibilities of the position?   
   (Probe: does the position influence programs or policy, i.e. does policy and program development impact industry, nationally?)
3. What position does the position report to?
4. Does the position have responsibilities for managing budgets? Does the position manage operational, capital and/or program funding, or is this centralised?   
   If so, how much and what are the complexities of managing these funds (Is there staffing/capital/grants funding or complex dual funding arrangements?)
5. Who are the key clients and stakeholders (internal and external) of the position? In what way does the position interact with these clients and stakeholders?  
   Does the position act as a major source of advice (for example: to Ministers/Secretaries/Deputy Secretaries)?
6. Does the position represent the agency in any capacity? Does the position influence, negotiate or provide advice on behalf of the agency or work area? Does the position sit on any committees/working groups or other fora, as either a member or chair?  
   (Probe: are these inter-departmental groups, industry/community sector groups, at a state or national level? If not already received, ask if a full list of committees can be provided)
7. What kind of outcomes does the position have the authority to determine on behalf of the agency? Does the position have specific, high level delegations?   
   (Probe: For example, in relation to legal, governance, human resources management, project and program or regulatory decisions).
8. How much independence and autonomy does the position have?   
   (Probe: can the position make decisions that impact into the business/department, industry or other non-government sectors for the short, medium or long term?)
9. How critical are the decisions that are made and the actions that are undertaken by the position? What are the consequences of making the wrong decision?
10. Describe the strategic focus of the position. What type of planning is undertaken in this position and what are the timeframes and horizons for planning?   
    (Probe: example of statewide and/or national issues and formulation of long-term plans e.g. 2 to 3-yeasr, 3 to 5-years, over 5 years)
11. How much does the position contribute to business improvement for the area of responsibility? Does the position have responsibility for the identification, planning and/or implementation of strategic change? What is the impact of this change and how large/complex is the initiative?   
    (Probe: provide an example of management of change associated with critical or large-scale government reforms)
12. Describe the level of complexity dealt with by the position. What are some specific examples that illustrate this complexity?   
    (Probe: an example of position operating within multiple frames of reference, accountability for several business areas or a wide range of activities)
13. Is the position responsible for introducing innovations in any form or driving/contributing to business improvement strategies?
14. Does the position operate within a clearly defined framework or is there substantial ambiguity in relation to the matters/issues dealt with by the position?   
    (Probe: Can you give an example of making judgements and assessing risk based on conflicting or ambiguous information?)
15. What specific areas of position or technical knowledge and experience does the position require?