

Getting on with the job

Victorian Budget 17/18



Gender Equality Budget Statement

On 5 December 2016, Victoria's first Gender Equality Strategy *Safe and Strong* was released, initiating landmark reforms to deliver gender equality, and address sexism and violence against women.

The Victorian Government is leading the way towards gender equality with sustained, enduring and measurable action. The *Victorian Budget 2017/18* includes a range of initiatives demonstrating the Victorian Government's commitment to equality for all Victorians.

Victorian Government is a leader on gender equality

The Victorian Government is embedding gender equality in all of its decisions and actions, as well as modelling gender equality in the workplace, and ensuring efforts to improve gender equality are sustained over time. The Budget provides:

- \$50.7 million to deliver the Government's Strategy for the Prevention of Family Violence to promote gender equality and shift the attitudes and behaviours that cause family violence, including establishing a Prevention Agency
- \$2.5 million to expand a women's Victorian Government Leadership Program

Victorians live free from gendered norms, stereotypes and expectations

The Victorian Government is challenging the gender norms, attitudes and behaviours that support gender inequality. Our goal is to ensure participation in education, the economy and society is not limited by gender and that all Victorians are equally rewarded for their contribution in society. The Budget provides:

- \$6.2 million to drive female participation in sport by increasing representation on sporting boards, expanding the number of female sporting projects and promoting female role models, leaders and coaches
- \$1.4 million to promote women's self-employment opportunities and business skills
- \$1.1 million to improve financial security for vulnerable women through financial literacy programs



Victorians are empowered, healthy, safe and strong

The Victorian Government is working towards addressing the under-representation of women, including Aboriginal and culturally diverse women, in leadership and decision making. One of the Government's priorities is to make women and girls safer and more socially connected. The Budget provides:

- \$98.4 million for kindergarten initiatives that will help improve educational outcomes for girls
- \$81.1 million to expand and reform Maternal and Child Health and parenting support services, including supported play groups
- \$4.6 million to provide support for Aboriginal women at risk of family violence through the community programs Sisters Day Out, Dilly Bag and Young Luv as part of Government's investment to improve family violence prevention, early intervention and diversion in Aboriginal communities
- \$1.1 million to trial a Koori Women's Gathering Place to provide a culturally safe family violence service to Aboriginal women
- \$0.8 million to assist women to deliver gender equality in their community through social entrepreneur programs

Victorians value and champion gender equality

The Victorian Government is promoting and supporting a statewide commitment to, and leadership on, gender equality in community and not-for-profit organisations, sporting associations and clubs, and in the private sector. The Budget provides:

- \$4.0 million to expand the Female Friendly Facilities Program to build or upgrade women's change rooms and facilities
- \$1.7 million to re-establish the Rural Women's Network with employment, education and mentoring support for women living in rural areas

