

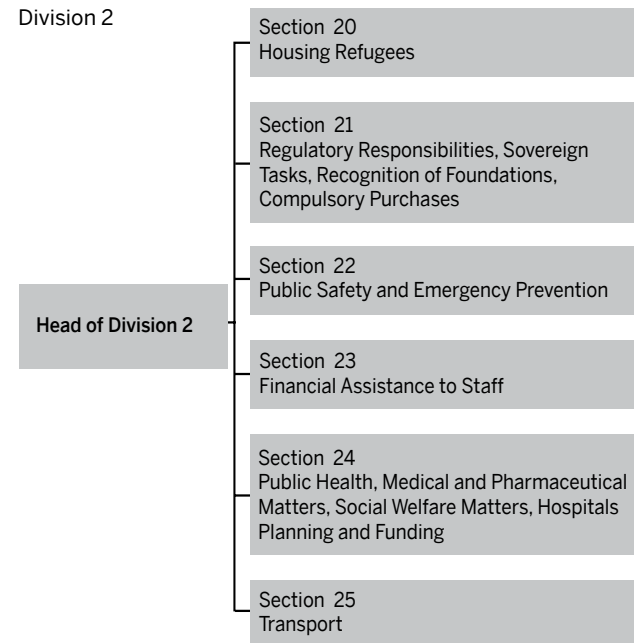
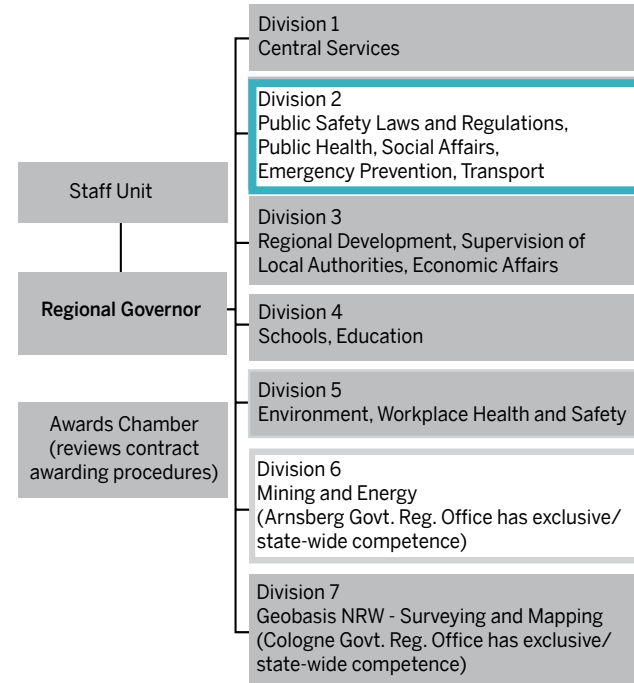
## Section 25 – Transport

In Section 25, it is all about transport. The enormous number of road users often results in conflicts. This is where regulation is needed. Section 25 has direct jurisdiction over the motorways in the regional government district and co-operates closely with the relevant local road traffic authorities in terms of regulation of the rest of the road network.

However, given that an efficient transport infrastructure does not rely on the existing traffic network alone, the terms of reference of section 25 also include granting planning permission for the construction of new roads and rail tracks on the basis of plan approval procedures. The same goes for the construction of new energy transmission pipelines. In addition, the remit of Section 25 covers allocating funds for the construction of local roads and public regional passenger transport projects and granting permissions and exemptions for road users and abnormal load movements.



## Organisational Chart



## We are there to help you

Division 2 first and foremost performs a number of sovereign tasks in its capacity as a supervisory and regulatory authority. The various sections of division 2 in particular deal with public health and safety in the Cologne Regional Government District. In addition to fire fighting and emergency management and response, ambulance services, traffic regulation, road safety and social welfare matters, the division is concerned with public health tasks, covering a wide range of medical and pharmaceutical aspects. In all these fields, you can turn to the specialists of division 2 for advice and support.

Are you interested to learn more about the work of the Cologne Government Regional Office? We will be happy to send you more detailed information – just give us a call or email us:

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## Safety and Security for the Region. Taking Responsibility. Division 2: A Brief Outline



## Section 20 – Housing Refugees

As of September 2015, Section 20 assumed the responsibility for housing refugees who have just arrived in the Cologne Government District. This includes the provision of accommodation in the district, the tasking of organisations which look after refugees and operate housing facilities, and all the administrative details relating to the operation of such facilities. Those tasks are carried out, in the main, by locally-based Section 20 personnel at the housing centres.

The Government Office for the Arnsberg Region is the only designated authority for the actual allocation of refugees.



## Section 21 – Regulatory Responsibilities

Section 21 has to perform a great variety of functions ranging from regulatory functions to sovereign tasks, the supervision of foundations through to compulsory purchases. Section 21 is responsible for granting official recognition of private-law foundations based in the Cologne Government District and at the same time serves as supervisory authority for those foundations. One of the section's priorities is giving individual advice during the preparations for the recognition procedure.

Section 21 certifies the authenticity of documents needed for international purposes with a view to preventing any false and fraudulent uses. Document legalisations can be requested in writing or obtained directly by calling in at the office. More detailed information can be found on the website of the Cologne Government Regional Office by entering Apostille in the search facility.

In addition, section 21 deals with decorations and orders of merit. The Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany is awarded by the German President for distinguished services to the country. In recognition of exceptional services to the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, the State Premier awards the Order of Merit of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia. Members of the public can put forward proposals for such decorations to section 21 which will examine the justification of the proposals, prepare an evaluation and submit it to the state government for decision. Details of the conditions and the procedure can be found on the Government Regional Office's website.



## Section 22 – Public Safety and Emergency Prevention

Section 22 supervises the authorities and organisations responsible for fire fighting and emergency management and response, including ambulance services. With regard to ambulance services, the section's chief responsibilities include:

- checking and updating ambulance services demand plans;
- deciding on ambulance services demand plans in case of conflicting interests;
- inspecting and assessing the performance of the ambulance services.

In the field of fire fighting and emergency management and response, the terms of reference of section 22 include:

- supervision of municipal professional fire fighting services, voluntary fire brigades and company fire services;
- co-ordination of training and continuing training programmes, provision of advice and information to the fire fighting services;
- supervision of the counties and unincorporated cities with regard to their responsibility for disaster prevention;
- co-ordination of fire-prevention measures to be taken by local authorities.

**Emergency Management:** When a disaster occurs in the government district, an inter-divisional emergency management task force is set up at the Cologne Government Regional Office. Examples of major disasters include widespread flooding, earthquakes, heavy storms, chemical disasters, epidemics. In such emergencies, the task force acts as the co-ordinating body and supports the local government authorities in the fulfilment of their tasks.

## Section 23 – Assistance to Staff

The terms of reference of section 23 cover financial assistance to public service officials and employees, which includes assistance in cases of sickness, birth or death paid to members of staff of the Government Regional Office, the Local Area Commands (Polizeipräsidium) of the NRW Police Force, the state's agencies and other institutions, and teachers at all schools (with the exception of the middle schools, or Hauptschule) in the Cologne Regional Government District.

## Section 24 – Public Health and more

Section 24 performs a great variety of functions in the field of public health and welfare. In addition to promoting better health and improving the quality of preventive health care, the section is concerned with a wide range of medical and pharmaceutical matters, social services, and planning and funding of hospitals.

The section's priorities in these fields include:

- planning of hospitals, encouraging capital investment in hospitals;
- approval of charges schemes for hospital treatment;
- licensing of doctors, dentists, pharmacists, psychotherapists;
- recognition of training institutions for healthcare and nursing professions;
- supervisory functions under the laws and regulations governing medicinal products, transfusions and medical devices

In the field of social welfare, section 24 has a number of core responsibilities ranging from supervision of training facilities for personal care assistants and family care and social workers and funding of such facilities through to social transfer payment procedures.

