



# Victorian Budget 2021–22

The Hon Martin Foley MP

Minister for Ambulance Services



# Funding overview

The Andrews Labor Government through *the Victorian State Budget 2021-22* is investing more than **\$470 million** over four years to continue providing quality ambulance services to Victorians.

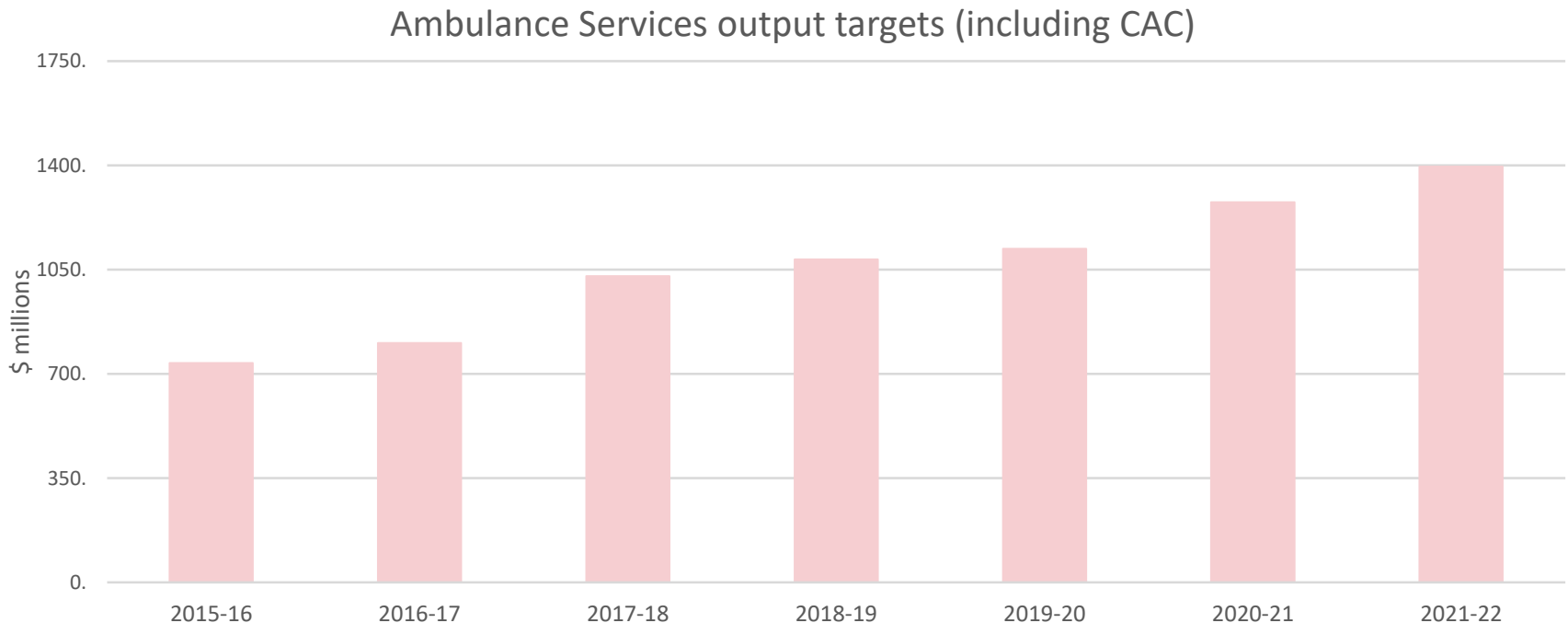
The funding will help meet the increasing demand for ambulance services and addressing the unprecedented impacts of COVID-19.

It also looks to the future by planning the next tranche of ambulance station builds.



# Budget growth

- In 2021-22 the Andrews Labor Government is investing **\$1.36 billion** in the Ambulances Services portfolio.
- This investment is a **9.4%** increase in output funding compared to 2020-21, and an **89.5%** increase over the life of the Andrews Labor government.



***Andrews Labor Government investment in Ambulance Services***

# Meeting unprecedented demand

COVID-19 has significantly impacted Ambulance Victoria operations and service delivery, including:

- Increased number of Code 1 call outs – more acute health issues due to delays or been unable to visit their GPs
- Call outs are back to where they were prior to COVID-19 and in some cases greater – paediatric presentations at some hospitals (RCH and Monash)
- Code 1 total demand for the third quarter rose to **81,647** – an increase of **4,250** on the previous quarter.

To help meet this demand, the *the Victorian State Budget 2021-22* is committing **\$266.2 million** to grow the number of paramedics and ambulances on the road, drive performance, trial new triage services and plan for more Ambulance stations across the state.



# Meeting performance expectations

*The Victorian State Budget 2021-22* will allocate an additional **\$202.7 million** over four years to ensure that Ambulance Services can rebuild performance and meet future demand.

Managing demand at peak times requires a system-wide approach to ensure there are enough ambulances on the road to respond to Victorians in need.

Ambulance Victoria also continues to trial innovative ways to respond to increasing demand – **\$1.6 million** is being provided to pilot a **telehealth trial** to support patients who frequently call Triple Zero.

This will help free up system capacity so people who need urgent assistance can get through, and non-urgent calls are diverted to appropriate care.

