Decoding your Land Tax Assessment Notice

2024 Land Tax Assessment Notice (

For land held in joint ownership



The State Revenue Office Victoria is in the process of issuing its 2024 land tax assessment notices. This handy guide will assist you in decoding your assessment notice, and will help you understand whether you are being assessed for the correct amount of tax.

Ownership

Joint ownership

Joint owners are assessed differently from sole owners and may receive more than one land tax assessment for the same land.

Trustees of Trusts

Where land is held by a trustee of a trust, the name of the trust should be detailed on the front page of your assessment. Trustees must notify the SRO that they own land on trust and a failure to do so can result in additional tax and penalties being assessed retrospectively (up to 5 years). In particular, corporate trustees should ensure the assessment reflects that the land is held on trust and not by the company in its own right.

If you are unsure how the above applies to you, please contact us.

My Land Tax

My Land Tax is an online portal that enables you to manage your land tax, including viewing and paying assessments, updating relevant details and applying for exemptions. If you would like us to manage your My Land Tax account, please contact us.

For further information, please get in touch with your Pitcher Partners' expert for advice.



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(P) COMPANY NAME CUSTOMER NUMBER 1234567 OUOTE IF YOU CONTACT US C/- NAME LEVEL 1 ASSESSMENT NUMBER 7654321 **1 STREET NAME** THIS CHANGES EVERY YEAR CITY VIC 3000 **ISSUE DATE** 14 FEBRUARY 2024 THIS NOTICE IS ISSUED TO YOU ON BEHALF OF: \$284,650 TOTAL PAYABLE ⇒ COMPANY NAME TRUST NAME INTEREST IS CHARGED ON LATE PAYMENTS THIS NOTICE IS ISSUED TO YOU IN YOUR CAPACITY ⇒ TWO WAYS TO PAY AS TRUSTEE FOR: TRUST NAME 1 IN FULL PAY BY 14 JUNE 2024 Þ Manage your 2 land tax online **INSTALMENTS** MUST BE SET UP BY 14 MARCH 2024 Instalments can only be set up in our online system AutoPay - allowing you • View and pay assessments to schedule interest-free direct debit • Apply for exemptions payments for up to 38-weeks from the issue date via a debit card, credit card or Update property ownership bank account Choose from one of the following options: sro.vic.gov.au/mylandtaxregister FOUR INSTALMENTS MONTHLY FORTNIGHTLY INSTALMENTS INSTALMENTS sro.vic.gov.au/autopay Paul Broderick Commissioner of State Revenue PAY IN FULL BY DUE DATE USING ONE OF THESE PAYMENT METHODS **BPAY**[®] AUSTRALIA POST CARD Biller Code: Ref: Post Post Billpay BPAY \$284,650.00 Telephone and internet banking Visa or Mastercard only Pay in-store Contact your bank of financial Pay via our website or phone 132161 Take this notice to any Australia Post. institution to make this payment A card payment fee applies State Revenue Office (VIC) payment from your cheque, savings, debit sro.vic.gov/paylandtax or transaction account. **Customer No:** bpay.com.au Ref

Vacant Residential Land Tax

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VICTORIA

Vacant Residential Land Tax ("VRLT") is ordinarily payable on residential property in the inner and middle suburbs of Melbourne that was vacant for more than six months in the preceding calendar year.

Land owners with properties that were vacant for more than six months in 2023 may be required to make a notification to the SRO. VRLT is assessed separately from and in addition to land tax at the rate of 1% of the Capital Improved Value of the land.

If you are unsure whether the VRLT applies to your Victorian landholdings, please contact us. We can assist with considering whether you need to make a notification to the SRO and whether any of the available exemptions applies to your situation.

Otherwise, you can read more about the VRLT here.

There are some changes to VRLT commencing from 1 January 2025. You can read more about the VRLT changes <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.

Dissatisfied...

With your land tax assessment?

Objections must be lodged within 60 days of the assessment issue date.

With your land tax bill generally?

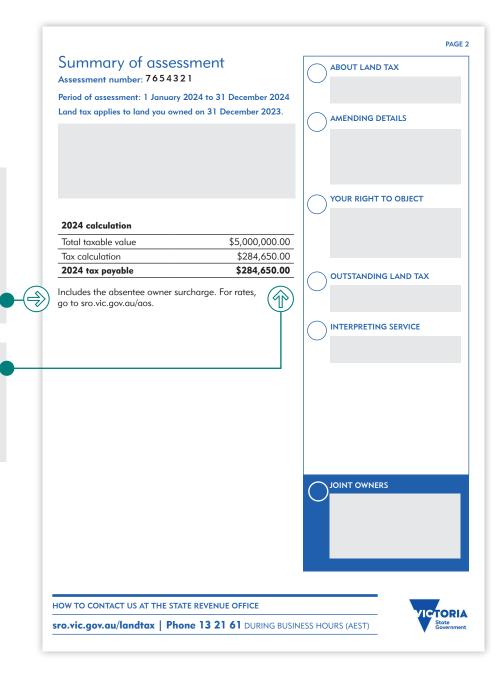
If you think you are paying too much land tax, please contact us to see if we can assist you with optimising your land tax position.

Payment

You can pay your land tax in a lump sum using the methods indicated on your assessment notice. Alternatively, you can pay in fortnightly or monthly instalments, or in four equal instalments using the SRO's new AutoPay system via direct debit from your bank account, debit or credit card.

If you need some extra time to pay your land tax, please contact us as soon as possible so that we can approach the SRO to request a payment plan.





Absentee Owner Surcharge (AOS)

Absentee owners of Victorian land must pay a 4% AOS in addition to the general or trust rates of land tax.

If you are unsure whether the AOS applies to your Victorian landholdings, please contact us as soon as possible. We can also assist by considering whether any exemption from the AOS applies to your situation.

The land tax rates for the 2024 land tax year have increased from the previous year. Trust surcharge rates may apply for lands held by a trustee of a trust. Please refer to page 3 for further details of the trust surcharge.

Please contact us if you require assistance with land tax calculations.

Landholdings

Your 2024 land tax assessment is based on the land you own at midnight on 31 December 2023. You should ensure that all the land you owned as at this date is correctly listed here, including any land purchased during the 2023 year.

Site value

Land tax is calculated using the site value of your land. We can assist you in lodging an objection with the SRO if you disagree with the site value on your assessment. For example, if you own property with a heritage overlay or property located in Fisherman's Bend, there may be grounds for lodging an objection to the existing site value.

Please contact us if you require assistance with the objection process. Objections to the assessed site value must be lodged within 60 days of the assessment issue date.



Trust surcharge

As a general rule, a trustee of a trust that owns Victorian land is liable to pay land tax at the trust surcharge rates.

However, there are circumstances in which a trustee may not be required to pay at the trust surcharge rates.

These rules are quite complex, so please contact us if you need assistance.

Exemptions from land tax

If land is used as your principal place of residence, for primary production or for charitable purposes, **we can assist in considering whether an exemption from land tax applies to your situation**. Conversely, if you think an existing exemption no longer applies, it may be necessary to notify the SRO.

You should also contact us if:

There are any properties missing from your assessment

If any additional land you own is not listed here, you may have been underpaying land tax. **We can assist you to disclose this to the SRO and to minimise any penalty tax that may be imposed on any additional tax liability.**

There are properties on your assessment that shouldn't be there

Land that was sold and settled before 31 December 2023 should not be listed here. **We can assist you in having this land removed from your assessment.**

You have received multiple assessments for property held by the same owner

If lands held by the same owner have been assessed separately, you may have been underpaying land tax. We can assist you to disclose this to the SRO and to minimise any penalty tax that may be imposed on any additional tax liability.

Statements of lands for period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Lands owned as at midnight 31 December 2023 – Where a property was sold after 31 December, the vendor (seller) is still liable for the land tax. Any adjustment (pro-rata) of the assessed amount is a private arrangement between the buyer and seller.

Item	Address/Municipality	Land ID/References	Single holding tax [†]	Proportional tax ^{††}	Taxable value
1	1 Pitcher Partners Drive	01932678	\$284,650	\$284,650	\$5,000,000 TS
2	2 Pitcher Partners Drive	01935695	N/A	N/A	\$0 PPR
3					
4					(
Total t	taxable value				\$5,000,000

Penalties for failing to notify of errors and omissions

You must ensure that the information contained in your land tax assessment is correct to avoid penalties. If any land you own is omitted from this assessment or is incorrectly specified as exempt, you must notify us within 60 days of the issue of this assessment. If you have not already, you must also notify us if you hold land as trustee for a trust or if you are an absentee owner. Penalties may apply if you do not make a required notification. You can request an amendment to your assessment or notify us of changes by visiting **sro-vic.gov.au/assessment**.

Explanation of codes (for details, go to sro.vic.gov.au/codes)

¹ SINGLE HOLDING TAX This is the amount of tax you would pay on the one property	"PROPORTIONAL TAX This is the tax applicable to the specified land as a proportion of the total land tax liability on your assessment	PPR Land Tax Principal Place of Residence exemption	TS Trust Surcharge

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Errors in your land tax assessment

It is the responsibility of the taxpayer to notify the SRO of any errors on their land tax assessment notice. If you do not notify the SRO of an error within 60 days, significant penalty tax and interest may be imposed. **Please contact us if you are unsure whether your assessment notice is correct.**