

National Housing and Homelessness Agreement – Victorian statement of assurance for the 2020-21 financial year

This statement provides an assurance that for the 2020-21 financial year Victoria has satisfied the requirements of the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement set out in clause 17 ('Outputs'), clause 46 ('General Funding') and clause 49 ('Homelessness Funding').

As required by the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement, this statement also includes the following information:

- a) actual Commonwealth funding and expenditure under this Agreement separately identified for housing and homelessness and State-own funding and expenditure in respect of the social housing and homelessness sectors for the relevant financial year;
 - i. actual homelessness expenditure will be disaggregated to separately identify each of the national priority homelessness cohorts for the relevant financial year;
- b) estimated Commonwealth funding and expenditure under this Agreement separately identified for housing and homelessness and State-own funding and expenditure in respect of the social housing and homelessness sectors for the subsequent financial year.

Housing and homelessness funding and expenditure

Table 1. Commonwealth funding and expenditure to Victoria under the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement separately identified for housing and homelessness

	2020-21 actual (\$ million)	2021-22 estimated (\$ million)	Key changes/ reasons for variation between estimates and actual expenditure in 2020-21
Housing	206.57	213.21	Variation due to actual funding received from the Commonwealth.
Homelessness	206.57	213.21	Variation due to reduction in Commonwealth funding to the Social and Community Services Equal Remuneration Order (SACS ERO) parity payment.
TOTAL	413.15	426.43	

Table 2. Victorian Government funding and expenditure on social housing and homelessness

	2020-21 actual (\$ million)*	2021-22 estimated (\$ million)*	Key changes/ reasons for variation between estimates and actual expenditure in 2020-21
Social housing	1,307.65	1,176.51	2020-21 actual expenditure is higher than estimates communicated in last year's report due to housing stimulus funding publicly announced by the State Government.
Homelessness	355.17	374.16	2020-21 actual expenditure is higher than estimates communicated in last year's report due to emergency management support arising from COVID-19.
TOTAL	1,662.82	1,550.66	

Notes:

* These figures are based on 2020-21 full year actual expense.

Disaggregated homelessness expenditure

As agreed in Victoria's bilateral agreement with the Commonwealth, Victoria will meet the requirement for actual homelessness expenditure to be disaggregated to separately identify each of the national priority homelessness cohorts for the relevant financial year, by:

- including disaggregated expenditure against the national priority cohorts; however, where not possible, expenditure will be identified as expenditure on general homelessness services
- providing additional supporting information, including a description of the general homelessness services and information relating to the proportion of clients from the national priority cohorts supported by homelessness services in Victoria.

Table 3. Homelessness expenditure for the 2020-21 financial year

Priority homelessness cohort	Expenditure in 2020-21 (\$ million)	Proportion of clients	Please provide an explanation of the counting methodology used to determine expenditure for each priority cohort.
Women and children affected by family and domestic violence	169.84	43%	The total amount of funding provided to organisations for specific services to accommodate women and children affected by family violence, and funding from Family Safety Victoria for this cohort, as a proportion of the total funding allocated for homelessness services.
Children and young people	79.34	36%	The total amount of funding provided to organisations for specific services to accommodate young people and children, as a

			proportion of the total funding allocated for homelessness services.
Indigenous Australians	11.59	9%	The total amount of funding provided to organisations for specific services to accommodate Aboriginal people, as a proportion of the total funding allocated for homelessness services.
People experiencing repeat homelessness	10.89	6%	The total amount of funding provided to organisations for specific services to accommodate rough sleepers, as a proportion of the total funding allocated for homelessness services.
People exiting institutions and care into homelessness	4.04	6%	The total amount of funding provided to organisations for specific services to accommodate people exiting prisons and young people leaving care, as a proportion of the total funding allocated for homelessness services.
Older people	5.31	10%	The total amount of funding provided to organisations for specific services to accommodate older Victorians, as a proportion of the total funding allocated for homelessness services.
General homelessness services	312.04	Not applicable to client groups.	The total amount of funding provided to organisations for specific services to accommodate people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness (can include the above specific cohorts).
TOTAL	593.07	The proportion of clients supported will not be at 100% as cohorts are not mutually exclusive.	

Additional information

A description of general homelessness services in Victoria

A proportion of homelessness funding in Victoria is provided for general homelessness services, as shown in Table 3.

These services aim to serve a broad range of clients, based on the housing and support needs of the individual. As these programs are provided to people at risk of, or experiencing, homelessness according to need, and are not solely directed to any particular cohort, it is not possible for Victoria to disaggregate funding for these programs in this manner.

These services may include:

- assertive outreach;
- case managed support;

- brokerage and flexible funding to provide personalised and flexible responses;
- crisis and transitional accommodation, including youth refuges and family violence refuges;
- supportive housing for people with complex needs, including youth foyers and permanent supportive housing; and
- help to enter the private housing market through head leasing and private rental assistance.

Addendum 1 – Reporting on Victoria’s bilateral schedule

As per the terms of Victoria’s bilateral agreement, Victoria will publicly report against progress against targets for the following social housing and homelessness measures, outlined in Parts 2 and 3 of its bilateral agreement with the Commonwealth:

Social housing	Homelessness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total number of social housing dwellings • Number of households assisted with long term social housing (aggregate total for public, Aboriginal and community long-term tenancies at end of year) • Number of public housing dwellings upgraded during year • Total social housing dwellings acquired during the year • Percentage of social housing tenants satisfied with completed urgent maintenance works • Average waiting time for public rental housing for those clients who have received priority access housing allocation or a priority transfer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of clients assisted to address and prevent homelessness • Number of clients provided with accommodation (includes short, medium and long term accommodation as measured in the AIHW’s Specialist Homelessness Services Collection) • Proportion of clients where support to sustain housing tenure was provided or referred

Performance against targets for the 2020-21 financial year, and targets for the 2021-22 financial year, are publicly available in the Victorian Government Budget papers (Budget Paper 3, Chapter 2, Department of Families, Fairness and Housing).

Other key information relating to housing and homelessness services in Victoria is publicly available in the following reports, which are released on an annual basis:

- Victorian Government Budget Papers
- Victorian Department of Health and Human Services Annual Report
- Report on Government Services
- Specialist Homelessness Services Annual Report.