



Public Accounts and Estimates Committee 2011-12 Budget Estimates Hearings

Minister for Regional and Rural Development

Peter Ryan MLA
12 May 2011

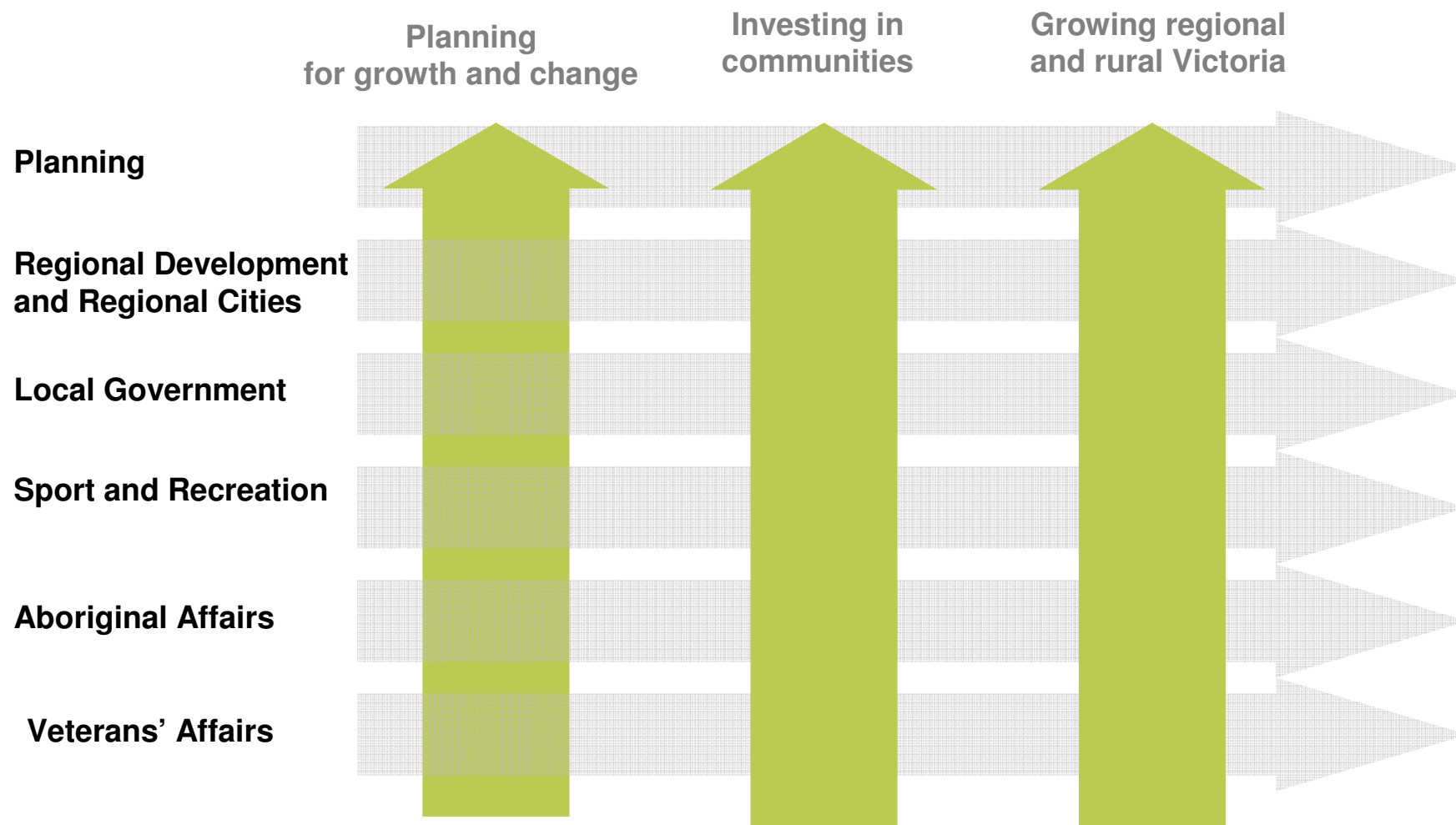


About the Department of Planning and Community Development

Plan and invest in communities to manage Victoria's growth and development and to build stronger communities



DPCD's objectives



Key Achievements 2010-11



- Establishing the Regional Growth Fund
- Continuing support for regional Victoria
- Delivering Regional Development Victoria's biggest-ever budget
- Leading flood and bushfire recovery
- Continuing support for communities
- New support for communities
- Promoting Volunteering



Regional Growth Fund



- \$500 million allocation from 1 July 2011
- A trust fund in the public account as part of the *Regional Growth Fund Act*
- Strategic projects funding (60%)
 - Energy for the Regions
 - Mildura Riverfront and Airport Development
 - Latrobe Valley Advantage Fund
- Local initiatives funding (40%)
 - Local Government Infrastructure
 - Putting Locals First





Continuing Support for Regional Victoria

- All offers of funding made before 27 November by RDV to regional organisations confirmed
- RDV programs continue to be rolled out in 2010/11 to capture new growth opportunities
- New funding for 2011/12:
 - Regional Growth Fund
 - Country Week
 - Farmers Market Support Program
 - Flood Recovery
- Programs initially funded as part of the 2010/11 budget will generally continue in 2011/12



Boosting funding for Regional Victoria

- Regional Development Victoria has its largest-ever budget in 2011/12: \$180.5 million
- Funding available for specific programs in regional Victoria between 2010/11 and 2014/15 has grown significantly to \$1.1 billion, which includes:
 - The Regional Growth Fund (\$500m)
 - Regional Aviation Fund (\$20m)
 - New funding for rural roads (\$160m)
 - Funding maintained from the previous Government's Regional Statement





Leading the Flood Recovery Effort

- The Budget includes \$329 million for flood recovery initiatives
- Highlights include:
 - Repairing arterial roads (\$122m);
 - Repairing Victoria's flood-damaged regional rail network (\$20m);
 - Medium-term marketing activities to help the flood-affected regional tourism industry (\$1.5m)
- DPCD and RDV are delivering key initiatives:
 - Local Government Clean Up Fund (\$5m)
 - Community Recovery Fund (\$4m)
 - Flood Recovery Community Infrastructure Fund (\$30m)
 - Flood Recovery Officers (\$1.4 million)
 - Business Flood Recovery Fund (\$10m)



Extending Bushfire Recovery Support

- A new Fire Recovery Unit is being established within RDV
- New initiatives supported in the 2011/12 budget:
 - Murrindindi Shire Council industry development package
 - Murrindindi Shire Council operating costs for assets
 - Fire Ready Communities Program
- Existing initiatives have been extended:
 - Concessional loans through the Rural Finance Corporation
 - Services offered through the Rebuilding Advisory Service
- Progressing other major initiatives in the portfolio:
 - Marysville Conference Centre
 - Marysville Golf Course Redevelopment
 - Council Capacity Development Program





Continuing support for communities

- Offers of funding made before 27 November reconfirmed
- Victorian Community Support Grants (CSF)
 - Funded 31 community strengthening projects across Victoria worth \$3.06 million
 - Funded 27 community infrastructure projects worth \$7.48 million
- Infrastructure for Growing Communities
 - Targeted the six designated growth councils (Casey, Cardinia, Hume, Whittlesea, Melton and Wyndham)
 - Funded an additional 11 community infrastructure projects worth \$3.54 million
- Improving access to services
 - Extended 34 Transport Connections projects in 48 rural/regional LGA's and 6 peri-urban LGA's with a \$22.8 million investment
 - Development of a simplified and common funding agreement for the community sector



New support for communities

\$55.6 million for the Community Development Output in 2011-12

New initiatives over four years in the 2011-12 Budget are:

- \$42.23 million for Community Support Grants (CSF)
- \$4.6 million to reduce red tape and regulatory burden for the 120,000 not-for-profit community organisations
- \$5.18 million to promote volunteering





Promoting Volunteering

- More than one million Victorians support their community by volunteering

\$5.18 million to be provided from 2011/12 to:

- Continue support for the Victorian Volunteering Portal
- Coordinated spontaneous volunteering during emergencies
- Recognise and promote volunteering by people from diverse backgrounds

- A special Flood Volunteer Registration System on Victoria's Volunteering Portal has been implemented
- \$750,000 in volunteer support grants provided to local governments impacted by flood





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