



2013-14 Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

The Hon. Mary Wooldridge MP

Minister for Community Services

23 May 2013

Department of Human Services – 2013-14 Budget Overview

- \$3.646 billion output budget in 2013-14
(increase of 5.7% from 2012-13)
- \$517 million in new funding across the forward estimates
- Includes funds as a result of transfer of Office for the Community Sector to DHS (\$3.9m in 2013-14)
- Changes to output structures
- A third successive State Budget of investing in reform

Community Services – strategic overview

- Services Connect
- New child protection operating model
- New department structure
- Whole of government strategies
 - Vulnerable children
 - Preventing violence against women and children
- NDIS
- Commission for Children and Young People
- Youth justice reforms

Services Connect

\$12 million over the next two years

- GOAL: one needs assessment, one client record, one key worker, one plan across child protection, youth justice, disability, housing, family violence, mental health, AOD.
- Introduce full service delivery model in Dandenong, Geelong and SW Coast
- Establish new sites
- Productivity and efficiency (consolidate multiple contact points; streamline high cost/time intensive transactions)
- Begin IT work for single source of client information.



Victorian Government support for communities, families & individuals

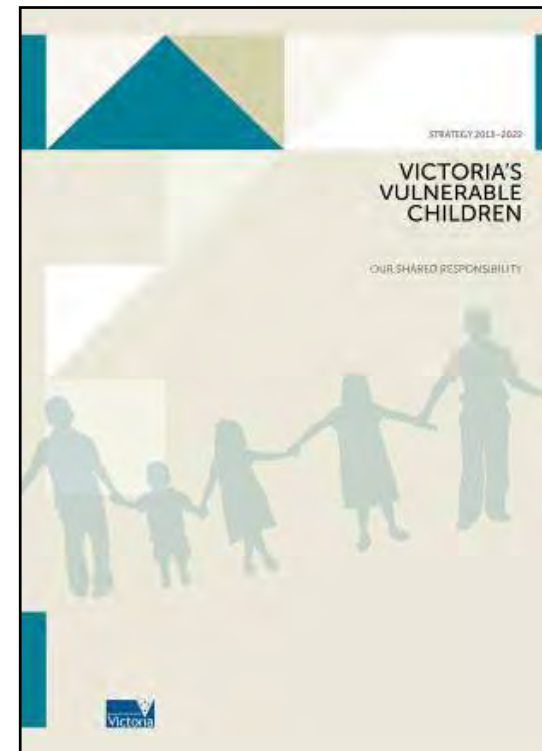


Services Connect
Released May 2013

Victoria's Vulnerable Children – 2013-14

\$218 million over four years

- Doubling places in therapeutic model of foster care for statewide coverage
- Big boost to out-of-home care and reduced reliance on contingency placements
- Continuation of after-hours service
- Family violence – men's behaviour change and adolescent violence in the home



Strategy 2013-2022

Released May 2013

Implementation Bulletin

Released May 2013

Victoria's Vulnerable Children – 2011-2013

\$650 million invested since Coalition took office.

Safe, stable and supportive out of home care: expanding therapeutic models of residential and foster care, assessing and responding to the health and education needs of young people entering residential care and proactively seeking permanent placements to resolve young futures sooner. Also introduced intensive education and employment support for young people leaving care.

Effective and connected services: a new structure for child protection workforce is focussing existing and new practitioners on working with families. This is being delivered through a new streamlined DHS structure and Services Connect reforms to work more holistically with vulnerable families. Coordinated service delivery occurs across govt including in three new multi-disciplinary centres where police, child protection and counsellors will work together to tackle sexual abuse.

Enhancing education and building capacity: working with families to prevent the need to remove their children, offering four-years of intensive support program for highly vulnerable young mums, providing zero-fee TAFE places for young care-leavers and enhancing student support services in schools.

Making a child friendly legal system: building a new Children's Court at Broadmeadows, expanding New Model conferencing and introducing a suite of reforms aimed at improving the process and lessening the trauma of court for children.

Introducing accountability and transparency: established a new Commission for Children and Young People and introduced a whole-of-government performance monitoring framework.

Social and Community Services Staff (SACS)

- SACS equal remuneration order applied from 1 December 2012
- Victorian Govt paying CSO from 3 December with 80:32 formula
- \$70.2 million for SACS in 2013-14
- Still waiting for Commonwealth payment which will use 70:28 formula (significantly lower than Victorian contribution)
- Commonwealth has still not paid any of it's share to Victoria – despite promises

Concessions

- Victorian Government concessions assist 1.4 million households
- Year-round electricity concessions introduced March 2011
 - Increase from \$68m in 2010-11 to \$174m in 2013-14
- ~ 13,000 more households will get electricity concessions
- ~ 6,800 more households will get water and sewage concessions
- Concessions changes for gas and electricity
- Increase across Government of almost \$300 million in three years

Department of Human Services	2010-11 Budget	2013-14 Budget
Budget for Concessions Output Group		
Concessions to Pensioners and Beneficiaries	\$493.2 million	\$670.2 million



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