

Principal Officers

Director General, Surveyor General and Registrar General

Warwick Watkins AMP:ISMP (Harv), MNatRes, DipScAgr, HDA (Hons)

Warwick Watkins was appointed Director General of the Department of Lands on 2 April 2003. He has held the position of Surveyor General since 2000 and the position of Registrar General since 2003. He has previously held a number of public service management positions in NSW including Director General of the Department of Information Technology and Management (DITM), Executive Director of the Electricity Reform Task Force, Commissioner of Soil Conservation, Director General of the Department of Conservation and Land Management and Director General of State and Regional Development and Chief Executive of the Waterways Authority.

Mr Watkins is Deputy Chair and a Director of Land and Water Australia; President of the Board of Surveying and Spatial Information; Chair of the Geographical Names Board and Chair of the Australian and New Zealand Land Information Council (ANZLIC), Deputy Chair of the CSIRO Research Flagship, Water for a Healthy Country, a member of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Ultra-high Bandwidth Devices for Optical Systems, a member of the National Spatial Information for National Security and a Director of the Cooperative Research Centre for Spatial Information. He is also a Pro Chancellor of the University of Technology, Sydney and a past foundation director of Landcare Australia Limited.

Deputy Director General and General Manager, Land and Property Information Division

Des Mooney MBA (Syd), BSurv (Hons), MIS Aust, FAICD Dip FAIM

Des Mooney was appointed as the General Manager, Land and Property Information (LPI) in February 2001 and appointed as Deputy Director General on 3 April 2003. He has extensive senior management experience in both the public and private sectors including experience in surveying, mapping and valuation activities. In his role as Executive Director of Management Services with the NSW Police Service Mr Mooney's responsibilities included the management of IT, finance, legal, infrastructure, corporate service and commercial service areas.

He is a Director of PSMA (Public Sector Mapping Agencies) Australia Ltd and a member of the ANZLIC Spatial Data Infrastructure Standing Committee. He is also an alternate Director of the Governing Board of the Cooperative Research Centre for Spatial Information (CRCSI).

Valuer General

Philip Western B.Agric Com (VFM) FAPI, AIMM, ANZPI, NZIM

Philip Western was appointed Valuer General in September 2003.

He is the principal advisor to the New South Wales government on valuation issues. His responsibilities include the regulatory functions relating to statutory land valuations, professional conduct of and ensuring the integrity of the valuation system and processes.

The Valuer General is also responsible for the determination of compensation under the Land Acquisition (Just Terms) Compensation Act 1991.

Mr Western was previously General Manager, Quotable Value Australia with responsibility for driving business growth for rating, taxation and valuation consultancy work, in New South Wales.

Mr Western was also General Manager, Rating and Taxation for Quotable Value New Zealand. His focus was on development of valuation business with local government customers throughout New Zealand.

General Manager Crown Lands Division

Graham Harding

Graham Harding was appointed as General Manager Crown Land Division in 2004.

Mr Harding has 37 years experience in a diverse range of public land management roles and in leading organisation re-development.

His focus is to implement a wide range of legislative reforms from the Crown Lands Act. At the same time, he is establishing a Public Trading Enterprises model for the Division to enable improved delivery of services and outcomes that will add public value to the management of Crown land assets.

General Manager Soil Conservation Service

Paul Jones B Engineering (Civil), CPESC

Mr Jones joined the Department of Lands as acting General Manager, transferring from the former Department of Land & Water Conservation with the transfer of the Soil Conservation Service Division to the Department in April 2003. He was appointed to the General Manager position in February 2004.

Mr Jones has led the drive to improve the financial position of the group with a range of new marketing strategies, Soilfleet rationalisation and upgrading and environmental consultancy expansion.

With 25 years experience in civil engineering, Mr Jones brings extensive knowledge and experience to the management of the Department's soil conservation, commercial earthmoving and environmental consultancy services. During his career he has also worked with various government departments in a range of engineering positions involving river, flood mitigation, coast and ports works and government facilities.

Corporate Governance

Corporate governance is still one of today's most prominent business challenges. The Department of Lands' Corporate Governance Unit (CGU) is responsible for monitoring the Department's business with the objective to enhance stakeholder value, establishing processes through which management remains accountable to stakeholders, and implementing a framework to assure stakeholders that the Department is fulfilling its responsibilities with due diligence and accountability.

The Corporate Governance Unit within the Department of Lands is charged with:

- The internal audit function within the Department;
- Management, review and reporting of protected disclosure matters;
- Addressing matters referred to by ICAC, Ombudsman's Office and other Regulatory Bodies.

Audit Committee

The Lands Audit Committee's objective is to assist the Director General to fulfill his corporate governance and oversight responsibilities in relation to the Department's financial reporting, internal control structure, risk management systems, legal compliance, and the external and internal audit functions.

The Committee comprises two independent members, one of whom presides as Chairman, and three internal members. The five members provide expertise in financial management, business development, legal matters, audit and property information. The Committee held five formal meetings during the year.

Members

Joanne Rees, Chair, External Member

Ron Cunningham, External Member

Des Mooney, Deputy Director General

Philip Western, Valuer General

Eduardo Alegado, Director Corporate Governance