

The development authorities

The development authorities are statutory bodies and function under the control of the Housing, Physical and Environmental Control Department of the provincial governments. Though they are not elected bodies, the mayor of the city is a member of their governing councils.

The development authorities are the policymaking bodies for the development of the city and are also in-charge of arranging for and supervising such development. In addition, they are responsible for the formulation and administration of building regulations, and in the Punjab, for the maintenance of parks, gardens and subsoil water management. Except in the case of Karachi, where they deal only with bulk water supply, the development authorities, through WASA, are responsible for the provision of water supply, sewerage and drainage. Traffic engineering also forms part of their functions.

Development authorities raise finances through land development and its sale; lease, regularisation and issue of building permits; federal and provincial loans and grants, which are sometimes a part of foreign assistance for urban development projects, such as the ongoing Karachi Special Development programme.

