

Question 22 (all departments and entities) Reviews/studies undertaken

- a) Please list all internal and external reviews/studies commenced or completed by or on behalf of the department/agency in 2017-18 and 2018-19 and provide the following information:
- i. Name of the review/study and which portfolio and output/agency is responsible
 - ii. Reasons for the review/study
 - iii. Terms of reference/scope of the review/study
 - iv. Timeline for the review/study
 - v. Anticipated outcomes of the review/study
 - vi. Estimated cost of the review/study and final cost (if completed)
 - vii. Final cost if completed
 - viii. Where completed, whether the review/study is publicly available and where.

2017-18 Response

| Name of the review (portfolio(s) and output(s)/agency responsible) | Reasons for the review/study | Term of reference /scope | Timeline | Anticipated outcomes | Estimated cost (\$) | Final cost if completed (\$) | Publicly available (Y/N) and URL |
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| Published external reviews that included the department | | | | | | | |
| Inquiry into Drug Law Reform - Law Reform, Road and Community Safety (JIC) Committee | To inquire into the effectiveness of laws, procedures and regulations relating to illicit and synthetic drugs and prescription medication in minimising drug-related health, social and economic harm; and best practice in drug law reform and other positive reforms that could be adopted into Victorian law. | See Reasons column | Report tabled 27 March 2018 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/58th-parliament/lrrcsc/inquiries/article/2812 |

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| Inquiry into youth justice centres in Victoria – Legal and Social Issues Committee of LC | To inquire into issues at both Parkville and Malmsbury Youth Justice Centres. | See Reasons column | Report tabled 6 March 2018 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/lsc-ic/inquiries/article/3198 |
| Auditor-General's Report on the Annual Financial Report of the State of Victoria - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To audit, and provide an opinion on, the financial statements of the 276 state-controlled entities each year, including the Department of Health and Human Services. | See Reasons column | Report tabled November 2017 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/auditor-generals-report-annual-financial-report-state-victoria-2016-17 |
| Community Health Program - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To examine whether the Community Health Program (CHP) effectively contributes to good healthcare outcomes for Victoria's priority populations. | See Reasons column | Report tabled June 2018 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/community-health-program |
| Effectively planning for population growth - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To determine whether state planning, in designated greenfield growth areas and in established areas, effectively meets the needs of the rapidly growing population for birthing, maternal child health and funded kindergarten services and related infrastructure. | See Reasons column | Report tabled August 2017 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/effectively-planning-population-growth |

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| Enquiry into the provision of alcohol and drug rehabilitation services following contact with the criminal justice system - Victorian Ombudsman | To enquire about the experiences of former prisoners referred to community based alcohol and other drug (AOD) services, particularly in rural and regional Victoria, and the efficacy of community AOD services across Victoria in preventing AOD users in coming into contact with the justice system and in addressing recidivism. | See Reasons column | Report tabled September 2017 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.ombudsmen.vic.gov.au/getattachm ent/ff920955-c8aa-488d-a1a0-83a57897ecae/publicati ons/parliamentary-reports/enquiry-into-provision-of-alcohol-and-drug-rehab.aspx |
| ICT disaster recovery planning - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To determine whether departments' and Victoria Police's ICT systems and data supporting critical business functions can be appropriately recovered in the event of a disaster. | See Reasons column | Report tabled November 2017 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2017-12/20171129-ICT-Disaster-Recovery.pdf |
| Internal audit performance - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To establish how well departments are using their internal audit resources. | See Reasons column | Report tabled August 2017 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/internal-audit-performance?section= |
| Investigation into the financial support provided to kinship carers - Victorian Ombudsman | To investigate the administration of financial support to kinship carers to identify opportunities to strengthen the kinship care system. | See Reasons column | Report tabled December 2017 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.ombudsmen.vic.gov.au/getattachm ent/e944c115-b5bd-4b55-bcec-5d997bdbb9d7//publicat ions/parliamentary-reports/inv-into-financial-support-to-kinship-carers.aspx |

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| Investigation into the management of maintenance claims against public housing tenants - Victorian Ombudsman | To investigate the department's policy and procedures for dealing with maintenance debts arising from vacated Office of Housing properties, whether actual practice is consistent with policy and procedures and whether the department is meeting its obligations as a model litigant when dealing with such breaches and associated debts, including the use of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) by the department to arbitrate these matters. | See Reasons column | Report tabled October 2017 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.ombudsmen.vic.gov.au/Publications/Parliamentary-Reports/Inv-into-mgt-of-maintenance-claims-public-housing |
| Investigation into the management and protection of disability group home residents by the Department of Health and Human Services and Autism Plus - Victorian Ombudsman | To investigate whether Autism Plus, a for-profit provider of accommodation and day program services, appropriately managed the behaviour of a young man in a group home for persons with a disability and whether the department adequately monitored Autism Plus at the relevant time (as the regulator and funder) and whether Disability Services and Child Protection provided adequate care, management and protection of the client to prevent harm to him and other residents. | See Reasons column | Report tabled September 2017 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.ombudsmen.vic.gov.au/getattachment/e0a10243-047c-4973-aaec-4801f9e5e8ae |

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| Maintaining the mental health of child protection practitioners - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To determine whether child protection practitioners are maintaining good mental health and wellbeing | See Reasons column | Report tabled May 2018 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/maintaining-mental-health-child-protection-practitioners?section= |
| Managing surplus government land - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To determine whether government agencies are achieving best value from surplus land. | See Reasons column | Report tabled March 2018 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/managing-surplus-government-land?section= |
| Results of 2016-17 Audits: Public Hospitals - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To comment on the matters arising from the 2016–17 financial report audits of the Victorian public hospital sector, made up of 86 hospitals and 23 controlled entities, and assess the sector's financial performance during 2016–17 and its sustainability risks as at 30 June 2017. | See Reasons column | Report tabled November 2017 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/results-2016-17-audits-public-hospitals?section= |
| The Victorian Government ICT Dashboard - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To examine whether transparency in government ICT investments has improved since the development of the ICT Dashboard. | See Reasons column | Report tabled June 2018 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/victorian-government-ict-dashboard |

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| Victorian public hospital operating theatre efficiency - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To determine whether Victoria's public hospitals optimise their use of operating theatres to undertake surgery. | See Reasons column | Report tabled October 2017 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/victorian-public-hospital-operating-theatre-efficiency?section= |
| All external 'research and development activities' – greater than \$100,000 which may have resulted in a report to the CEO/Sec/Minister/public report, media article or public discussion | | | | | | | |
| A long term study into the potential health effects from the Hazelwood coal mine fire - Monash University, in consortium with other research institutions. | The Hazelwood Long Term Health Study is a comprehensive 20 year project to understand the potential long term health effects of exposure to the smoke from the 2014 Hazelwood Mine Fire. The study is researching the potential effects of smoke exposure on future rates of cancer, cardiovascular disease, respiratory and psychological illness. The results will help to inform responses to similar events in the future to best reduce the risk of these illnesses. | See Reasons column | Ongoing since 2015 | See reasons column | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://hazelwoodhealthstudy.org.au/ |

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| Develop and pilot use of a Child Protection Decision Support tool incorporating a predictive risk model – conducted by KPMG | To develop and pilot a decision support tool designed to provide Child Protection intake workers with access to service use information and risk predictions to support their decision making. The Tool is an input into the refreshed Child Protection Risk Assessment Framework which is also being piloted. | See Reasons column | Fact sheet on tool published October 2018 | See reasons column | - | Cost not included in published document | Information on tool: https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/child-protection-decision-support-tool |
| Development of trans and gender diverse services in Victoria – conducted by Australian Healthcare Associates (AHA) | To develop a new statewide service model for the delivery of gender identity and related health and human services to trans and gender diverse people in Victoria. | See Reasons column | AHA appointed late 2017. Final report published 21 Feb 2019 | See reasons column | - | Cost not included in published document | Y https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/researchandreports/development-trans-gender-diverse-services-victoria-final-report |
| Developmental evaluation of the place-based suicide prevention trials - An evaluation consortium, comprised of the Sax Institute and Southern Synergy Research Centre | A developmental evaluation (establishment phase) of the place-based suicide prevention trials will be conducted to: a) comprehensively assess the first phase of the collective impact approach to suicide prevention including governance, backbone support and local implementation b) establish the foundation for implementation and future evaluation phases (formative and summative) including data collection. | See Reasons column | Begun in 2017. Not expected to be completed until 2020 (fourth and final year of trials) | See reasons column | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.saxinstitute.org.au/news/evaluation-matters-suicide-prevention/ |

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| Delivering Better Cardiac Outcomes: Primary, Specialist and hospital care – conducted by The University of New South Wales (UNSW) | To work with the National Data Linkage Demonstration project dataset to conduct practice-relevant analysis to create high quality information that can be used by clinical networks and audiences to improve patient’s journeys and outcomes. | See Reasons column | Publicly available documents last updated in June 2019 | See reasons column | - | Cost not included in published document | Y https://www.bettersafercare.vic.gov.au/reports-and-publications/delivering-better-cardiac-outcomes-in-victoria-an-initiative-of-the-national-data-linkage |
| Housing assistance demand and supply model – conducted by SGS Economics and Planning | Commissioned in late August 2017, this is a strategic planning tool developed to measure and project the quantum, type and spatial distribution of vulnerable households who will require housing assistance. The model allows for analysis across the spectrum of housing assistance – ranging from light to deeper subsidy types. | See Reasons column | TBC | See reasons column | - | | N |
| International Health Policy Survey series - Social Science Research Solutions, through agreement with The Commonwealth Fund | To collect information about people’s experience with the health system in Victoria. The survey series collects data for benchmarking to assess the performance of the Victorian healthcare system, as part of an international study of healthcare issues. The type of information collected is highly topical and not available from other sources. | See Reasons column | TBC | See reasons column | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y Website for the survey: https://www.commonwealthfund.org/series/international-health-policy-surveys |

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| Melbourne Gay Community Periodic Survey – conducted by University of New South Wales Thorne Harbour Health (formerly the Victorian AIDS Council) | A cross-section of gay and homosexually active men in Melbourne and Victoria providing data on sexual, drug use and testing practices related to the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmissible infections. | See Reasons column | Ongoing | See reasons column | DHHS contributes 68,343.00 per annum. | n/a - Annual funding of 68,343.00 per annum. Is provided to support the survey which is ongoing. | Y https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/centre-social-research-health/our-projects/gay-community-periodic-surveys |
| RISE Study: Recent diagnosis and the impact of support on the experiences of HIV (improving support for people newly diagnosed with HIV) – conducted by University of NSW | This is a National Health Medical Research Council (NHMRC) partnership project assessing the impact of interventions involving clinic and community-based support to enhance HIV treatment and care in people who are newly-diagnosed with HIV. | See Reasons column | Ongoing | See reasons column | DHHS contributes \$54640 per annum | DHHS contributes \$54640 per annum to 2021 | Y https://kirby.unsw.edu.au/project/rise |
| Victorian cancer plan monitoring and evaluation framework – conducted by CrONDAR | To provide a systematic and organised mechanism to track and report changes in cancer outcomes over the long term, the framework will help to identify emerging trends and potential problems early and to monitor inequalities in cancer outcomes. | See Reasons column | Published June 2018 | See reasons column | - | Cost not included in published document | Y https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/health-strategies/cancer-care/victorian-cancer-plan-monitoring-and-evaluation |

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| Victorian component of the National Study of Adult Oral Health 2016-18 (NSAOH), a cross-sectional and longitudinal survey including clinical examination of 1,400 adults across Victoria – conducted by Dental Health Services Victoria | To provide information about the pattern of dental disease and use of dental services in adults which is necessary for service delivery planning, policy and program development. | See Reasons column | TBC | See reasons column | - | n/a - report published by an external body | N |
| Victorian Population Health Survey – conducted by the Social Research Centre | Contractor appointed to conduct the survey's fieldwork across Victoria to capture health data about the health status of the adult Victorian population that is used for evidence-based policy development and strategic planning across the department and wider community. | See Reasons column | 2016 survey released 1 August 2018 | See reasons column | - | Cost not included in published document | Y (2017 survey) https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/population-health-systems/health-status-of-victorians/survey-data-and-reports/victorian-population-health-survey/victorian-population-health-survey-2016 |

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| <p>Family Violence Housing Blitz Package Evaluation</p> | <p>Contractor appointed to evaluate this initiative that aimed to provide victim survivors of family violence with improved access to housing options to allow them to recover and thrive. The evaluation focussed on the implementation and early outcomes of three elements of the package: Flexible Support Packages, Rapid Housing Assistance and Private Rental Assistance.</p> | <p>See Reasons column</p> | <p>Report tabled May 2018</p> | <p>Providers are meeting client expectations</p> <p>Clients reported improvements in housing stability</p> <p>Financial stress had declined and participation in study or employment had improved</p> <p>In terms of cost benefit data indicates positive trends in government savings from the program.</p> | <p>-</p> | <p>Cost not included in published document</p> | <p>Y</p> <p>https://www.vic.gov.au/family-violence-housing-assistance-implementation-taskforce</p> |
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| <p>The Prevalence of Acquired Brain Injury among Victims and Perpetrators of Family Violence</p> | <p>This research was contracted to inform the Government's response to Recommendation 171 of the Victorian royal Commission into Family Violence. A consortium led by Brain Injury Australia and including Monash University, Domestic Violence Victoria, No to Violence Men's Referral Service, Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare. The study was the first of its kind in Australia with a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incidence of family violence cases recorded by Victorian hospitals. • Characteristics of family violence related cases attending Victorian hospitals • Brain Injury among victims of family violence attending Victorian hospitals • Low prevalence of family violence in hospital attendance data • Brain injury among perpetrators of family violence • New services and referral pathways to reduce the impact of brain injury associated with family violence | <p>See Reasons column</p> | <p>Report tabled May 2018</p> | <p>The report identified:</p> <p>The nature and extent of family violence in relation to acquired brain injury.</p> <p>Prevalence of family violence in hospital population-based data sets</p> <p>Brain injury among both perpetrators and victims of family violence</p> <p>Needs analysis of family violence system including ways to identify and diagnose an acquired brain injury</p> | <p>-</p> | <p>Cost not included in published document</p> | <p>Y</p> <p>https://www.braininjuryaustralia.org.au/download-bias-report-on-australias-first-research-into-family-violence-and-brain-injury/</p> |
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2018-19 Response

| Name of the review (portfolio(s) and output(s)/agency responsible) | Reasons for the review/study | Term of reference/scope | Timeline | Anticipated outcomes | Estimated cost (\$) | Final cost if completed (\$) | Publicly available (Y/N) and URL |
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| Published external reviews that included the department | | | | | | | |
| Access to Mental Health Services - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To determine if people with mental illness have timely access to appropriate treatment and support services. | See reasons column | Report tabled March 2019 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/access-mental-health-services |
| Auditor-General's Report on the Annual Financial Report of the State of Victoria: 2017-18 - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To audit, and provide an opinion on, the financial statements of the 265 state-controlled entities each year, including the Department of Health and Human Services. | See reasons column | Report tabled October 2018 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/auditor-generals-report-annual-financial-report-state-victoria-2017-18 |
| Child and Youth Mental Health - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To determine whether child and adolescent mental health services are effectively preventing, supporting and treating child and youth mental health problems. | See reasons column | Report tabled June 2019 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/child-and-youth-mental-health |

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| Contract Management Capability in DHHS: Service Agreements - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To assess whether DHHS has sufficient capability in managing service agreements to ensure funded organisations deliver agreed health and wellbeing supports and outcomes to clients. | See reasons column | Report tabled September 2018 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/contract-management-capability-dhhs-service-agreements?section= |
| Family violence reform - Family Violence Reform Implementation Monitor – an independent statutory officer | Review government implementation of family violence reforms. The Family Violence Implementation Monitor is required by legislation to table an annual report to Parliament each year from 2017 to 2020. Second report as at 1 November 2018. The Monitor's report comments on how effective the Victorian Government and its agencies have been in implementing the Family Violence Reform. The second report included The Orange Door - Support and Safety Hubs. | See reasons column | Second report as at 1 November 2018 tabled in March 2019 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://fvrim.vic.gov.au/second-report-parliament-1-november-2018 |
| Impact assessment and consequence management - Inspector-General for Emergency Management | To determine whether State Trustees Limited is acting in the best interests of vulnerable clients, including the department's role in providing funding for clients who cannot pay State Trustees for services under a Community Services Agreement. | See reasons column | Report published August 2019 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.igem.vic.gov.au/reports-and-publications/igem-reports/impact-assessment-and-consequence-management |

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| Investigation into State Trustees - Victorian Ombudsman | To determine whether State Trustees Limited is acting in the best interests of vulnerable clients, including the department's role in providing funding for clients who cannot pay State Trustees for services under a Community Services Agreement. | See reasons column | Report tabled June 2019 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.ombudsmn.vic.gov.au/getattachm ent/abaabe1c-f34e-40f6-a652-9771636272b0//publicat ions/parliamentary-reports/investigation-into-state-trustees.aspx |
| Investigation into the imprisonment of a woman found unfit to stand trial - Victorian Ombudsman | To determine whether there is a systemic issue arising from the case of a woman who was imprisoned and found unfit to stand trial and not guilty because of mental impairment. | See reasons column | Report tabled October 2018 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.ombudsmn.vic.gov.au/Publications/Parliamentary-Reports/Investigation-into-the-imprisonment-of-a-woman-fou |
| Investigation of a complaint about Ambulance Victoria - Victorian Ombudsman | Investigation of a complaint about the fees imposed for treatment without transport by Ambulance Victoria. | See reasons column | Report tabled in May 2019 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.ombudsmn.vic.gov.au/getattachm ent/dd01d14c-f26e-4309-a721-490954c44ae2//publicati ons/parliamentary-reports/investigation-of-a-complaint-about-ambulance-victo.aspx |

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| Managing Private Medical Practice in Public Hospitals - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To determine whether DHHS and health services are effectively managing private practice in public hospitals to optimise outcomes for health sector. | See reasons column | Report tabled in June 2019 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/managing-private-medical-practice-public-hospitals?section= |
| Review of connecting and collaborating with the private sector and community organisations - Inspector-General for Emergency Management | Connecting and collaborating with the private sector and community organisations is a system-wide review identified in IGEM's 2016 Annual Forward Plan of Reviews and conducted under section 64(1)(b) of the Emergency Management Act 2013. | See reasons column | Report published June 2019 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.igem.vic.gov.au/reports-and-publicationsigem-reports/review-of-connecting-and-collaborating-with-the-private-sector |
| Review of emergency management for high-risk Victorian communities - Inspector-General for Emergency Management | Emergency management for high-risk Victorian communities is a system-wide review identified in IGEM's 2017 Annual Forward Plan of Reviews and conducted under section 64(1)(b) of the Emergency Management Act 2013. | See reasons column | Report published October 2019 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.igem.vic.gov.au/reports-and-publicationspublications/review-of-emergency-management-for-high-risk-victorians |
| Security of Government Buildings - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To determine whether Victorian Government office accommodation is sufficiently secure to prevent unauthorised access and other criminal or antisocial behaviour that may threaten the safety of staff, visitors and members of the public. | See reasons column | Report tabled May 2019 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-05/290519-Security-Gov-Buildings.pdf |

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| Security of Patients' Hospital Data - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To determine whether public health services' IT security policies, procedures and practices effectively protect patient data. | See reasons column | Report tabled May 2019 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/security-patients-hospital-data |
| State Purchase Contracts - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To assess whether state government agencies are realising benefits in procurement by using SPCs. | See reasons column | Report tabled September 2018 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/state-purchase-contracts?section= |
| Compliance with the Asset Management Accountability Framework - Victorian Auditor-General's Office | To determine the reliability of agencies' certifications of compliance with the Asset Management Accountability Framework (AMAF). | See reasons column | Report tabled 23 May 2019 | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/compliance-asset-management-accountability-framework |
| Royal Commission into Mental Health System | The Terms of reference and names of the Commissioners for the Royal Commission into Mental Health were announced on 24 February 2019. The Terms of reference can be found at: https://engage.vic.gov.au/download_file/13152/2135 . | See reasons column | Interim report published November 2019. Final report due October 2020 | n/a - report published by an external body report | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y – interim report. https://rcvmhs.vic.gov.au/interim-report |
| Review of the Medically Supervised Injecting Room (MSIR) - Colmar Brunton and the Burnet Institute | As prescribed in the Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981 (the Act), the Review will conduct a review of the operation and use of the licensed MSIR, the extent to which the objects of the Act has been advanced during | Terms of reference of panel: | Review to the Secretary and Minister for Mental Health in | In progress - will inform decision-making on whether the MSIR trial should be extended past 29 June 2020. | n/a - report not yet released | n/a - report not yet released | Yes, to be made public in 2020. Terms of reference of panel: https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/alcohol-and- |

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| | the period of the licence, and how the Act and regulations for the MSIR has operated and whether they require amendment. | | 2019-20, to inform a decision on whether the trial should be extended past 29 June 2020. | | | | drugs/aod-treatment-services/injecting-room/injecting-room-independent-review-panel |
| All external 'research and development activities' – greater than \$100,000 which may have resulted in a report to the CEO/Sec/Minister/public report, media article or public discussion | | | | | | | |
| Beating Buruli in Victoria - The Doherty Institute and research partners | A two-year partnership project to better understand the epidemiology and transmission of Buruli ulcer. The project includes 4 sub studies looking at environmental factors, potential interventions, laboratory work and disease modelling. | See reasons column | Two-year project, running from September 2018 | See reasons column | - | Cost not included in published document | Y – information about the bacteria and the study https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/beatng-buruli |

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| <p>Common Elements Approach - Centre for Evidence and Implementation</p> | <p>The Common Elements Approach builds workforce capability in the children and families services sector, supporting practitioners to deliver core evidence-informed practices that are essential to a therapeutic relationship and behavioural change.</p> <p>There are two stages: i) identify common elements through consultation and develop practice guidelines and an implementation framework (June 2018-August 2018) and ii) test and refine the Approach (November 2018 -June 2020)</p> | <p>See reasons column</p> | <p>June 2018 – June 2020. Final report March 2020.</p> | <p>This project is testing the implementation of the Common Elements Approach across a range of services including Child Protection, Family Services, Family Violence and Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations.</p> | <p>\$834,736.15 (GST incl)</p> | <p>\$834,736.15 (GST incl)</p> | <p>Information on the project:</p> <p>https://www.ceiglobal.org/our-work-original/building-capacity-through-implementation-science/using-common-elements-approach-victorian-human-services</p> |
| <p>Development of Technical Specifications for the Menu of Evidence-informed Practices and Programs - Centre for Evidence and Implementation and University of Melbourne</p> | <p>Develop technical specifications for the Menu of Evidence-informed Practices and Programs that describe how to search, rigorously assess and synthesise published literature on effective interventions for vulnerable children and families. The Menu is a key component of the reform of children and families services. It will be a repository of the best available evidence on what works for children and families. This will support commissioning of evidence-informed interventions that improve outcomes for children and families.</p> | <p>See reasons column</p> | <p>Completed</p> | <p>Technical guidance on how to search, assess and synthesise published literature for the Menu of Evidence-informed Practices and Programs. This a critical stage of building the Menu and will ensure that it is transparent, replicable and credible.</p> | <p>\$185,982.25 (GST incl)</p> | <p>\$185,982.25 (GST incl)</p> | <p>Various documents relating to the department's research on evidence-based practices are available at:</p> <p>https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/publications/roadmap-reform-strong-families-safe-children</p> |

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| Implementation evaluation study of evidence-based programs in family services - Centre for Evidence and Implementation | To deliver an implementation evaluation and to design an outcome evaluation for evidence-based programs in family services funded by the department. | Undertake implementation evaluation of evidence-based programs in family services trial. | Completed | This implementation evaluation will provide information about the feasibility and appropriateness of evidence-based programs in the Victorian context. | \$383,645 | \$383,645 | Y – information about the project only. Final report not publicly available. https://www.ceiglobal.org/our-work/trialling-testing-and-evaluating/delivering-evidence-based-practice-victorias-family-services |
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| <p>Medicinal cannabis safety and effectiveness study - Department of Health and Human Services, University of Melbourne, University of Sydney</p> | <p>This is a longitudinal study using online tools to collect data from patients and practitioners regarding the use, safety and effectiveness of medicinal cannabis products prescribed in Australia.</p> | <p>See reasons column</p> | <p>Began late 2018. Will recruit participants over 3-years; final surveys completed 25 months later. Initial results will be made available in a de-identified aggregate form and published twice annually. Final results will be published following completion of study and after a further time to allow for analysis to take place.</p> | <p>See reasons column</p> | | | <p>Y</p> <p>https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/drugs-and-poisons/medicinal-cannabis/medicinal-cannabis-study</p> <p>Description of project as at 13 August:</p> <p>https://www.liv.asn.au/Staying-Informed/General-News/General-News/August-2019/The-Permanency-Amendments-Longitudinal-Study</p> |
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| Permanency Amendments Longitudinal Study (PALS) - Consortium led by the University of Melbourne including the University of Sydney and University of New South Wales | A longitudinal study to understand the impact of the 2016 permanency amendments to the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 on outcomes for children and young people involved with child protection. The study responds to a recommendation made by the Commission for Children and Young People in its 2017 inquiry report 'Safe and wanted'. | See reasons column | Two-year project from 2019 | This study will provide vital information about the impacts of the permanency reforms, including impact for the service system, families and children. | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | |
| Research and data analytics - University of Adelaide | Collaboration between University of Adelaide and DHHS to analyse a series of policy questions using departmental linked data sets to support Children and Families Reform. | See reasons column | Ongoing | This collaboration maximises the value of the department's linked data and enables evidence informed policy responses for priority reforms of the children and families service system. | | | N |
| Search and assess published literature for the Menu of Evidence-informed Practices and Programs - University of Adelaide | Review technical specifications developed by the Centre for Evidence and Implementation and then use these to build published literature content for the Menu of Evidence-informed Practices and Programs. The Menu is a key component of the reform of children and families services. It will be a repository of the best available evidence on what works for children and families. This will support commissioning of evidence- | See reasons column | In Progress | Rigorous and accessible information for decision makers on evidence-informed interventions for children and families. This includes including what interventions are relevant to particular cohorts, their cost and | \$305,665.93(GST incl) | \$305,665.93(GST incl) | Various documents relating to the department's research on evidence-based practices are available at: https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/publications/roadmap-reform-strong-families-safe-children |

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| | informed interventions that improve outcomes for children and families. | | | implementation information. | | | |
| The first evaluation of The Orange Door - PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in partnership with Pricewaterhouse Indigenous Consulting and the Australian Catholic University. | To evaluate the establishment, operations and initial service offering of The Orange door in the first four areas. To identify key lessons and make recommendations for improvements to establishment activities and processes to support implementation of The Orange Door in the next three areas and to improve the initial service offering at The Orange Door in current areas. | See reasons column | Ongoing (commenced September 2018) | This report will inform improvements to the Orange door initiative in the initial sites and inform the roll out to the remainder of the State. | \$790,000 | \$790,000 | Request for Tender (now closed) available at: https://www.tenders.vic.gov.au/tender/view?id=96884 |
| Inquiry into NDIS Market readiness - National Disability Insurance Scheme (JSC) Committee of Federal Parliament | As part of the committee's role to inquire into the implementation, performance and governance of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), the committee will inquire into and report on market readiness for provision of services under the NDIS. | See reasons column | Report tabled 20 September 2018 | See reasons column | n/a - report published by an external body | n/a - report published by an external body | Y https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/National_Disability_Insurance_Scheme/MarketReadiness/Report |

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| <p>Inquiry into the Quality of Care in Residential Aged Care Facilities in Australia - Health, Aged Care and Sport (SC) Committee of Federal Parliament</p> | <p>The Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Sport will inquire into and report on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The incidence of all mistreatment of residents in residential aged care facilities and associated reporting and response mechanisms, including the treatment of whistle blowers; 2. The effectiveness of the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency, the Aged Care Complaints Commission, and the Charter of Care Recipients' Rights and Responsibilities in ensuring adequate consumer protection in residential aged care; and 3. The adequacy of consumer protection arrangements for aged care residents who do not have family, friends or other representatives to help them exercise choice and their rights in care. | <p>See reasons column</p> | <p>Report tabled October 2018</p> | <p>See reasons column</p> | <p>n/a - report published by an external body</p> | <p>n/a - report published by an external body</p> | <p>Y</p> <p>https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Health_Aged_Care_and_Sport/AgedCareFacilities/Report</p> |
| <p>Thunderstorm asthma – Coroner's Court of Victoria</p> | <p>Inquest into the ten deaths that related to the thunderstorm asthma event of November 2016.</p> | <p>See reasons column</p> | <p>Findings completed 9 November 2018</p> | <p>See reasons column</p> | | | <p>N</p> |

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| <p>Accessibility and quality of mental health services in rural and remote Australia – Community Affairs References Committee (SSC) of Federal Parliament</p> | <p>To inquire and report on the accessibility and quality of mental health services in rural and remote Australia, with specific reference to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the nature and underlying causes of rural and remote Australians accessing mental health services at a much lower rate; (b) the higher rate of suicide in rural and remote Australia; (c) the nature of the mental health workforce; (d) the challenges of delivering mental health services in the regions; (e) attitudes towards mental health services; (f) opportunities that technology presents for improved service delivery; and (g) any other related matters. | <p>See reasons column</p> | <p>Report tabled 4 December 2018</p> | <p>See reasons column</p> | <p>n/a - report published by an external body</p> | <p>n/a - report published by an external body</p> | <p>Y</p> <p>https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Community_Affairs/MentalHealthServices/Report</p> |
| <p>Effectiveness of the Aged Care Quality Assessment and accreditation framework for protecting residents from abuse and poor practices, and ensuring proper clinical and medical care standards are maintained and practised – Community Affairs References Committee (SSC) of Federal Parliament</p> | <p>On 13 June 2017, the Senate referred this matter to the Senate Community Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the effectiveness of the Aged Care Quality Assessment and accreditation framework for protecting residents from abuse and poor practices, and ensuring proper clinical and medical care standards are maintained and practised; b. the adequacy and effectiveness of complaints handling processes at a state and federal level, including consumer awareness and | <p>See reasons column</p> | <p>Final report tabled April 2019</p> | <p>See reasons column</p> | <p>n/a - report published by an external body</p> | <p>n/a - report published by an external body</p> | <p>Y</p> <p>https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Community_Affairs/AgedCareQuality/Report</p> |

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| | <p>appropriate use of the available complaints mechanisms;</p> <p>c. concerns regarding standards of care reported to aged care providers and government agencies by staff and contract workers, medical officers, volunteers, family members and other healthcare or aged care providers receiving transferred patients, and the adequacy of responses and feedback arrangements;</p> <p>d. the adequacy of medication handling practices and drug administration methods specific to aged care delivered at Oakden;</p> <p>e. the adequacy of injury prevention, monitoring and reporting mechanisms and the need for mandatory reporting and data collection for serious injury and mortality incidents;</p> <p>f. the division of responsibility and accountability between residents (and their families), agency and permanent staff, aged care providers, and the state and the federal governments for reporting on and acting on adverse incidents; and</p> <p>g. any related matters.</p> | | | | | | |
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b) Please outline the Department's/Agencies in house skills/capabilities/expertise to conduct reviews/studies/evaluations/data analysis of the programs and services for which the Department /Agency is responsible.

The following areas provide specific in-house skills, capabilities and expertise to conduction reviews, studies, evaluations and data analysis of the programs and services for which the department is responsible.

- Strategy and Planning Division provides internal consultancy on policy design and leads thinking on long-term reforms within and across ministerial portfolios to progress our key results. It is building the department's capabilities in analytics and research and evaluation.
- Safer Care Victoria is the lead agency for quality and safety improvement in health care. Safer Care Victoria oversees and supports health services to provide safe, high-quality care to patients. The agency works with health services and the department to support state-wide and regional partnerships that deliver sustained, measurable improvements. It also partners with consumers and their families, clinicians and health services to support the continuous improvement of health care.
- The Victorian Agency for Health Information is responsible for providing data and information products that stimulate and inform improvements in clinical care across public and private hospitals, strengthen local oversight of health and community services and inform Victorians about safety and quality of care in their local area. The agency also has primary responsibility for population health surveillance of noncommunicable diseases and their determinants in Victoria through the Health Intelligence Unit.

In addition, the department is undertaking a broad program of organisational reform that will enable it to continue to improve the health and wellbeing of all Victorians. The Organisational Transformation division was established in January 2019 to support this important program of work. The division is leading a transformation program that will plan, develop and oversee implementation of new ways of managing departmental functions over the next two years. It is also driving work to embed ongoing innovation, business process management, and change practices and culture to enable staff to work more effectively and efficiently.

All wording taken from the published DHHS strategic plan accessible at:

<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/201907/Department%20of%20Health%20and%20Human%20Services%20strategic%20plan.pdf>