

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

2012-13 Budget Estimates hearing



Victorian Budget

2012 - 13

The Hon. Robert Clark MP
Minister for Finance
Friday 11 May, 2012

Economic reform agenda

Government's four pillars

- Creating significantly strong budget capacity
- Improving productivity
- Growing export markets
- Supporting industries and employees in transition

Minister for Finance responsibilities

- Whole of Government Risk Management and Financial Management frameworks
- Public sector industrial relations policy
- Improving workforce productivity on Victorian Government Building and Construction projects
- Oversight of the Victorian Managed Insurance Authority and Essential Services Commission

Responsibilities for Budget Outputs

Department of Treasury & Finance outputs:

Finance portfolio only

- Economic Regulatory Services (Essential Services Commission (ESC))

Shared with Treasurer & Assistant Treasurer portfolios

- Budget & Financial Policy Advice
- Economic & Financial Policy
- GBE Performance Monitoring & Financial Risk Management

Shared with Treasurer portfolio

- Financial Reporting
- Financial and Resource Management Framework

Shared with Assistant Treasurer portfolio

- Government Services

Statutory Authorities

- Victorian Managed Insurance Authority (VMIA)

Improving planning, performance, accountability and transparency in this budget and beyond

Strengthening the quality of planning and performance management

- Stronger links between objectives and outputs, and clearer and more meaningful performance measures in Budget Paper 3
- Strengthening of planning processes to further enhance performance and accountability and to support the *Better Services Taskforce* agenda.

Improving accountability for, and transparency of, public resources in Victoria

- Increased accountability and transparency through the publication of online performance measures series

Insurance and Risk Management

- Finance portfolio responsibilities include insurance and risk management policy matters and the operations of the Victorian Management Insurance Authority (VMIA)
- VMIA provides insurance and risk management services to departments and agencies and Domestic Building Insurance
- The Victorian Government Risk Management Framework (VGRMF) provides a minimum risk management standard across public sector agencies
 - departments and agencies are required to attest in annual reports that their approach to risk management is consistent with the VGRMF
- The Finance portfolio is working jointly with the Planning and Consumer Affairs portfolios to undertake a consultation process and develop reform options to improve the operations of the Domestic Building Consumer Protection Framework.

Essential Services

- The Essential Services Commission is Victoria's independent economic regulator of essential services
- It also provides advice to the Victorian Government on a range of regulatory and other matters.

Victorian Code of Practice for the Building and Construction Industry

- New Implementation Guidelines for the construction industry were released in April 2012
- Guidelines will apply from 1 July to firms tendering for State government projects.
- The Construction Code Compliance Unit has been established in the Department of Treasury and Finance to implement the Guidelines, monitor public sector and industry compliance with the new Guidelines and investigate alleged breaches.