

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

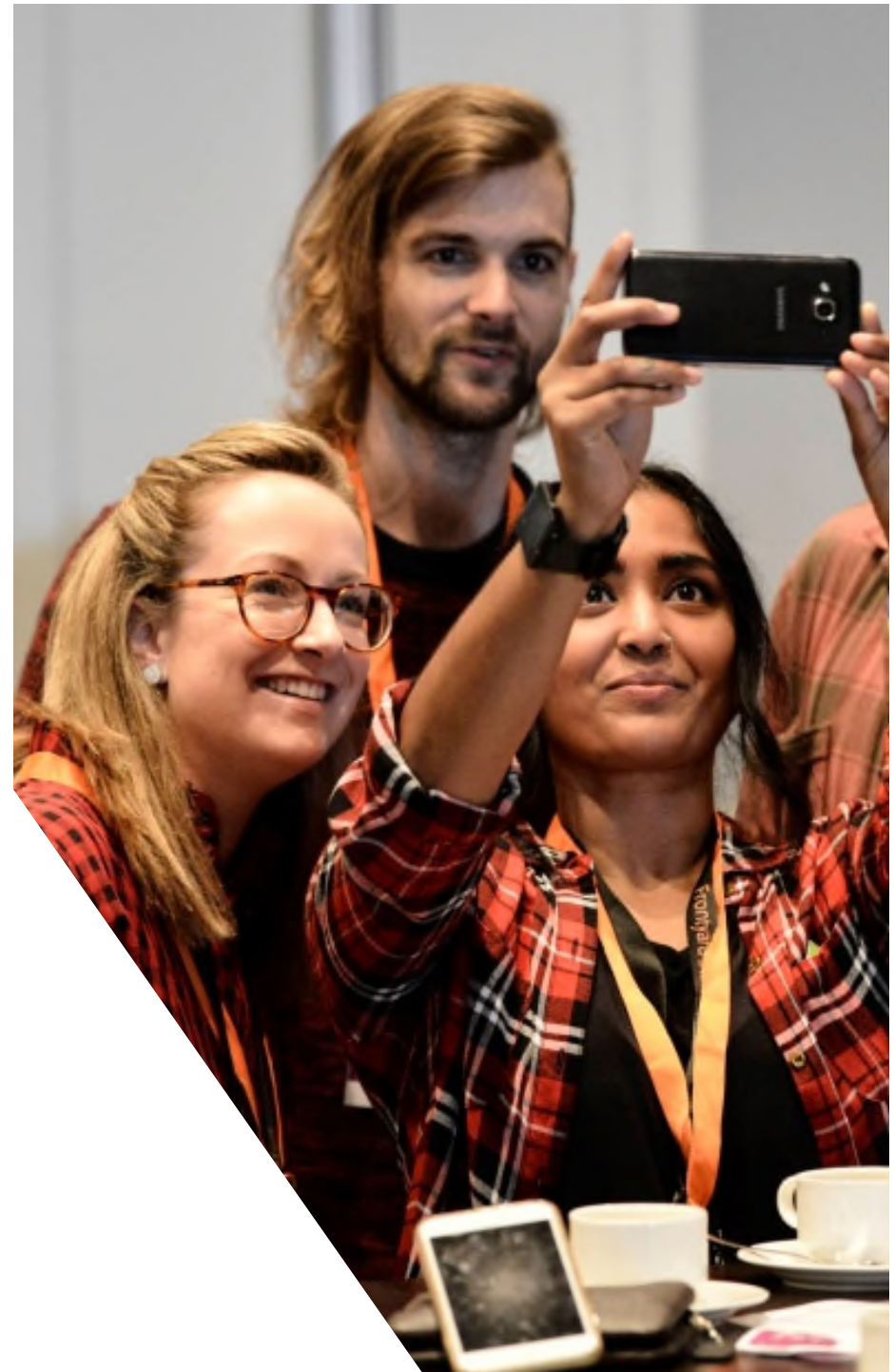
Jenny Mikakos MP
Minister for Youth Affairs
Thursday 31 May 2018



Youth Affairs portfolio

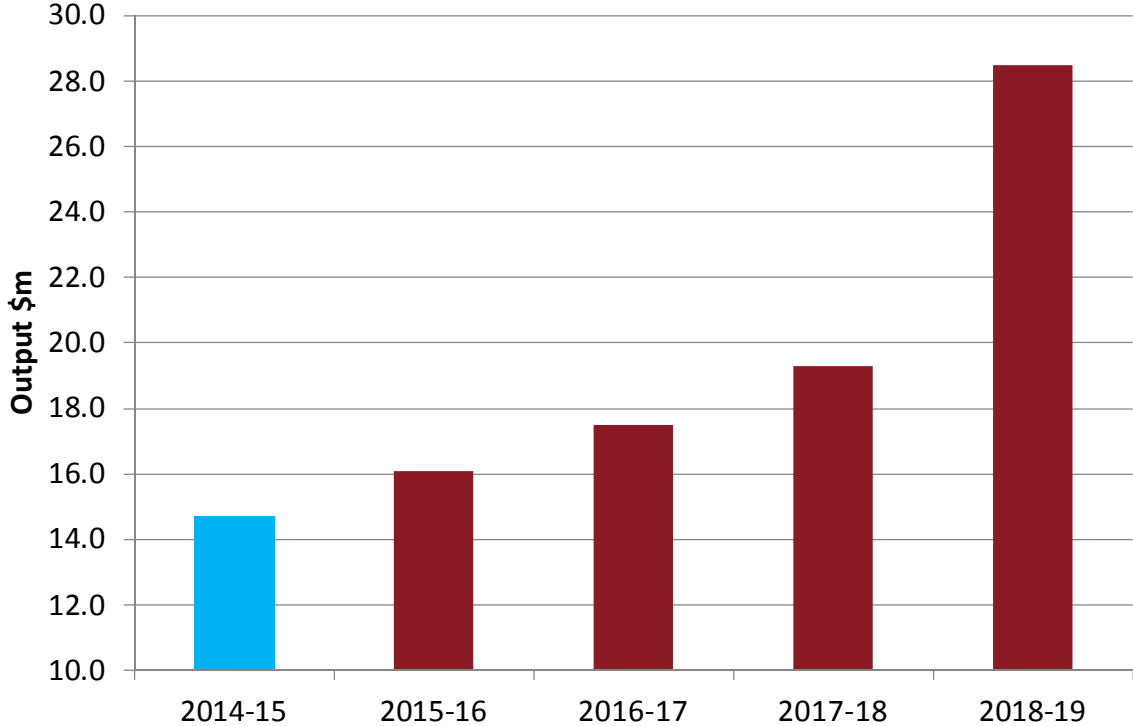
Strengthening our engagement with young people and investing in initiatives that support and empower young people is a priority for the Andrews Labor Government.

Since 2015, we have been delivering programs that support youth engagement and participation in community and economic life underpinned by an investment of over **\$80 million.**



Investing in Victoria's young people

Youth Affairs investment



- **2018-19 investment of \$28.5m** in youth affairs output
- Investment in youth affairs has **almost doubled** since 2014-15

Youth Policy

- The Andrews Labor Government's Youth Policy strengthens our engagement with young people and embeds their voice in policy and program development.
- We have been implementing the policy through:
 - hosting two Youth Summits
 - establishing the Victorian Youth Congress
 - inaugural Victorian Youth Week
 - capability building in the youth sector.
- We are also engaging young people in shaping our future policies and programs across government through initiatives such as the Roadmap to Reform and the Metropolitan Partnerships Youth Forum.



Targeted support for young people

We are building on programs that strengthen young people's engagement and pathways to education and training, employment and community participation:

- Aboriginal Youth Mentoring
- Empower Youth
- Pasifika Youth Project



2018-19 Victorian Budget – Empower Youth

This budget provides **\$2 million over four years to expand the Empower Youth program** to enable funded organisations to support young people at risk of disengagement to:

- Employ youth workers
- Broker local partnerships
- Undertake outreach
- Provide intensive, coordinated support to young people.

2018-19 Victorian Budget – Community Support Groups

- As part of the \$15 million whole of government investment there is **\$5.6 million for youth affairs activities** that support young people with high needs to strengthen their connection to family and community and their engagement in education, employment and training.
- Three community-led **Community Support Groups** will link with new and existing:
 - youth outreach workers
 - drug and alcohol support workers
 - programs for young people and their families.

