

2023–24 Victorian State Budget

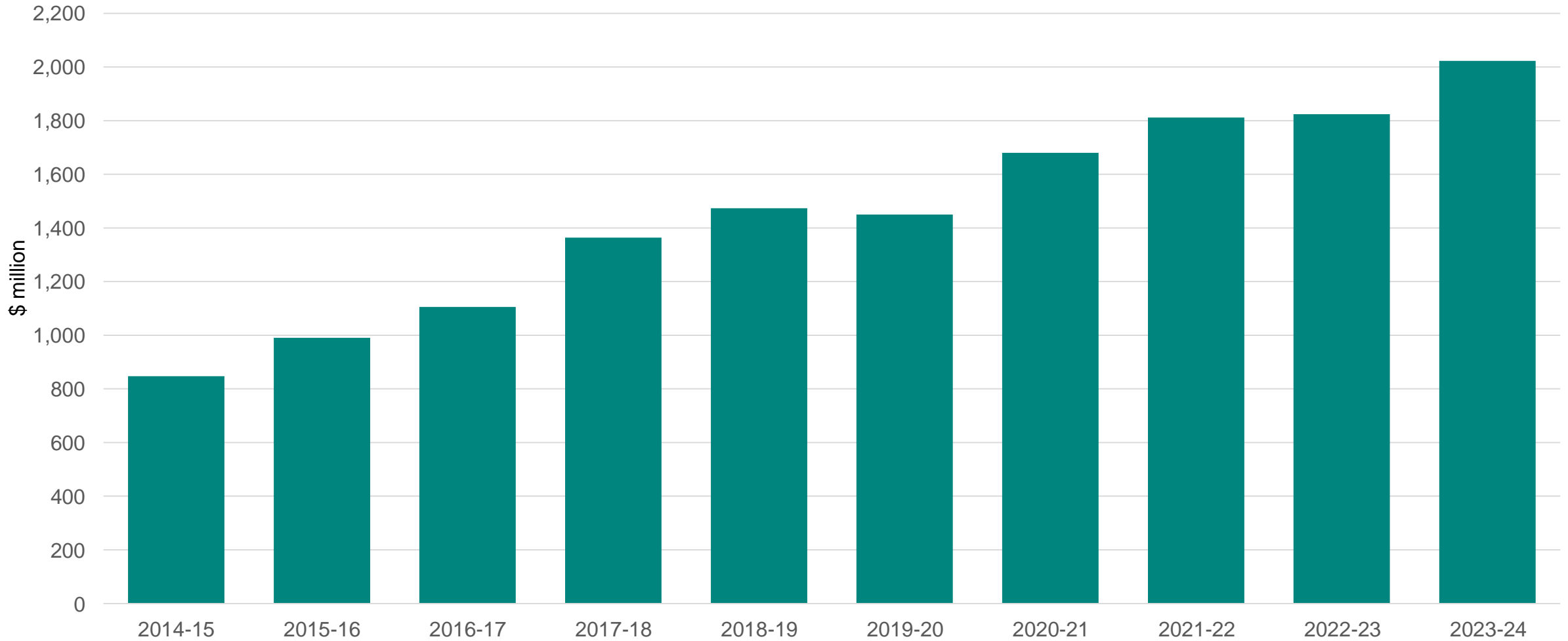
The Hon. Lizzie Blandthorn MP

Minister for Child Protection and Family Services

15 June 2023

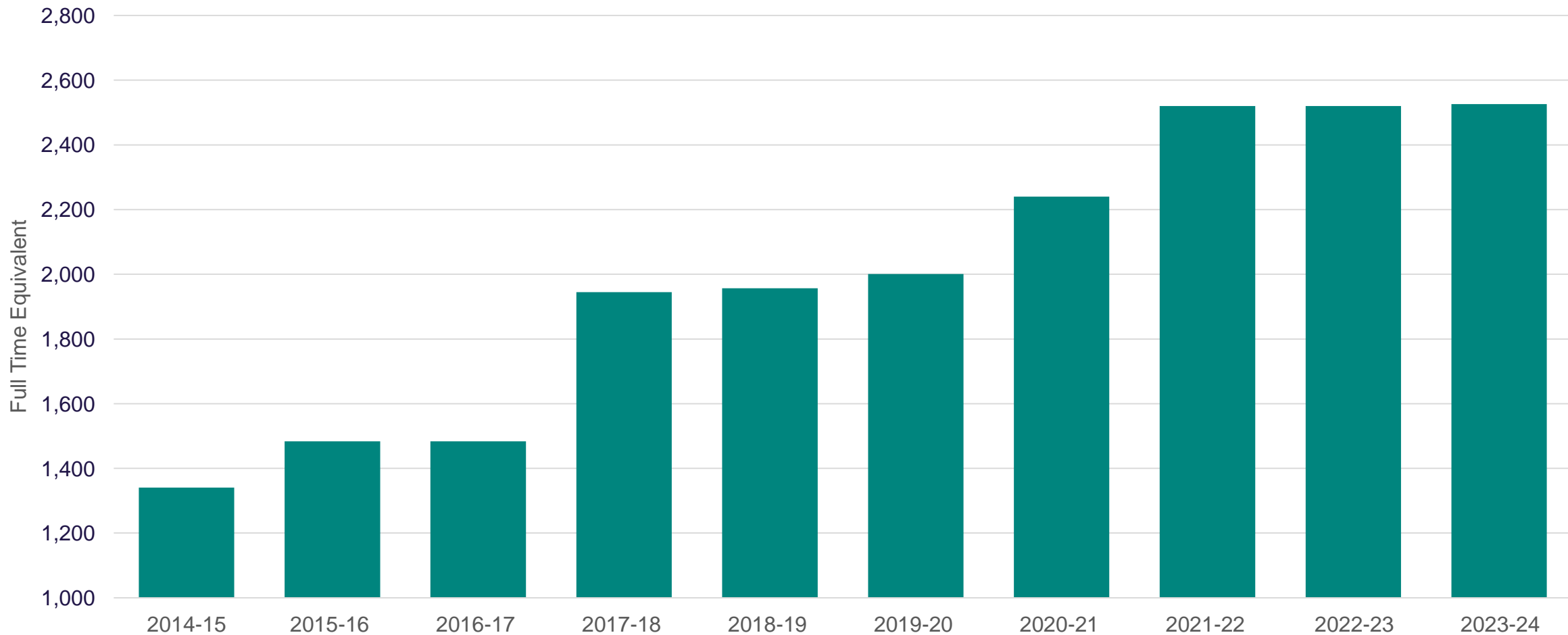
Growth in investment in the portfolio since 2014-15

The below graph shows the overall funding invested in the child protection and family services portfolio since 2014-15.



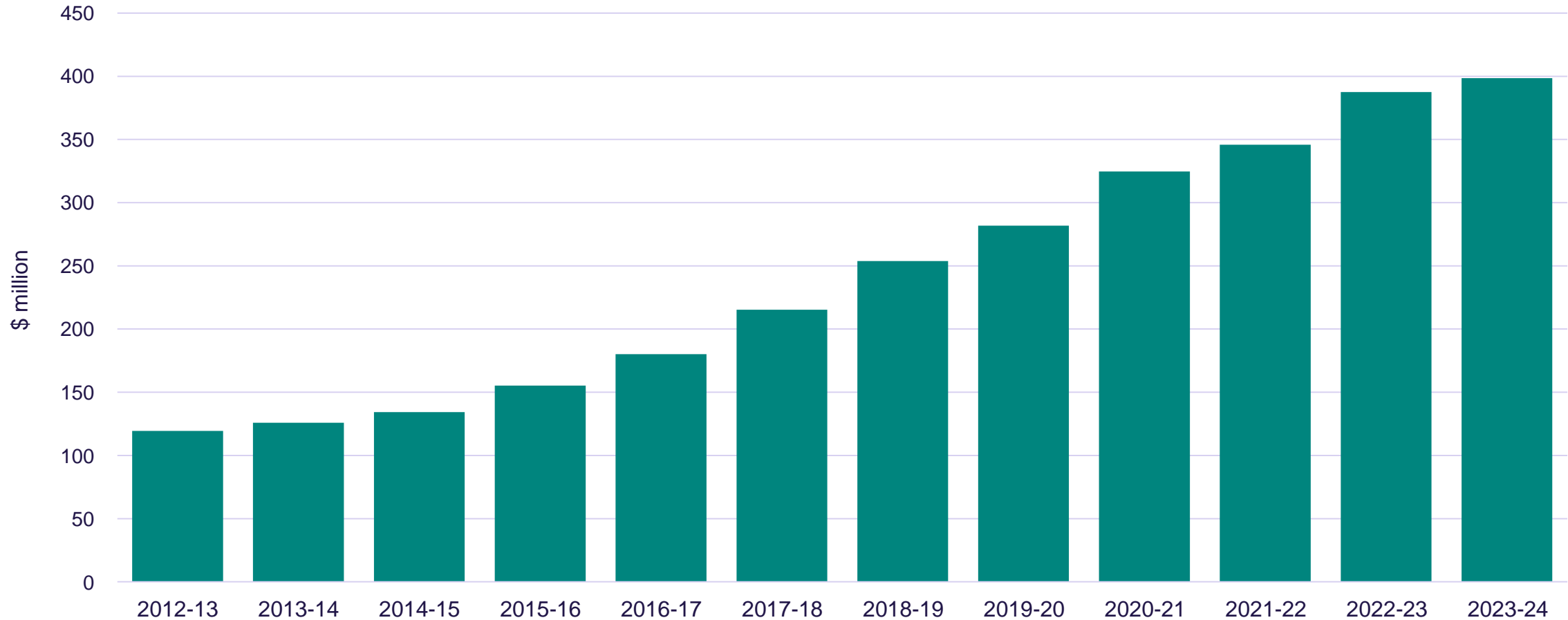
Growing and supporting our child protection workforce

Total funded child protection workforce since 2014-15



Growth in family services investment

Family services investment from 2012-13 to 2023-24



Our investment is directly benefiting children and families

Key outcomes from recent investment:

- › Over **3,500** families since July 2022 received individualised support from Early Help Family Services which work alongside universal services to support parents and build parenting capacity
- › **15** Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations are supporting Aboriginal children in care across Victoria
- › More than **4,000** families since September 2020 assisted by family preservation and reunification services that deliver evidence-based supports to keep children safely with their families and enable those in care to return home safely
- › Approximately **1,500** young people offered Home Stretch to remain with their carer or to live independently.



Better meeting the needs of Aboriginal children and families

\$140 million over 4 years is being invested to reduce Aboriginal overrepresentation in child protection and care services

This is the **largest ever single investment** to continue and expand the Aboriginal-led service system

\$49.5 million for prevention and early help:

- » 144 additional Koorie Supported Playgroups each year by 2025-26
- » 330 additional Aboriginal families receiving Aboriginal-led Family Services per year by 2025-26
- » 85 additional Aboriginal families receiving the Aboriginal Family Preservation and Reunification response each year by 2026-27
- › **\$63.9 million** to expand the Aboriginal Children in Aboriginal Care program to 774 more children authorised to an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation by June 2027
- › **\$13.7 million** to expand the trial of Community Protecting Boorais for up to 348 children by 2026-27
- › **\$13.0 million** for organisational development and workforce supports for Aboriginal organisations.

Improving supports in residential care

\$548.4 million over four years to improve outcomes for children and young people in residential care, the biggest single investment in care services in a decade.

Key initiatives include:

- › **\$100.4 million** for therapeutic support to enable all young people in residential care to have access to therapeutic supports by 2025-26
- › **\$168.7 million** for 2-and-3-bedroom residential care
- › **\$192.1 million** to continue targeted care packages which support children to live in suitable care arrangements and prevent entry into residential care, for example renting a larger house to enable siblings to remain together
- › **\$13.4 million** for additional supports to prevent and address child sexual exploitation.

PLUS:

\$32.5 million over four years for Housing First for young people leaving residential care



Accessibility statement and publisher information

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Except where otherwise indicated, the images in this presentation show models and illustrative settings only, and do not necessarily depict actual services, facilities or recipients of services. This presentation may contain images of deceased Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

In this presentation, 'Aboriginal' refers to both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. 'Indigenous' or 'Koori/Koorie' is retained when part of the title of a report, program or quotation.

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