

2022–23 Victorian State Budget

The Hon. Shaun Leane MP Minister for Veterans

19 May 2022

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee



Portfolio Overview

The Victorian Government supports veterans' wellbeing, recognition and acknowledgement of service. Initiatives aim to facilitate the successful transition to, and participation in civilian life.



Shrine of Remembrance - including support for commemorative events, exhibitions, and current restoration project



Grants for capital works, war memorials, education and commemoration; and welfare support for veterans



Veteran employment initiatives to better recognise and capitalise on the skills of our veterans in the public and private sector



Support for the **Victorian Veterans Council** including the **2022 Veterans Sector Study**



History and heritage initiatives to identify, access and protect our war heritage



Commemorative events including **ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day** and other significant anniversaries



Programs that support **Victorian veterans and their families** and ex-service organisations



Advocacy on national and intra-state issues, including leading **Victoria's response** to the **Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide**

Funding overview – 2022/23 Highlights

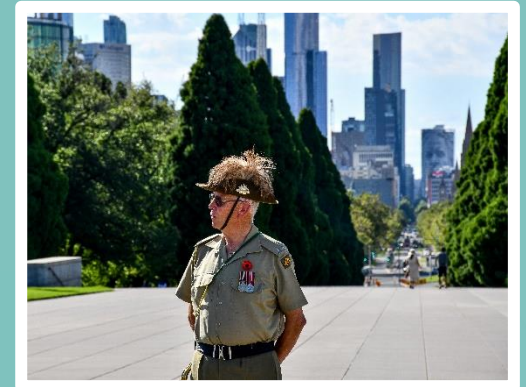
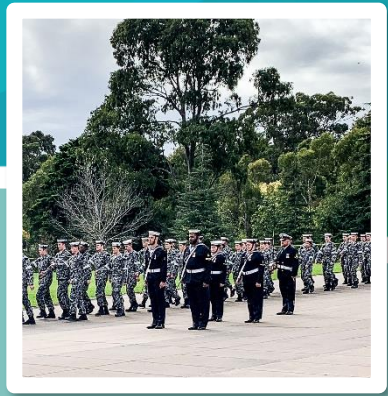
The Government has committed **\$4.8 million** over two years to support Victorian veterans and their families and commemorate their service and sacrifice, including:

- › \$2.8 million for the **Veteran Capital Works Program**
- › \$600,000 for the continuation of **free public transport for veterans** and related cohorts to attend commemorative events and Veterans Health Week
- › \$400,000 to partner with Department of Education and Training to deliver **recognition of prior learning** for qualifications and skills acquired in the Australian Defence Force
- › \$200,000 for the **RSL Active** program
- › \$810,000 to upgrade the **Mount Macedon Memorial Cross Reserve**



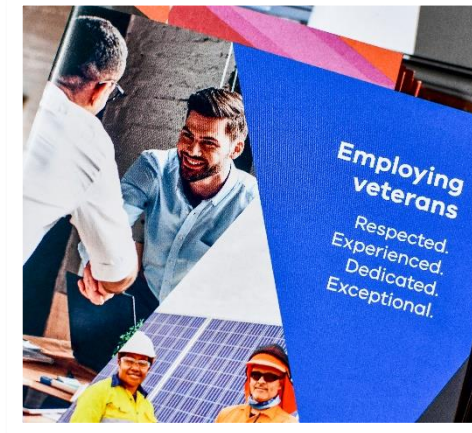
Portfolio priorities for the year ahead

- › Responding to **emerging veteran issues and critical service gaps** through broad cross government initiatives
 - » Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide
 - » Victorian Veterans Sector Study 2022
 - » Ex-Service Organisation Summit 2022
 - » Cross government engagement
- › **Public Sector Veteran Employment Strategy**
- › **Commemoration and education**
- › Strengthening the voice of the **Victorian Veterans Council** to advocate for Victoria's veteran community



Key achievements over the last 12 months

- › Victoria's participation in the **Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide**, and supporting veteran wellbeing and participation in the **Royal Commission**
- › \$500,000 commitment to Melbourne Legacy in 2021-22 to provide **additional wellbeing support to veterans and their families** during the Royal Commission
- › New target for the **Public Sector Veteran Employment Strategy** to employ 1500 veterans by June 2025, and broadening the focus to support veterans' employment into the **private sector**
- › Supporting the **Shrine of Remembrance** to continue to deliver commemoration and education activities, and **major capital works** improvements valued at **\$6 million**.



Thank you

