

16 May 2013

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

2013-14 Budget Estimates Hearing

The Hon. Robert Clark MP
Attorney-General

Attorney General



Department of
Justice

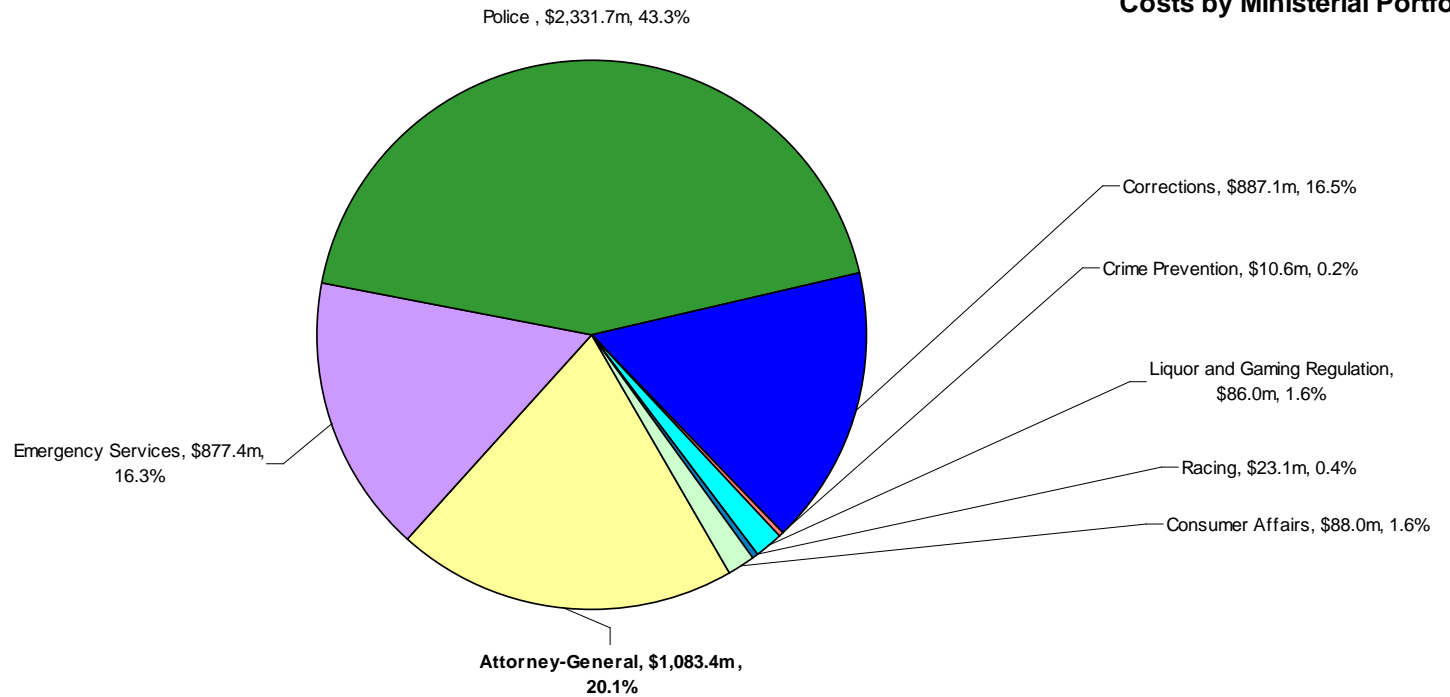
Attorney-General Portfolio

Key outputs:

- Infringement and orders management
- Enhancing community safety (WWCC and AJA)
- Court services
- Access to justice and support services
- Public prosecutions
- Protecting community rights
- Privacy regulation
- State electoral roll and elections
- Anti-corruption and public sector integrity
- Freedom of Information Commissioner

Justice Budget Breakdown

2013-14 Published Output Costs by Ministerial Portfolio



2013-14 Budget Initiatives

Overview:

- More services to support victims of crime
- Supporting courts and Victoria Legal Aid
- Confiscating proceeds of crime
- Ensuring people meet their legal debt obligations.

2013-14 Budget Initiatives

Delivering more services to support victims of crime:

- The Victims of Crime Helpline will be expanded to operate from 8am to 11pm on both Saturday and Sunday and public holidays
- The Victims Assistance and Counselling Program is funded to deliver services to more than 6,000 additional victims of crime.

2013-14 Budget Initiatives

Supporting courts and Victorian Legal Aid:

- \$47.7m over four years and \$10.9m per annum ongoing to support courts to meet demand for their services
- \$13.7m over four years and \$3.5m per annum ongoing to increase the capacity of the VLA to meet growing demand for their services
- \$6.5m for enhancing Court IT and facilities

2013-14 Budget Initiatives

Making offenders pay:

- \$6.9m per year ongoing funding has been added to the Asset Confiscation Scheme
- This will return an additional estimated \$83m over four years in revenue
- This represents asset confiscations from those engaged in serious criminal activity.

2013-14 Budget Initiatives

Ensuring people meet their obligations

- Modernise how legal debt is collected and enforced
- Reduce uncollected debt and increase compliance with the law
- \$19.8m over four years and \$9.4m per annum ongoing output funding to reform fine collection processes
- \$15m in asset funding to support ICT changes enabling process reforms

Key achievements

- Targeting criminal gangs
- Abolishing suspended sentences
- Cracking down on bail abusers
- Gross violence legislation
- New Aboriginal Justice Agreement
- Courts and Tribunals Service established
- Jury direction reform
- Journalist shield laws
- Working With Children Check legislation

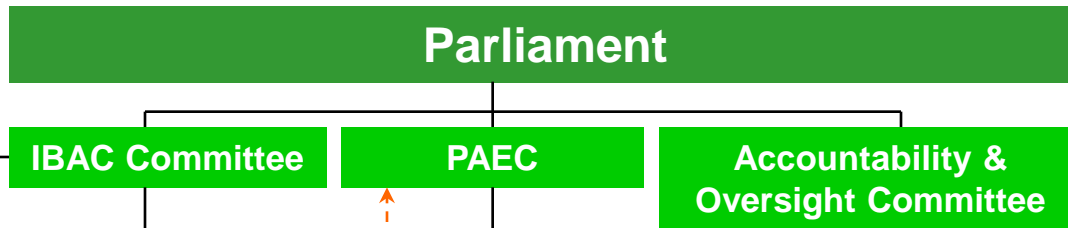
Key achievements (continued)

- Civil procedure – expert evidence and cost reforms
- Criminal procedure – appeals, aggregate sentences and sexual offences reforms
- Victims compensation and say on sentencing indications
- Family violence reforms
- Reserve Judicial Officers

2013-14 PAEC Hearings

IBAC & FOI

Victorian Integrity System



Victorian Inspector

Role:
Oversight of performance of key integrity agencies and bodies

Jurisdiction:

- IBAC
- VAGO Officers
- Ombudsman Officers
- PIM
- Victoria Police
- OCE
- DEPI (former DSE & DPI)

IBAC

Role:
Broad-based jurisdiction over serious corrupt conduct in relation to the public sector, and police personnel misconduct.

Jurisdiction:

- Ministers & Ministerial advisers
- MPs and Parliamentary Officers
- Police personnel (sworn & unsworn)
- Judiciary
- Local government
- Other public officers & bodies

Auditor-General

Role:
Conducts financial and performance audits as required under the *Audit Act 1994*.

Jurisdiction:
Victorian public sector

Ombudsman

Role:
Investigates maladministration & other forms of misconduct

Jurisdiction:
Victorian state government and statutory authorities, and employees of local government bodies

PIM

Role:
Provides increased accountability & oversight in the application process for covert & coercive powers.

Jurisdiction:
Tests content and sufficiency of applications by Victoria Police, OCE, IBAC, DEPI, and ACC

FOI Commissioner

Role:

- Review FOI decisions
- Deal with FOI complaints
- Monitor agency compliance with prescribed professional standards

Jurisdiction:
Victorian agencies subject to the *FOI Act 1982*