

2021-22 Victorian Budget

The Hon. Ros Spence MP
Minister for Youth

28 May 2021

Supporting young people to access opportunities and reach their potential



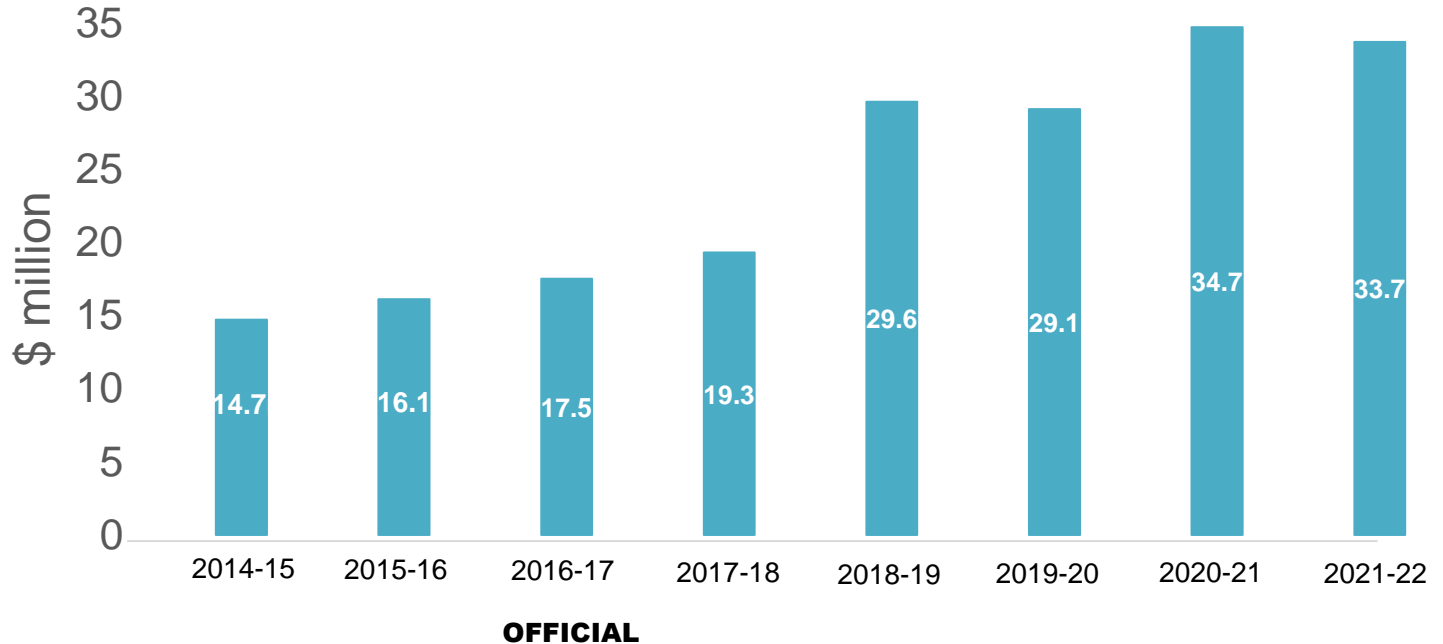
The Youth portfolio:

- > Provides young people with a voice in shaping government policy, programs and services
- > Supports young people to positively and actively contribute to Victoria's society and economy, including throughout the coronavirus (COVID-19) recovery period
- > Drives initiatives to support young people to connect, engage and thrive within local communities across the state

Our annual investment has more than doubled



Youth portfolio budget 2014-15 – 2021-22



2021-22 Budget highlights – Engaging and supporting at-risk young people



Investment of \$18.4 million over two years

- > **Continuing six Community Support Groups (CSGs)** – for South Sudanese young people and families in Wyndham, Melton/Brimbank and Dandenong/Casey/Cardinia, as well as for Muslim young people in West Heidelberg, south east Melbourne and Melbourne’s west.

- > **Extending the Le Mana Pasifika Project** – supporting vulnerable Pasifika young people across Melbourne’s south east and west through schools, community programs and individual casework. Provides additional annual funding to help meet the growth in demand for services and supports.

- > **Wraparound supports for African and Pasifika young people** – to complement the work of CSGs and the Le Mana Pasifika Project, including sport and recreation activities and alcohol and other drugs services.

2021-22 Budget highlights – Strengthening youth participation and connection



Investment of \$7 million over two years

- > **Continuing the Regional Presence Project** – funding regional offices operated by the Youth Affairs Council Victoria and the Centre for Multicultural Youth in Warrnambool, Morwell, Ballarat and Swan Hill.

 - > **Funding Latrobe Youth Space programs and activities** – continuing operations at the Latrobe Youth Space, supporting youth employment and community and economic engagement across the Latrobe Valley.

 - > **Delivering the Aboriginal Youth Mentoring Program** – partnering with Aboriginal organisations to develop and deliver bespoke community-led mentoring programs for young Aboriginal Victorians – strengthening connection to culture and pathways into education and employment.

 - > **Expanding access to Scouts and Girl Guides** – supporting young people from across the state to participate in Scouts and Girl Guides
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Building on our achievements in 2020-21



- > Undertook a state-wide public consultation process to inform the development of a new whole of government youth strategy.
- > Completed six Scout hall projects as part of the Government's \$5.5 million commitment for Scouting infrastructure.
- > Distributed over 1,970 family support packages through Community Support Groups and Le Mana Pasifika Project to young people and families, including supplying emergency relief and laptops/internet devices to support online learning.
- > Enabled 247,877 Victorian young people to participate in programs that connected them to the social and economic life of their communities.



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