

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

24 November 2023

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Department
of Health

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Professor Euan Wallace AM

Secretary, Department of Health

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pay our respects to them, their culture, and their Elders both past and present.

We proudly acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their ongoing connection to Country, Culture and Community.

Our priorities

Our mission: That Victorians are the healthiest people in the world

Keep people healthy and safe in the community

Providing care closer to home

Keep innovating and improving care

Improving Aboriginal health and wellbeing

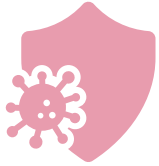
Moving from competition to collaboration

A stronger and more sustainable workforce

A safe and sustainable health, wellbeing and care system



Our achievements



Pandemic response

Supported health sector to respond to significant public health emergency, including mobilising state-run vaccination program leading to **95%** of Victorians over 12 years old with two or more doses.



Planned surgery reform

Surgery Blueprint to target **240,000 surgeries a year**, including where (rapid access hubs and transformed private hospitals in Frankston and Blackburn), how (same day, HIT lists) surgery is provided.



Ambulance and emergency care

Expanded services to ease pressure on EDs through the Victorian Virtual Emergency Department, Secondary Triage, recruiting more paramedics, GPRCs.

Our achievements



Care closer to home

Opened 28 Priority Primary Care Centres and expanded care closer to home through our Better at Home program.



Health workforce

Added thousands of skilled professionals to our health workforce, including 2,000 new international recruits.



Mental health reform

Made strong headway on more than 90% of Royal Commission recommendations.



Women's health

Kick-started our suite of women's health initiatives.

Health infrastructure

Achievements

23 projects completed in 2021-22 and 2022-23.

Significant progress continues at other major projects, including the award-winning new Footscray Hospital.

Future priorities

Capital projects including the new Melton Hospital in 2024.

Planning and development for Australia's largest health infrastructure project (Parkville), 7 hospital upgrades, ED expansions, and the next stage of modernising public sector residential aged care services.

Complete: The Victorian Heart Hospital



Complete: Wonthaggi Hospital expansion (Stage 1)



Our challenges

Keeping communities safe

Responding to COVID and continuing our Pandemic Program.

Increasing prevention, such as Smile Squad, cancer screening, and early mental health support.

Shifting focus

Respond to ongoing access challenges and pressure on emergency and ambulance services.

Better collaboration, better outcomes, and better care closer to home.





Thank you