

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee
Inquiry into the 2024–25 Budget Estimates
21 May 2024

PORTFOLIO: PREVENTION OF FAMILY VIOLENCE

Witnesses:

- The Hon. Vicki Ward MP
- Ms. Peta McCammon
- Ms. Melanie Heenan

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

QUESTION 1

a) Funding for The Orange Doors.

Vicki WARD: No, because there is no lapse in funding and because there is not a budget cut with this budget. We are continuing to invest. There is \$211 million being invested in this budget in response to family violence, and it is money that is being allocated across prevention, across response, as well as helping people rebuild their lives. This includes things like supporting our Orange Doors. It includes supporting the programs that are there to help people. It includes –

Bev McARTHUR: Well, on that, Minister, how much has been allocated to the Orange Door network?

Vicki WARD: Yes, I will get that for you. As I think we said in our presentation, there are 54 Orange Door locations across our state.

Nick McGOWAN: Does that include the satellites?

Vicki WARD: The satellites? The outposts? Yes, the locations include the outposts.

Bev McARTHUR: Maybe, Minister, while you are looking you might like to take this on notice that we would like to see the list outlining the funding levels for each of the 54 Orange Doors.

Vicki WARD: The funding that is for each of the 54 locations? There is \$448 million over four years that is being invested in the Orange Doors. Do you want me to through the locations?

Bev McARTHUR: Just give us that on notice; it will be fine.

Vicki WARD: Okay.

Hearing Transcript, p. 3

Name of Committee members asking question: Bev McArthur

RESPONSE

Answer:

In 2017-18 State Budget the Victorian Government invested a total of \$448.1 million over four years towards establishing and operating The Orange Door across all 17 DFFH areas (Source: 2017/18 BP3, pp.5, 17).

The funding allocated to The Orange Door network for 2024-25 is **\$231.7 million**. The operational budget of the statewide network currently funds 18 primary sites, 18 access points and 18 outposts (as at end of February 2024). It also funds the operational team from Family Safety Victoria, DFFH who support The Orange Door network and the community-based child protection team.

The funding provided to Partner Agencies in each area of The Orange Door network covers their activities across the primary site, access points and outposts.

Each Hub Leadership Group (HLG)* agrees the access network, associated costs and cost-sharing arrangement between Partners Agencies, for their area. For these reasons, a funding breakdown per site is not available.

*The Hub Leadership Group is in place for each The Orange Door area to:

- provide strategic direction
- be accountable for integrated practice and service delivery.
- oversee operations and performance of The Orange Door based on the statewide policy and design.
- keep FSV and other stakeholders (as relevant) informed of issues and risks.

QUESTION 2**b) Allocation of funds for partner agencies.**

Bev McARTHUR: How much is expected to be allocated to partner agencies who deliver the services?

Vicki WARD: *Okay. That is quite a bit to unpack because there are a number of different services across the Orange Doors that are embedded within the service itself but also those services that support or that are referred to from the Orange Door. So there is a bit of a – I do not know – would you call it a scrambled egg to this? But again, the department will be able to give you a little bit more of that detail.*

Bev McARTHUR: *Great. Have you got it ready there?*

Peta McCAMMON: *I do not have it with me. We are happy to see what we can do.*

Bev McARTHUR: *You can send it to us; that will be fine.*

...

Bev McARTHUR: *Thank you, Chair. Minister, I just want to confirm with the Secretary that you are going to get us the information about the details on the 54 Orange Door funding areas and also what is expected to be allocated to partner agencies who deliver the services.*

Peta McCAMMON: I am happy to take that on notice, particularly what is appropriate given they are actually contracts with providers. But I am happy to take that on notice.

Hearing Transcript, p. 3-4, 5

Name of Committee members asking question: Bev McArthur

RESPONSE

Answer:

The funding allocated to Partner Agencies in The Orange Door network for 2024-25 is expected to be **\$194.1 million.**

The Orange Door network brings together workers from specialist family violence, child and family, Aboriginal and perpetrator services. Across the state, there are 51 Partner Agencies in The Orange Door network.