

2023–24 Victorian State Budget

The Hon. Harriet Shing MP

Minister for Equality

8 June 2023



Families,
Fairness
and Housing

Portfolio overview

The Equality portfolio is driving equality and inclusion for LGBTIQ+ communities by:

- › ensuring the lived experience and knowledge of LGBTIQ+ Victorians and the sector inform the work of government
- › building capability and capacity to deliver equitable, inclusive and accessible services
- › increasing LGBTIQ+ visibility to inform decision making
- › celebrating and supporting inclusion through events and programs
- › strengthening legal protections for LGBTIQ+ Victorians
- › developing an LGBTIQ+ sector that is self-sustaining.



Key achievements over the past 12 months

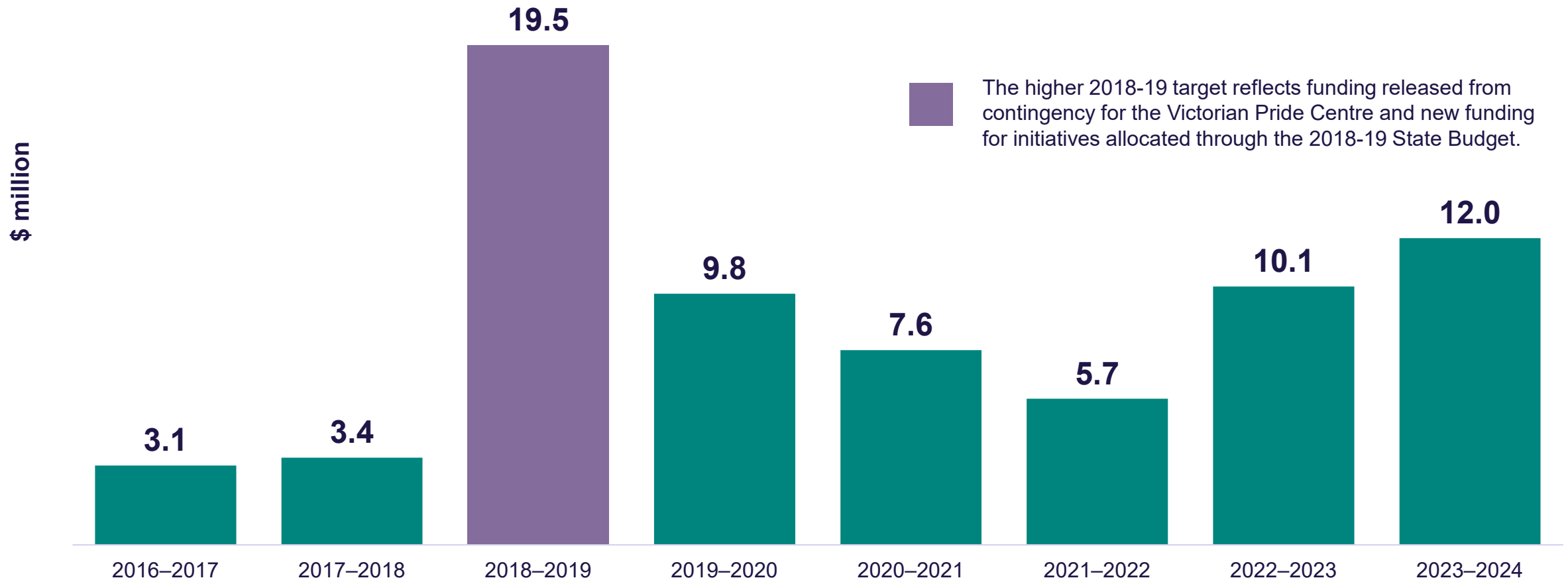
Over the past 12 months, the Equality portfolio has:

- › Delivered for the first Victorian LGBTIQ+ Strategy by:
 - » Establishing LGBTIQ+ youth Safe Spaces program in Western Victoria
 - » Continuing the Trans and Gender Diverse Peer Support Program
 - » Rolling out free LGBTIQ+ state-wide inclusion training.
- › Provided 57 grants supporting LGBTIQ+ organisational development, social connection and community celebrations, including:
 - » Midsumma Pride March
 - » Victoria's Pride and Rainbow Street Party
 - » ChillOut Festival
- › Supported the emergence of 28 more LGBTIQ+ leaders through the LGBTIQ+ Leadership Program.



Investment in the portfolio 2014–15 to 2023–24

LGBTIQ+ Equality Policy and Programs output target



Funding the government's election commitments

The 2023-24 Victorian State Budget invests **\$22.5 million** over four years, including:

- › **\$9.7 million** to boost approximately **200 Rainbow Tick** accredited community and mental health providers
- › **\$8 million** to strengthen LGBTIQ+ groups, events and organisations
- › **\$4.5 million** to pilot **Pride in Ageing** over four years to help older LGBTIQ+ Victorians age well in their homes
- › **\$50,000** for the **Bendigo Queer Arts Festival**.



Portfolio priorities for the year ahead

- › Commence the election commitment work program, including Pride in Ageing pilot, Rainbow Tick accreditation and strategic grants to support LGBTIQ+ communities and organisations
- › Deliver state-wide LGBTIQ+ inclusion training to 400 organisations over the next two years
- › Progress health and wellbeing supports for people with an intersex variation, including legislative reform
- › Deliver annual state-wide LGBTIQ+ celebrations and Pride season, building on the success of Victoria's Pride and other events
- › Deliver a public awareness campaign to promote social cohesion and deepen understandings of LGBTIQ+ communities.

Portfolio priorities for the year ahead

In 2023-24, the Equality portfolio will:

- › Continue implementation of the Trans and Gender Diverse Peer Support Program
- › Trial the LGBTIQ+ youth Safe Spaces program in Western Victoria
- › Deliver the 2023-24 LGBTIQ+ Leadership Program
- › Continue whole-of-Victorian-Government implementation of *Pride of our future: Victoria's LGBTIQ+ Strategy 2022-32*.



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