

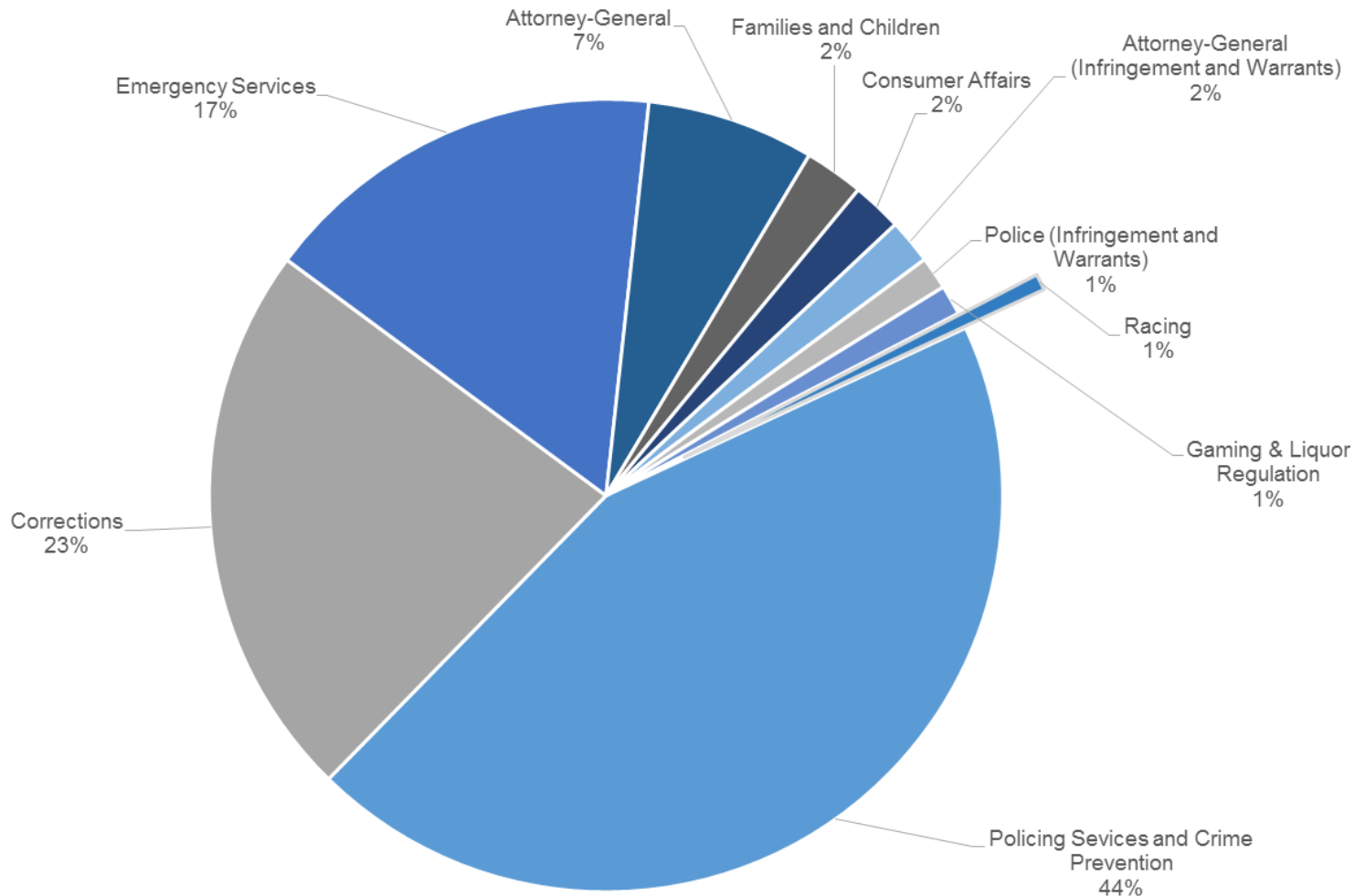
2017-18 Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

Budget Estimates Hearing

The Hon. Martin Pakula MP
Minister for Racing

Justice Budget Breakdown

2017-18 published output costs by Ministerial Portfolio



Racing and the Victorian economy

- Racing makes a significant contribution to the Victorian economy
- Economic impact in excess of \$2.8 billion per annum
- Benefits shared across industries including fashion, hospitality, tourism and transport.
- More than 114,000 people directly involved in the Victorian racing industry as an employee, volunteer or participant.

Industry Governance

- In 2015 and 2016, the *Racing Act 1958* was amended to strengthen governance arrangements for Harness Racing Victoria and Greyhound Racing Victoria
- On 9 May 2017 the Government introduced amendments to support improved governance of Racing Victoria Limited (RVL)
- New arrangements will ensure independence from RVL Board and minimise conflict of interest

Greyhound Racing Reform

- Racing Integrity Commissioner and Chief Veterinary Officer reports on the greyhound racing industry made 68 recommendations
- The Government accepted all recommendations in principle
- To date 35 recommendations have been implemented
- Government and Greyhound Racing Victoria are working together to implement the remaining recommendations

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, \$48.06 million provided for 414 projects valued at \$238.28 million (as at 15 May 2017)
- Including \$2 million of \$10 million Government support for VRC Flemington Grandstand project valued at \$135 million

VRIF – Infrastructure

- \$22.74m provided for 162 infrastructure projects valued at \$46.84m (as at 15 May 2017)
- 61 infrastructure projects in rural and regional Victoria to improve racing and training facilities and enhance public amenities including:
 - equine swimming pool and sand fibre training track at Warrnambool Racing Club
 - upgrade of race day stalls at Ballarat Turf Club
 - track upgrade at Mildura Harness Racing Club
 - track generators at the Bendigo and Swan Hill harness tracks

VRIF – Raceday Attraction Program

- \$10.56 million has been provided through the Raceday Attraction Program (RAP) to support 229 projects valued at \$28.91m (as at 15 May 2017)
- Examples of RAP projects include:
 - Pakenham Racing Club's night racing launch
 - Kids Summer of Country Racing (Country Racing Victoria)
 - Seniors Race Nights at Tabcorp Park
 - Melbourne Racing Club Easter Egg Hunt (Camp Quality)
 - Cobram Harness Racing Club Pink Ribbon Day (McGrath Foundation)