



Public Accounts and Estimates Committee 2020-21 Budget Estimates Hearings

EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Hon Danny Pearson MP
Acting Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Monday 21 June 2021



Emergency Management Budget investment – Emergency Management Sector

The 2021-22 Victorian Budget is delivering a range of initiatives to protect the community's safety and build the capability of our emergency services.

This includes:

\$70.6 million

over two years for critical programs and to manage increased demand.

\$8.3 million to Life Saving Victoria in 2021-22 for critical water safety initiatives to help reduce the number of drownings in Victoria.

\$12.0 million over two years for the State Control Centre workforce to provide 24/7 coverage across a range of key functional areas.

\$46.2 million to the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority in 2021-22 for the Triple Zero service and Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) upgrade program.

\$39.2 million

over four years will go to the DJCS portfolio to support sector reforms, including volunteer and firefighter safety, incident management control centre capability and critical upgrades to VicEmergency and other information systems.



Emergency Management Budget investment - Infrastructure

The 2021-22 Victorian Budget ensures our emergency services have the facilities and resources they need to continue their important work by prioritising investment to infrastructure in urgent need of replacement.



\$28.0 million

will go towards **high-priority infrastructure** and **assets upgrades**, including:

- **\$18.349 million** for the development of LSV's Point Lonsdale Beach Base, Williamstown and Wonthaggi Life Saving clubhouse
- **\$3.986 million** for the replacement of the Irymple, Serpentine and Metcalfe CFA stations
- **\$0.87 million** for the refurbishment of CFA's Doreen station
- **\$0.144 million** for ICT upgrades at CFA's Edithvale station
- **\$4.661 million** for the delivery of a Victoria State Emergency Service unit in Port Fairy





Emergency Management – Bushfire Recovery

The Victorian Government is continuing to support community recovery in Gippsland and Victoria's North-East following the 2019-20 bushfires, building on the \$483 million provided in the 2020-21 Budget.



- **736** properties cleaned-up
- **211** property owners assisted by the Rebuild Support Service
- Approximately **\$260 million** directly released to individuals, businesses and organisations in bushfire affected communities.
- **\$26.3 million** paid to **2,626** businesses that accessed the **\$10,000** Small Business Bushfire Support Grants.
- The Bushfire Recovery Case Support Program has supported **2,152** individuals and families.

The 2021-22 Victorian Budget provides **\$104.4 million** over four years with a key focus of recovery case support, mental health and financial counselling, and economic, infrastructure and environmental recovery. This brings Victoria's total investment in recovery since the fires to more than **\$658 million**.

Emergency Management 2020-21 Key achievements

Fire Services Reform

As part of the 2020-21 Budget, \$250 million over five years was provided for the implementation of the fire services reform to ensure the effective operationalisation of the new fire services model including \$126 million in capability funding to the CFA for new training, facilities and equipment.



On 1 July 2020, Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) was established – bringing together Metropolitan Fire Brigade (MFB) and career Country Fire Authority (CFA) firefighters

The CFA was restored as a fully volunteer firefighting service

A financial sustainability program for fire agencies has commenced

Major appointments made in 2020:

- Fire District Review Panel
- Fire Services Implementation Monitor
- FRV Strategic Advisory Committee

The Year One Fire Services Reform Implementation Plan was published in October 2020 and agencies are on track for acquittal by October 2021.

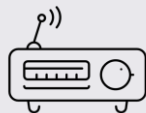
The Plan sets out the actions required to be acquitted by October 2021 to deliver on the priorities set out in the Fires Services Statement (FSS) and the FRV and CFA Acts.

Emergency Management Budget investment – Fire Services

The 2021-22 Victorian Budget is delivering a range of initiatives to protect the community's safety and build the capability of our fire services.

This includes:

\$138.8 million



to replace CFA radio equipment over seven years, strengthening brigades' emergency response capabilities.

- **Over 18,000** of CFA's current Phase 1 radios will be replaced with P25 Phase 2 Radios.
- The new replacement radios and associated equipment will be deployed for seamless use across the state's **Regional Mobile Radio (RMR)** and **Melbourne Metropolitan Radio (MMR)** networks.



\$9.8 million

over four years to FRV to develop its capability to respond to high consequence chemical incidents, increasing the safety of our firefighters and communities.



\$19.9 million

to clean up contaminated sites neighbouring the former CFA Training College at Fiskville and to begin development of a redress scheme.

Emergency Management 2020-21 Key achievements

High Risk Industries

Since its establishment in August 2020, the High-Risk Industries Engagement and Enforcement Operation, co-led with DJPR, has provided a centralisation of intelligence functions for high-risk and at-risk industries ensuring the development of 1200 intelligence-led, risk-based weekly business targets to support compliance with CHO Directions.



Coordinated regulatory partners across government and established cross-departmental Authorised Officer workforce.



47,537 intelligence-led targets, resulting in 36,296 surveillance and enforcement activities across relevant industries by partner agencies since 10 August 2020.



Increased regulatory capability and established consistency in compliance activities under PHWA.



Introduced infringement penalties to address business non-compliance with electronic record-keeping.



Thank you.

