

### Meter Boxes and Letter Boxes

The relevant service authorities (i.e. gas, electricity, water, etc.) generally require all service meters be located at a central point within multi-dwelling developments. Under the *Service and Installation Rules 2005*, a meter box must:

- Be located within common property.
- Have a minimum clearance of 0.5 metres from the lowest meter.
- Have a clear and safe area for monitoring.

Generally, the meter box can be situated in a position that satisfies Council and the *Service Installation Rules 2005*. However, in some cases the above regulations have resulted in the construction of large intrusive and unsightly structures.

Poorly located structures can totally obscure the views between pedestrians using footpaths and vehicles exiting the site. Large structures also affect the visual appearance and scale of new developments that have negative impacts on the existing streetscape and new development.



### Good Examples

- Use similar materials and finishes as those found within the development for the meter box.
- Any structure within 3 metres of the front boundary must be no more than 1.2 metres high.
- Use of landscaping or materials such as timber batons for screening where possible
- Where possible set the structure back away from the front property boundary (i.e., along driveways and dwellings).

### Bad Examples

- Construction of large structures with meter boxes and letterboxes as one structure.
- Large 'Boxy' structures that interfere or screen the view of the dwelling.
- Structures built on the front property boundary with minimal setbacks
- Screens that interfere driver and pedestrian view when vehicles are exiting the site.

### Useful Contacts

contact	phone	website
Aboriginal Affairs Victoria	03 9637 8000	<a href="http://www.dvc.vic.gov.au">www.dvc.vic.gov.au</a>
AGL Electricity Limited	03 9201 2275	<a href="http://www.agl.com.au">www.agl.com.au</a>
Australian Bureau of Statistics	1300 13 50 70	<a href="http://www.abs.gov.au">www.abs.gov.au</a>
Australian Heritage Commission	02 6274 1111	<a href="http://www.ahc.gov.au">www.ahc.gov.au</a>
Archicentre	1300 13 45 13	<a href="http://www.archicentre.com.au">www.archicentre.com.au</a>
Building Advice & Conciliation Victoria	1300 557 559	
Building Commission & Appeals Board	03 9285 6400	<a href="http://www.buildingcommission.com.au">www.buildingcommission.com.au</a>
City West Water	03 9313 8422	<a href="http://www.citywestwater.com.au">www.citywestwater.com.au</a>
Consumer Affairs Victoria	1300 55 81 81	<a href="http://www.consumer.vic.gov.au">www.consumer.vic.gov.au</a>
- Business Licensing	1300 13 54 52	
- Liquor Licensing	1300 65 03 67	
State Department of Human Services Environmental Health Unit	1300 761 874	<a href="http://www.health.vic.gov.au/environment">www.health.vic.gov.au/environment</a>
State Department of Justice	03 8684 0000	<a href="http://www.justice.vic.gov.au">www.justice.vic.gov.au</a>
- Dispute Settlement Centre	03 9603 8370	
State Department of Sustainability and Environment, Planning Information Centre	13 61 86	<a href="http://www.dse.vic.gov.au">www.dse.vic.gov.au</a>
Environment Protection Authority EPA Victoria	03 9695 2722	<a href="http://www.epa.vic.gov.au">www.epa.vic.gov.au</a>
Heritage Victoria	03 9637 9475	<a href="http://www.heritage.vic.gov.au">www.heritage.vic.gov.au</a>
Melbourne Water	13 17 22	<a href="http://www.melbournewater.com.au">www.melbournewater.com.au</a>
Metropolitan Fire & Emergency Services Board	03 9662 2311	<a href="http://www.mfbb.vic.gov.au">www.mfbb.vic.gov.au</a>
MP Land Victoria (Titles Office)	03 8636 2010	<a href="http://www.land.vic.gov.au">www.land.vic.gov.au</a>
National Association of Testing Authorities	03 9329 1633	<a href="http://www.nata.asn.au">www.nata.asn.au</a>
Powercor Australia	13 22 06	<a href="http://www.powercor.com.au">www.powercor.com.au</a>
Planning Institute of Australia (Victoria Division)	03 9650 4411	<a href="http://www.planning.org.au">www.planning.org.au</a>
Property Council of Australia	03 9650 8300	<a href="http://www.propertyoz.com.au">www.propertyoz.com.au</a>
Real Estate Institute of Victoria (REIV)	03 9205 6666	<a href="http://www.reiv.com.au">www.reiv.com.au</a>
SPI PowerNet	03 9695 6000	<a href="http://www.sp-ausnet.com.au">www.sp-ausnet.com.au</a>
Sustainability Victoria	03 8626 8700	<a href="http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au">www.sustainability.vic.gov.au</a>
Telstra Australia	03 9634 1081	<a href="http://www.telstra.com.au">www.telstra.com.au</a>
VicRoads (North West Region) Customer Service Centre	03 9313 1333 13 11 71	<a href="http://www.vicroads.com.au">www.vicroads.com.au</a>
Victorian Civil & Administrative Tribunal	03 9628 9777	<a href="http://www.vcat.vic.gov.au">www.vcat.vic.gov.au</a>
Victorian Planning & Environmental Law Association	03 9813 2801	<a href="http://www.vpela.org.au">www.vpela.org.au</a>
Williamstown Historical Society	03 9397 5423	<a href="http://www.livingmuseum.org.au/williamstown">www.livingmuseum.org.au/williamstown</a>
WorkSafe – Victorian Workcover Authority	03 9641 1555	<a href="http://www.workcover.com.au">www.workcover.com.au</a>

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