

# Public Accounts and Estimates Committee 2015-16 Budget Estimates Hearing

Jenny Mikakos MP

Minister for Youth Affairs

# 2015-16 Budget – Overview

The *2015-16 Victorian Budget* is focussed on:

- Putting Victorian families first by investing in the services they depend on
- Addressing demand for core services
- Continuing successful programs

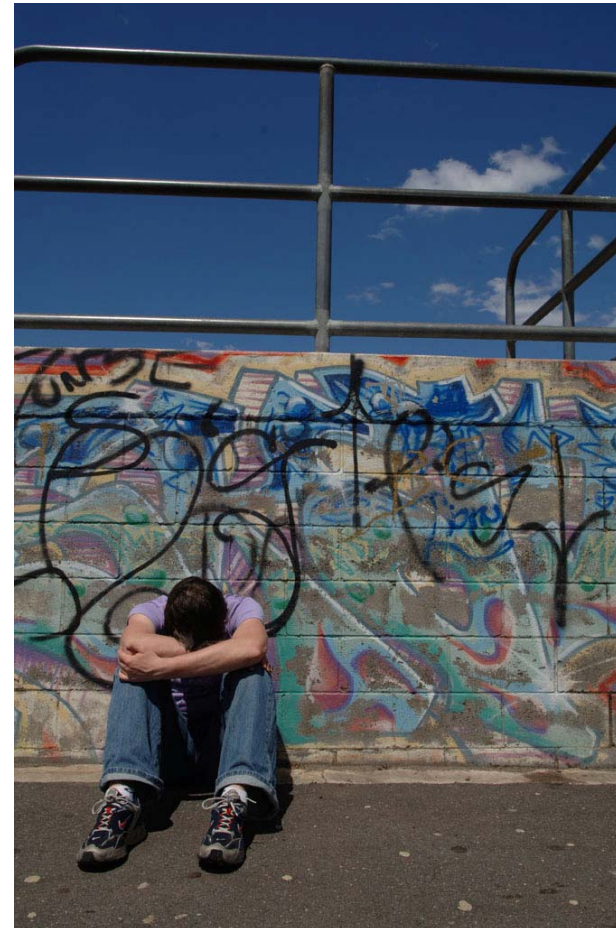


# Youth Affairs Portfolio

## Reconnecting disadvantaged youth

The Youth Affairs portfolio is being refocused on providing support to those young people who most need assistance to access opportunities and to reach their full potential.

Young people should be engaged in education, training or employment, and be connected to and supported by their community.



# 2015-16 Budget highlights

## Youth participation and engagement



**The 2015-16 Budget allocated \$8 million** over four years to invest in programs that provide for greater social and economic inclusion for young people experiencing social and economic disadvantage

We will invest in new initiatives targeting disadvantaged young people and in continuing existing initiatives which have been proven to be successful

## 2015-16 Budget highlights

### Continued investment in successful programs

- **Rural and Regional Local Government** Youth Engagement Program to support rural and regional communities to engage young people in local decision making and have a voice in their community
- **Centre for Multicultural Youth** to support culturally and linguistically diverse young people to build community connections, navigate educational and employment pathways, and develop leadership skills
- **Scouts Victoria** and **Girl Guides Victoria** to enable more young people to access opportunities for community participation

## 2015-16 Budget highlights

### **New investment for new directions**

- **Youth Affairs Council of Victoria** to trial a place-based initiative to support young people, including disadvantaged young people, to stay connected to communities in rural and regional Victoria
- **\$5 million** over four years for the development of new programs reconnecting disadvantaged young people with community, educational and employment pathways

