

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee 2023-24

Budget Estimates Hearings

Jaclyn Symes MP

Minister for Emergency Services

Friday 9 June 2023



Investment for critical projects in Victoria's emergency management capability

The 2023-24 Victorian Budget includes:

- Significant funding boost across government to continue recovery from the Victorian October 2022 Floods
- Funding to build a new next generation Computer-Aided Dispatch system for the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA)*
- New facilities and assets for the CFA, LSV, Marine Search and Rescue (MSAR) and VICSES
- Boosting fire services command staff capacity in Victoria
- Investment in water safety initiatives
- Investment in key public warnings and communications

**Amount has not been published as the initiative is subject to commercial-in-confidence.*

The 2023-24 Budget invests an additional

\$677 million

in Flood Recovery building on the **\$1.8 billion** committed last year

\$84.78 million

additional funding for facilities, vehicles, personnel and critical communications





Recovering from the October 2022 Floods

\$677 million in ongoing flood recovery, building on the **\$1.8 billion** committed last year to help communities get their lives back on track.

This includes:

\$150 million

for state coordinated clean-up helping remove waste from the streets and make homes safe from hazards

\$245 million

support for primary producers through grants, concessional loans and transport support

\$22 million

for Regional Recovery Hubs and recovery officers, so that communities have local access to tailored support

A Stronger, More Resilient Triple Zero



Improving capability and capacity at ESTA

Further investment will help ESTA to respond to sustained increased call volumes.

Over the last year, there has been an increase of over 140 full-time equivalent employees across call taking and dispatch services.

The 2022/23 State Budget delivered the largest ever increase in funding for ESTA.

Next generation Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) for Triple Zero:

- The new CAD system will deliver stable, high-capacity call-taking and dispatch with improved functionality.
- It will include new technologies to improve information sharing with emergency service organisations and situational awareness.

Delivery of Reform Program:

- Further \$2 million investment to support the Triple Zero reform program to advance implementation of recommendations from independent reviews.



Delivering new facilities and assets for volunteers



\$34.22m for CFA, VICSES, LSV and MSAR

New CFA stations at Kinglake West, Raywood and Yarram, and station upgrade planning for Keysborough

New VICSES facilities at Bannockburn and Kilmore, expansion at Skye and detailed planning for a new site for the Footscray unit

Amenity upgrades at Port Melbourne Life Saving Club and a new clubhouse and patrol tower at Bancoora Surf Life Saving Club

A replacement Marine Search and Rescue vessel for Queenscliff Coast Guard



\$15.08m to replace heavy SES trucks

Delivery of 35 replacement VICSES heavy rescue trucks so that VICSES continues have the right tools



\$26.77 million to replace flood-impacted facilities

Co-located CFA and VICSES facilities at Heathcote and Rochester, following the Victorian October 2022 Floods



Other key sector initiatives



Fire services command staff

Boosting fire services command staff capacity in Victoria.



Supplementation for the Inspector-General for Emergency Management

Enabling the IGEM to increase its review, monitoring and assurance activities and boost Victorian community understanding and confidence in effective emergency management arrangements.



Community information services

Undertake critical work on Victoria's emergency community information services.

This includes sustaining emergency information and warnings systems such as the VicEmergency website and app.



Public water safety interventions

Continuing LSV's public water safety interventions. This includes volunteer lifesaving services, rescue jet-ski, paid lifeguard services and a safety at public pools program.





Thank you.

