Our vision
A healthy Great Barrier Reef for future generations.

Our purpose
The long-term protection, ecologically sustainable use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef for all Australians and the international community through the care and development of the Marine Park.

Our values
The Authority is visionary, demonstrates leadership and integrity, embraces innovation, and fosters partnerships with stakeholders in its management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Our role
The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority is established under the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975 (Marine Park Act) and is the Australian Government statutory authority responsible for protecting and managing the environment, biodiversity and heritage values of the Great Barrier Reef Region. Our governance framework for the 2017–18 reporting period is based on the legislative requirements of the Marine Park Act, the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (PGPA Act) and the Public Service Act 1999 (PS Act).

Responsible Ministers
The Authority reports to the Minister responsible for the environment. As at 30 June 2018, Minister for the Environment and Energy, the Hon. Josh Frydenberg MP was responsible for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. He was supported by the Hon. Melissa Price MP, the Assistant Minister for the Environment, who was sworn in on 19 December 2017.

The Hon. Melissa Price MP was appointed Minister of the Environment on 28 August 2018.

Our Board
As at 30 June 2018, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Board oversaw the agency. The Chairman and members of the Authority Board are chosen by the Minister responsible for the environment and appointed by the Governor-General.

Under new governance arrangements that began in October 2018, the Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and is

The Authority Board, led by the Chairperson, is responsible the management of the Marine Park under the Marine Park Act.

Our funding
The Authority’s total operating revenue for 2017–18 was $78.880 million. Expenses for managing the Marine Park totalled $68.241 million. The Authority’s final financial position was $10.689 million surplus.

As part of the 2017–18 Mid-Year Economic Fiscal Outlook, the Authority received an additional $1.797 million for the Reef Joint Field Management Program. Additional new federal funding for the Reef Joint Field Management Program was announced on 29 April 2018. It included more than $42 million over six years commencing 2017–18, and an ongoing commitment of $10.2 million for future years that will see the Authority’s total operating contribution each year at almost $19 million.

The 2017–18 Reef Joint Field Management Program Commonwealth contribution budget was $14.859 million.

In 2017–18 the Authority also received additional appropriation funding on the 2017–18 original budget to deliver key Government initiatives for the Reef, including $882,000 for control of the crown-of-thorns starfish with a further commitment of $9.476 million in 2018–19.

Own-source income for 2017–18 was $36.878 million, $7.386 million more than in 2016–17. It included funding from the Reef Trust and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to support the Authority’s work and measures to improve the outlook for the Great Barrier Reef.

Our staff
As at 30 June 2018, we had 202.58 fixed term and non-ongoing employees. Casual staff are also employed to work in the Reef HQ Aquarium. A further 122 volunteers also assist with day-to-day operation of the aquarium.

Our main office is in Townsville. We also have regional offices in Cairns, Mackay and Rockhampton to ensure a close connection with those communities. An office in Canberra provides a key liaison function with the Minister’s office, the Department of the Environment and Energy, and other Australian government agencies. A small office in Brisbane provides a liaison function with Queensland Government partners, particularly the Office of the Great Barrier Reef.