



Position Description; Veteran Peer Support Officer

Position Title	Veteran Peer Support Officers (VPSO)
Work Unit	Police Veterans Victoria (PVV)
Immediate Manager	Program Co-ordinator
Functions of PVV	<p>Police Veterans Victoria (PVV) is a not-for-profit organisation providing welfare to Victoria Police Veteran's and their families via volunteer Veteran Peer Officers (VPSO's). These services are delivered in partnership with Victoria Police including the provision of full-time clinical provided to VPSO's by the Program Coordinator.</p> <p>PVV provides short and long term (3 year) strategy, oversight and governance for the program which is resourced by a mix of volunteers, police officers and Victoria Police staff.</p> <p>PVV is led by Victoria Police including the Chief Commissioners Office, HRD Executive Director and Wellbeing Services and both the current and Retired Police Association. This takes the form of sponsorship, funding, resources and accommodation.</p>
Position Purpose	The Veteran Peer Officer (VPSO) s former employees and their families of Victoria Police who are dealing with personal issues, need to talk, or are seeking someone to confide in. This is achieved by having one-on-one conversations with them, actively listening and assessing their situation and providing non-clinical advice where appropriate.
Key responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide to former employees of Victoria Police that have been referred to them by the Program Coordinator, primarily by having 1:1 conversation, listening, assessing their situation and referring on where other levels of are required. VPSO's are encouraged to utilise their own life and work experience. ▪ Provide within the boundaries of their role and do not try to 'rescue' clients or feel that they must solve every problem that is presented ▪ Seek advice from the Program Coordinator where a referral to other services may be required ▪ Participate in all relevant induction, training programs and skills refresh sessions where required ▪ Come prepared to share and reflect in scheduled clinical supervision sessions (individual and group) and participate actively ▪ Treat all discussions as confidential unless there is reason to believe that the client is at significant risk to themselves, their families, or others. Or that the VPSO has reasonable concerns that a client may have committed a serious indictable offence ▪ Follow reasonable requests and instructions from PVV staff ▪ Take proactive care of their own health and safety in this psychologically demanding role ▪ Provide feedback about the program and frequent updates on their case load ▪ Veteran Peer Officers may be removed from the program at the discretion of PVV if they are not meeting the requirements of the role as described above.
Skills and attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ People skills: active listening, connecting with others, ability to read a situation, empathy ▪ Character and attitude: trustworthy, resilient, reliable, open-minded, genuine, adaptable, patient, caring, compassionate, non-discriminatory, respectful, positive ▪ Was employed by Victoria Police (mandatory) ▪ Has helped guide others through difficult times (desirable) ▪ Has volunteered in another organisation before (desirable)

Supervision and	Veteran Peer Officers report directly to the Program Coordinator, who will also be the first point of contact for , supervision, direction in relation to situations with former Victoria Police employees, and general queries and concerns about the program.
Benefits for the volunteer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ability to make a real difference to the lives of former Victoria Police employees▪ Entrance into a network of like-minded individuals who want the best for the community.▪ Training, supervision and guidance from mental health care professionals▪ Opportunity to learn about yourself and others, as well as reflect on your time at Victoria Police▪ Greater fulfilment and a sense of purpose, which is linked to improved happiness and health.
Approved	October 2020