

**RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE AND FURTHER INFORMATION AGREED TO BE SUPPLIED AT THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL PORTFOLIO 2018-19 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS**

**Q1. What additional staffing will accompany the increased number of judicial officers that have been funded as part of the 2018-19 Budget?**

As part of the Government's investment to increase capacity at Victorian courts, including a new Supreme Court judge, two new County Court judges and 18 new magistrates, an estimated additional 349.4 FTE staff will be deployed at Court Services Victoria, the Department of Justice and Regulation, Corrections Victoria, the Office of Public Prosecutions, Victoria Police and Victoria Legal Aid (VLA) over the forward estimates period. These new staff include judicial and registry support staff, child witness support workers, corrections officers, crown prosecutors, police prosecutors, and VLA Duty Lawyers.

**Q2. What impact will the additional judicial officers and staffing have on case processing times?**

Since 2015 the Government has made a series of major investments to improve efficiency in our courts, including \$14.7 million in 2015-16 to provide a modern video conferencing network at the Magistrates' Court, \$58.1 million in 2016-17 to improve regional court infrastructure and security, and \$89.2 million in 2017-18 to provide a new case management system for the Magistrates Court and the Children's Court. The major new investment in additional court capacity in the 2018-19 Budget will allow the courts to continue to improve efficiency and maintain case processing times.