

PAEC 2021-22 Budget Estimates Hearing Ingrid Stitt MP, Minister for Early Childhood



Monday 21 June 2021

2021-22 Budget overview

This year's Budget investment of

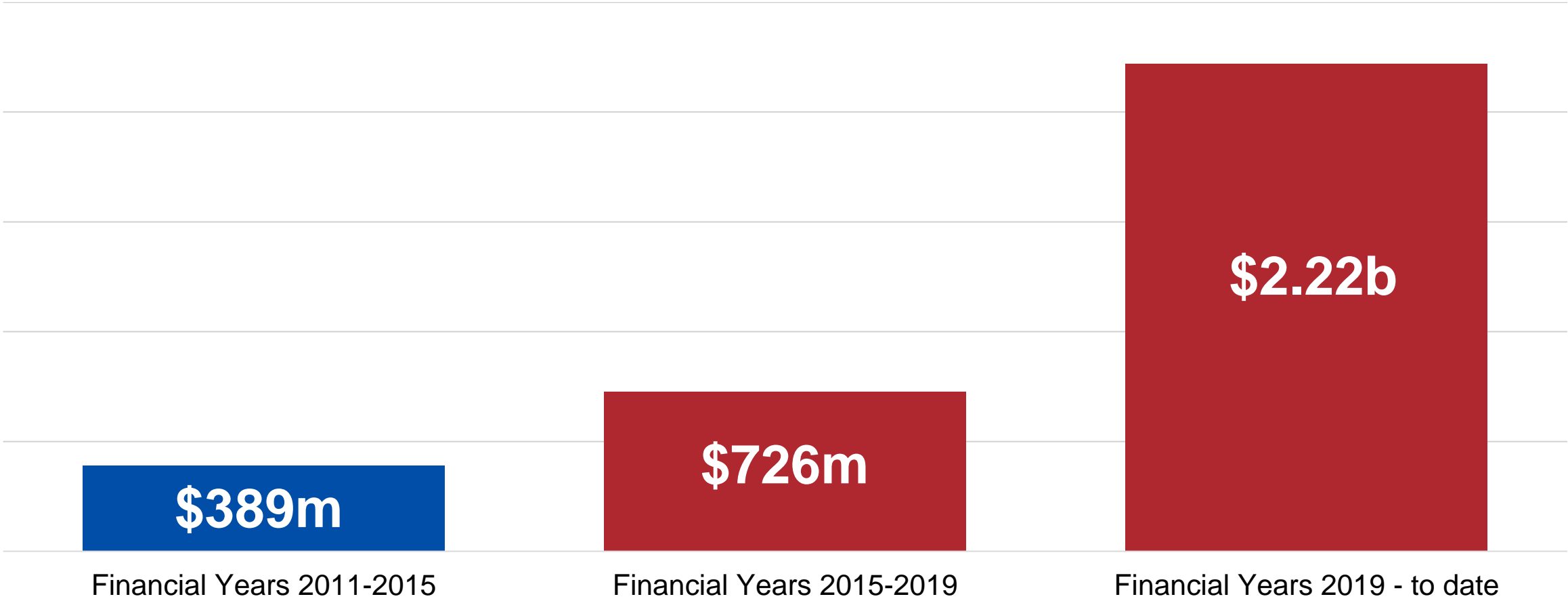
\$400.7 million 

builds on our foundations as we recover from the global pandemic:

- continuing the roll-out of the landmark Three-Year-Old Kindergarten reform
- expanding workforce attraction and retention activities
- building and upgrading kindergartens
- supporting vulnerable children
- delivering child information sharing reform and the Child Link Register



Investing in the early years – recent Budget investment



Three-Year-Old Kindergarten

\$167.1 million 

Over four years to continue the roll-out of quality, funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten

- This year, programs established in **15** more LGAs, making 21 in total –delivering to around 2,500 children.
- In 2022, **children across the state** will have access to at least five hours of funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten.
- By 2029 about **90,000** children will benefit each year.



The staff, buildings and services we need for kinder reform

The **\$167.1 million** Three-Year-Old Kindergarten funding includes:

\$44.8 million 

for upgrades and to build kindergartens on school sites so families can 'ditch the double drop off'.

\$32.4 million 

to attract more early childhood teachers and educators and retain existing staff

\$31.2 million 

to support Early Years Managers that deliver kindergarten programs in over **950** kinders across the state

Early childhood teacher and educator training

More than

4,300 students 

enrolled in Free TAFE early childhood training courses since 2020

2,000 

scholarships awarded to aspiring kinder teachers

Tailored support for vulnerable and disadvantaged children

\$33.8 million 

support for vulnerable children to take part in early childhood education, including:



\$11.4 million to expand the Access to Early Learning Program



\$4.4 million to set up two new 'safe haven' sites in areas of significant disadvantage



\$3.2 million for intensive support packages so children impacted by significant trauma can participate in kinder each year

\$8 million 

to expand Koorie pre-school assistants program and continue Koorie Families as First Educators program

\$2.7 million 

to continue our early childhood language program – 17 languages in 161 kinders for 6,000 children

Child Link Register – sharing information to keep children safe

\$91.6 million 

- To build and maintain the Child Link register, a digital platform for sharing information to promote children's safety and wellbeing.
- The register will provide key information about vulnerability and children's participation in services to enable early risk identification and support.
- This initiative was included in the Child Legislation Amendment (Information Sharing) Act 2018.



Thank you

