

2014-15 Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

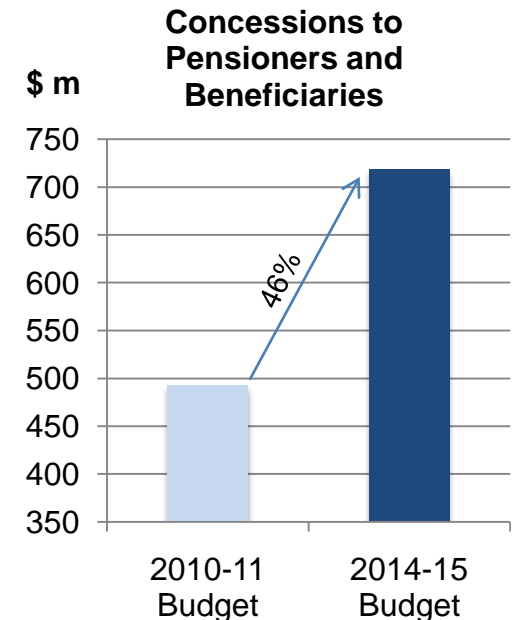
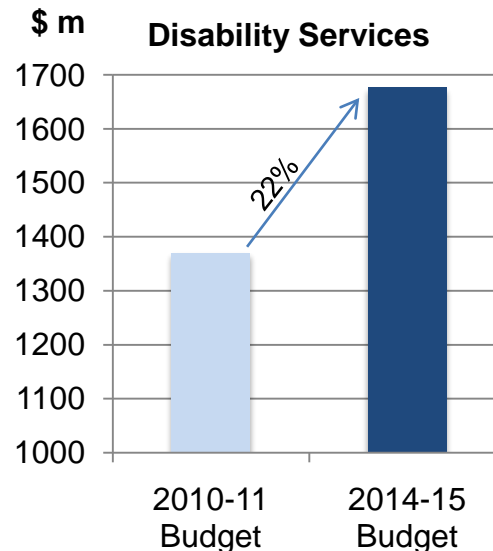
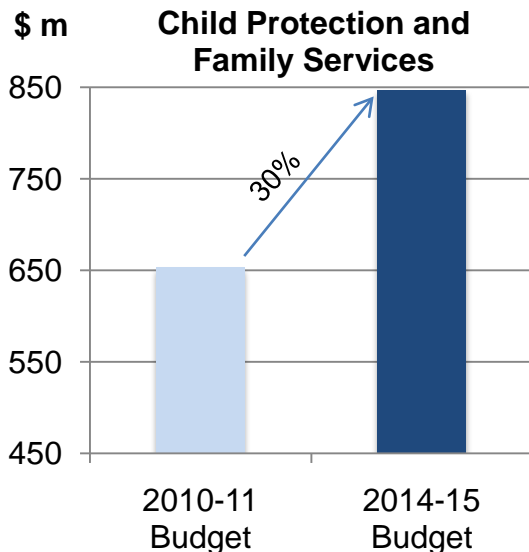


The Hon. Mary Wooldridge MP
Minister for Community Services

22 May 2014

Department of Human Services – 2014-15 Budget Overview

- DHS - \$3.848.5 billion output budget in 2014-15
 - Increase of 5.5% from 2013-14
- Coalition Government concentrating on the things that matter
 - Fourth year in a row that DHS budget growth has been greater than overall budget growth.



Community services – strategic overview

- Services Connect
- Service Sector Reform
- Victorian Vulnerable Children's Strategy
- Child protection operating model
- Out-of-Home Care: Five Year Plan
- Family Violence Action Plan
- Youth justice reforms

Services Connect

Transformational reform:

- One key worker
- One needs assessment
- One client record
- One plan across a range of service delivery areas

This budget provides:

- Extending Services Connect to sites in the non-government sector
- First phase of a 'single client view' IT system
- First phase of an online system to increase self-service activities

Out-of-home Care

This government has:

- Provided over \$250 million in additional funding over the last four budgets
- Developed and released the five year Out-of-home Care Plan
- Provided a significant boost to out-of-home care
- Committed to double the places in therapeutic foster care

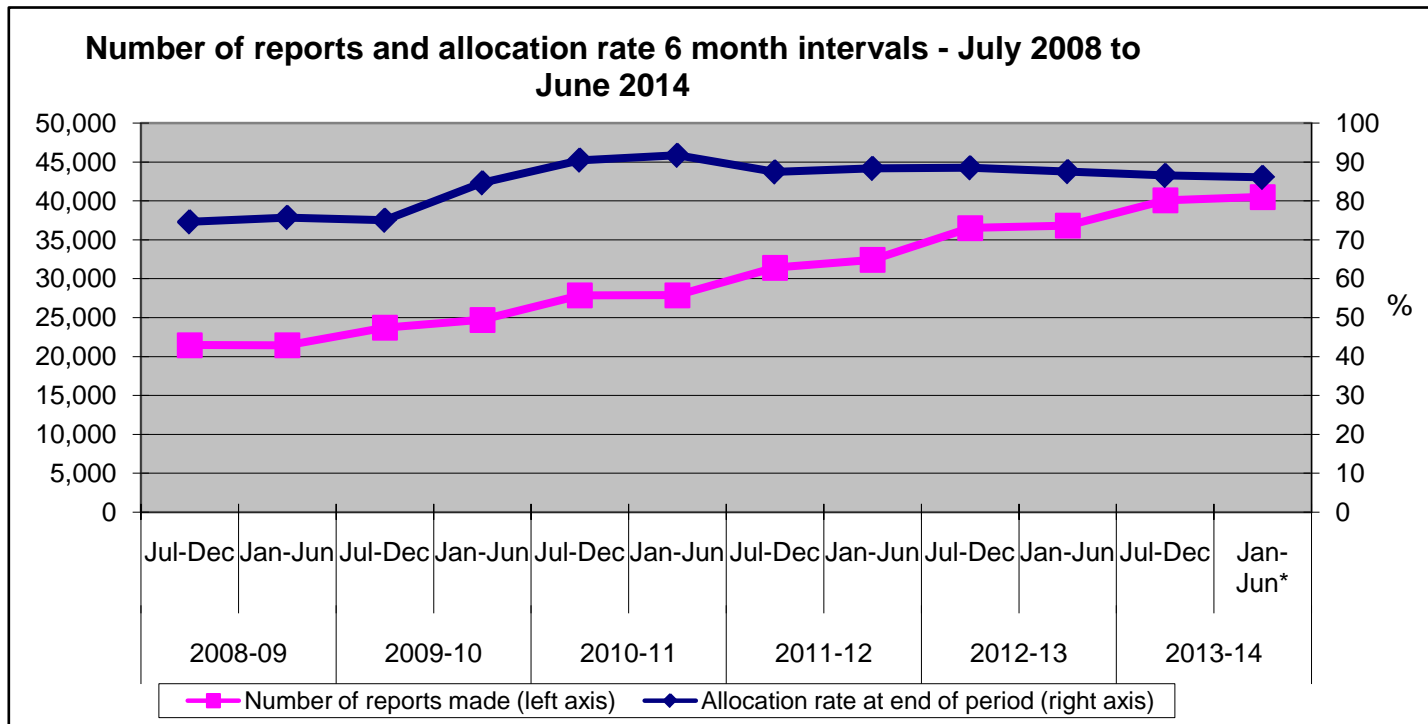
This budget provides:

- Funding to back the \$128 million Out-of-home Care Plan
 - At the end of five years every young person living in residential care will have a therapeutic placement
 - Implementation of new models of care
 - Growth in payments for children in home based care

Child protection and family services

This government has:

- Implemented significant reform along with additional workers:
 - Child FIRST and integrated family services
 - Child Protection Operating Model



*Jan-Jun reports figure in13-14 is projected (based on January-April figures).

Family Violence

This government has:

- Implemented *Victoria's Action Plan to Address Violence Against Women and Children 2012-2015*, which is supported by a commitment of over \$95 million in 2014-15.
- Launched the Foundation to Prevent Violence Against Women and their Children
- Improved law and order responses to family violence

This budget provides:

- Eight more Strengthening Risk Management projects in locations around the state
- Sexual assault counselling support
- Training in the risk assessment and risk management framework

Youth Justice

This government has:

- Improved outcomes since 2009-10
- Significantly improved safety on youth justice precincts since 2010
- Implemented a fully integrated education model at both Parkville and Malmsbury youth justice centres
- Funded construction of 45-bed centre at Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre

This budget provides:

- Continuation of the successful Youth Support Service
- Capacity to recruit and train workers for the expanded Malmsbury Youth Justice Centre

Concessions

This government has:

- Significantly increased investment to assist low income households afford essential services and avoid financial hardship.
 - The 2010-11 Budget included \$306 million for utilities concessions.
 - The 2014-15 Budget includes \$508 million for utilities concessions.

The Commonwealth has cut \$73m pa from the concessions NPA, and the Coalition Government will make up the difference in this Budget.

This budget provides:

- For over 20,000 more households to receive electricity concessions.
- For over 12,000 more households to receive water and sewage concessions.

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