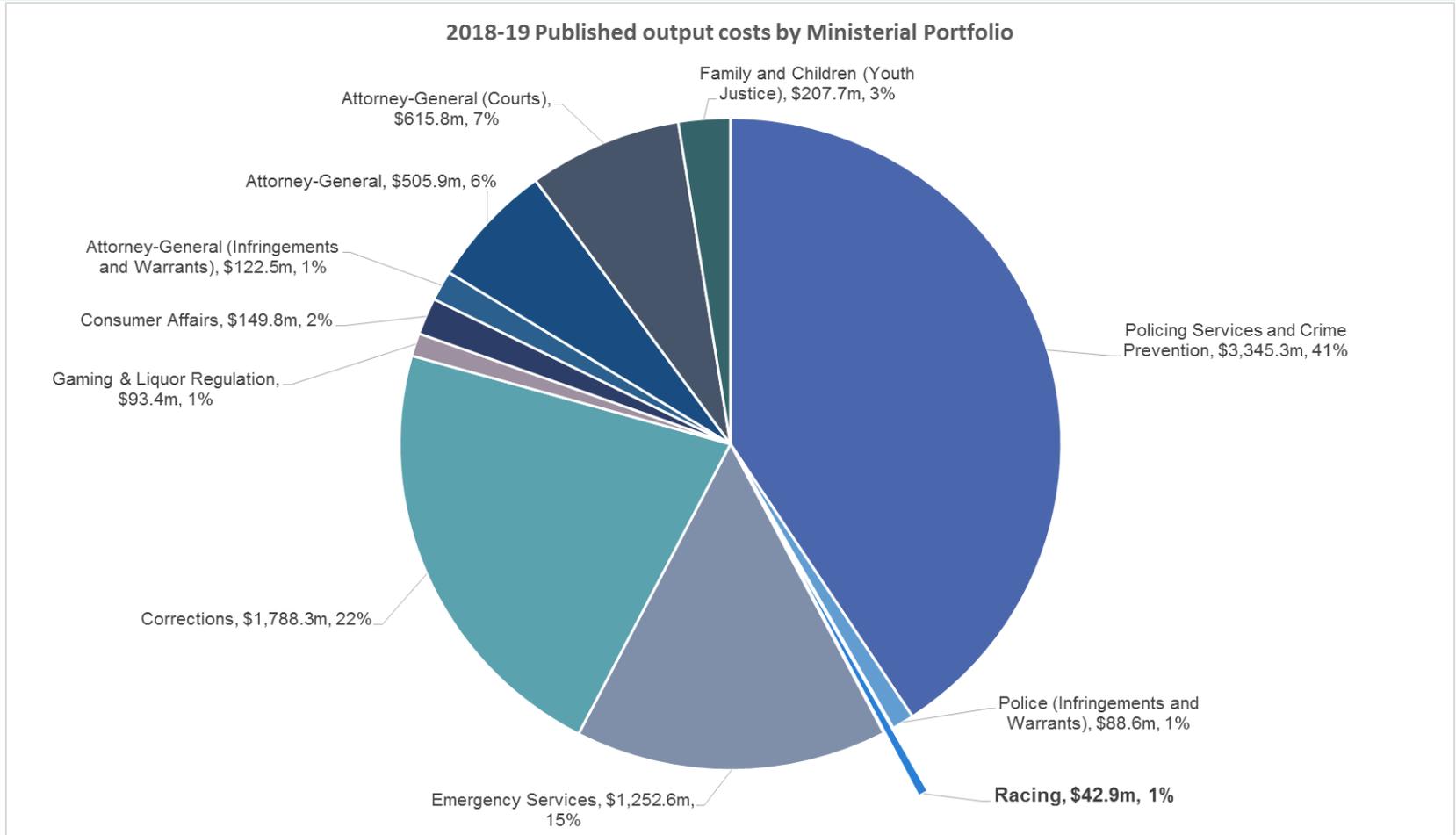


2018-19 Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

Budget Estimates Hearing

The Hon Martin Pakula MP
Minister for Racing

Justice Budget Breakdown



Racing and the Victorian economy

- Racing makes a significant contribution to the Victorian economy and the benefits are shared across a broad section of Victorian industries
- At last years Spring Racing Carnival:
 - Attendees purchased more than 717,000 fashion items valued at \$52.9 million
 - Over 105,000 people attended from interstate or overseas
 - The gross economic benefit to Victoria was \$762.7 million, up 7.5% from 2015

Racing Victoria

- Government announcement of action in 2016
- Amendment of the Racing Victoria Constitution in mid-2017
- Convening of an Advisory Panel in July 2017
- New Board announced in September 2017

Harness racing sustainability

- Financial sustainability of the industry has been a key focus for the Government and the Board of Harness Racing Victoria (HRV)
- The Government has taken action during the year to assist HRV to more efficiently manage its debt servicing costs
- Budget funding of \$1 million to support the harness racing industry

Greyhound welfare reforms

- Racing Integrity Commissioner and Chief Veterinary Officer Reports
- *Code of Practice for the Keeping of Racing Greyhounds*
- The Greyhound Adoption Program continues to grow

Victorian Racing Industry Fund

- Victorian Racing Industry Fund (VRIF) returns all unclaimed dividends and on-course wagering taxes to the racing industry
- \$86 million committed to continue VRIF until at least 2019
- Since coming into office, \$65.24 million provided for 631 projects valued at \$305.99 million (as at 23 May 2018)

VRIF Infrastructure

- \$32.93 million provided for 237 infrastructure projects valued at \$94.85 million (as at 23 May 2018) since December 2014
- 64 infrastructure projects in rural and regional Victoria in 2017-2018 to improve racing and training facilities and enhance public amenities

VRIF Raceday Attraction Program

- \$15.12 million provided for 367 projects valued at \$36.9 million (as at 23 May 2018) since December 2014
- In 2017-2018 the Government has provided \$4.53 million for 136 Raceday Attraction projects.