

Victorian Homelessness Conference 2017

Victorian Government Reforms
across the social policy portfolio

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Overview of key Victorian Government social policy reforms

1. Housing and Homelessness: *Homes for Victorians*
2. Families and Children: *Roadmap for Reform*
3. NDIS
4. Education State
5. Family Violence reform agenda
6. LGBTI reforms

Homes for Victorians



Roadmap for Reform

The Roadmap sets out a once-in-a-generation changes designed to improve the lives of vulnerable Victorian children, young people and families.

The Roadmap seeks to create a seamless system of support for children and families focused on early intervention and prevention, and building family capability. It is based on three reform directions:

1. building supportive and culturally strong communities and an enhanced role for universal services;
2. supporting children, young people and families in need with integrated wraparound supports and targeted early interventions; and
3. strengthening home-based care and improving outcomes for children and young people in out-of-home care.



We're getting an NDIS because we can't afford to not get an NDIS

“The current disability support system is underfunded, unfair, fragmented, and inefficient, and gives people with a disability little choice and no certainty”

“Eventually [the disability policy system] must either absorb more and more funds, or leave people in increasingly abhorrent conditions”

“The benefits of the scheme would significantly outweigh the costs”

Education State

The Education State vision is for a system that provides all students access to quality education, regardless of their background or circumstance.

Early Childhood

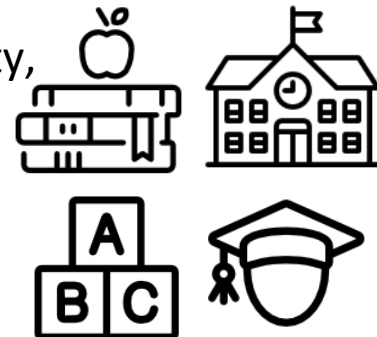
- Early Childhood Reform Plan, supported by \$202.1 million, to create a more equitable and inclusive early childhood system.

Schools

- Education State schools reforms, which include:
 - \$493.3 million for additional equity funding
 - Student support programs including Doctors in Secondary Schools, LOOKOUT, Navigator pilot and the School Breakfast Club Program
 - \$2.5 billion for school infrastructure

Training and Skills

- *Skills First* reforms which set a higher benchmark for training quality, support training that is most likely to lead to employment and recognize the unique role of TAFE.
- Reconnect Program to support high needs learners



Family Violence

The Victorian Budget 2017/18 included \$1.91 billion to help implement recommendations made by the landmark Family Violence Royal Commission into Family Violence.

- In February 2015 the Victorian Government launched Australia's first Royal Commission into Family Violence.
- The Royal Commission made 227 recommendations to transform Victoria's response to family violence; all recommendations were accepted.
- An initial investment of \$572 million was made to address the most urgent needs.
- Release of Victoria's *10 Year Plan for Change*.
- The Victorian Government has allocated a total budget of \$1.91 billion to family violence services and reform.
- The package includes \$448.1 million to establish 17 Support and Safety Hubs across the state that will serve as a visible contact point for victim survivors.



LGBTI Reforms

The Victorian Government values and celebrates diversity. It affirms the right to equality, fairness and decency for LGBTI Victorians and is committed to removing discrimination from Victorian laws, services and society.

- Since coming into office in November 2013, the Victorian Government has undertaken equality reforms; including:
 - Appointing the first Commissioner for Gender and Sexuality;
 - Changes to the *Adoption Amendment (Adoption by Same-Sex Couples) Act 2015* to allow couples to adopt regardless of their sex or gender identity;
 - A formal State apology to the people directly affected by Victorian laws that criminalised homosexual acts, and to the LGBTI community more broadly;
 - Fully funding the *Safe Schools* program; and
 - Establishing Victoria's first *Pride Centre*.



Social Service Reform – Governance Structure

