



Victorian Budget
2026/27

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Easier. Safer. More Affordable.

Service Delivery

BUDGET PAPER NO. 3

Presented by Jaclyn Symes MP
Treasurer of the State of Victoria



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance acknowledges that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the First Peoples and Traditional Custodians of Australia, and the oldest continuing culture in human history. We proudly acknowledge Victoria's Aboriginal communities and recognise the value and ongoing contribution of Aboriginal people and communities to Victorian life. We pay our respect to Elders past and present and emerging.

As we work to ensure Victorian Aboriginal communities continue to thrive, the Government acknowledges the invaluable contributions of generations that have come before us, who have fought tirelessly for the rights of their people and communities towards self-determination. We reflect on the continuing impact of government policies and practices and recognise our responsibility to work together with and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples towards improved cultural, social and economic outcomes.



'lim-ba nindee thana warn-ga-ilee'
(Preserve our Dreaming Lore) – Gunnai Language
Bitja (Dixon Patten Jnr) Yorta Yorta, Gunnai,
Gunditjmara and Dhudhuroa of Bayila Creative

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Budget Paper No. 4 – State Capital Program
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(incorporating Quarterly Financial Report No. 3)

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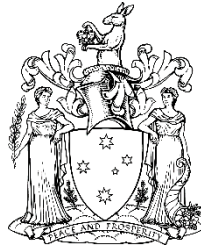
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Service Delivery

2026-27



Presented by

Jaclyn Symes MP

Treasurer of the State of Victoria

for the information of Honourable Members

Budget Paper No. 3

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CHAPTER 1 – OUTPUT, ASSET INVESTMENT, SAVINGS AND REVENUE INITIATIVES

Budget Paper No. 3 Service Delivery outlines the Government’s priorities for the goods and services it provides to Victorians and details the Government’s budget decisions. The *2026-27 Budget* provides funding of \$13.8 billion over five years in output initiatives since the *2025-26 Budget Update* and \$4.4 billion TEI in new capital investment.

Budget Paper No. 3 Service Delivery also provides information on the objectives departments seek to achieve over the medium term and the associated outputs (goods and services) for which they receive funding to achieve these objectives.

Table 1.1: Output summary (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Bushfire relief and recovery	214.0	116.8	32.7	2.6	0.2
Community Safety Package	38.1	160.2	163.0	82.7	81.0
First Peoples	23.5	68.7	45.7	25.6	27.6
Education	93.0	718.9	1 042.9	1 137.3	1 078.8
Energy, Environment and Climate Action	104.9	212.0	53.4	64.9	41.2
Families, Fairness and Housing	7.2	497.6	190.8	13.6	15.7
Government Services	1.3	31.2	12.3	1.1	1.3
Health	7.2	1 000.4	869.6	681.0	697.9
Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions	31.4	353.9	280.1	23.1	5.7
Justice and Community Safety	5.1	125.9	96.2	46.1	49.9
Premier and Cabinet	1.0	9.5	2.7	..	..
Transport and Planning	1 080.7	851.0	100.1	74.5	55.9
Treasury and Finance	283.0	122.7	138.5	173.9	193.5
Parliament and Integrity Agencies	0.3	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Court Services Victoria	..	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
Total output initiatives	1 890.7	4 274.0	3 033.3	2 331.7	2 254.0

Table 1.2: Asset summary**(\$ million)**

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	TEI ^(a)
Bushfire relief and recovery	27.1	28.3	..	..	..	55.3
Community Safety Package	24.3	17.9	1.2	1.2	1.3	47.0
First Peoples	..	..	..	..	..	..
Education	8.0	517.8	372.9	177.4	203.4	1 351.1
Energy, Environment and Climate Action	134.8	90.9	34.7	..	..	260.4
Families, Fairness and Housing	..	21.0	61.1	45.8	1.7	129.7
Government Services	..	..	..	..	..	..
Health	..	214.3	19.5	74.0	112.6	566.9
Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions	15.1	43.3	21.9	0.3	..	80.5
Justice and Community Safety	..	130.0	100.2	43.0	15.4	348.7
Premier and Cabinet	..	..	..	..	..	..
Transport and Planning	34.3	690.5	252.9	200.2	188.1	1 503.1
Treasury and Finance	..	..	..	..	..	..
Parliament and Integrity Agencies	1.2	1.0	0.8	1.0	..	4.1
Court Services Victoria	..	12.1	..	..	..	12.1
Total asset initiatives	244.8	1 767.0	865.1	542.9	522.6	4 358.9

Note:

(a) TEI includes funding beyond 2029-30.

WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT – BUSHFIRE RELIEF AND RECOVERY

Output initiatives

Table 1.3: Output initiatives – Bushfire relief and recovery (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Bushfire relief and recovery ^{(a)(b)}	214.0	116.8	32.7	2.6	0.2
Total output initiatives	214.0	116.8	32.7	2.6	0.2

Notes:

(a) Includes initiatives eligible for cost-sharing with the Commonwealth under Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

(b) In addition to the funding outlined in the initiative, the Treasurer has approved tax relief on land for affected property owners. This includes land transfer duty and land tax relief in specific circumstances. These decisions are not yet reflected in the budget estimates.

Bushfire relief and recovery

Funding is provided to meet the immediate emergency response and recovery needs of 2026 bushfire-affected communities through:

- the state co-ordinated clean-up program
- support for the agriculture sector through primary producer grants and emergency fodder support
- Personal Hardship Assistance and temporary accommodation measures
- immediate catchment and waterway restoration
- Prolonged Power Outage payments
- 1800 Recovery Hotline and community recovery officers and hubs
- the reinstatement of power, water and the state transport network
- case support for business owners
- localised counselling and mental health supports, including in-person support on the ground, psychosocial recovery support in schools, and expanding the reach of existing Mental Health and Wellbeing Locals.

This initiative contributes to:

- the Department of Education’s Wellbeing Supports for Students output
- the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action’s Environment and Biodiversity, Energy, Agriculture, Management of Public Land and Forests, Resources and Water and Catchments outputs
- the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing’s Housing Assistance and Concessions to Pensioners and Beneficiaries outputs
- the Department of Government Services’ Customer Services to the Community and Local Government outputs
- the Department of Health’s Mental Health Community Support Services output
- the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions’ Industry, Small Business and Medical Research output
- the Department of Justice and Community Safety’s Emergency Management Capability output
- the Department of Transport and Planning’s Road Asset Management, Transport Infrastructure and Train Services – Regional outputs.

Asset initiatives

Table 1.4: Asset initiatives – Bushfire relief and recovery (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	TEI
Bushfire relief and recovery ^(a)	27.1	28.3	..	..	..	55.3
Total asset initiatives	27.1	28.3	..	..	..	55.3

Note:

(a) Includes initiatives eligible for cost-sharing with the Commonwealth under Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Bushfire relief and recovery

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT – COMMUNITY SAFETY PACKAGE

Output initiatives

Table 1.5: Output initiatives – Community Safety Package (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Blue Light Crime Prevention and Early Intervention initiatives	..	3.8	3.9	1.7	..
Critical cybercrime and digital forensic storage and software	..	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.4
Delivering serious consequences and keeping the community safe	32.6	78.3	76.3	58.2	59.5
Freeing up frontline police through use of police reservists	..	26.8	35.2	..	..
Increasing PSO capacity and funding for Operation Pulse	2.1	14.4	10.2	10.5	11.5
Keeping kids in school and on the right track	..	1.9	4.0	2.5	0.6
Protecting Victoria through preventing and countering violent extremism	0.5	1.0	1.8	0.6	0.6
Strengthening Victoria’s tobacco regulator	..	7.4	6.1	..	..
Supporting students at risk of suspension, expulsion and contact with youth justice through early intervention	..	3.6	6.6	6.6	6.6
Uniting Victoria through stopping antisemitism and hate	2.8	0.4	..	..	..
Violence Reduction Unit – Local crime prevention solutions	..	15.0	16.3	1.3	0.8
Youth crime prevention package	..	6.6	1.5	..	..
Total output initiatives	38.1	160.2	163.0	82.7	81.0

Blue Light Crime Prevention and Early Intervention initiatives

Funding is provided to support at-risk young people through tailored programs delivered by Blue Light Victoria, including one-on-one mentoring support as well as early intervention programs in schools and community settings.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety’s Policing and Community Safety output.

Critical cybercrime and digital forensic storage and software

Funding is provided to Victoria Police to replace and connect digital forensic storage, backup and disaster recovery as well as renewing existing software licences, supporting Victoria Police to prevent, detect, and investigate crime.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety’s Policing and Community Safety output.

Delivering serious consequences and keeping the community safe

Funding is provided to deliver serious consequences to perpetrators of violent crime and keep the community safe, including:

- additional custodial capacity in the youth justice and adult corrections systems
- establishment of a specialised County Court youth list to fast-track serious matters to be heard in the County Court under *Adult Time for Violent Crime* reforms.

This funding builds on investments announced in the *2025-26 Budget* and the *2025-26 Budget Update*.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's:

- Justice Policy, Services and Law Reform output
- Prisoner Supervision and Support output
- Youth Justice Community Based Services output
- Youth Justice Custodial Services output.

This initiative contributes to Court Services Victoria's Courts output.

Freeing up frontline police through the use of police reservists

Funding is provided to Victoria Police to recruit up to 200 police reservists to fulfil important administrative duties, freeing up frontline police officers to provide highly visible and proactive policing in the community.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Policing and Community Safety output.

Increasing PSO capacity and funding for Operation Pulse

Funding is provided to Victoria Police to recruit an additional 50 Protective Services Officers (PSOs) to support Victoria Police with intelligence-led deployment. Funding is also provided to continue Operation Pulse at shopping centres to the end of 2026.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Policing and Community Safety output.

Keeping kids in school and on the right track

Funding is provided to support students' continued engagement with the education system and to reduce potential contact with the justice system, including by:

- continuing the Early Years Program
- supporting Foundation House to deliver professional development programs to early years educators and school teachers
- supporting the Learning Beyond the Bell homework clubs.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Promoting Equal Access to Education output.

Protecting Victoria through preventing and countering violent extremism

Funding is provided to operationalise the Crowded Places Strategy and continue initiatives to counter violent extremism.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's:

- Community Crime Prevention output
- Policing and Community Safety output.

Strengthening Victoria's tobacco regulator

Funding is provided to stamp out illicit tobacco in Victoria and its links to crime gangs by almost tripling inspector FTE, cracking down on illicit tobacco shops, and keeping Victorians safe. Funding will also support an evidence management function, incorporating transport, logistics, forensic analysis, storage and destruction of seized tobacco products.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Liquor, Tobacco, Gambling and Casino Regulation output.

Supporting students at risk of suspension, expulsion and contact with youth justice through early intervention

Funding is provided to continue early intervention supports for children and young people involved in, or at-risk of involvement in, the youth justice system. Programs will also assist schools to re-engage students transitioning between custodial youth justice and their education settings, including:

- culturally appropriate support for at-risk African and Pasifika young people to promote school engagement
- case workers to support culturally and linguistically diverse young people.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Promoting Equal Access to Education output.

Uniting Victoria through stopping antisemitism and hate

Funding is provided to support the Premier's announcement of a five-step plan to combat antisemitism and keep people safe in response to the terrorist attack at Bondi Beach, including:

- supporting the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission to facilitate earlier commencement of the anti-vilification reforms in April instead of July 2026
- introducing new powers for Victoria Police at public gatherings
- establishing a rapid review into Victoria's current gun laws
- funding to support Jewish community organisations.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's:

- Advocacy, Human Rights and Victim Support output
- Community Crime Prevention output
- Policing and Community Safety output.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Premier and Cabinet's Social Policy Advice and Intergovernmental Relations output.

Violence Reduction Unit – Local crime prevention solutions

Funding is provided to deliver Violence Reduction Unit programs which will work with local communities and young people to take preventative measures to address the root causes of violent youth crime. These will include:

- delivering Project Restore in Victoria, a globally recognised community-based gang violence intervention program
- supporting the Victoria Police Community Connection Project to connect officers with communities
- providing targeted mental health supports for at-risk young people, with local state-funded providers to address service issues across waitlists, referrals and parent/community engagement
- delivering quality activities and sport for at-risk school-aged children to support their re-engagement with school, with an emphasis on priority schools with significant proportions of students at risk.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Premier and Cabinet's Social Policy Advice and Intergovernmental Relations output.

Youth crime prevention package

Funding is provided to support young people who are at risk of offending and involvement with the justice system through:

- continuing the Youth Crime Prevention Program to prevent youth crime by engaging young people in the community and addressing the key drivers of crime, through intensive case management, mentoring and activity-based programs
- supporting WEstjustice to work with Victoria Police to reduce youth offending through the Youth Crime Prevention and Early Intervention Program, which aims to reduce rates of re-offending among young people by providing for increased early intervention measures including early referrals to legal and social supports.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's:

- Community Crime Prevention output
- Policing and Community Safety output.

Asset initiatives

Table 1.6: Asset initiatives – Community safety (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	TEI
Critical cybercrime and digital forensic storage and software	..	1.8	0.2	0.2	0.2	2.4
Delivering serious consequences and keeping the community safe ^(a)	24.3	13.6	1.0	1.0	1.0	42.0
Increasing PSO capacity and funding for Operation Pulse	..	2.6	..	..	..	2.6
Total asset initiatives	24.3	17.9	1.2	1.2	1.3	47.0

Note:

(a) TEI includes funding beyond 2029-30.

Critical cybercrime and digital forensic storage and software

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Delivering serious consequences and keeping the community safe

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Increasing PSO capacity and funding for Operation Pulse

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT – FIRST PEOPLES

Output initiatives

Table 1.7: Output initiatives – First Peoples (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Aboriginal cultural heritage protection	..	5.7	..	..	..
Advancing Aboriginal self-determination and Closing the Gap	..	2.5	2.6	..	..
Framlingham and Lake Tyers Aboriginal Trusts essential service delivery	..	3.9	3.7	..	..
Implementation and coordination of Yoorrook Justice Commission recommendations	..	5.5	0.5	..	..
Improving outcomes for First Nations learners	..	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Koori Hearing List	..	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
Maintaining investment in Aboriginal community-based justice solutions	..	5.2	2.9	..	..
Rent-To-Buy for First Peoples	..	14.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Social Housing Growth Fund and Affordable Housing Investment Partnerships expansion	19.3	12.6	14.3	18.8	21.0
State land management agency resourcing to support Traditional Owner agreements	..	1.5	1.5	..	..
The Nest – Improving social and emotional wellbeing for Aboriginal children and families	..	2.2	3.6	3.8	3.6
Wathaurong Dreaming Project ^(a)	4.2	12.7	13.7	..	..
Total output initiatives	23.5	68.7	45.7	25.6	27.6

Note:

(a) This initiative contributes to activity that attracts Commonwealth Government funding under the National Health Reform Agreement (NHRA). Estimates of the Commonwealth Government's contribution are included.

Aboriginal cultural heritage protection

Funding is provided to support the protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage, including strengthening regulatory functions and improving the efficiency of cultural heritage processes.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Premier and Cabinet's Traditional Owner Engagement and Cultural Heritage Management Programs output.

Advancing Aboriginal self-determination and Closing the Gap

Funding is provided to support continued expansion of the Community Protecting Boorais program, which allows Aboriginal-led investigation of Child Protection reports. This funding will also support capability and service development support for Aboriginal-led service delivery.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Child Protection and Family Services output.

Framlingham and Lake Tyers Aboriginal Trusts essential service delivery

Funding is provided to support the delivery of municipal and essential services and maintain core operations at the Framlingham and Lake Tyers Aboriginal Trusts, consistent with statutory obligations under the *Aboriginal Lands Act 1970*.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Premier and Cabinet's Self-determination Policy and Reform Advice and Programs output.

Implementation and coordination of Yoorrook Justice Commission recommendations

Funding is provided to support the coordination and begin implementation of recommendations from the Yoorrook Justice Commission's (the Commission) third interim report *Yoorrook for Transformation*. Funding will also support the Government's commitment to the formal truth-telling process and to facilitate the whole of Victorian Government response to the Commission's *Yoorrook for Transformation* report.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Premier and Cabinet's Self-determination Policy and Reform Advice and Programs output.

Improving outcomes for First Nations learners

Funding is provided to continue the First Nations' Curriculum Clusters Project to support the teaching of First Nations' histories, cultures and perspectives in selected schools.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's:

- School Education – Primary output
- School Education – Secondary output.

Koori Hearing List

Funding is provided to establish a dedicated Koori Hearing List at the Melbourne Magistrates' Court to deliver culturally appropriate and timely case management for matters involving First Nations accused, including applications for bail.

This initiative contributes to Court Services Victoria's Courts output.

Maintaining investment in Aboriginal community-based justice solutions

Funding is provided to reduce the over-representation of Aboriginal people in the Victorian justice system and prevent Aboriginal deaths in custody by:

- continuing a pilot that transitions the Aboriginal Justice Community Panels volunteer workforce into paid positions across three regional sites – Shepparton, Mildura and Bendigo
- continuing the Ngarra Jarranounith Place Residential Diversion Program, a residential healing and behaviour change program for Aboriginal men who use, or are at risk of using, family violence.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Justice Policy, Services and Law Reform output.

Rent-To-Buy for First Peoples

Funding is provided to deliver a Rent-To-Buy pilot for First Peoples to support increased home ownership. The program will deliver up to 30 newly constructed affordable rental dwellings for First Peoples participants who will then have the option to purchase the dwelling. The scheme includes supports to assist with saving for a deposit. The program will be delivered by the Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation sector.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Treasury and Finance's Commercial and Infrastructure Advice output.

Social Housing Growth Fund and Affordable Housing Investment Partnerships expansion

Refer to the Department of Treasury and Finance for a description of this initiative.

State land management agency resourcing to support Traditional Owner agreements

Funding is provided to ensure the State continues to meet its legal obligations and accountabilities under the *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010* (the Act) and to support implementation of Recognition and Settlement Agreements under the Act.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Management of Public Land and Forests output.

The Nest – Improving social and emotional wellbeing for Aboriginal children and families

Funding is provided to establish The Nest Aboriginal Family Wellbeing Service Model. The Nest will provide improved social and emotional wellbeing (SEWB) outcomes for Aboriginal children and families through culturally safe Aboriginal early intervention supports. The Nest's health professionals will assist Aboriginal children experiencing developmental, emotional, relational and behavioural challenges, with intensive SEWB support.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Mental Health Community Support Services output.

Wathaurong Dreaming Project

Funding is provided to support the construction of a new, purpose-built facility for the Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative in North Geelong. The project supports co-location and growth of a wide range of First Nations centred health, wellbeing and social services including clinical services, social and emotional wellbeing services, early years and development services, maternal and child health, family, disability and aged care services.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Community Health Care output.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Output initiatives

Table 1.8: Output initiatives – Education (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Additional Supports for Students with Disabilities					
Disability Inclusion in schools	..	265.2	535.9	629.3	706.1
High Intensity Outside School Hours Care (OSHC)	..	0.7	23.4	..	..
Students with disabilities transport program	..	39.0	..	..	..
Early Childhood Sector Supports and Regulation					
Best Start, Best Life Infrastructure	..	..	28.2	133.7	31.2
Early Childhood Intervention Services for non-permanent residents	..	3.2	..	..	..
Essential funding for the Victorian Early Childhood Regulatory Authority	..	7.5	7.2	6.4	5.1
Foundational Supports for people with disability ^(a)	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc
Kindergarten Building Blocks Improvement and Inclusion grants	..	2.5	6.9	0.4	..
Kindergarten Delivery					
Early Childhood Language Program	..	..	3.6	..	..
Kinder Kits	..	3.6	3.7	..	..
Promoting Equal Access to Education					
English as an Additional Language	..	28.5	30.1	1.6	1.7
Our Place partnership and delivering Place-Based Education Plans	..	0.2	1.2	..	..
Supporting families with the cost of education	..	3.5	31.8	16.6	7.5
School Education					
Books in Prep Bags	..	..	1.0	..	..
Continuing Vocational Education and Training (VET) and applied learning in schools	..	10.3	20.0	19.5	19.5
In-demand careers for secondary students	..	26.5	24.5	16.6	7.9
Locally driven education programs	..	0.7	0.8	0.2	..
School enrolment-based funding	41.2	84.4	86.6	88.7	90.9
Supporting best practice teaching and learning	..	8.4	11.0	3.8	0.3
Supports for Schools and Staff					
Data centre exit	0.8	9.3	7.9	..	..
Delivering critical school workforce reforms	..	5.0	10.5	6.0	..
Essential maintenance and compliance	13.8	117.5	130.5	130.5	130.5
Modular Classrooms Program	..	27.9	4.9	5.0	5.2
New schools construction	..	0.2	5.7	10.5	11.4
Rebuilding the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA)	22.1	49.2	48.8	50.0	51.2
Securing school IT	15.2	15.2	..	..	..
Strengthening child safety in schools	..	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership	..	8.2	16.4	16.4	8.2
Wellbeing Supports for Students					
Courage to Care Upstander Program	..	0.3	0.6	..	..
Total output initiatives	93.0	718.9	1 042.9	1 137.3	1 078.8

Note:

(a) Victoria has agreed to jointly fund Foundational Supports with \$2.4 billion over five years. The phasing of funding and the roll-out of Foundational Supports will be determined through bilateral agreements between Victoria and the Commonwealth.

Additional Supports for Students with Disabilities

Disability Inclusion in schools

Funding is provided to sustain Victoria's Disability Inclusion reforms, meeting demand for individualised disability support in government schools. This supports adjustments and assistance for students with disability with high and complex needs.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Additional Supports for Students with Disabilities output.

High Intensity Outside School Hours Care (OSHC)

Funding is provided to continue support for existing OSHC services with high educator-to-child ratios at specialist schools. This includes free High Intensity OSHC at 31 specialist schools.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Additional Supports for Students with Disabilities output.

Students with disabilities transport program

Funding is provided to continue transport assistance for eligible students to travel to government specialist schools. New buses will be purchased to replace older models, and new services will be introduced from the 2027 school year to meet growth in demand.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Additional Supports for Students with Disabilities output.

Early Childhood Sector Supports and Regulation

Best Start, Best Life Infrastructure

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Early Childhood Sector Supports and Regulation.

Early Childhood Intervention Services for non-permanent residents

Funding is provided to continue to deliver early childhood intervention services such as inclusive education and therapy supports for children with disability or developmental delay who are not eligible for the National Disability Insurance Scheme due to their residency status.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Early Childhood Sector Supports and Regulation output.

Essential funding for the Victorian Early Childhood Regulatory Authority

Funding is provided to support the establishment of the new Victorian Early Childhood Regulatory Authority as an independent regulator and to implement the Rapid Child Safety Review recommendations.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Early Childhood Sector Supports and Regulation output.

Foundational Supports for people with disability

Refer to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing for a description of this initiative.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Early Childhood Sector Supports and Regulation output.

Kindergarten Building Blocks Improvement and Inclusion grants

Funding is provided for grants to local government and other eligible providers to improve and upgrade early childhood infrastructure, enhancing the quality and amenity of learning environments.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Early Childhood Sector Supports and Regulation output.

Kindergarten Delivery

Early Childhood Language Program

Funding is provided to continue the Early Childhood Language Program, allowing Four-Year-Old Kindergarten services to offer free, weekly learning programs in multiple languages.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Kindergarten Delivery output.

Kinder Kits

Funding is provided to continue Kinder Kits in 2027, providing every child starting funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten with books, toys and educational materials.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Kindergarten Delivery output.

Promoting Equal Access to Education

English as an Additional Language

Funding is provided to meet demand for the English as an Additional Language program in the 2027 school year. The program supports eligible government school students who do not speak English as their first language at home to become proficient in English, including Australian-born students, newly-arrived migrants and students from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds.

Funding is also provided to meet demand for interpreting and translating services in schools.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Promoting Equal Access to Education output.

Our Place partnership and delivering Place-Based Education Plans

Funding is provided to continue the Shepparton Education Plan which provides student and family engagement and wellbeing services and post-secondary pathways to students at the Greater Shepparton Secondary College.

Funding is also provided to continue the Melbourne Victory School of Football program at John Fawkner College.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Promoting Equal Access to Education output.

Supporting families with the cost of education

Funding is provided for cost of living supports for students and families for the:

- Affordable School Uniforms program which provides free uniforms and other essential school items to students experiencing financial hardship
- expansion to additional government schools of the Glasses for Kids program which provides free vision screening and, if needed, free glasses to participating prep to year 3 students
- School Breakfast Clubs which deliver free and nutritious breakfasts, lunches, snacks and take-home food packs to students in need.

Additional funding is also provided to State Schools' Relief to assist their work with disadvantaged Victorian students and their families.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Promoting Equal Access to Education output.

School Education

Books in Prep Bags

Funding is provided to continue to supply free books in Prep Bags for the 2028 school year to support family engagement with quality literature from an early age and encourage parents and carers to read frequently to their children.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's School Education – Primary output.

Continuing Vocational Education and Training (VET) and applied learning in schools

Funding is provided to continue supports for students to access high-quality vocational and applied learning pathways including:

- VET administration funding for schools to meet the costs associated with growing demand and uptake
- VET cluster coordinators to provide schools with specialised assistance with VET provision
- VET transport funding for rural and regional students.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's School Education – Secondary output.

In-demand careers for secondary students

Funding is provided to continue supports for high-quality career education and work-based learning for secondary students including:

- career advice services and support for early school leavers to engage with education, training or employment pathways
- support for priority cohort students with goal setting and career pathway planning through the pilot program – Enhanced My Career Insights
- targeted local activities including:
 - Vocational Taster Experiences for year 9 and 10 students
 - Skilling the Bay in Geelong
 - the Trade and Tech Fit career expo
 - Student participation in WorldSkills Australia competitions
 - Education Benalla
 - Ourschool alumni networks.
- support for work-based learning opportunities in priority industries
- targeted supports for students enrolled in school-based apprenticeships and traineeships through Head Start
- increased pathways and opportunities for rural and regional students.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education’s:

- School Education – Secondary output
- Promoting Equal Access to Education output.

Locally driven education programs

Funding is provided to support targeted local education initiatives for government school students, including:

- Banksia Gardens Community Services
- Community Languages Victoria
- continuation and expansion of the School Lawyer Program run by Barwon Community Legal Service
- Footscray High School Rowing Program
- Academy Movement Program at Narre Warren South P-12 College
- Farm My School pilot at Bellarine Secondary College.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education’s:

- School Education – Primary output
- School Education – Secondary output.

School enrolment-based funding

Funding is provided to meet student enrolment growth in government and non-government schools.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's:

- School Education – Primary output
- School Education – Secondary output.

Supporting best practice teaching and learning

Funding is provided to support the delivery of curriculum including by:

- maintaining access to centrally produced curriculum supports for teachers through the Arc digital platform
- supporting the implementation of the Year 1 phonics check
- continuing the Abilities Based Learning and Education Support (ABLES) program which supports teachers to assess the learning progress of students with disability
- supporting literacy and numeracy education in primary schools through targeted small group tutoring.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's:

- School Education – Primary output
- School Education – Secondary output
- Supports for Schools and Staff output.

Supports for Schools and Staff

Data centre exit

Funding is provided to migrate IT infrastructure from the existing data centre to the cloud.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

Delivering critical school workforce reforms

Funding is provided for paid placements and placement support for pre-service teachers.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

Essential maintenance and compliance

Funding is provided to government schools for maintenance and compliance programs, including the:

- Planned Maintenance program to address priority defects in school assets
- Make-safe program to assist schools that have sustained damage through an incident or extreme weather event
- Student Resource Package Annual Contracts to support schools to undertake servicing, inspection and testing of key assets.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

Modular Classrooms Program

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

New schools construction

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

Rebuilding the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA)

Funding is provided to enable VCAA to deliver high-quality curriculum, assessment and reporting, and implement the recommendations from the Blacher Review, including delivering new IT infrastructure to support schools, teachers and students.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

Securing school IT

Funding is provided to migrate schools operating their own technology platforms to equivalent centrally provided technology platforms operated by the Department of Education, helping to reduce cybersecurity technology risks.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

Strengthening child safety in schools

Funding is provided to enhance the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority's regulatory capacity.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership

Funding is provided to the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership to continue delivering quality, evidence-informed professional learning that enhances the capability and performance of Victorian teachers and school leaders.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

Wellbeing Supports for Students

Courage to Care Upstander Program

Funding is provided for Courage to Care to deliver the Upstander Program. This program delivers educational sessions and resources that draw on the learnings from the Holocaust and encourage Victorian students to challenge racism and other discriminatory behaviours.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Wellbeing Supports for Students output.

Asset initiatives

Table 1.9: Asset initiatives – Education (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	TEI
Additional Supports for Students with Disabilities						
Accessible Buildings Program	8.0	11.6	9.3	..	..	28.8
Early Childhood Sector Supports and Regulation						
Best Start, Best Life Infrastructure ^(a)	..	13.6	16.6	22.6	181.1	305.2
School Education						
Locally driven education programs	..	0.2	0.1	..	..	0.3
Supports for Schools and Staff						
Capital Works Fund	..	12.7	12.7	..	..	25.4
Land acquisition	..	61.2	23.3	19.5	..	104.0
Modular Classrooms Program	..	173.7	..	..	..	173.7
New schools construction	..	178.1	181.0	28.9	3.7	391.8
Planning for future new schools	..	8.1	13.5	..	..	21.6
Planning for school upgrades	..	1.0	..	..	..	1.0
Rebuilding the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA)	..	0.9	..	..	..	0.9
Replacement of VRQA State Register	..	3.7	..	..	..	3.7
School upgrades ^(a)	..	53.1	116.4	106.4	18.6	294.8
Total asset initiatives	8.0	517.8	372.9	177.4	203.4	1 351.1

Note:

(a) TEI includes funding beyond 2029-30.

Additional Supports for Students with Disabilities

Accessible Buildings Program

Funding is provided to improve access to school facilities for students with disability and additional needs. Facility modifications may include ramps and handrails, alterations to toilet and shower facilities and adjustments for students with vision or hearing impairments.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education’s Additional Supports for Students with Disabilities output.

Early Childhood Sector Supports and Regulation

Best Start, Best Life Infrastructure

Funding is provided to continue delivery of new and expanded early learning infrastructure as part of the Best Start, Best Life initiative to progressively deliver more hours of funded Four-Year-Old Kindergarten, as well as maintenance for government-owned early learning facilities.

This initiative will contribute to building new early learning facilities across the state to open in 2029 and 2030, including new kindergartens on or near government school sites and low-fee non-government school sites, and expanding existing services.

This initiative will also contribute towards building 50 government-owned and operated Early Learning Victoria centres in communities that have the greatest need for more childcare places.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education’s Early Childhood Sector Supports and Regulation output.

School Education

Locally driven education programs

Funding is provided to improve schools’ sporting facilities and equipment to support the delivery of Academy Movement sports programs.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education’s:

- School Education – Primary output
- School Education – Secondary output.

Supports for Schools and Staff

Capital Works Fund

Funding is provided for the Capital Works Fund. The Fund provides an opportunity for schools to seek funding for small scale capital projects that are a priority for their school. This will deliver the following 24 projects and the next round of the Fund.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education’s Support for Schools and Staff output.

Capital Works Fund 2026-27

- Boronia K-12 College
- Briagolong Primary School
- Bundarra Primary School
- Cambridge Primary School
- Cardross Primary School
- Carwatha College P-12
- Diamond Creek East Primary School
- Drysdale Primary School
- Dunkeld Consolidated School
- Essendon Keilor College
- Fountain Gate Primary School
- Heathmont East Primary School
- Hesket Primary School
- Manor Lakes P-12 College
- Mansfield Primary School
- Melbourne High School
- Miners Rest Primary School
- Monbulk College
- Sherbourne Primary School
- Southern Cross Primary School
- Stratford Primary School
- Toolangi Primary School
- Wheelers Hill Secondary College
- Wonga Park Primary School

Land acquisition

Funding is provided to acquire land for future new schools and new campuses of existing schools in various municipalities including Cardinia, Greater Geelong, Melbourne, Hume, Mitchell and Wyndham.

This initiative will be partially funded from the Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

Modular Classrooms Program

Funding is provided to procure modular buildings to relieve pressure at schools that are reaching their capacity and to provide additional functional spaces for learning.

Funding is also provided for the operating costs associated with the Modular Classrooms Program.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

New schools construction

Funding is provided to build the following three new schools to open in 2028:

- Rockbank Toolern Road Primary School (Interim Name)
- Thompsons East Primary School (Interim Name)
- Wollahra Secondary School (Interim Name).

The following new school campus will be built to open in 2029:

- South Melbourne Primary School.

Additional stages of new schools will also be constructed at the following three recently opened schools:

- Homestead Senior Secondary College
- Wulerrp Secondary College
- Yubup Primary School.

Funding is also provided for the operating costs associated with the new schools.

Funding is provided for planning, design and early works of three new schools and campuses to open in 2029 and 2030:

- Arden Secondary School (Interim Name)
- Pattersons Road Secondary School (Interim Name)
- Preston High School (New Campus).

This initiative will be partially funded from the Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

Planning for future new schools

Funding is provided to undertake planning and development activities for future new schools to meet enrolment demand.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

Planning for school upgrades

Funding is provided for planning and developing future capital upgrades at the following four schools:

- Bendigo Senior Secondary College
- Eltham East Primary School
- Glenroy College
- Marlborough Primary School.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

Rebuilding the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA)

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

Replacement of VRQA State Register

Funding is provided to replace the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority's State Register with a modern, integrated regulatory IT platform.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

School upgrades

Funding is provided to 31 schools across Victoria for capital upgrades. This will improve educational outcomes by providing modern classrooms and facilities for learning and community use.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Education's Supports for Schools and Staff output.

School upgrades

- Ararat Primary School
 - Bacchus Marsh College
 - Boroondara Park Primary School
 - Brighton Beach Primary School
 - Cheltenham East Primary School
 - Daylesford Primary School
 - Eaglehawk Primary School
 - Edithvale Primary School
 - Essendon North Primary School
 - Hastings Primary School
 - Keilor Heights Primary School
 - Keysborough Gardens Primary School
 - Kismet Park Primary School
 - Maribyrnong College
 - Maryborough Education Centre
 - Melton Primary School
 - Merri-bek Primary School
 - Moomba Park Primary School
 - Mornington Park Primary School
 - Mount Waverley North Primary School
 - Pakenham Consolidated School
 - Sherbrooke Community School
 - Spensley Street Primary School
 - St Kilda Primary School
 - Stawell Primary School
 - Surfside Primary School
 - Vermont Primary School
 - Wales Street Primary School
 - Warragul North Primary School
 - Warranwood Primary School
 - Yarrawonga College P-12
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION

Output initiatives

Table 1.10: Output initiatives – Energy, Environment and Climate Action (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Agriculture					
Enabling the processing of recreationally harvested wild venison	0.1	0.2	..	..	..
Investment in people in agriculture ^(a)	..	7.4	..	..	..
Managing the impacts of livestock predation – Victorian Fox Bounty	..	2.2	..	..	..
Safeguarding the future of Victoria’s agriculture sector and supporting animal welfare	0.1	16.8	..	..	..
Circular Economy					
Detox Your Home	..	1.9	..	..	..
Climate Action					
Climate action awareness	2.0	..	..	..	..
Energy					
Agricultural sector electrification and emissions reduction	0.1	4.9	..	..	..
Data centres project team	..	1.6	1.6	..	..
Delivering on the Victorian commitment under the Renewable Energy Transformation Agreement ^(b)	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc
Energy Assistance Program	..	1.1	..	..	..
Energy efficiency in community housing	10.0	..	..	..	..
Establishing VicGrid	10.9	..	..	..	..
Food manufacturing sector electrification	10.0	..	..	..	..
Industry energy diversification	10.0	..	..	..	..
Marinus Link oversight	..	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9
Modernising and mainstreaming the Victorian Energy Upgrades Program	..	0.9	..	..	..
National Training Centre in New Energy Skills	10.0	..	..	..	..
State funding commitments to national energy market bodies	..	14.7	..	..	..
Environment and Biodiversity					
Better community facilities	..	1.7	..	..	..
Faster, fit for purpose environmental assessments and approvals for renewable energy and affordable housing	..	2.1	..	..	..
Fire and Emergency Management					
Bushfire prevention	25.6	..	..	..	..
Maintaining critical assets for emergency and land management	..	19.6	..	..	..
Securing critical aviation fire services	..	34.2	35.8	37.5	39.3
Management of Public Land and Forests					
Activating healthy forests	0.1	9.9	..	..	..
Zoos Victoria Kids Go Free	..	15.5	..	..	..

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Resources					
Developing Victoria’s critical minerals industry	..	2.1	..	..	..
Solar Victoria					
Electrification training program	1.7	1.7	1.7	..	..
Solar Homes program – hot water rebates	..	28.1	..	..	..
Water and Catchments					
Murray-Darling Basin Joint Programs	..	6.1	11.6	25.6	..
Restoring flows to the Mallee Floodplain ^(c)	16.0	23.7	..	..	..
Victorian-led Coliban Rural Water Efficiency Project ^{(c)(d)}	..	0.9	0.9	..	..
Victorian Constraints Measures Program ^(c)	0.9	7.9	..	..	..
Victorian Murray Floodplain Restoration Project Stage 2 ^(c)	7.5	5.1	..	..	..
Total output initiatives	104.9	212.0	53.4	64.9	41.2

Notes:

- (a) *This does not include an estimate of Commonwealth Government co-funding for the Rural Financial Counselling Service component of this initiative.*
- (b) *Funding is not reported at this time as commercial arrangements are still to be finalised.*
- (c) *Funding provided by the Commonwealth Government via the Federation Funding Agreement – Environment.*
- (d) *Funding contribution from Coliban Water is not included in this table.*

Agriculture

Enabling the processing of recreationally harvested wild venison

Funding is provided to develop policy and regulation, including exploring a dual-licensed butcher model, to enable the processing of recreationally harvested wild venison in Victoria. This builds on the Sustainable Hunting Action Plan to safely allow for the processing and distribution of wild venison sourced from recreational hunters through commercial butchers.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action’s Agriculture output.

Investment in people in agriculture

Funding is provided to support the health, safety and wellbeing of agricultural communities. This includes funding for the National Centre for Farmer Health, the Rural Women’s Network, and for the first phase of the Bendigo Livestock Exchange roof project.

Funding is also provided for the Rural Financial Counselling Service in partnership with the Commonwealth Government. This will enable the Rural Financial Counselling Service to continue to provide free financial counselling to Victorian farmers, fishers, foresters and related small businesses experiencing or at risk of financial hardship.

Funding is also provided to continue the Drink Victoria program, driving growth in local production through education and marketing, and to support the development of a Victorian Craft Beer and Cider Strategy.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action’s Agriculture output.

Managing the impacts of livestock predation – Victorian Fox Bounty

Funding is provided to extend the Fox Bounty program to help manage the impacts of livestock predation.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Agriculture output.

Safeguarding the future of Victoria's agriculture sector and supporting animal welfare

Funding is provided to continue protecting Victoria's agriculture sector from biosecurity threats. This includes maintaining surveillance and early detection specialist expertise and emergency response capability.

Funding is also provided to enable RSPCA Victoria to continue to deliver essential animal welfare regulatory services on behalf of the Victorian Government, including responding to cruelty and welfare complaints, caring for and rehabilitating animals seized or surrendered and delivering community outreach activities. Funding is also provided to a number of volunteer animal welfare organisations delivering animal care and rehabilitation.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Agriculture output.

Circular Economy

Detox Your Home

Funding is provided to continue the Household Chemical Collection Program for safe disposal of household hazardous chemicals and hard-to-recycle products.

This initiative will be funded from the Sustainability Fund (subject to an eligibility assessment).

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Circular Economy output.

Climate Action

Climate action awareness

Funding is provided to assist community organisations in promoting awareness and educating Victorians on climate action.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Climate Action output.

Energy

Agricultural sector electrification and emissions reduction

Funding is provided to deliver on-farm activities relating to climate and energy to support lower energy costs and emissions reductions, including providing incentives for farmers to undertake electrification and energy efficiency activities on farm.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's:

- Agriculture output
- Energy output.

Data centres project team

Funding is provided to design and implement a framework for data centre investment and risk management to ensure energy security and reliability as well as to minimise the impacts on energy prices for households and businesses.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Energy output.

Delivering on the Victorian commitment under the Renewable Energy Transformation Agreement

Funding is provided to support Victoria's commitment under the bilateral Renewable Energy Transformation Agreement with the Commonwealth Government and support renewable energy generation.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Energy output.

Energy Assistance Program

Funding is provided to extend the Energy Assistance Program, a one-on-one service that supports vulnerable and hard-to-reach consumers to maximise their energy bill savings.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Energy output.

Energy efficiency in community housing

Funding is provided to support action on energy efficiency by the community housing sector, including direct funding for electrification upgrades and dedicated support to assess community housing retrofit viability to meet Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Energy output.

Establishing VicGrid

Funding is provided to finalise the establishment of VicGrid as Victoria's transmission planner and to support transmission project delivery.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Energy output.

Food manufacturing sector electrification

Funding is provided for electrification of the food manufacturing sector, enabling round three of the Energy Innovation Fund aimed at supporting industrial electrification with a focus on food processing and manufacturing.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Energy output.

Industry energy diversification

Funding is provided to deliver an industry program that helps businesses in the gas appliance manufacturing supply chain to diversify and to support an expansion of the local electric appliance supply chain.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Energy output.

Marinus Link oversight

Funding is provided to oversee the State's interest in the Marinus Link interconnector between the Victorian and Tasmanian electricity networks.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Energy output.

Modernising and mainstreaming the Victorian Energy Upgrades Program

Funding is provided to continue the implementation of the Victorian Energy Upgrades Strategic Review reforms that will deliver a modernised Victorian Energy Upgrades program. These reforms will ensure the program continues to align with key government objectives including electrification, energy affordability, emissions reduction targets, and reliability.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Energy output.

National Training Centre in New Energy Skills

Funding is provided for Victoria's contribution to the Commonwealth co-funded National Training Centre in New Energy Skills. The centre will upskill workers for the renewable energy transition in partnership with the Plumbing Industry Climate Action Centre.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Energy output.

State funding commitments to national energy market bodies

Funding is provided to contribute towards national energy market bodies, including the Australian Energy Market Commission and the Energy and Climate Change Ministerial Council, to meet Victoria's ongoing obligations to national energy market reforms.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Energy output.

Environment and Biodiversity

Better community facilities

Funding is provided to improve outdoor spaces and facilities for Victorian communities.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Environment and Biodiversity output.

Faster, fit for purpose environmental assessments and approvals for renewable energy and affordable housing

Funding is provided to enable timely and fit for purpose environmental impact assessments and advice to support renewable energy and affordable housing projects. This initiative will support the development of critical infrastructure for Victoria's energy transition and housing delivery.

This initiative will be funded from the Sustainability Fund (subject to an eligibility assessment).

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Environment and Biodiversity output.

Fire and Emergency Management

Bushfire prevention

Funding is provided to complete additional planned burns and other fuel management activities across autumn 2026. Locations will be guided by the Joint Fuel Management Program, prioritising high-risk areas.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Fire and Emergency Management output.

Maintaining critical assets for emergency and land management

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Securing critical aviation fire services

Funding is provided for firefighting aviation resources to support the State's firefighting capability for the upcoming and future bushfire seasons.

Victoria's aviation program includes a fleet of specialised aircraft, airbases, a highly skilled workforce, technology and other enabling resources to enable a rapid response to emergency events.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Fire and Emergency Management output.

Management of Public Land and Forests

Activating healthy forests

Funding is provided to continue the Future Forests program to assist in the management of over 1.8 million hectares of state forest where timber harvesting no longer occurs due to the transition out of native timber harvesting. This includes funding for:

- continued work to regenerate former logging coupes to their natural forested state, including eucalypt seed collection
- ecosystem data and modelling, which underpins forest and fire management planning on public land
- forest management monitoring and reporting
- on-ground targeted surveys of biodiversity and threatened species
- research to inform bushfire preparedness activities
- supporting wildlife rescue organisations.

These components will be funded from the Sustainability Fund (subject to an eligibility assessment).

In addition, funding is provided to assess Forest Produce Licence applications. These license small-scale, sustainable use of state forests and enable forest produce-based industries such as eucalyptus oil and niche specialty timber use.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's:

- Environment and Biodiversity output
- Management of Public Land and Forests output.

Zoos Victoria Kids Go Free

Funding is provided to continue to provide children under 16 years of age free admission to Melbourne Zoo, Healesville Sanctuary, Kyabram Fauna Park and Werribee Open Range Zoo on weekends, public holidays and during school holidays.

This initiative will be funded from the Parks and Reserves Trust Account.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Management of Public Land and Forests output.

Resources

Developing Victoria's critical minerals industry

Funding is provided to continue initiatives to develop the critical minerals industry in Victoria including implementing actions under the Critical Minerals Roadmap to unlock Victoria's critical mineral resources, strengthen domestic manufacturing and support the global net-zero energy transition.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Resources output.

Solar Victoria

Electrification training program

Funding is provided for Solar Victoria to extend the electrification training program for plumbers and other tradespeople over three years.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Solar Victoria output.

Solar Homes program – hot water rebates

Funding is provided to extend the Solar Victoria hot water rebate program to enable more eligible households to install energy efficient electric heat pumps and solar hot water systems in their homes.

This initiative will be funded from the Sustainability Fund (subject to an eligibility assessment).

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Solar Victoria output.

Water and Catchments

Murray-Darling Basin Joint Programs

Funding is provided for an additional contribution from Victoria to Joint Programs for the River Murray catchment area that are administered by the Murray–Darling Basin Authority and funded proportionally by all Basin jurisdictions in accordance with their share of water resources. The additional contribution supports critical asset maintenance and renewal of water infrastructure assets upon which northern Victorian communities and the River Murray depend.

This initiative will be funded from the Environmental Contribution Levy.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Water and Catchments output.

Restoring flows to the Mallee Floodplain

Funding is provided by the Commonwealth Government through the *Federation Funding Agreement – Environment* to complete the Restoring Flows to the Mallee Floodplain program. The program will upgrade existing environmental watering sites to efficiently return wet and dry cycles to 16 of the region's most ecologically and culturally significant wetlands and floodplains from Bridge Creek near Swan Hill to Scotties Billabong close to the South Australian border. This will enable Basin Plan environmental outcomes to be achieved with less water recovery.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Water and Catchments output.

Victorian-led Coliban Rural Water Efficiency Project

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Victorian Constraints Measures Program

Funding is provided by the Commonwealth Government through the *Federation Funding Agreement – Environment* to investigate the cost-benefits and broader merits of the Victorian Constraints Measures Program Stage 1B and to undertake a small, localised construction activity at Ryans Lagoon in North-East Victoria.

The project brings together a coordinated package of technical investigations, Traditional Owner engagement, planning, governance and targeted infrastructure delivery designed to enhance capacity to deliver environmental water to high-value floodplain and wetland sites and inform future investment decisions at both the State and Commonwealth level.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Water and Catchments output.

Victorian Murray Floodplain Restoration Project Stage 2

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Asset initiatives

Table 1.11: Asset initiatives – Energy, Environment and Climate Action (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	TEI
Energy						
Establishing VicGrid	15.8	..	..	..	..	15.8
Fire and Emergency Management						
Maintaining critical assets for emergency and land management	..	24.9	..	..	..	24.9
Management of Public Land and Forests						
Critical asset renewals within the Great Ocean Road coast and parks	..	7.9	..	..	..	7.9
Improving water quality in our alpine resorts	0.2	5.0	0.6	..	..	5.7
Water and Catchments						
Victorian-led Coliban Rural Water Efficiency Project ^{(a)(b)}	45.0	39.1	34.1	..	..	118.3
Victorian Murray Floodplain Restoration Project Stage 2 ^(a)	73.9	14.0	..	..	..	87.9
Total asset initiatives	134.8	90.9	34.7	..	..	260.4

Notes:

(a) Funding provided by the Commonwealth Government via the Federation Funding Agreement – Environment.

(b) Funding contribution from Coliban Water is not included in this table.

Energy

Establishing VicGrid

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Fire and Emergency Management

Maintaining critical assets for emergency and land management

Funding is provided to replace and operationalise critical fire and emergency vehicle fleet to support Forest Fire Management Victoria’s preventative bushfire service and rapid response to emergency events.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action’s Fire and Emergency Management output.

Management of Public Land and Forests

Critical asset renewals within the Great Ocean Road coast and parks

Funding is provided to the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority for critical asset renewal works. This includes works for the Cape Otway Lightstation heritage restoration, asset renewal within the Twelve Apostles Precinct and other asset maintenance and upgrades within the Great Ocean Road coast and parks area.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Management of Public Land and Forests output.

Improving water quality in our alpine resorts

Funding is provided to invest in the upgrade of assets controlled by Alpine Resorts Victoria to improve water quality in alpine resorts at Mount Buller, Falls Creek and Mount Hotham.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Management of Public Land and Forests output.

Water and Catchments

Victorian-led Coliban Rural Water Efficiency Project

Funding is provided by the Commonwealth Government through the *Federation Funding Agreement – Environment* to jointly fund the Victorian-led Coliban Rural Water Efficiency Project. The Project, led by Coliban Water, will replace and upgrade the unmodernised sections of the Coliban rural supply system around Bendigo. This will improve efficiency, reduce water losses, secure supply, and support the long-term sustainability of rural water services.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Water and Catchments output.

Victorian Murray Floodplain Restoration Project Stage 2

Funding is provided by the Commonwealth Government through the *Federation Funding Agreement – Environment* to complete the Victorian Murray Floodplain Restoration Project Stage 2. This project will provide much needed water onto high value floodplains along the Murray River using infrastructure such as regulators, pumps and culverts to provide environmental water deep into the floodplain and efficiently return wet and dry cycles. This will deliver offsets to Basin Plan water recovery and leave more water in the system for regional communities.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Water and Catchments output.

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILIES, FAIRNESS AND HOUSING

Output initiatives

Table 1.12: Output initiatives – Families, Fairness and Housing (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Child Protection and Family Services					
Communities and families information technology transformation program	..	5.1	8.1	2.6	4.5
Delivering child protection and care services	4.5	273.1	1.8	0.7	0.7
Improving child safety by supporting an effective worker screening service	..	16.8	..	..	..
Responding to increasing cost-of-living pressures for Victorian carers	..	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.9
Strong Families, Safe Children: Restoring families	..	84.7	80.0	..	..
Community Participation					
Strengthening food security across Victoria	2.7	8.5	..	..	..
Concessions to Pensioners and Beneficiaries					
State Trustees	..	8.9	8.9	..	..
Disability Programs and Services					
Continued support for Victorians with disability	..	26.3	15.2	..	..
Foundational Supports for people with disability ^(a)	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc
Family Violence Service Delivery					
Central Information Point	..	11.5	11.7	..	..
Family violence response	..	36.9	37.5	..	..
Responding to sexual violence	..	1.1	1.1	..	..
Housing Assistance					
Continuing investment in a thriving North Richmond	..	1.0	1.0	..	..
Continuing supportive housing for rough sleepers using a Housing First model	..	6.1	9.0	..	..
Making homelessness rare and non-recurring	..	6.2	6.4	6.5	6.7
Support for renters to maintain tenancies	..	3.0	3.1	..	..
LGBTIQ+ Equality Policy and Programs					
LGBTIQ+ Strategy – A Safe and Proud Victoria	..	3.2	3.3	..	..
Support to Veterans in Victoria					
Building connections for veterans	..	1.2	..	..	..
Women's Policy					
Supporting women and girls	..	0.2	..	..	..
Total output initiatives	7.2	497.6	190.8	13.6	15.7

Note:

(a) Victoria has agreed to jointly fund Foundational Supports with \$2.4 billion over five years. The phasing of funding and the roll-out of Foundational Supports will be determined through bilateral agreements between Victoria and the Commonwealth.

Child Protection and Family Services

Communities and families information technology transformation program

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Delivering child protection and care services

Funding is provided to deliver improved services within the statutory child protection and care services systems including:

- continuing to respond to the need for residential care placements to support children and young people
- continuing the Child Protection Family Law program, as part of Victoria's commitment to the Family Violence National Framework
- fire safety upgrades for homes for children with complex disability support needs.

Funding is also provided to manage and settle claims for compensation relating to abuse suffered by children while in the care of the State.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's:

- Child Protection and Family Services output
- Family Violence Service Delivery output.

Improving child safety by supporting an effective worker screening service

Funding is provided to continue worker screening checks, including working with children and NDIS screening checks.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Child Protection and Family Services output.

Responding to increasing cost-of-living pressures for Victorian carers

Funding is provided to deliver cost of living relief to foster carers, kinship carers, and permanent carers looking after vulnerable children and young people, by indexing care allowances to align with the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Child Protection and Family Services output.

Strong Families, Safe Children: Restoring Families

Funding is provided to continue Restoring Families intensive family support services, to allow at-risk children to safely remain at home and prevent entry into more acute and statutory child protection services, through a range of early interventions, including:

- the Family Preservation and Reunification program
- the Community Connectors program
- supporting children at risk of engagement in the justice system.

Funding is also provided to continue the Outcomes, Practice and Evidence Network and to provide support for Victorians who were in institutional care as children prior to 1990.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Child Protection and Family Services output.

Community Participation

Strengthening food security across Victoria

Funding is provided for food relief to people in need by increasing support for the Community Food Security program, Foodbank Victoria and regional foodshares to support local food relief initiatives. Funding is also provided to meet food security system and infrastructure gaps to improve access to food relief across the state.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Community Participation output.

Concessions to Pensioners and Beneficiaries

State Trustees

Funding is provided for State Trustees to continue essential financial administration services for Victorians with disability, illness or injury, consistent with the *Guardianship and Administration Act 2019*.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Concessions to Pensioners and Beneficiaries output.

Disability Programs and Services

Continued support for Victorians with disability

Funding is provided to maintain critical supports for people with disability, including:

- the Victorian Disability Advocacy Program
- autism assessments grants
- family services support for vulnerable children with disability and their families
- support services for Victorians with disability who are ineligible to receive services from the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) due to their residency status
- the Disability Liaison Officers Program in Health Services.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's:

- Disability Programs and Services output
- Child Protection and Family Services output.

Foundational Supports for people with disability

Consistent with commitments under the National Agreement on Foundational Supports, Victoria has agreed to jointly fund Foundational Supports, with \$2.4 billion over five years. This includes funding for Thriving Kids to support children aged 0-8 years with developmental delay and/or autism with low to moderate support needs, and their families and carers. The phasing of funding and the roll-out of further components of Foundational Supports will be determined through bilateral agreements between Victoria and the Commonwealth.

This initiative contributes to the:

- Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Disability Programs and Services output
- Department of Education's Early Childhood Sector Supports and Regulation output.

Family Violence Service Delivery

Central Information Point

Funding is provided to continue the statewide Central Information Point, a multi-agency service that collates and shares relevant information about the risk of harm posed by perpetrators of family violence to inform family violence risk assessment and management.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Family Violence Service Delivery output.

Family violence response

Funding is provided to continue safe and secure accommodation for victim survivors and their families including:

- operation of core and cluster refuges and short-term supported crisis accommodation
- continuation and statewide expansion of the Personal Safety Initiative responses and security upgrades to support victim survivors to remain safely in their own homes
- specialist supports including case management for victim survivors
- therapeutic interventions for children and young people
- emergency crisis support packages and flexible support packages for victim survivors.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Family Violence Service Delivery output.

Responding to sexual violence

Funding is provided to support Sexual Assault Services Victoria to continue sector leadership and workforce development.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Family Violence Service Delivery output.

Housing Assistance

Continuing investment in a thriving North Richmond

This initiative will sustain the whole of government place-based responses in the North Richmond public housing estate to improve service access, boost economic participation, enhance public amenity and infrastructure, and improve safety.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Housing Assistance output.

Continuing supportive housing for rough sleepers using a Housing First model

Funding is provided to maintain critical service delivery operations at five supportive housing sites across Victoria, which provide accommodation and wrap-around supports to enable people to exit homelessness.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Housing Assistance output.

Making homelessness rare and non-recurring

Funding is provided for critical homelessness services to tackle rough sleeping and help people escape the cycle of homelessness through:

- expansion of assertive outreach services, to proactively engage with people sleeping rough and give them practical assistance by connecting them to housing support
- additional emergency accommodation to rapidly accommodate people sleeping rough as part of a coordinated engagement approach.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Housing Assistance output.

Support for renters to maintain tenancies

Funding is provided to expand the Tenancy Plus program, which provides support for social housing renters who are at risk of losing their homes and becoming homeless. Funding will also support First Peoples social housing tenants.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Housing Assistance output.

LGBTIQA+ Equality Policy and Programs

LGBTIQA+ Strategy – A Safe and Proud Victoria

Funding is provided to continue a range of initiatives aimed at strengthening the health, wellbeing, and community connectedness of LGBTIQA+ Victorians, including:

- continuing the QHub program to support young people and their families in western Victoria's LGBTIQA+ communities with place-based mental health and wellbeing support services
- continuing the Trans and Gender Diverse Peer Support Program providing mental health support and peer-led services
- Victoria's Pride events and the Regional Activation Programs to deliver meaningful, safe events.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's LGBTIQA+ Equality Policy Programs.

Support to Veterans in Victoria

Building connections for veterans

Funding is provided to continue the Veterans Capital Works Program enabling ex-service organisations to maintain facilities that are safe, accessible and fit-for-purpose for veterans and their families. Funding is also provided to continue the Recognition of Prior Learning program, supporting job-seeking veterans to obtain qualifications.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Support to Veterans in Victoria output.

Women's Policy

Supporting women and girls

Funding is provided to improve outcomes for Victorian women and address gender equality gaps, including continuing the Joan Kirner Leadership Program, which promotes the participation, leadership and recognition of women.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's Women's Policy output.

Asset initiatives

Table 1.13: Asset initiatives – Families, Fairness and Housing (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	TEI
Child Protection and Family Services						
Communities and families information technology transformation program	..	14.2	52.7	39.0	..	105.9
Delivering on Rapid Child Safety Review recommendations	..	2.5	2.6	..	..	5.1
Disability Programs and Services						
Specialist Disability Accommodation Replacement Program	..	4.3	5.8	6.8	1.7	18.7
Total asset initiatives	..	21.0	61.1	45.8	1.7	129.7

Child Protection and Family Services

Communities and families information technology transformation program

Funding is provided to begin a phased modernisation of the digital systems that support services for at-risk children, young people and families. The initial phase funded in this budget will replace the Integrated Reports and Information System, establish the technology foundations needed to strengthen core case-management functions, and design the future case management system for child protection cases.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing’s Child Protection and Family Services output.

Delivering on Rapid Child Safety Review recommendations

Funding is provided to support child safety through improvements to the collection and management of data relating to reportable conduct under the Reportable Conduct Scheme.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing’s Child Protection and Family Services output.

Disability Programs and Services

Specialist Disability Accommodation Replacement Program

Funding is provided for the construction of new and replacement Specialist Disability Accommodation homes for residents across Victoria. This will allow residents living in unsuitable homes to relocate to newly built, fit-for-purpose dwellings.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing’s Disability Programs and Services output.

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Output initiatives

Table 1.14: Output initiatives – Government Services (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Customer Services to the Community					
Expanding place-based legal, financial and personal advice services for vulnerable Victorians	..	0.6	1.8	..	..
Expansion of financial counselling services	..	2.7	..	..	..
Investing in Victoria’s digital future	..	5.0	..	..	..
Maintaining Birth, Deaths and Marriages Victoria	..	10.3	9.7	..	..
Local Government					
Minimising insecure work in the local government sector	..	5.4	..	..	..
Regulation of the Victorian Consumer Marketplace					
Delivery of the Fair Fuel Plan	0.9	4.1	..	..	..
Supporting community sector jobs	0.4	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.3
Services to Government					
Providing corporate transportation services	..	2.4	..	..	..
Total output initiatives	1.3	31.2	12.3	1.1	1.3

Customer Services to the Community

Expanding place-based legal, financial and personal advice services for vulnerable Victorians

Funding is provided for the geographical expansion of place-based community information and support services to support Victorians experiencing personal and financial hardship.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Government Services’ Customer Services to the Community output.

Expansion of financial counselling services

Funding is provided for additional front-line financial counsellors to address geographical expansion of service delivery in line with population growth.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Government Services’ Customer Services to the Community output.

Investing in Victoria’s digital future

Funding is provided for Service Victoria to deliver new products and services, making it easier for people to transact with government and access the support they need.

Funding is also provided for the Department of Government Services to ensure that the public service can safely harness emerging technology trends through the establishment of an AI Advisory Committee.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Government Services’:

- Customer Services to the Community output
- Government Services Strategy and Digital Transformation output.

Maintaining Birth, Deaths and Marriages Victoria

Funding is provided for the Victorian registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages to continue the registration of life events.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Government Services' Customer Services to the Community output.

Local Government

Minimising insecure work in the local government sector

Funding is provided to implement a Local Government Fair Jobs Code and create a new regulatory body within the Department of Government Services that will monitor compliance with the code.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Government Services' Local Government output.

Regulation of the Victorian Consumer Marketplace

Delivery of the Fair Fuel Plan

Funding is provided to enhance and maintain the 'Servo Saver' feature on the Service Victoria app, improving the availability and accuracy of petrol station information for Victorian consumers. This will support users to compare fuel prices and identify stations that meet their needs, including diesel availability and 24-hour access, improving convenience, transparency and the overall user experience. Funding is also provided for a Fair Fuel Taskforce to ensure the Fair Fuel laws are enforced and operate effectively to support Victorians.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Government Services' Regulation of the Victorian Consumer Marketplace output.

Supporting community sector jobs

Refer to Department of Justice and Community Safety for a description of this initiative.

Services to Government

Providing corporate transportation services

Funding is provided to continue corporate transportation services to eligible passengers.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Government Service's Services to Government output.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Output initiatives

Table 1.15: Output initiatives – Health

(\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Admitted Services					
Additional paediatric planned surgery and specialist care ^(a)	..	17.0	22.0	30.1	40.2
Better outcomes through early endoscopy detection	..	7.2	9.8	..	..
Collaborative care through Local Health Service Networks	..	11.7	12.1	12.4	12.8
Improving life-saving organ and tissue donation rates	..	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.3
Meeting the need for life-saving blood products	..	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.4
More support for Victorian patients ^(a)	..	394.4	404.2	414.4	424.7
Public fertility care services for more Victorian families ^(a)	..	21.4	22.0	..	..
Safe births for every Victorian woman and baby ^(a)	..	48.1	62.6	64.1	65.7
Safer digital healthcare program 2026-27	..	20.8	..	..	..
Strengthening access to life-preserving dialysis ^(a)	..	8.7	6.4	2.7	2.8
Supporting older patients who do not have decision-making capacity	..	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3
Aged and Home Care					
Strengthening public sector residential aged care services	..	35.7	..	..	..
Strengthening medication administration in non-government residential aged care services	..	2.8	4.0	4.1	4.2
Victorian Aids and Equipment Program	..	5.0	..	..	..
Ambulance Services					
More accurate triaging and ambulance dispatch	..	4.9	4.8	..	..
Preserving emergency ambulance availability	..	20.2	20.7	..	..
Community Health Care					
Community-based chronic disease program	..	4.3	5.5	5.6	5.8
Preventative health support for Victorian women	..	9.8	0.6	..	..
Urgent care in the community	..	10.0	..	..	..
Dental Services					
Public dental in community hospitals	..	2.5	2.6	..	..
Drug Services					
Alcohol and other drug community support services	..	14.9	16.8	..	..
Footscray Hub	..	0.6	..	..	..
Public intoxication services	..	28.5	23.8	..	..
Victorian Pill Testing Service	..	5.4	4.2	..	..
Emergency Services					
Opening and operating hospital facilities ^(a)	7.2	63.5	71.5	73.4	68.9
Health Workforce Training and Development					
Strengthening health workforce sustainability ^(a)	..	28.7	2.6	..	..
Home and Community Care Program for Younger People					
Supports for people with disability outside of the NDIS	..	22.5	..	..	..
Maternal and Child Health and Early Parenting Services					
Victorian Early Parenting Centre service network	..	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Mental Health Clinical Care					
Expanding mental health Hospital in the Home ^(a)	..	13.3	16.4	..	..
Expanding Thomas Embling Hospital ^(a)	..	9.6	36.3	39.1	40.1
Mental Health Tribunal	..	3.5	..	..	..
Strengthening mental health workforce sustainability ^(a)	..	11.6	17.6	9.2	6.5
Supporting groups disproportionately impacted by suicide	..	5.4	1.1	..	..
Mental Health Community Support Services					
Improving Victoria's mental health crisis response services	..	2.7	2.8	..	..
Mental health and wellbeing care in the community ^(a)	..	9.8	0.2	..	..
Mental Health and Wellbeing Hubs	..	4.9	..	..	..
Mental health support for diverse and marginalised communities	..	0.7	0.1	..	..
Non-Admitted Services					
Care and support for people born with variations in sex characteristics	..	0.2	1.5	2.0	1.8
Hospital care for older people at residential aged care facilities	..	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4
Improving care closer to home	..	67.4	65.9	..	..
Strengthening palliative care for Victorians ^(a)	..	10.3	6.5	6.6	6.8
Public Health					
Health emergency management capability	..	2.1	1.8	1.6	1.6
Investing in cancer care, research and outcomes	..	5.0	5.3	..	..
Protecting the health of priority populations ^(a)	..	6.4	..	..	..
Reducing and eliminating blood-borne viruses and sexually transmitted infections	..	0.8	0.8	..	..
Responding to public health threats	..	0.5	0.5	..	..
Vaccines for Victorians	..	7.8	1.2	..	..
Victoria's frontline public health system	..	34.5	..	..	..
Total output initiatives	7.2	1 000.4	869.6	681.0	697.9

Note:

(a) These initiatives contribute to activity that attracts Commonwealth Government funding under the National Health Reform Agreement (NHRA). Estimates of the Commonwealth Government's contribution are included.

Admitted Services

Additional paediatric planned surgery and specialist care

Funding is provided to improve paediatric planned surgery and paediatric specialist appointment access and outcomes. This will include continued support for VicKey to strengthen waitlist management and improve communication with patients, allowing clinicians to focus more on patient care.

Funding will also enable the establishment of the Specialist Advice Now service to provide timely specialist support to GPs to reduce the need for referrals and long waiting periods.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's:

- Admitted Services output
- Non-Admitted Services output.

Better outcomes through early endoscopy detection

Funding is provided to accelerate detection of conditions and improve clinical outcomes through greater access to endoscopies. This will be enabled by more equipment and Endoscopy Access Teams that will also boost productivity and improve the management of wait lists.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Admitted Services output.

Collaborative care through Local Health Service Networks

Funding is provided to support collaborative care in communities, more equitable access to service delivery, increased consistency of quality and safety of care, and improved workforce pathways.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Admitted Services output.

Improving life-saving organ and tissue donation rates

Funding is provided to strengthen the organ donation and transplantation system by expanding the Victorian organ retrieval workforce and investing in new technology. This will help Victorians access transplants earlier, improving their health and reducing the need for costly dialysis treatment.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Admitted Services output.

Meeting the need for life-saving blood products

Funding is provided for Victoria's contribution to the National Blood Agreement, ensuring hospitals will have the required blood and blood products available to treat patients.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Admitted Services output.

More support for Victorian patients

Funding is provided to support staffing, medicines, and all the other resources required to continue to provide high-quality healthcare to Victorians, allowing Victoria's health services to meet increasing demand.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's:

- Admitted Services output
- Non-Admitted Services output
- Ambulance Services output
- Small Rural Services output.

Public fertility care services for more Victorian families

Funding is provided to continue public fertility care services and the public egg and sperm bank. This initiative will ensure more Victorians can access free, world-class public fertility services to start or grow their family.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's:

- Admitted Services output
- Non-admitted Services output.

Safe births for every Victorian woman and baby

Funding is provided for critical support and to expand maternity service delivery in the west metropolitan area. Support will include:

- 32 new post-natal beds
- nine new special care nursery cots and 1 500 extra sonography appointments each year at Joan Kirner Women's and Children's hospital
- collaboration arrangements across eight partnering health services to support continuity of care and manage demand.

Funding for the appointment of a Chief Midwife is also provided to bring dedicated, statewide clinical leadership to maternity and newborn services.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's:

- Admitted Services output
- Non-Admitted Services output.

Safer digital healthcare program 2026-27

Funding is provided to maintain strong cyber security measures for Victorian public health services and Ambulance Victoria. This allows ongoing security monitoring and recovery capability in the event of a cyber incident. Funding is also provided to refresh critical network infrastructure that supports essential patient services such as pathology, imaging, and patient management systems.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Admitted Services output.

Strengthening access to life-preserving dialysis

Funding is provided to deliver more home-based dialysis to patients across Victoria where it is clinically suitable. Funding is also provided to deliver more hospital-based dialysis at Cranbourne Community Hospital.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's:

- Admitted Services output
- Non-Admitted Services output.

Supporting older patients who do not have decision-making capacity

Funding is provided to support older patients in hospitals who do not have decision-making capacity and have no family or legal guardian to act on their behalf. This will include providing guardians from the Office of the Public Advocate, appointed by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal, with the power to make decisions for the patient. This function will also support the timely discharge of older patients to improve hospital ward patient flow.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Admitted Services output.

Aged and Home Care

Strengthening public sector residential aged care services

Funding is provided to public sector residential aged care services to continue delivering high-quality care and assist in meeting nurse-to-resident ratios.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Aged and Home Care output.

Strengthening medication administration in non-government residential aged care services

Funding is provided for grants to support and grow the nursing workforce in non-government residential aged care services to meet new medication administration requirements under the *Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981* in Victoria.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Aged and Home Care output.

Victorian Aids and Equipment Program

Funding is provided to support the aids and equipment needs of Victorians, including older people and those with permanent or long-term disability who are ineligible for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) due to their age, residency status or functional impairment level.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Aged and Home Care output.

Ambulance Services

More accurate triaging and ambulance dispatch

Funding is provided to improve call-taking, triaging and assessment processes to better align the allocation of ambulance transports to clinical need, ensuring ambulances respond to the most time critical emergencies.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Ambulance Services output.

Preserving emergency ambulance availability

Funding is provided to support paramedics to deliver timely, appropriate care by connecting patients with the most suitable health services and reducing avoidable pressure on emergency departments.

This includes sustaining the Ambulance Victoria secondary triage service to support patients with low to medium acuity conditions to access alternative care pathways, and maintaining dedicated staff to assist frequent Triple Zero (000) callers to connect with services that better meet their needs.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Ambulance Services output.

Community Health Care

Community-based chronic disease program

Funding is provided to deliver additional hours of care for more than 4 500 people living with a chronic disease through registered community health services. The program will help clients navigate the health system, improve their health literacy and engagement, and refer them to services and programs to manage their condition in the community.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention and Investment Framework.

Funding is also provided to continue preventing chronic disease through the Healthy Loddon Campaspe program, with a focus on healthy eating and keeping people active.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's:

- Community Health Care output
- Public Health output.

Preventative health support for Victorian women

Funding is provided to support peer-led sexual health and wellbeing services for sex workers and 12 women's health organisations across Victoria to provide preventive health promotion and education to Victorian women, with a particular focus on sexual and reproductive health, cervical cancer screening and chronic illness.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Community Health Care output.

Urgent care in the community

Funding is provided to maintain nine Urgent Care Clinics to treat patients who require urgent, non-emergency care.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Community Health Care output.

Dental Services

Public dental in community hospitals

Funding is provided to maintain access to public dental services in Mernda by continuing delivery dental chairs and critical staff at the Mernda Community Hospital. This funding will support access to services including check-ups, fillings and tooth extraction.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Dental Services output.

Drug Services

Alcohol and other drug community support services

Funding is provided to continue to mitigate harms related to alcohol and other drugs across Victoria. This includes the Aboriginal Metropolitan Ice Partnerships program, measures to address pharmacotherapy service gaps, the provision of take-home Naloxone, continuing services at the Melbourne Drug Court, and supporting First Step to provide mental health and addiction support services.

Additional support will be provided to reduce drug harms through the delivery of a low-dose methadone trial, and initiatives to support the continued implementation of the Statewide Action Plan and the Victorian Alcohol and Other Drug Strategy.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Drug Services output.

Footscray Hub

Funding is provided to continue the community hub in central Footscray, in partnership with the Salvation Army. The Hub provides place-based multidisciplinary harm reduction and outreach supports to address increasing drug harms and demand for health and social services.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Drug Services output.

Public intoxication services

Funding is provided to continue a health-led response to the decriminalisation of public intoxication and deliver improved outcomes to vulnerable Victorians. This includes the continuation of the general outreach and sobering service response in metropolitan Melbourne, First Nations-led outreach and places of safety in both Melbourne and regional Victoria, centralised coordination and rapid dispatch support.

To help ensure the effectiveness of these programs, funding will also support the continuation of the Implementation Monitoring and Oversight Group to advise on culturally-responsive public intoxication reform and implementation support across Victoria.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Drug Services output.

Victorian Pill Testing Service

Funding is provided to continue the Victorian Pill Testing Service (VPTS) through both a strengthened fixed-site service and at festivals, following Victoria's successful drug-checking trial. Funding will also ensure early warning systems are in place to support the identification and dissemination of public information about potent synthetic opioids and other drug threats.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Drug Services output.

Emergency Services

Opening and operating hospital facilities

Funding is provided to open the new emergency department at Werribee Mercy Hospital, the Angliss Hospital expansion, Pakenham Community Hospital and to operationalise the new positron emission tomography (PET) scanner at Goulburn Valley Health. This also includes early preparation work for the opening of the new Melton Hospital.

Funding will improve performance at the expanded University Hospital Geelong paediatric emergency department, and community hospitals in Craigieburn, Cranbourne, and Mernda.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's:

- Emergency services output
- Admitted Services output.

Health Workforce Training and Development

Strengthening health workforce sustainability

Funding is provided to support Victoria's health workforce through additional graduate nurse and midwifery positions, the Aboriginal cadetship and scholarship program, and the Speech Pathology and Occupational Therapy Student Grants program.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Health Workforce Training and Development output.

Home and Community Care Program for Younger People

Supports for people with disability outside of the NDIS

Funding is provided to maintain delivery of the Home and Community Care Program for Younger People, which enables independent living in the home and community for people with disability outside of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). Funding is also provided to assess people with disability seeking to have allied health supports included within their NDIS plans.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Home and Community Care Program for Younger People output.

Maternal and Child Health and Early Parenting Services

Victorian Early Parenting Centre service network

Funding is provided for the new Hastings Early Parenting Centre. Early Parenting Centres are free primary health services providing specialist parenting support for Victorian families with children from birth to four years of age.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Maternal and Child Health and Early Parenting Services output.

Mental Health Clinical Care

Expanding mental health Hospital in the Home

Funding is provided to deliver a new 10-bed mental health Hospital in the Home program operated by Monash Health, and to continue the operation of nine mental health Hospital in the Home beds operated by Barwon Health. This is alongside 10 youth mental health Hospital in the Home beds operated by Parkville Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing Service.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Mental Health Clinical Care output.

Expanding Thomas Embling Hospital

Funding is provided to operationalise 40 new forensic mental health inpatient beds at Thomas Embling Hospital, which will provide secure, specialised treatment for patients with severe mental illness in the criminal justice system. These new beds will provide therapeutic treatment for individuals and free up prison bed capacity.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Mental Health Clinical Care output.

Mental Health Tribunal

Funding is provided to support operations of the Mental Health Tribunal and the transfer of the Forensic Leave Panel to the Tribunal.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Mental Health Clinical Care output.

Strengthening mental health workforce sustainability

Funding is provided to support Victoria's mental health workforce through programs for psychology registrars, psychiatry training pathways, and junior medical officer psychiatry rotations.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Mental Health Clinical Care output.

Supporting groups disproportionately impacted by suicide

Funding is provided to continue the LGBTIQ+ aftercare program delivered by Mind Australia, continue delivery of the Standby Support After Suicide postvention program, and clinical uplift support for the Hospital Outreach Post-suicidal Engagement (HOPE) program. Funding is also provided to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander suicide prevention led by the Balit Durn Durn Centre and continuation of the Aboriginal Medico-Legal Support Officer position at the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Mental Health Clinical Care output.

Mental Health Community Support Services

Improving Victoria's mental health crisis response services

Funding is provided to progressively expand service provision for Area Mental Health and Wellbeing Services' crisis outreach teams, with an increase to existing service hours, including through new workforce models and after-hours service options.

Funding is also provided to continue the Telehealth Prehospital Response of Mental Health and Paramedic Team to provide better access to care for mental health patients who call Triple Zero.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's:

- Mental Health Community Support Services output
- Ambulance Services output.

Mental health and wellbeing care in the community

Funding is provided to continue the Youth Outreach and Recovery Service (YORS), Victoria's only statewide outreach service for young people aged 16–25 with complex mental health challenges, and group-based parenting support for parents whose children are being treated in regional Infant, Child and Youth Area Mental Health and Wellbeing Services. Funding is also provided to continue the Be Well in the Ranges program, delivering localised mental health and wellbeing support to the Kinglake Ranges community.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's:

- Mental Health Community Support Services output
- Mental Health Clinical Care output.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Hubs

Funding is provided to support continued operations of the Statewide Intake Hotline, the Wellbeing Support Program, and the continuation of four Mental Health and Wellbeing Hubs in Cowes, Warrnambool, Horsham and Ballarat.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Mental Health Community Support Services output.

Mental health support for diverse and marginalised communities

Funding is provided to continue the Q*Space program to deliver comprehensive, trauma-informed and affirming support to LGBTIQ+ individuals in regional and rural Victoria. Funding will also support continued delivery of the Auslan workforce project, in partnership with Monash University and Deaf-led organisations.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Mental Health Community Support Services output.

Non-Admitted Services

Care and support for people born with variations in sex characteristics

Funding is provided to support the implementation of new legislation that will improve healthcare and safeguards for people born with variations in sex characteristics, particularly infants and young children, including establishing a new independent oversight panel and developing and delivering education and training to support health professionals, people with variations in sex characteristics and their families.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's:

- Non-Admitted Services output
- Health Workforce Training and Development output.

Hospital care for older people at residential aged care facilities

Funding is provided to continue the Residential in Reach program, bringing hospital care to older people at residential aged care facilities, providing care closer to home and decreasing avoidable ambulance transports and presentations to emergency departments.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Non-Admitted Services output.

Improving care closer to home

Funding is provided to continue the delivery of hospital-level care in patients' homes across 47 health services, providing an alternative care pathway for stable patients, reducing avoidable admissions and supporting patient flow.

Funding is also provided to extend the Virtual Hospital pilot, delivered by Austin Health and the Royal Melbourne Hospital. The Virtual Hospital aims to improve patient outcomes and experiences through high-quality virtual care.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's:

- Non-Admitted Services output
- Admitted Services output.

Strengthening palliative care for Victorians

Funding is provided to support community palliative care services delivered by non-government organisations and community health services. Funding is also provided for the Victorian Paediatric Palliative Care Program, the Palliative Care Advice Service, the Statewide Specialist Bereavement Service and palliative care related support provided by Motor Neurone Disease Victoria.

These programs provide important advice on life-limiting illness, palliative care or end-of-life care. Support is also provided for the transition of palliative care beds from the McKellar Centre (Barwon Health) to Anam Cara House Geelong.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Non-Admitted Services output.

Public Health

Health emergency management capability

Funding is provided to implement initiatives that support the capability of the Department of Health and the health system to reduce the impacts of, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies with consequences for the health system.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Public Health output.

Investing in cancer care, research and outcomes

Funding is provided for cancer prevention through maintaining Victoria's SunSmart programs and for cancer research via Data Connect+, a statewide data platform providing critical data to support earlier diagnosis, optimal care pathways and targeted interventions for priority populations.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's:

- Public Health output
- Health Workforce Training and Development output.

Protecting the health of priority populations

Funding is provided to continue the Victorian HIV Treatment Program. It provides access to antiretroviral therapy through public hospital pharmacies for people living with HIV without access to Medicare.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Public Health output.

Reducing and eliminating blood-borne viruses and sexually transmitted infections

Funding is provided to deliver point of care testing for sexually transmissible infectious and blood-borne viruses in healthcare settings.

Funding is provided to deliver the Syphilis in Pregnancy program, which provides support to vulnerable women who are at high risk of syphilis.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Public Health output.

Responding to public health threats

Funding is provided for the Victorian Migrant Screening Program to continue tuberculosis screening and support services in migrant populations. This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Public Health output.

Vaccines for Victorians

Funding is provided for the purchase, storage and distribution of vaccines, and a dedicated Victorian Meningococcal B immunisation program aimed at ensuring access to the vaccine while the Commonwealth Government considers whether to broaden its availability under the National Immunisation Program. Funding is also provided for an uplift to support the Secondary School Immunisation program.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Public Health output.

Victoria's frontline public health system

Funding is provided for the continued operation of Local Public Health Units to support a strong public health protection network.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Public Health output.

Asset initiatives

Table 1.16: Asset initiatives – Health

(\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	TEI
Admitted Services						
Better outcomes through early endoscopy detection	..	10.0	..	..	..	10.0
Dandenong Hospital Redevelopment ^(a)	..	13.7	14.2	37.1	93.5	305.0
Engineering Infrastructure Replacement Program 2026-27	..	20.0	..	..	..	20.0
Gippsland hospitals upgrade program	..	3.7	5.3	36.9	19.1	65.0
Medical Equipment Replacement Program 2026-27	..	35.0	..	..	..	35.0
Metropolitan Health Infrastructure Fund 2026-27	..	15.0	..	..	..	15.0
Regional Health Infrastructure Fund 2026-27	..	75.0	..	..	..	75.0
Safe births for every Victorian woman and baby	..	8.3	..	..	..	8.3
Safer digital healthcare program 2026-27	..	16.2	..	..	..	16.2
Aged and Home Care						
Minor Capital Works Renewal Program – public sector residential aged care 2026-27	..	7.5	..	..	..	7.5
Mental Health Community Support Services						
Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drugs Capital Renewal Fund 2026-27	..	10.0	..	..	..	10.0
Total asset initiatives	..	214.3	19.5	74.0	112.6	566.9

Note:

(a) TEI includes funding beyond 2029-30. TEI includes \$86.872 million provided from the Hospital Infrastructure Delivery Fund initiative in the 2025-26 State Capital Program.

Admitted Services

Better outcomes through early endoscopy detection

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Dandenong Hospital Redevelopment

Funding is provided to redevelop Dandenong Hospital, increasing the capacity of the operating theatres, the intensive care unit and upgrading supporting services. This investment will also improve the emergency department including the separation of paediatric, adult and mental health presentations. This will improve the quality of care and provide better access for the people in the south-eastern suburbs.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Admitted Services output.

Engineering Infrastructure Replacement Program 2026-27

Funding is provided to continue to upgrade and replace critical engineering infrastructure in health services across Victoria to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements and continued delivery of high-quality care. Funding covers a range of infrastructure items including electrical systems, boilers, air handling units and fire risk management systems.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Admitted Services output.

Gippsland hospitals upgrade program

Funding is provided to boost capacity of medical imaging, pharmacy and pathology services at Wonthaggi Hospital to support the delivery of high-quality care for Bass Coast locals.

Funding is also provided to deliver building works to improve amenity and maintain high-quality care at Warragul Hospital.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Admitted Services output.

Medical Equipment Replacement Program 2026-27

Funding is provided to continue to upgrade and replace critical medical equipment in health services across Victoria. The equipment supports operating suites, emergency departments, surgical wards, intensive care units, neonatal and maternity services and specialist areas. This will improve service availability and quality of care through the introduction of newer, more advanced medical equipment.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Admitted Services output.

Metropolitan Health Infrastructure Fund 2026-27

Funding is provided to the Metropolitan Health Infrastructure Fund to improve the capacity and capability of infrastructure across a range of metropolitan health services. This funding will allow health services to respond to local priorities, maintain service delivery and enhance capacity for contemporary models of care.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Admitted Services output.

Regional Health Infrastructure Fund 2026-27

Funding is provided to the Regional Health Infrastructure Fund to improve the capacity and capability of infrastructure across a range of rural and regional health services. This funding will allow health services to respond to local priorities, maintain service delivery and enhance their capacity for contemporary models of care.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Admitted Services output.

Safe births for every Victorian woman and baby

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Safer digital healthcare program 2026-27

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Aged and Home Care

Minor Capital Works Renewal Program – public sector residential aged care 2026-27

Funding is provided to continue infrastructure repairs and upgrades to address asset risks in Victoria's public sector residential aged care facilities.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Aged and Home Care output.

Mental Health Community Support Services

Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drugs Capital Renewal Fund 2026-27

Funding is provided to the Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drugs Capital Renewal Fund to improve the quality and amenity of mental health and alcohol and other drugs facilities across Victoria.

This initiative is reported through the Mental Health Capital Fund.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Health's Mental Health Community Support Services output.

DEPARTMENT OF JOBS, SKILLS, INDUSTRY AND REGIONS

Output initiatives

Table 1.17: Output initiatives – Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Creative Industries Access, Development and Innovation					
Contemporary music initiatives	..	4.5	..	..	..
Regional touring initiatives	..	1.2	..	..	..
Creative Industries Portfolio Agencies					
Melbourne Arts Precinct Transformation	..	20.7	8.3	..	..
Victorian Screen Incentive	..	17.2	10.0	..	..
Cultural Infrastructure and Facilities					
Cultural infrastructure maintenance	..	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Hamer Hall infrastructure enhancements	..	1.0	..	..	..
Fishing, Boating and Game Management					
Boosting outdoor recreation	..	0.3	..	..	..
Go Fishing Victoria	..	5.0	..	..	..
Industry, Small Business and Medical Research					
Advancing Victoria’s mRNA Industry	..	1.5	1.5	..	..
Making small business easier in Victoria	..	0.4	..	..	..
Small Business Activation Fund	..	1.2	..	..	..
Victoria’s artificial intelligence (AI) investment package	0.6	5.5	3.6	2.0	2.0
Jobs					
Attracting talent to Victoria	..	2.6	3.1	3.2	3.1
Local Jobs First	..	12.1	..	..	..
Skills Solutions Partnerships	..	3.3	..	..	..
Regional Development					
Future regions	..	21.0	4.5	1.0	..
Gippsland Community Education Programs	0.1	0.4	..	..	..
Ride High Country Activation Program	0.4	0.4	..	..	..
Supporting the Country Women’s Association of Victoria	..	0.2	..	..	..
Victorian Cross Border Commissioner	..	0.9	..	..	..
Sport and Recreation					
Community sports infrastructure and participation initiatives	8.0	26.1	1.8	..	..
Supporting Victoria’s State Sporting Centres	..	35.9	36.4	..	..
Tourism and Major Events					
Supporting Victorian events	6.9	15.5	0.4	..	..
Trade and Investment					
Leveraging strategic global events	..	0.7	0.7	..	..
Victorian Government venues & business event services	..	2.4	..	..	..

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Training, Higher Education and Workforce Development					
Boosting the economy with Free TAFE and more skilled workers ^(a)	..	103.3	140.6	..	..
Delivering a Digital, AI and Technology TAFE Centre of Excellence ^(a)	4.4	5.2	5.1	5.2	..
Delivering a Home and Community Care TAFE Centre of Excellence ^(a)	3.8	5.7	5.6	5.7	..
Delivering a VET Educator Academy ^(a)	0.3	1.8	2.5	0.8	..
Delivering a Victorian Renewable Energy TAFE Centre of Excellence ^(a)	3.8	7.6	9.1	4.5	..
Safer and fairer apprenticeships	..	3.1	2.7	..	..
TAFE Services Fund ^(a)	..	43.6	43.6	..	..
Turbocharging the VET workforce ^(b)	3.2	3.2	..	..	..
Total output initiatives	31.4	353.9	280.1	23.1	5.7

Notes:

(a) This initiative is partially funded from National Skills Agreement (NSA) Commonwealth revenue.

(b) This initiative is fully funded from National Skills Agreement (NSA) Commonwealth revenue.

Creative Industries Access, Development and Innovation

Contemporary music initiatives

Funding is provided to support the delivery of a contemporary music strategy under *Creative State 2028*, including existing initiatives like the Victorian Music Development Office, the Songwriting in Schools program and Music Works.

These programs will provide research, development, training and resources to businesses, support song writing in schools and support local music enterprises to undertake new projects and develop audiences.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Creative Industries Access, Development and Innovation output.

Regional touring initiatives

Funding is provided to support regional audiences to access creative experiences in regional venues which would otherwise require travel to urban areas.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Creative Industries Access, Development and Innovation output.

Creative Industries Portfolio Agencies

Melbourne Arts Precinct Transformation

Funding is provided to support the Melbourne Arts Precinct Corporation and Creative Victoria to deliver the Melbourne Arts Precinct Transformation project. Funding will also support Arts Centre Melbourne and the National Gallery of Victoria to manage disruptions caused by project construction works.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions':

- Creative Industries Portfolio Agencies output
- Cultural Infrastructure and Facilities output.

Victorian Screen Incentive

Funding is provided to continue to attract new international and interstate productions and digital games through a Victorian Screen Incentive stream of the Victorian Investment Fund. This will support statewide employment across film, television, visual effects, animation and games.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Creative Industries Portfolio Agencies output.

Cultural Infrastructure and Facilities

Cultural infrastructure maintenance

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Hamer Hall infrastructure enhancements

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Fishing, Boating and Game Management

Boosting outdoor recreation

Funding is provided to support the newly established Outdoor Recreation Victoria (ORV) and to deliver policy priorities across fisheries, hunting, recreational boating and other outdoor recreation policy and legislative support.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Fishing, Boating and Game Management output.

Go Fishing Victoria

Funding is provided to continue to stock fish in Victoria's waterways and to operate the expanded Arcadia and Snobs Creek hatcheries.

This initiative is partially funded through the Recreational Fishing Licence Trust.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Fishing, Boating and Game Management output.

Industry, Small Business and Medical Research

Advancing Victoria's mRNA Industry

Funding is provided for the continued operations of mRNA Victoria, supporting the delivery of major sovereign mRNA manufacturing facilities and the development of the mRNA ecosystem in Victoria.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Industry, Small Business and Medical Research output.

Making small business easier in Victoria

Funding is provided to increase the Victorian Small Business Commission's resourcing to deliver timely, accessible and cost-effective alternative dispute resolution services for Victorian small businesses.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Industry, Small Business and Medical Research output.

Small Business Activation Fund

Funding is provided to support local business organisations, chambers, industry associations and councils to deliver locally led initiatives to boost small business activation and capability.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Industry, Small Business and Medical Research output.

Victoria's artificial intelligence (AI) investment package

Funding is provided for the Digital Jobs – AI Career Conversion Support program, which will safeguard jobs in industries at risk from AI, upskilling workers to transition into AI roles and become specialists in the technology.

Funding is also provided for the implementation of the Sustainable Data Centre Action Plan, to support improved planning for data centre development, including through access to better water usage data and forecasts, and proactive measures to ensure the industry is on a sustainable footing in Victoria.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Industry, Small Business and Medical Research output.

Jobs

Attracting talent to Victoria

Funding is provided to continue the State Visa Nomination Program, which seeks to improve productivity and attract a wider range of skills and talent to Victoria.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Jobs output.

Local Jobs First

Funding is provided to maximise opportunities for local businesses and workers through government procurement. The Office of the Local Jobs First Commissioner and Industry Capability Network Victoria will be resourced to oversee and enforce compliance with the *Local Jobs First Amendment Act 2025* and the Local Jobs First Policy.

Funding is also provided to support the continued administration of the Fair Jobs Code to ensure companies benefiting from a Victorian Government contract treat their workers fairly.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Jobs output.

Skills Solutions Partnerships

Funding is provided to extend the Skills Solutions Partnerships program, a collaboration between the Victorian Government, industry, TAFEs and dual-sector universities to design and pilot new training approaches that address skills shortages in priority areas, including AI, advanced manufacturing and defence industry, leadership and technology adoption.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Jobs output.

Regional Development

Future regions

Funding is provided to boost productivity, liveability and investment in Victoria's regions by investing in enabling infrastructure, attracting industry investment, supporting worker housing, and improving community amenity.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Regional Development output.

Gippsland Community Education Programs

Funding is provided to support the Gippsland Trades and Labour Council in delivering place-based programs that develop skills and reconnect those who are unemployed or experiencing long-term unemployment with education and training.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Regional Development output.

Ride High Country Activation Program

Funding is provided for the Ride High Country Marketing Phase 2 project to support longer-term tourism in Porepunkah, Bright and the surrounding region following the security incident in August 2025.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Regional Development output.

Supporting the Country Women's Association of Victoria

Funding is provided to strengthen the Country Women's Association of Victoria's capability and capacity to deliver critical support services to regional communities, including those affected by drought and other natural disasters.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Regional Development output.

Victorian Cross Border Commissioner

Funding is provided for the Victorian Cross Border Commissioner to continue to streamline regulatory and licencing requirements, promote economic growth and reduce barriers to accessing services in Victoria's border communities.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Regional Development output.

Sport and Recreation

Community sports infrastructure and participation initiatives

Funding is provided to continue the Local Sports Infrastructure Fund and deliver strategic projects to develop high-quality, accessible community sports infrastructure. Infrastructure will be prioritised in disadvantaged communities and for groups with lower participation in sport and active recreation. Funding is also provided to continue support for community sport and active recreation programs that address key barriers to participation, including:

- the Get Active Kids Voucher Program
- basketball hubs.

These programs will provide additional participation opportunities for priority groups and contribute to physical, mental, social and wellbeing outcomes for Victorians.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Sport and Recreation output.

Supporting Victoria's State Sporting Centres

Funding is provided to support the State Sport Centres Trust and the Kardinia Park Stadium Trust to continue community access to sporting facilities.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Sport and Recreation output.

Tourism and Major Events

Supporting Victorian events

Funding is provided to support Victoria's tourism and events sector through delivery of AFL Grand Final events and the Regional Business Events Program (RBEP). The RBEP aims to attract national business events to regional Victoria, generating new economic activity and promoting Victoria's regions.

Funding is provided to support the operations of the Melbourne Convention Bureau and Business Events Victoria to attract business events to Melbourne and regional Victoria.

Funding is also provided to operationalise and attract events to the Nyaal Banyul Geelong Convention and Event Centre which is scheduled to open on 1 July 2026.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Tourism and Major Events output.

Trade and Investment

Leveraging strategic global events

Funding is provided to deliver the Asia Pacific Financial Innovation Symposium which brings global financial leaders, policymakers and industry experts together to facilitate investment attraction to drive economic growth.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Trade and Investment output.

Victorian Government venues & business event services

Funding is provided to maintain Global Victoria's trade and investment facilities and services to deliver trade facilitation activities and strengthen Victoria's international relationships.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Trade and Investment output.

Training, Higher Education and Workforce Development

Boosting the economy with Free TAFE and more skilled workers

Funding is provided to meet expected demand for eligible students to undertake government-subsided training and to increase access for students to reskill in priority courses, enhancing their skills and employment opportunities.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Training, Higher Education and Workforce Development output.

Delivering a Digital, AI and Technology TAFE Centre of Excellence

Funding is provided to deliver a Digital, AI and Technology TAFE Centre of Excellence at Chisholm Institute's campus in Frankston to train more students in emerging technologies for the digital and AI jobs of the future.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Training, Higher Education and Workforce Development output.

Delivering a Home and Community Care TAFE Centre of Excellence

Funding is provided to deliver a Home and Community Care TAFE Centre of Excellence at Holmesglen Institute to provide training to meet the growing demand for home-based care in Victoria.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Training, Higher Education and Workforce Development output.

Delivering a VET Educator Academy

Funding is provided to promote and support the retention of teachers, trainers and assessors across the Victorian TAFE Network and nationally to provide professional development opportunities, including through earn and learn pathways, to support a modern high-quality VET workforce.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Training, Higher Education and Workforce Development output.

Delivering a Victorian Renewable Energy TAFE Centre of Excellence

Funding is provided to deliver a Renewable Energy TAFE Centre of Excellence at Gippsland TAFE in Morwell, with connecting hubs in Ballarat and Warrnambool, to support the integration of renewable energy generation and storage assets into the energy system and to assist transitioning workers from fossil fuel to careers in the renewable energy sector.

Funding is also provided to upgrade the Electricity Supply Industry Training Centre at Holmesglen TAFE's Chadstone campus to meet the need for more electricity transmission and distribution workers.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Training, Higher Education and Workforce Development output.

Safer and fairer apprenticeships

Funding is provided to deliver apprentice and employer support services to improve outcomes for apprentices, including improved safety, support and completion of apprenticeships and traineeships in Victoria. This funding will support the establishment and transition to a stronger apprenticeship regulatory framework.

Funding is also provided for the Workplace Rights Apprentice Training program.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Training, Higher Education and Workforce Development output.

TAFE Services Fund

Funding is provided to continue to support the TAFE Network as Victoria's trusted public provider of choice, including through student inclusion and wellbeing programs, training delivery in thin markets and updating TAFE facilities, equipment and shared ICT platforms and services.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Training, Higher Education and Workforce Development output.

Turbocharging the VET workforce

Funding is provided to improve the skills and capacity of the VET workforce in clean energy, manufacturing, and the construction sectors through embedding industry expertise and digitally enabled teaching.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Training, Higher Education and Workforce Development output.

Asset initiatives

Table 1.18: Asset initiatives – Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	TEI
Cultural Infrastructure and Facilities						
Cultural infrastructure maintenance	..	2.3	2.0	..	..	4.3
Hamer Hall infrastructure enhancements	..	11.1	..	..	..	11.1
Sport and Recreation						
State sporting facilities maintenance and renewal program	..	10.0	10.0	..	..	20.0
Training, Higher Education and Workforce Development						
Delivering a Digital, AI and Technology TAFE Centre of Excellence ^(a)	7.3	2.4	0.3	0.3	..	10.1
Delivering a Victorian Renewable Energy TAFE Centre of Excellence ^(a)	7.8	7.6	9.6	..	..	25.0
TAFE accessibility works and infrastructure ^(a)	..	10.0	..	..	..	10.0
Total asset initiatives	15.1	43.3	21.9	0.3	..	80.5

Note:

(a) This initiative is partially funded from National Skills Agreement (NSA) Commonwealth revenue.

Cultural Infrastructure and Facilities

Cultural infrastructure maintenance

Funding is provided to support the maintenance and activation of state-owned cultural facilities.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Cultural Infrastructure and Facilities output.

Hamer Hall infrastructure enhancements

Funding is provided for infrastructure upgrades to Hamer Hall to support its continued ability to attract and deliver world-class music events.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Cultural Infrastructure and Facilities output.

Sport and Recreation

State sporting facilities maintenance and renewal program

Funding is provided to support sporting facility maintenance and asset renewal by the Kardinia Park Stadium Trust and the State Sport Centres Trust.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Sport and Recreation output.

Training, Higher Education and Workforce Development

Delivering a Digital, AI and Technology TAFE Centre of Excellence

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Delivering a Victorian Renewable Energy TAFE Centre of Excellence

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

TAFE accessibility works and infrastructure

Funding is provided to undertake accessibility works to TAFEs across Victoria to improve access to training facilities for people with disability and additional needs.

Funding is also provided for equipment to deliver hydrogen and battery electric vehicle training at Wodonga TAFE.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' Training, Higher Education and Workforce Development output.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Output initiatives

Table 1.19: Output initiatives – Justice and Community Safety (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Advocacy, Human Rights and Victim Support					
Delivery of the Victims of Crime Financial Assistance Scheme	..	4.4	4.4	..	..
Effective and sustainable Victims of Crime Commissioner	..	1.3	1.3	..	..
Improving access to justice for vulnerable victims of crime	..	3.2	3.2	..	..
Emergency Management Capability					
A stronger, safer Country Fire Authority	..	17.7	1.7	1.3	1.4
Backing Life Saving Victoria	..	7.0	..	..	..
Backing VICSES to keep communities safe from flooding	..	0.9	1.5	..	..
Backing Victoria’s marine search and rescue and delivering new vessels	..	0.9	0.9	..	..
Building more Country Fire Authority stations	..	1.8	0.2	0.0	0.7
Delivering new Fire Rescue Victoria fleet	..	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9
Emergency Alert	..	7.2	1.8	0.3	..
Opening new Victoria State Emergency Service units	..	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
Strengthening Fire Rescue Victoria’s fire station safety	..	0.6	0.1	..	..
Strengthening Victoria State Emergency Service	0.0	0.4	0.6
Upgrading Fire Rescue Victoria’s human resources information system	..	0.4	3.1	3.2	3.4
Upgrading Victoria’s Triple Zero telephony	..	4.2	7.9	7.6	14.7
Justice Policy, Services and Law Reform					
Supporting the State’s forensic capability	..	1.1	..	..	..
Policing and Community Safety					
Delivering on bail reform for Victoria Police	..	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4
Mobile technology for police and evidence recording upgrade	..	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.4
Police information technology refresh	..	6.2	2.9	2.9	3.0
Prosecutions at Wyndham Law Courts	..	2.0	2.2	2.2	..
Supporting Victoria Police operations	..	15.4	8.4	6.9	5.9
Sustaining and enhancing the BlueHub police mental health initiative	1.6	..	..
Victoria Police licensing and registration management system	1.6	0.9	5.0	6.6	5.8
Prisoner Supervision and Support					
Supporting a safe and effective corrections system	..	21.4	20.7	..	..
Public Prosecutions and Legal Assistance					
Continuing the County Court Team – Specialist Trial Prosecution Program	..	1.9	1.9	..	..
Enhancing legal assistance for Victorians	..	4.0	4.1	2.0	..
Supporting bail reform implementation in the justice system	..	5.2	5.3	..	..
Supporting community sector jobs	3.5	5.1	6.4	7.9	9.6

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Youth Justice Community Based Services					
South Sudanese Australian Youth Justice Expert Working Group	..	2.3	3.2	..	..
Supporting a safe and effective youth justice system	..	5.1	3.4	..	..
Total output initiatives	5.1	125.9	96.2	46.1	49.9

Advocacy, Human Rights and Victim Support

Delivery of the Victims of Crime Financial Assistance Scheme

Funding is provided for delivery of the Victims of Crime Financial Assistance Scheme, which replaced the Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's:

- Advocacy, Human Rights and Victim Support output
- Policing and Community Safety output.

Effective and sustainable Victims of Crime Commissioner

Funding is provided to the Victims of Crime Commissioner to support continued advocacy of victims' experiences in the justice system.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Advocacy, Human Rights and Victim Support output.

Improving access to justice for vulnerable victims of crime

Funding is provided to continue the Victims' Legal Service, a dedicated statewide specialist legal service for victims of crime.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Advocacy, Human Rights and Victim Support output.

Emergency Management Capability

A stronger, safer Country Fire Authority

Funding is provided to improve the safety and experience of Country Fire Authority volunteers, including:

- improving internet connection across rural and remote brigades
- enhancing volunteer wellbeing support services
- supporting driver training
- providing additional personal protective clothing and equipment
- supporting the Country Fire Authority's Get Fire Ready weekend in 2026-27.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Emergency Management Capability output.

Backing Life Saving Victoria

Funding is provided to keep Victorians safe around water by:

- continuing to support Life Saving Victoria to deliver paid lifeguard services, rescue watercraft services, rescue helicopter and drone services and public information, relations and messaging
- supporting the completion of new Surf Lifesaving facilities including at Bancoora and Point Lonsdale.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Emergency Management Capability output.

Backing VICSES to keep communities safe from flooding

Funding is provided to strengthen the Victoria State Emergency Service to keep communities safe from flooding by updating Local Flood Guides and Municipal Flood and Storm Emergency Plans.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Emergency Management Capability output.

Backing Victoria's marine search and rescue and delivering new vessels

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Building more Country Fire Authority stations

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Delivering new Fire Rescue Victoria fleet

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Emergency Alert

Funding is provided to support Victoria's contribution to operating and maintaining the national Emergency Alert system, enabling emergency services to send targeted voice and text message warnings to people in affected areas. This will ensure Victoria can continue issuing timely, reliable emergency warnings to help keep communities safe.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Emergency Management Capability output.

Opening new Victoria State Emergency Service units

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Strengthening Fire Rescue Victoria's fire station safety

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative

Strengthening Victoria State Emergency Service

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Upgrading Fire Rescue Victoria's human resources information system

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Upgrading Victoria's Triple Zero telephony

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Justice Policy, Services and Law Reform

Supporting the State's forensic capability

Funding is provided to the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine to support the operations of the Donor Tissue Bank of Victoria which provides tissue products for lifesaving and health-improving surgeries.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Justice Policy, Services and Law Reform output.

Policing and Community Safety

Delivering on bail reform for Victoria Police

Funding is provided to Victoria Police to maintain police custody cells and to support increased custodial medical capacity.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Policing and Community Safety output.

Mobile technology for police and evidence recording upgrade

Funding is provided to equip specialist police with 3 000 mobile devices and upgrade Victoria Police evidence-recording equipment. This will improve access to critical information in the field and support reliable interview recording and stronger evidence for investigations to help keep the community safe.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Policing and Community Safety output.

Police information technology refresh

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Prosecutions at Wyndham Law Courts

Funding is provided to Victoria Police to deliver prosecutions at the new Wyndham Law Courts.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Policing and Community Safety output.

Supporting Victoria Police operations

Funding is provided to Victoria Police to support their operations including:

- frontline protective equipment such as helmets
- critical frontline support technology including a forensic laboratory information management system, intelligence software, digital fingerprint and facial recognition technology and enhanced connection to the National Criminal Intelligence System.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Policing and Community Safety output.

Sustaining and enhancing the BlueHub police mental health initiative

Funding is provided to continue to support The Police Association of Victoria's BlueHub police mental health initiative which provides support to police experiencing trauma-related mental health injuries by improving access to specialised member-focused services.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Policing and Community Safety output.

Victoria Police licensing and registration management system

Funding is provided to upgrade Victoria Police's information system used to regulate firearms, weapons and the private security industry. The new system will integrate with the National Firearms Register, improving timely access to accurate firearms information and enhancing community safety.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Policing and Community Safety output.

Prisoner Supervision and Support

Supporting a safe and effective corrections system

Funding is provided to support the operation of the corrections system, reduce recidivism and enhance prisoners' reintegration into the community, including through the continued operation of:

- the Maribyrnong Community Residential facility, which provides accommodation and support services for men leaving prison
- rehabilitation and reintegration support services for remandees, people on short sentences and prisoners with a disability
- specialist practitioners to provide advice to courts on a person's suitability to be sentenced to community corrections orders
- programs to support families of prisoners and people leaving prison
- mentoring programs for women in contact with the justice system.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Prisoner Supervision and Support output.

Public Prosecutions and Legal Assistance

Continuing the County Court Team – Specialist Trial Prosecution Program

Funding is provided to continue the Office of Public Prosecutions County Court Team, which will work exclusively on cases in the County Court’s trial division to facilitate early resolution of matters.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety’s Public Prosecutions and Legal Assistance output.

Enhancing legal assistance for Victorians

Funding is provided to continue legal services and improve access to justice for vulnerable Victorians and improve justice system efficiency. The funding will:

- continue the Help Before Court program that supports people to resolve their matter at their first hearing
- continue the Independent Family Advocacy and Support program that works with parents and primary carers in the early (pre-court) phase of child protection involvement
- deliver specialist legal services for LGBTIQ+ Victorians.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety’s Public Prosecutions and Legal Assistance output.

Supporting bail reform implementation in the justice system

Funding is provided for the Office of Public Prosecutions and Victorian Legal Aid to meet increased demand arising from the Government’s bail and sentencing reforms.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety’s Public Prosecutions and Legal Assistance output.

Supporting community sector jobs

Funding is provided to support community service organisations that deliver social services on behalf of the Government.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety’s:

- Advocacy, Human Rights and Victim Support output
- Community Based Offender Supervision output
- Justice Policy, Services and Law Reform output
- Prisoner Supervision and Support output
- Public Prosecutions and Legal Assistance output
- Youth Justice Community Based Services output
- Youth Justice Custodial Services output.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Government Services’ Regulation of the Victorian Consumer Marketplace output.

Youth Justice Community Based Services

South Sudanese Australian Youth Justice Expert Working Group

Funding is provided to begin implementing key recommendations of the South Sudanese Australian Youth Justice Expert Working Group, which was chaired by Dr Santino Atem Deng, with a focus on addressing the over-representation of South Sudanese Australian young people in the criminal justice system. This includes:

- continuation of targeted local community programs to support South Sudanese Australian young people
- service design, community engagement and planning for the establishment of a South Sudanese Community Hub to coordinate culturally safe supports.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Youth Justice Community Based Services output.

Supporting a safe and effective youth justice system

Funding is provided to support the operation of the youth justice system, including through:

- programs that support early intervention, diversion and prevention of offending such as lived experience mentoring, which connects young people from overrepresented backgrounds with pro-social mentors with lived experience of the justice system
- funding for Victorian Legal Aid to represent young people in contact with the justice system
- funding to upgrade Victoria Police's information and technology systems for requirements under the *Youth Justice Act 2024*.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's:

- Youth Justice Community Based Services output
- Youth Justice Custodial Services output.

Asset initiatives

Table 1.20: Asset initiatives – Justice and Community Safety (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	TEI ^(a)
Emergency Management Capability						
A stronger, safer Country Fire Authority	..	0.1	0.2	..	..	0.3
Backing Victoria's marine search and rescue and delivering new vessels	..	2.4	..	..	..	2.4
Building more Country Fire Authority stations	..	10.9	8.0	1.2	3.3	23.5
Delivering new Country Fire Authority fleet	..	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	100.0
Delivering new Fire Rescue Victoria fleet	..	10.0	..	..	..	10.0
Opening new Victoria State Emergency Service units	..	2.0	..	..	..	2.0
Strengthening Fire Rescue Victoria's fire station safety	..	4.0	1.6	..	..	5.6
Strengthening Victoria State Emergency Service	..	8.0	7.9	0.5	..	16.4
Upgrading Fire Rescue Victoria's human resources information system	..	17.9	9.1	..	..	27.0
Upgrading Victoria's Triple Zero telephony	..	6.5	44.8	16.2	..	67.5
Policing and Community Safety						
Delivering on bail reform for Victoria Police	..	2.4	2.4	1.9	1.9	8.6
Mobile technology for police and evidence recording upgrade	..	11.9	3.5	5.9	..	21.3
Police information technology refresh	..	19.8	3.2	3.0	..	25.9
Prosecutions at Wyndham Law Courts	..	0.9	..	..	..	0.9
Supporting Victoria Police operations	..	2.6	0.1	0.2	0.2	3.1
Victoria Police capital maintenance investment	..	12.0	3.0	..	..	15.0
Victoria Police licensing and registration management system	..	8.3	6.0	4.1	..	18.5
Prisoner Supervision and Support						
Supporting a safe and effective corrections system	..	0.3	0.4	..	..	0.7
Total asset initiatives	..	130.0	100.2	43.0	15.4	348.7

Note:

(a) TEI includes funding beyond 2029-30.

Emergency Management Capability

A stronger, safer Country Fire Authority

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Backing Victoria's marine search and rescue and delivering new vessels

Funding is provided to replace two marine search and rescue primary response vessels at Port Welshpool and Torquay and to continue delivering the maintenance and repairs program for existing marine search and rescue vessels.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Emergency Management Capability output.

Building more Country Fire Authority stations

Funding is provided to deliver four new Country Fire Authority stations at Charlton, Mirboo North, Kingston and Woodvale, upgrade the station at Yarrambat, plan and design new stations at Barongarook West and Lakes Entrance, acquire land, plan and design Dereel, and acquire land for the Nar Nar Goon and Beveridge CFA brigades to support firefighting services.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Emergency Management Capability output.

Delivering new Country Fire Authority fleet

Funding is provided to deliver new firefighting vehicles over the next 10 years to support the Country Fire Authority to protect communities.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Emergency Management Capability output.

Delivering new Fire Rescue Victoria fleet

Funding is provided for new ultra large pumper and heavy pumper fire appliances, a fire boat and for maintenance and repairs to critical operational fleet to support Fire Rescue Victoria's firefighting capability and keep Victorians safe from fire.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Emergency Management Capability output.

Opening new Victoria State Emergency Service units

Funding is provided to operationalise two new Victoria State Emergency Service units in Kalkallo and Devon Meadows.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Emergency Management Capability output.

Strengthening Fire Rescue Victoria's fire station safety

Funding is provided to continue to install diesel-emission capture systems across Fire Rescue Victoria fire stations, upgrade bedroom facilities at Eastern Hill and Richmond fire stations and to plan and design remediation work at Eastern Hill to ensure a safe operating environment for firefighters.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Emergency Management Capability output.

Strengthening Victoria State Emergency Service

Funding is provided to deliver two new Victoria State Emergency Service facilities for the Port Phillip unit and the Corio unit and acquire a land site for the Whitehorse unit to support emergency response and recovery.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Emergency Management Capability output.

Upgrading Fire Rescue Victoria's human resources information system

Funding is provided to upgrade Fire Rescue Victoria's staffing and payroll information management system.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Emergency Management Capability output.

Upgrading Victoria's Triple Zero telephony

Funding is provided to upgrade Victoria's Triple Zero telephony system so that Triple Zero Victoria can continue to provide a timely and reliable response to emergency calls and protect the community during emergencies.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Emergency Management Capability output.

Policing and Community Safety

Delivering on bail reform for Victoria Police

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Mobile technology for police and evidence recording upgrade

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Police information technology refresh

Funding is provided to refresh Victoria Police's information technology infrastructure and strengthen cyber security, to protect sensitive information and support frontline operations to keep the community safe.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Policing and Community Safety output.

Prosecutions at Wyndham Law Courts

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Supporting Victoria Police operations

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Victoria Police capital maintenance investment

Funding is provided to replace critical frontline policing assets to support service delivery requirements and keep the community safe.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Justice and Community Safety's Policing and Community Safety output.

Victoria Police licensing and registration management system

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Prisoner Supervision and Support

Supporting a safe and effective corrections system

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET

Output initiatives

Table 1.21: Output initiatives – Premier and Cabinet (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Executive Government Advice and Services					
Donation for the Good Friday Appeal 2026	1.0	..	..	..	..
Multicultural Affairs Policy and Programs					
Making Victoria free from racism	..	3.4	..	..	..
Support for Victoria’s multicultural seniors	..	2.7	2.7	..	..
Support for asylum seekers and newly arrived refugees	..	3.4	..	..	..
Total output initiatives	1.0	9.5	2.7	..	..

Executive Government Advice and Services

Donation for the Good Friday Appeal 2026

Funding is provided for a donation to the Good Friday Appeal 2026, a not-for-profit charity that raises money to support The Royal Children’s Hospital to provide world-class paediatric healthcare for all Victorian children.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Premier and Cabinet’s Executive Government Advice and Services output.

Multicultural Affairs Policy and Programs

Making Victoria free from racism

Funding is provided for initiatives across Victoria that support community-led efforts to address and prevent racism, including antisemitism and Islamophobia. Funding also continues support for programs delivered by the Bachar Houli Foundation.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Premier and Cabinet’s Multicultural Affairs Policy and Programs output.

Support for Victoria’s multicultural seniors

Funding is provided to support multicultural seniors’ groups in Victoria, with a focus on helping older Victorians reduce isolation by strengthening connections with the community through regular social outings, cultural events and activities and promoting health and wellbeing.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Premier and Cabinet’s Multicultural Affairs Policy and Programs output.

Support for asylum seekers and newly arrived refugees

Funding is provided to maintain critical supports including general practitioner care, case coordination, homelessness assistance and immediate needs such as utilities, clothing and food for people seeking asylum and living in Victoria who are ineligible for Commonwealth supports.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Premier and Cabinet’s Multicultural Affairs Policy and Programs output.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND PLANNING

Output initiatives

Table 1.22: Output initiatives – Transport and Planning (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Free and half price public transport for Victorians	193.2	239.3	..	..	..
Bus Services					
Improving bus and ferry services	..	6.9	35.8	17.9	18.4
Building					
Building policy and reform	..	30.1	20.1	20.4	10.2
Trades registration and licensing	1.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	..
Planning and Heritage					
Development Facilitation Program	..	3.3	3.3	3.3	..
Faster approvals for renewable energy projects	..	4.9	..	..	..
Implementing the Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Bill 2025	..	6.2	4.8	..	..
Implementing the 10-year plan for Melbourne's greenfields	..	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9
Plan for Victoria implementation	0.5	1.0	..	..	..
Supporting infrastructure contributions delivery	..	0.9	0.9	1.1	..
Ports and Freight					
Regional rail freight infrastructure maintenance	..	24.1	..	..	..
Regulation of Commercial Passenger Vehicle Services					
Multi-Purpose Taxi Program	15.7	1.3	..	..	..
Road Asset Management					
Road maintenance ^(a)	10.6	341.1	..	..	..
Road Operations					
Light passenger vehicle registration rebate	756.5	2.1	..	..	..
Metropolitan roads upgrade program	0.5	5.7	..	..	..
Regional roads upgrade program	..	4.8	0.9	..	..
Train Services					
Digital Rail Signalling Program development	..	4.3	2.6	..	..
Legacy impacts of COVID-19 on the metropolitan transport network	80.0	..	..	..	..
More trains, more often	..	23.4	22.7	22.9	23.3
Regional rail sustainability	22.7	114.2	..	..	..
Tram Services					
Critical priorities for Melbourne's tram network	..	5.5	..	..	0.1
Transport Infrastructure					
Improving safety and security on the regional network ^(b)	..	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Northern Rail Program development	..	3.6	..	..	..
Train station amenities clean-up and telecommunications upgrades	..	2.5	..	..	..
Transport Safety and Security					
Critical public and active transport upgrades	..	0.3	..	0.1	0.1
School Crossing Supervisor Program	..	16.8	..	..	..
Total output initiatives	1 080.7	851.0	100.1	74.5	55.9

Notes:

(a) In 2026-27, expected road maintenance output and asset expenditure is \$1.041 billion.

(b) Funding for this initiative is \$52 000 over four years.

Free and half price public transport for Victorians

Funding is provided to make all public transport travel in Victoria free from 31 March 2026 to 31 May 2026 and half price from 1 June 2026 to 1 January 2027 to incentivise mode-shift to public transport and provide cost-of-living relief for Victorians.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's:

- Bus Services – Statewide output
- Train Services – Statewide output
- Tram Services output.

Bus Services

Improving bus and ferry services

Funding is provided to deliver new and improved bus services and to maintain ferry services across Victoria including:

- a package of upgraded and extended bus routes to improve coverage and connect passengers in Casey including Cranbourne East, Botanic Ridge, Clyde, Clyde North Junction Village, Warneet and Tooradin to key destinations
- a package of new and extended bus services for Melton South growth areas
- upgrading and reforming key bus routes in Dandenong North, Mulgrave and Oakleigh, providing better connections to Dandenong Hospital, Deakin University, the Metro Tunnel corridor and Chadstone Shopping Centre
- upgraded routes, including additional operating days, for bus services connecting passengers to La Trobe University (Bundoora) from Pascoe Vale, Reservoir and Heidelberg
- expanded operating hours, including Sunday services, for select routes connecting to major employment hubs and activity centres in Moonee Ponds, Coburg, Roxburgh Park, Northcote, Mernda, South Melbourne, Nunawading, Sunshine, Keilor, and Springvale
- regional uplifts, including additional services from Cowes and Inverloch to Dandenong, a new bus route between Drysdale and Ocean Grove and an additional daily return trip connecting Castlemaine to Harcourt
- re-coordination of buses along the Warrnambool and Geelong Lines to align with new rail timetables to be delivered with the opening of the new West Tarneit Station
- bus route re-alignment for Lara West route 12 and route 737 at Glen Waverley Station to integrate with delivery of Big Build infrastructure works
- new night service connecting passengers in Cardinia with Berwick Station
- the continuation of services for Cairnlea, Glenroy, Mornington, and Hastings
- the continuation of passenger services for the Portarlington Ferry, Western Port Ferry and Westgate Punt.

Funding is also provided for the rollout of automatic passenger counters on bus fleets to accurately record patronage and inform timetable optimisation.

This initiative includes funding from the Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's:

- Bus Services – Metropolitan output
- Bus Services – Regional output
- Bus Services – Statewide output.

Building

Building policy and reform

Funding is provided to continue delivering housing and building reform, protect consumers, and maintain a fair and affordable building system through continued governance and policy oversight, including regulatory reviews.

Funding is also provided for continuation of the Building Monitor, protecting consumer interests through a dedicated advocate and advisor to government

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Building output.

Trades registration and licensing

Funding is provided to protect consumers by modernising Victoria's trades registration and licensing system through adding carpentry, welding and waterproofing to the scheme, and by updating the regulation of plumbing. This will reinforce consumer confidence in the building industry, particularly for apartment builds, and strengthen accountability, transparency and compliance on construction sites.

These initiatives contribute to the Department of Transport and Planning's Building output.

Planning and Heritage

Development Facilitation Program

Funding is provided for the continuation of the Development Facilitation Program, supporting the state's agenda to fast-track significant housing and economic development. This program provides expediated planning pathways and facilitation services for projects in priority sectors that promote investment in Victoria.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Planning and Heritage output.

Faster approvals for renewable energy projects

Funding is provided to facilitate planning approvals to support Victoria's critical energy transition and renewable energy agenda, including the assessment of alternative renewable energy projects, and to finalise a cost-recovery model for Environment Effects Statements (EES).

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Planning and Heritage output.

Implementing the Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Bill 2025

Funding is provided to implement reforms contained in the Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Bill 2025, including new regulations, the Victorian Planning Provisions and planning scheme redesign, and other planning system reforms.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Planning and Heritage output.

Implementing the 10-year plan for Melbourne's greenfields

Funding is provided to progress the efficient supply of land in Melbourne's greenfields, unlocking a decade-long pipeline of new homes and employment opportunities.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Planning and Heritage output.

Plan for Victoria implementation

Funding is provided to better coordinate risk prevention and response to natural disasters with local government through an updated Victoria Planning Provisions toolkit. Funding is also provided to the Geelong Authority to support housing delivery.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Planning and Heritage output.

Supporting infrastructure contributions delivery

Funding is provided to help support amenity and liveability in Train and Tram Zones through the establishment and administration of the new infrastructure contributions plans scheme.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Planning and Heritage output.

Ports and Freight

Regional rail freight infrastructure maintenance

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Regulation of Commercial Passenger Vehicle Services

Multi-Purpose Taxi Program

Funding is provided to support changing travel patterns in the Multi-Purpose Taxi Program (MPTP), and to continue the current MPTP lifting fee paid to drivers for wheelchairs accessible vehicle (WAV) trips. This will incentivise supply and improve the availability of WAV services for MPTP members with mobility needs.

A systematic review of the program will be conducted to inform its sustainability while maintaining accessibility outcomes.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Regulation of Commercial Passenger Vehicle Services output.

Road Asset Management

Road maintenance

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Road Operations

Light passenger vehicle registration rebate

Funding is provided for a 20 per cent rebate for the cost of up to two light vehicle registrations per person paid for 2025-26, providing cost of living relief for Victorian motorists.

This initiative contributes to:

- the Department of Transport and Planning's Road Operations output
- the Department of Government Service's Customer Services to the Community output.

Metropolitan roads upgrade program

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Regional roads upgrade program

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Train Services

Digital Rail Signalling Program development

Funding is provided to support the completion of a program delivery business case for a new heavy rail signalling system, which will improve the safety, reliability and operational efficiency of Victoria's rail network.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Train Services – Metropolitan output.

Legacy impacts of COVID-19 on the metropolitan transport network

Funding is provided to offset lower revenue associated with changes to travel patterns and to maintain service delivery.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Train Services – Metropolitan output.

More trains, more often

Funding is provided for train services across metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria, including:

- continuation of additional Seymour peak timetable services
- uplifts in weekend services for the Clifton Hill group train lines and in weeknight services for the Burnley group train lines
- more capacity for Wyndham Vale services through additional nine-car VLocity services
- nine weekday return services for the Shepparton Line.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's:

- Train Services – Metropolitan output
- Train Services – Regional output.

Regional rail sustainability

Funding is provided to support regional rail network operations including operating and maintenance costs for Regional Rail Revival program assets, operating costs for new VLocity trains and the upgraded South Dynon stabling and train maintenance facility and V/Line's corporate and operational costs.

Funding is also provided for V/Line to deliver control systems renewals, axle counter upgrades on the Regional Rail Link and major periodic and routine maintenance works to maintain the sustainability of the regional passenger rail network.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Train Services – Regional output.

Tram Services

Critical priorities for Melbourne's tram network

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Transport Infrastructure

Improving safety and security on the regional network

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Northern Rail Program development

Funding is provided to complete a final program business case to improve capacity on the Craigieburn, Upfield and Seymour (Wallan) rail corridors and improve access for Melbourne's north, including duplicating the Upfield Line.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Transport Infrastructure output.

Train station amenities clean-up and telecommunications upgrades

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

Transport Safety and Security

Critical public and active transport upgrades

Refer to the asset initiative for a description of this initiative.

School Crossing Supervisor Program

Funding is provided to continue the Government's commitment to meet 50 per cent of the cost of the School Crossing Supervisor Program, delivered by local councils.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Transport Safety and Security output.

Asset initiatives

Table 1.23: Asset initiatives – Transport and Planning (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	TEI ^(a)
Bus Services						
Improving bus and ferry services	..	16.3	9.7	..	..	25.9
Ports and Freight						
Local ports critical maintenance	..	1.8	2.3	0.3	1.1	5.5
Regional rail freight infrastructure maintenance	..	91.7	11.4	..	..	103.1
Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal	34.3	79.4	10.8	..	..	124.5
Road Asset Management						
Road maintenance ^(b)	..	133.4	..	..	..	133.4
Road Operations						
Metropolitan roads upgrade program	..	20.2	2.8	..	..	23.1
Regional roads upgrade program ^(c)	..	19.4	17.9	26.8	3.6	67.7
Train Services						
More new trains	..	74.9	121.4	166.1	174.1	673.6
Regional rail sustainability	..	139.5	27.7	4.1	9.4	180.8
Tram Services						
Critical priorities for Melbourne’s tram network	..	28.8	38.8	2.7	..	70.3
Transport Infrastructure						
Improving safety and security on the regional network	..	1.8	0.2	..	..	2.0
Next steps for future Melton Line electrification	..	76.4	..	..	..	76.4
Train station amenities clean-up and telecommunications upgrades	..	5.0	5.0	..	..	10.0
Transport Safety and Security						
Critical public and active transport upgrades	..	2.0	4.9	0.2	..	7.1
Total asset initiatives	34.3	690.5	252.9	200.2	188.1	1 503.1

Notes:

(a) TEI includes funding beyond 2029-30.

(b) In 2026-27, expected road maintenance output and asset expenditure is \$1.041 billion.

(c) This initiative includes Commonwealth Government funding of \$17.477 million.

Bus Services

Improving bus and ferry services

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Ports and Freight

Local ports critical maintenance

Funding is provided to undertake critical maintenance works on piers across Victoria and navigation aid renewals to ensure public safety and structural integrity.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning’s Ports and Freight output.

Regional rail freight infrastructure maintenance

Funding is provided for V/Line to deliver major periodic and routine maintenance works on freight rail corridors across Victoria to support the efficient movement of freight across the state and help take trucks off local roads.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's:

- Ports and Freight output
- Train Services – Regional output.

Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal

Funding is provided to progress environmental approval activities and the procurement process to develop the Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal at the Port of Hastings to support the Government's commitment to the generation of cheaper, cleaner electricity from offshore wind power.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Ports and Freight output.

Road Asset Management

Road maintenance

Funding is provided to boost programmed road maintenance activities, including planned pavement renewal works, landslip repairs, routine maintenance and road resurfacing and rehabilitation.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Road Asset Management output.

Road Operations

Metropolitan roads upgrade program

Funding is provided to upgrade suburban roads and intersections in metropolitan Melbourne to improve network efficiency, safety and travel time for road users, including:

- Al Iman College school crossing, Melton South
- Belgrave-Gembrook Road Illuminated School Zone lights, Cockatoo
- Blackburn Road and Station Street intersection improvements, Blackburn
- Burwood Highway and Ferntree Gully Road, works to reduce road congestion with signal network optimisation, Ferntree Gully
- Cheddar Road and Cuthbert Road intersection Keep Clear Zone, Reservoir
- Dohertys Road and Woods Road intersection signalisation, Truganina
- East Boundary Road near Clarence St pedestrian operated signals, Bentleigh East
- Frankston-Dandenong Road pedestrian crossing development near Queen Beatrix Drive, Carrum Downs

- North Road between Fenton Street and Clayton Road pedestrian crossing, Oakleigh South
- Pound Road resurfacing, Hampton Park
- Ryans Road, Wallowa Road and Allendale Road intersection, Eltham North
- Taylors Road line re-marking, Keilor Downs
- Taylors Road upgrade planning and development, Delahey
- Toomuc Valley Road and Princes Highway intersection traffic light development, Pakenham
- Yellow Box for Cheddar Road and High Street, Reservoir.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Road Operations output.

Regional roads upgrade program

Funding is provided to upgrade regional roads to improve network efficiency, safety and travel time for road users, including:

- Barwon Heads Road pedestrian crossing, Connewarre
- Calder Highway and Maiden Gully Road intersection upgrade, Maiden Gully
- Howard Street and Midland Highway intersection upgrade, Epsom
- Leongatha Alternative Truck Route planning and design, Gippsland South
- Midland Highway and Geelong Road pedestrian safety improvements, Buninyong
- Murtoa-Glenorchy Road and Horsham-Lubeck Road planning and design, Lubeck
- Princes Highway East, Davey Drive and Waterloo Road traffic signals, Trafalgar
- Strzelecki Highway – Mirboo North to Leongatha planning and design, Gippsland South
- Tooleybuc Bridge planning and design, Tooleybuc
- Western Highway and Jackmans Road intersection upgrade, Dadswells Bridge
- Wiltshire Lane pedestrian crossing, Delacombe.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Road Operations output.

Train Services

More new trains

Funding is provided to deliver 25 additional X'Trapolis 2.0 trains to improve reliability, accessibility and passenger experience across the metropolitan train network.

This adds to 25 X'Trapolis 2.0 trains already being built in Victoria and will support the retirement of Comeng trains on the Craigieburn and Upfield lines, modernising the fleet and increasing network capacity. These new trains are bigger and better, more comfortable and more efficient. They are also better for people with accessibility needs.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Train Services – Metropolitan output.

Regional rail sustainability

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

Tram Services

Critical priorities for Melbourne's tram network

Funding is provided to deliver a package of critical infrastructure works to improve tram network performance, prepare for the deployment of Next Generation Trams, and support the State to comply with Commonwealth accessibility standards. The package includes:

- bridge strengthening assessments to ensure safe deployment of Next Generation Trams across the network
- a new power substation at Wattle Park to improve tram network performance
- disposal of 10 retired Z-Class trams to improve the operation of New Preston Depot
- development and delivery of priority accessible tram stops.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Tram Services output.

Transport Infrastructure

Improving safety and security on the regional network

Funding is provided to improve safety outcomes for regional rail passengers and staff by installing CCTV cameras at Little River Station, upgrading CCTV cameras at Ballarat Station and designing future CCTV improvements at Ballarat and Beaufort stations.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Transport Infrastructure and Transport Safety and Security outputs.

Next steps for future Melton Line electrification

Funding is provided to undertake planning and development activities for the future electrification of the Melton rail line.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Transport Infrastructure output.

Train station amenities clean-up and telecommunications upgrades

Funding is provided to address operational issues on the train network by replacing various public transport network telecommunication assets and systems and removing more graffiti from the rail network.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's Transport Infrastructure and Train Services – Metropolitan output.

Transport Safety and Security

Critical public and active transport upgrades

Funding is provided to improve connections and safety on Victoria's public and active transport network including:

- installation of tactile ground surface indicators at Clifton Hill, Northcote and Eaglemont train stations
- critical pedestrian safety upgrades and bicycle parking facilities at Donnybrook Station
- pedestrian safety improvements along Corio-Waurn Ponds Road
- amenity improvements for Broadmeadows Station
- traffic signal installation on Todd Road, Port Melbourne.

This initiative includes funding from the Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Transport and Planning's:

- Transport Safety and Security output
- Road Operations output.

DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY AND FINANCE

Output initiatives

Table 1.24: Output initiatives – Treasury and Finance (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Commercial and Infrastructure Advice					
Boosting return to work support and creating safer workplaces for Victorians	..	6.5	6.9	4.6	4.4
Social Housing Growth Fund and Affordable Housing Investment Partnerships expansion	173.7	113.0	128.5	169.3	189.2
Economic and Policy Advice					
Fuel Excise Relief	109.3	..	..	..	..
Industrial Relations					
Fair and productive Victorian workplaces	..	3.1	3.1	..	..
Total output initiatives	283.0	122.7	138.5	173.9	193.5

Commercial and Infrastructure Advice

Boosting return to work support and creating safer workplaces for Victorians

Funding is provided to expand supports for injured workers and improve workplace safety, including expanding mental injury prevention initiatives in the Victorian Public Sector, trialling new return to work pilot programs, and strengthening WorkSafe’s enforcement efforts for high-risk industries.

Funding is also provided to trial new models of support for families following a workplace fatality.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Treasury and Finance’s Commercial and Infrastructure Advice output.

Social Housing Growth Fund and Affordable Housing Investment Partnerships expansion

Funding is provided to support an expansion of investment in the Social Housing Growth Fund to deliver more than 7 000 new social housing homes, to be delivered by the community housing sector over the 10 years to 2035-36, and more than 22 000 homes over 30 years. Ten per cent of homes delivered through this initiative will support more and better housing supply and services for First Peoples.

Funding will provide support for Affordable Housing Investment Partnerships to be maximised through the recycling of repaid and unused loans.

Funding for this initiative is linked to the Early Intervention Investment Framework.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Treasury and Finance’s Commercial and Infrastructure Advice output.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing’s Housing Assistance output.

Economic Policy and Advice

Fuel Excise Relief

Funding is provided to support Victoria's contribution to the Commonwealth for national fuel relief efforts committed to by states and territories on 2 April 2026. Combined with the halving of fuel excise, this will help support the total temporary reduction in excise on petrol and diesel of 32 cents per litre for the period of 1 April 2026 to 30 June 2026.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Treasury and Finance's Economic and Policy Advice output.

Industrial Relations

Fair and productive Victorian workplaces

Funding is provided to support the Workforce Inspectorate Victoria, including continued delivery of education, compliance and enforcement activities to ensure fair, safe and productive workplaces.

This initiative contributes to the Department of Treasury and Finance's Industrial Relations output.

PARLIAMENT AND INTEGRITY AGENCIES

Output initiatives

Table 1.25: Output initiatives – Parliament and Integrity Agencies (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission					
Oversight of new police powers	..	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Supporting the operations of the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission	0.3	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Victorian Ombudsman					
Supporting the operations of the Victorian Ombudsman	..	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Total output initiatives	0.3	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5

Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission

Oversight of new police powers

Funding is provided to support the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission in carrying out its legislative responsibility to oversee Victoria Police’s new powers under the *Criminal Organisations Control Act 2012* and *Drugs, Poisons & Controlled Substances Act 1981*.

This initiative contributes to Parliament’s Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission output.

Supporting the operations of the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission

Funding is provided to deliver the key priorities of the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission, ensuring that it operates effectively and efficiently into the future.

This initiative contributes to Parliament’s Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission output.

Victorian Ombudsman

Supporting the operations of the Victorian Ombudsman

Funding is provided to deliver the key priorities of the Victorian Ombudsman, ensuring that it continues to operate effectively and efficiently into the future.

This initiative contributes to Parliament’s Victorian Ombudsman output.

Asset initiatives

Table 1.26: Asset initiatives – Parliament and Integrity Agencies (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	TEI
Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission						
Supporting the operations of the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission	1.2	1.0	0.8	1.0	..	4.1
Total asset initiatives	1.2	1.0	0.8	1.0	..	4.1

Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission

Supporting the operations of the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission

Refer to the output initiative for a description of this initiative.

COURT SERVICES VICTORIA

Output initiatives

Table 1.27: Output initiatives – Court Services Victoria (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Courts					
Fast-Tracking Homicide Cases	..	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
Total output initiatives	..	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8

Courts

Fast-Tracking Homicide Cases

Funding is provided to deliver the Fast-Tracking Homicide Cases program within the Supreme Court of Victoria, offering faster resolution of homicide proceedings.

This initiative contributes to Court Services Victoria’s Courts output.

Asset initiatives

Table 1.28: Asset initiatives – Court Services Victoria (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	TEI
Courts						
Maintaining our court buildings	..	10.6	..	..	..	10.6
Meeting the requirements of the <i>Bail Further Amendment Act 2025</i>	..	1.5	..	..	..	1.5
Total asset initiatives	..	12.1	..	..	..	12.1

Courts

Maintaining our court buildings

Funding is provided to undertake asset maintenance, repairs and renewal works to court buildings across Victoria.

This initiative contributes to Court Services Victoria’s Courts output.

Meeting the requirements of the Bail Further Amendment Act 2025

Funding is provided to ensure the Magistrates’ Court of Victoria is well equipped to meet the requirements resulting from the *Bail Further Amendment Act 2025*, especially in relation to case management infrastructure.

This initiative contributes to Court Services Victoria’s Courts output.

REVENUE INITIATIVES

Table 1.29: Revenue Initiatives

(\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Cessation of motor vehicle duty concession for luxury green passenger cars	12.0	12.6	13.3
Extending the temporary off-the-plan stamp duty concession for apartments, units and townhouses for a further 6 months	..	(0.6)	(6.8)	(11.7)	(13.6)
Indexing the payroll tax income per student threshold for lower-fee non-government schools	..	(1.6)	(4.9)	(7.9)	(13.5)
Total revenue initiatives^(a)	..	(2.2)	0.3	(7.0)	(13.9)

Note:

(a) Revenue estimates reflect the expectation that relevant enabling legislation will pass the Victorian Parliament and receive Royal Assent.

Cessation of motor vehicle duty concession for luxury green passenger cars

From 1 July 2027, green passenger vehicles above the luxury car threshold will no longer be charged a lower rate of motor vehicle duty than other standard passenger vehicles. The proportion of sales in Victoria of new light vehicles that are battery electric, plug-in hybrid electric or hybrid electric vehicles has grown from 11 per cent in the first quarter of 2022 to 35 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2025. A wide range of green vehicle models is now available in the market, with a growing number of new electric vehicles available for around \$40 000.

This change will only affect a small proportion of green vehicle sales, with less than 10 per cent of green passenger vehicles sold in 2024-25 above that year's luxury threshold of \$80 567.

This change will increase fairness among Victorian taxpayers as luxury green vehicles will be charged the same rate of duty as standard luxury vehicles. Green vehicles pay less or no fuel excise, and this will help ensure that all vehicle purchasers are contributing to infrastructure and services, including building and maintaining Victoria's roads.

Extending the temporary off-the-plan stamp duty concession for apartments, units and townhouses for a further 6 months

The temporary land transfer duty concession for off-the-plan apartments, townhouses, and units will be extended for an additional six months. The concession will now apply to contracts signed on or after 21 October 2024 and before 21 April 2027.

The concession will reduce upfront costs for purchasers, speed up construction, and make it more affordable to buy off-the-plan. Additional off-the-plan purchases will help kick-start residential developments that have been approved but are currently on hold due to a lack of pre-sales.

Indexing the payroll tax income per student threshold for lower-fee non-government schools

The Government has brought forward a review of the income per student threshold for the non-government schools payroll tax exemption and will align the threshold with the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS) going forward.

From 1 July 2026, non-government schools with an income per student up to \$16 397 will be exempt from payroll tax. The income per student threshold will increase each year in line with the SRS amount for secondary students determined and published by the Commonwealth Government. Eligibility for the payroll tax exemption for non-government schools will continue to be assessed against the latest available income per student data and the revised threshold.

This change acquits the Government's commitment to review payroll tax policy settings for non-government schools ahead of the 2029 school year.

SAVINGS INITIATIVES

Table 1.30: Savings Initiatives (\$ million)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Whole of Government savings and efficiencies	..	37.6	219.9	167.1	182.9
Total savings initiatives	..	37.6	219.9	167.1	182.9

Whole of Government savings and efficiencies

The Government remains committed to delivering responsible savings and improving the efficiency of public services, while ensuring Victorians continue to have access to essential services, including in health, housing, education, transport and community safety.

Building on the Government’s Response to the Independent Review of Victoria’s Public Service, published in December 2025, further savings and efficiencies will be implemented across government to ensure programs continue to be focused on government priorities.

These measures include back of house efficiencies, such as shared service reforms, and centralisation of IT services like network connections, cloud and storage, security and desktop services together under the Government Services portfolio.

APPENDIX A – LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL RELATIONS

This appendix provides an overview of the local government sector in Victoria and highlights the *2026-27 Budget* initiatives that affect councils.

Local government is a distinct and essential tier of government, enshrined in Victoria's Constitution. Victoria has 79 councils providing a wide range of services and infrastructure. Many Victorian Government programs are delivered by, or in partnership with, local governments.

SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE AND EFFECTIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Councils play a critical role in creating liveable, inclusive, and sustainable communities. Councils deliver vital services and infrastructure, support local economies, and provide meaningful local democracy and governance.

The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) came into effect on 24 March 2020. The Act introduced a principles-based approach to the operations of Victoria's 79 councils, empowering councils to tailor their policies and plans to meet the needs of their local communities. The Act emphasises community engagement, including explicitly recognising the Aboriginal community as an important part of the municipal community. It also introduced a new, robust governance framework and universal standards of conduct.

The *Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Act 2024* made a number of amendments to the Act to enhance standards of governance and conduct across the local government sector. These reforms to the Act, and associated regulations, aim to support improved integrity, accountability and governance at Victoria's 79 councils. The reforms include the introduction of a mandatory Model Councillor Code of Conduct, a program of mandatory annual training for all councillors, mayors and deputy mayors, and stronger sanctions for councillor misconduct.

Victoria's local government sector faces challenges that affect its performance. In particular, interface and rural councils face challenges resulting from population movements and local economic circumstances.

The Government remains committed to ensuring that the impact of council rates on the cost of living is minimised through the Fair Go Rates System. Victorian council rate rises have been capped at 2.75 per cent for 2026-27 in line with the forecast CPI for the same year. Councils remain able to apply to the Essential Services Commission for a higher cap amount.

Improvements to the local government performance reporting framework will be implemented in 2026-27 following amendments to the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*. New performance indicators for council governance, financial management and environment will enhance public transparency and accountability of \$12 billion of local government expenditure.

An ongoing investment of \$4.9 million per year towards the Municipal Emergency Resourcing Program supports the capacity and capability of councils to prepare for emergencies.

The Government will continue to support the delivery of public library services and programs across the state and provide local communities with access to physical and electronic resources, community programs and services, computer facilities and meeting spaces.

FUNDING SOURCES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN VICTORIA

Victorian councils spend around \$12.4 billion a year.¹ Councils have vital responsibilities that include community services, planning, local roads, waste management, recreation and cultural activities.

Rates revenue of \$7.9 billion in 2024-25 (\$7.5 billion in 2023-24) comprised 51 per cent of total revenue. The second largest revenue stream for the sector was government grants revenue, totalling \$2.8 billion in 2024-25 (\$1.7 billion in 2023-24).

The Government provides local government with exemptions from land and payroll tax, the Mental Health and Wellbeing Levy and the COVID Debt Levy. It is estimated that these exemptions will benefit Victorian councils by around \$933 million in 2026-27 (refer to Tables 5.2 and 5.4 in Budget Paper No. 5 *Statement of Finances*).

Table A.1: Grants and transfers to local government (\$ thousand)

<i>Department</i>	<i>2025-26 budget</i>	<i>2025-26 revised</i>	<i>2026-27 budget</i>
Education	241 887	141 797	233 977
Energy, Environment and Climate Action	5 907	49 324	32 069
Families, Fairness and Housing	4 209	4 209	4 209
Government Services	970 989	541 421	978 186
Health	11 810	11 529	13 274
Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions	463 112	163 861	158 300
Justice and Community Safety	13 882	35 169	26 675
Premier and Cabinet	4 097	4 097	4 097
Transport and Planning	168 051	138 341	142 171
Treasury and Finance	10 429	..	..
Total grants	1 894 373	1 089 809	1 592 957

Local Government Victoria, within the Department of Government Services, provides the majority of funds to local government. For 2026-27 it is estimated that around \$867.3 million of total grants will be Commonwealth financial assistance grants, including local road and general purpose grants that are passed on to local government in their entirety. This amount is higher than the \$831.1 million provided by the Commonwealth in 2025-26. All administration costs are borne by the Department of Government Services.

¹ Victorian Auditor-General's Results of 2024-25 Audits: Local Governments.

As shown in Table A.1, grants and transfers to local government are expected to be \$1 089.8 million in 2025-26. This is a decrease of \$805 million from the original 2025-26 estimate of \$1 894 million. The key drivers of the variance in 2025-26 include:

- Department of Government Services – a decrease in grants and transfers mainly due to the bring forward of 50 per cent of the 2025-26 Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant program allocation to 2024-25
- Department of Education – a decrease in grants and transfers mainly driven by an operating rephase for the *Ready for school: kinder for every three-year-old* program from 2025-26 to 2026-27
- Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions – a decrease in grants and transfers mainly driven by an account realignment and rephasing of funding for the Regional Sports Infrastructure Program.

This is partially offset by:

- Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action – an increase in grants and transfers due to additional funding allocated to various relief and recovery initiatives, alongside additional Commonwealth funding for the Urban Rivers and Catchments Program.

The *2026-27 Budget* provides an estimated \$1 593 million in grants and transfers to local government in 2026-27. This represents an increase of \$503 million from the 2025-26 revised figures. The key drivers relate to:

- Department of Government Services – an increase in grants and transfers mainly due to the bring forward of 50 per cent of the 2025-26 Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant program payments to 2024-25
- Department of Education – an increase in grants and transfers mainly driven by the rephase for the *Ready for school: kinder for every three-year-old* program due to movements in project delivery timelines.

This is partially offset by:

- Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action – a decrease in grant funding primarily due to additional once-off funding for various relief and recovery initiatives associated with the 2026 Victorian bushfires that were provided in 2025-26, alongside various other initiative funding profile changes.

The value of grants and transfers made to local government by a number of departments is also expected to increase due to the funding of *2026-27 Budget* initiatives listed later in this appendix.

Disaster Response

Emergency Management Victoria, within the Department of Justice and Community Safety, administers the Commonwealth's Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA), which provides financial assistance to councils affected by disasters such as bushfires, floods and severe storms. The DRFA standard assistance measures are used to reimburse eligible costs incurred by councils, including emergency assistance for individuals, counter-disaster operations and in the repair and reinstatement of damaged essential public assets.

DRFA special financial assistance measures were also made available for significant disaster events. The funding for the various special measures may be made directly to the departments and agencies delivering the initiatives or to Emergency Management Victoria to administer. Actual natural disaster financial assistance expenditure fluctuates each year depending on the number and scale of natural disasters that have occurred, and claims submitted. Funding flowing from the standard and special DRFA measures can follow up to three years from the date of the natural disaster. Assistance may also be provided to councils outside of the DRFA that is directly provided by various Victorian Government agencies.

2026-27 BUDGET INITIATIVES

This section outlines the key *2026-27 Budget* initiatives by department that will be undertaken in partnership with local government. This includes initiatives that broadly affect local government. Funding details for each of these initiatives are provided in Chapter 1 *Output, asset investment, savings and revenue initiatives*.

Department of Education

The Department of Education works with local government to plan, provide or facilitate early childhood services and provides financial support including capital grants for this purpose.

The Department of Education's *2026-27 Budget* initiatives that affect local government include:

- Early Childhood Language Program
- Kindergarten Building Blocks Improvement and Inclusion grants.

Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action works in close partnership with local government to deliver community infrastructure and support environmental protection – this includes the safe disposal of household hazardous chemicals and hard-to-recycle products.

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's *2026-27 Budget* initiatives that affect local government include:

- Better community facilities
- Detox Your Home
- Investment in people in agriculture.

Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions

The Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions works closely with local government to deliver a broad range of programs across Victoria, providing financial and in-kind support in areas such as regional development, small business, and sport and recreation.

The Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' *2026-27 Budget* initiatives that affect local government include:

- Community sports infrastructure and participation initiatives
- Future regions
- Ride High Country Activation Program
- Small Business Activation Fund.

Department of Transport and Planning

The Department of Transport and Planning works with local government to deliver a range of initiatives, including local infrastructure and roads that benefit Victorian communities. This can include providing financial and in-kind support to local government.

The Department of Transport and Planning's *2026-27 Budget* initiatives that affect local government include:

- School Crossing Supervisor Program.

Department of Justice and Community Safety

The Department of Justice and Community Safety works closely with local government through Emergency Recovery Victoria to provide support to local communities affected by emergency events.

The Department of Justice and Community Safety's *2026-27 Budget* initiatives that affect local government include:

- Bushfire relief and recovery.

Department of Government Services

The Department of Government Services works closely with local government to deliver key outputs relied on by the community alongside providing funding to local governments, so they can function efficiently.

The Department of Government Services *2026-27 Budget* initiatives that affect local government include:

- Bushfire relief and recovery.

APPENDIX B – EARLY INTERVENTION INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK

This section outlines the *2026-27 Budget* initiatives that contribute to the Early Intervention Investment Framework (EIIF) package. The EIIF has been embedded in the budget process since 2021-22 and uses an evidence-based approach to guide investment in social services towards more effective early intervention programs, with annual tracking of outcomes for each initiative required ahead of the budget to strengthen evidence available for Government’s decision-making.

The EIIF prioritises programs with strong social outcomes and fiscal benefits, with the aims of improving outcomes for the Victorian community, easing demand for government services, and incrementally shifting the balance of funding from acute to preventative services in the social system.

The *2026-27 Budget* provides \$561.7 million of new funding over five years to deliver 26 early interventions as well as a transfer of \$859.7 million into the Social Housing Growth Fund to support an uplift in capacity to deliver additional social housing dwellings over ten years. Table B.1 outlines the full list of 27 early interventions in this budget. Taken together, this represents investment of over \$1.4 billion in early intervention.

These EIIF programs are expected to generate over \$1 billion of financial and economic benefits over the next 10 years. This includes approximately \$395 million in avoided costs, through reduced need for government services, and approximately \$1.4 billion in economic benefits. The 26 new early interventions deliver total financial and economic benefits that are greater than funding. Economic benefits include increased earnings and labour participation, reduced healthcare costs, as well as social security costs to the Commonwealth Government.

This year’s EIIF package features programs developed through strong partnerships with service users and providers, including a Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation-led First Peoples health initiative – the Nest.² Additionally, the SunSmart Program was developed in close collaboration with Deakin University and the Victorian Cancer Council.³ Collaborative development has strengthened these programs’ design.

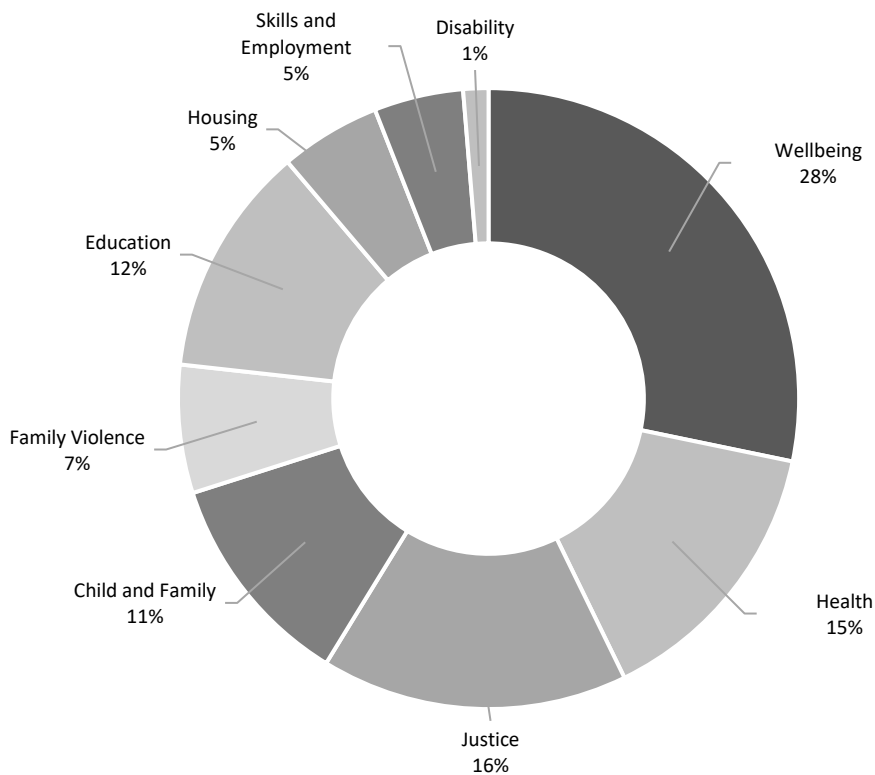
This year’s EIIF package also features an expansion of investment in the Social Housing Growth Fund, which will provide an uplift in the capacity of the Fund to deliver more than 7 000 new social housing homes over 10 years.

² The full name of this initiative is ‘The Nest – Improving social and emotional wellbeing for Aboriginal children and families’.

³ The SunSmart Program is part of the ‘Investing in cancer care, research and outcomes’ initiative.

Annual outcomes reporting for interventions in this budget is expected to cover a range of domains related to improved client outcomes, such as wellbeing, health, and justice, (Figure B.1) as well as tracking reduced service usage for Victorian government services. These impacts are tracked using information from client surveys, program reporting and government-linked data.

Figure B.1: Outcomes expected from EIIF programs (a)



Source: Department of Treasury and Finance

Note:

(a) The graph represents expected outcomes from EIIF initiatives funded in previous budgets as a percentage of total service impact areas.

Programs funded through the EIIF report annually on their delivered impact to help Government review and validate whether programs are performing as intended. Recent data shows that programs are delivering strong impact and improving outcomes for Victorians with 85 per cent of outcome measures achieving or exceeding targets.

Further, programs report on outcomes linked to demand for acute Victorian government services (e.g. less use of emergency department or child protection services) where possible as they are important indicators of successful early intervention and improved outcomes for users. Recent data show that 83 per cent of these measures are achieving or exceeding targets.

Table B.1: Early Intervention investments

Output initiative	EIIIF funding ^(a) (\$ million)	Key impact areas	Estimated EIIIF impacts over 10 years		
			Avoided costs (\$ million)	Economic benefit ^(b) (\$ million)	≈Cohort size (people)
Department of Education^(c)					
In-demand careers for secondary students	58.3	Education; Skills and Employment	<5	40–60	12 000
Supporting best practice teaching and learning	10.0	Education	<5	<20	5 000
Supporting students at risk of suspension, expulsion and contact with youth justice through early intervention	5-year: 7.4 10-year: 19.1	Education; Justice; Wellbeing	<5	<20	4 000
Department of Families, Fairness and Housing					
Continued support for Victorians with disability	32.4	Child and Family; Disability; Health; Wellbeing	10–15	<20	3 000
Continuing supportive housing for rough sleepers using a Housing First model ^(d)	15.1	Housing	<5	<20	100
Family violence response	47.1	Family Violence; Justice; Wellbeing	100–105	20–40	24 000
LGBTIQ+ strategy – A Safe and Proud Victoria	2.0	Youth; Health; Wellbeing	<5	<20	<100
Strong Families, Safe Children: Restoring families	155.5	Child and Family; Justice; Wellbeing	55–60	<20	6 000
Department of Health					
Community-based chronic disease program	20.1	Health	40–45	<20	5 000
Expanding mental health Hospital in the Home	29.7	Health; Wellbeing	20–25	<20	600
Hospital care for older people at residential aged care facilities	17.0	Health	15–20	<20	12 000
Improving life-saving organ and tissue donation rates	20.3	Health	25–30	20–40	100
Investing in cancer care, research and outcomes ^(e)	6.5	Health	10–15	240–260	6 500 000
Reducing and eliminating blood-borne viruses and sexually transmitted infections	1.6	Health	<5	<20	2 000
Supporting older patients who do not have decision-making capacity	5.1	Health	15–20	<20	700
Supports for people with disability outside of the NDIS	20.0	Health; Disability	<5	20–40	9 000
The Nest – Improving social and emotional wellbeing for Aboriginal children and families ^(f)	13.2	Health; Wellbeing	<5	<20	2 000
Urgent care in the community	10.0	Health	10–15	<20	64 000

Output initiative	Estimated EIIIF impacts over 10 years				
	EIIIF funding ^(a) (\$ million)	Key impact areas	Avoided costs (\$ million)	Economic benefit ^(b) (\$ million)	≈Cohort size (people)
Department of Justice and Community Safety					
Blue Light Crime Prevention and Early Intervention Initiatives	9.5	Justice; Wellbeing	<5	<20	5 000
Enhancing legal assistance for Victorians	10.0	Justice; Child and Family; Family Violence; Housing	<5	<20	9 000
Maintaining investment in Aboriginal community-based justice solutions	8.1	Justice; Family Violence; Housing	<5	<20	200
Protecting Victoria through preventing and countering violent extremism	1.7	Justice; Skills and Employment; Health	<5	<20	300
Supporting a safe and effective corrections system ^(e)	16.6	Justice; Housing	<5	<20	100
Supporting a safe and effective youth justice system	3.2	Justice	<5	<20	100
Youth crime prevention package	8.1	Justice	<5	<20	300
Sub-total for service delivery	528.4		362.5^(h)	580⁽ⁱ⁾	
Enabler funding					
<i>Department of Health</i>					
Additional paediatric planned surgery and specialist care	33.3				
Sub-total for EIIIF enablers	33.3				
Total funding	561.7				
Department of Treasury and Finance					
Social Housing Growth Fund	859.7 ⁽ⁱ⁾	Housing	30–35 ^(k)	600–1 100 ^(l)	10 500 ^(m)

Notes:

- (a) Funding is outlined as five-year totals, with 10-year funding indicated where it differs. Note that 10-year funding commences from year 2026-27, and none of the 26 newly-funded EIIIF initiatives have any funding in 2025-26.
- (b) Estimated economic benefits capture the direct impact on individuals rather than broader economic impacts (e.g. labour force participation, Commonwealth Government welfare expenditure and reduced cost incurred by individuals). Estimates generally exclude macroeconomic factors such as productivity and taxation deadweight loss, making economic benefits an underestimate of total economic impacts.
- (c) Education avoided costs will typically be lower, as the benefits of these initiatives accrue beyond the 10-year measurement period for avoided costs, and measurement of avoided costs for these initiatives is difficult. Consequently, the ranges presented here are likely understated.
- (d) Avoided costs for this initiative are conservatively modelled due to lack of available evidence and are likely to be understated. Outcomes reporting through the EIIIF is intended to help build this evidence.
- (e) Impact modelling for the SunSmart Program was developed in consultation with Deakin University, the Victorian Cancer Council, the Department of Health and the Department of Treasury and Finance. The estimation of economic benefits also relies on a comparable program and evidence in Western Australia (WA), which DTF has adjusted to account for varying prevalence of skin cancer in Victoria compared to WA.
- (f) This initiative was developed through a Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO) led co-design process, and impact modelling was undertaken in consultation with VACCHO, the Department of Health and the Department of Treasury and Finance.
- (g) This initiative includes an additional asset funding of \$0.669 million TEI.
- (h) This figure is the midpoint of the avoided costs range across all initiatives. The range calculated by summing lower and upper bound estimates for initiatives respectively is \$300 million to \$425 million.
- (i) This figure is the midpoint of the economic benefits range across all initiatives. The range calculated by summing lower and upper bound estimates for initiatives respectively is \$340 million to \$820 million.

Notes (continued):

- (j) This refers to \$859.7 million for the Social Housing Growth Fund, which is made up from \$86 million under Whole of Government – First Peoples output initiatives and \$773.7 million under Department of Treasury and Finance output initiatives. This funding is invested into the Social Housing Growth Fund and returns from this investment will be used to fund social housing dwellings.*
- (k) Note that avoided costs for the Social Housing Growth Fund are comparatively small, compared to the investment figure, as many of the avoided costs from social housing only accrue when both the housing and additional government services that complement housing are in place, and due to construction lead times before people are housed.*
- (l) The economic benefit for the Social Housing Growth Fund includes estimated job creation and economic activity in the construction industry as result of the investment.*
- (m) Total number of dwellings estimated to be funded by the Social Housing Growth Fund is 7 000, with each dwelling on average estimated to house 1.5 tenants.*

STYLE CONVENTIONS

Figures in the tables and in the text have been rounded. Discrepancies in tables between totals and sums of components reflect rounding. Percentage changes in all tables are based on the underlying unrounded amounts.

The notation used in the tables and charts is as follows:

n.a. or na	not available or not applicable
1 billion	1 000 million
1 basis point	0.01 per cent
..	amounts equal to zero
0.0	amounts rounded to zero
tbc	to be confirmed
ongoing	continuing output, program, project etc.
(x xxx.x)	negative amount
x xxx.0	rounded amount

Please refer to the **Treasury and Finance glossary for budget and financial reports** at dtf.vic.gov.au for additional terms and references.

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