

2024–25 Victorian State Budget

The Hon. Harriet Shing MP

Minister for Equality

23 May 2024



Families,
Fairness
and Housing

Portfolio overview

The Equality portfolio is driving equality and inclusion for LGBTIQ+ communities by:

- › ensuring the lived experience and knowledge of LGBTIQ+ Victorians and the sector inform the work of government
- › building capability and capacity to deliver equitable, inclusive and accessible services
- › increasing LGBTIQ+ visibility to inform decision making
- › celebrating and supporting inclusion through events and programs
- › strengthening legal protections for LGBTIQ+ Victorians
- › developing an LGBTIQ+ sector that is self-sustaining.



Highlight achievements over the past 12 months

- › 2023-24 Election commitments:
 - › Launched Pride in Ageing
 - › Contracted Rainbow Health Australia to deliver Rainbow Tick accreditation rollout
 - › Delivered three separate LGBTIQ+ grants programs
 - › Delivered support to the Bendigo Queer Arts Festival
- › In partnership with Midsumma, delivered the third Victoria's Pride Street Party celebrations and Regional Activation Program, with record attendance across all events
- › QHub – continued and scaled up delivery of mental health and social connection supports out of Ballarat and Geelong with outreach to the Surf Coast
- › Continued How2 rollout – statewide foundational LGBTIQ+ inclusion training
- › Continued the Transgender Victoria peer support program



Continuation of the Equality reform

- › Embedding state-wide improvement to inclusion through systematic and systemic reform; and
- › Continuing to build and strengthen the sustainability of LGBTIQ+ community organisations who provide vital targeted services.

The 2024/25 State Budget provides funding of **\$3 million over four years** for the Equality portfolio to continue to deliver on the Victorian Government's **\$22.5 million** election commitments, including:

- › Pride in Ageing
- › Rainbow Tick
- › Grants to support and celebrate LGBTIQ+ communities and organisations
- › Whole of government coordination and implementation of Pride in our future.



Portfolio priorities for the year ahead

- › Appoint a new Commissioner for LGBTIQ+ Communities
- › Engage 40 mental and community health providers in Rainbow Tick accreditation
- › Support older LGBTIQ+ people through implementing our Pride in Ageing program
- › Deliver the Pride in Place program to address LGBTIQ+ homelessness
- › Deliver annual state-wide LGBTIQ+ celebrations and Pride season, building on the success of Victoria's Pride
- › Deliver a public awareness campaign to promote social cohesion and deepen understandings of Trans and Gender Diverse communities
- › Continue implementation of the Rainbow Ready Roadmap for rural and regional communities



Achievements



52,430

people at the Victoria's
Pride Street Party.



34,419

people at the commissioned
Regional Activations across
the state.



+60

LGBTIQA+ grants provided
in 2023/24.



+700

Trans and gender diverse people
supported through Transgender
Victoria's Peer Support Program.



Qhubs

Two safe spaces for
LGBTIQA+ young people
opened in Western Victoria.

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