
Government Responses to the Recommendations of

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND ESTIMATES COMMITTEE'S

Report on the 2023-24 Financial and Performance Outcomes

Pursuant to Section 36 of the *Parliamentary Committees Act 2003*, this paper provides a response to the recommendations contained in the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee's (PAEC) Report on the 2023-24 Financial and Performance Outcomes.

Guide for readers - Following is the explanation of the format of this paper.

1 PAEC recommendation	2 Response	3 Action taken to date and commitment to further action
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Column 1: Contains PAEC's recommendations as published in its Report on the 2023-24 Financial and Performance Outcomes.

Column 2: Indicates the Government's response to each recommendation: 'Support', 'Support-in-Principle', 'Not Support', or 'Under Review'.

Column 3: Provides an explanation of the Government's position on the recommendation, indicates the actions that have been taken to date relevant to the implementation of the recommendation, and outlines commitment to further action relevant to the implementation of the recommendation.

PAEC recommendation	Response	Action taken to date and commitment to further action
RECOMMENDATION 1 The Victorian Government in collaboration with all relevant departments publish proportional targets for affordable housing in each priority precinct and a proportional breakdown of the type of affordable housing planned for each priority precinct (affordable rental, social and public housing, shared equity program etc). This should form part of the wider annual reporting on the reforms and outcomes of the Housing Statement.	Support-in-Principle	Noting release of Victoria's Housing Statement in 2023, the Department of Transport and Planning and other relevant departments are aligned to whole-of-government reporting on Housing Statement implementation.
RECOMMENDATION 2 In future annual reports the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action publish how many action statements (as required under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988) have been published and updated, reviewed or amended, and how many are outstanding. This should include the name of the flora or fauna the action statement applies to.	Support	DEECA will report in future annual reports on the annual number of action statements published, reviewed or amended and outstanding each year. Each action statement will be published on the DEECA website.

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RECOMMENDATION 3 The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action explore ways to monitor and inform the public on the implementation of action statements.	Support	Action Statements are published on DEECA's website. Action Statements inform the Victorian Government's investment in biodiversity and are available to inform investment by other stakeholders. DEECA is also exploring opportunities to monitor and inform the public on the implementation of action statements within available resources.
RECOMMENDATION 4 The Department of Treasury and Finance update the Model Report to require departments to disclose Treasurer's Advances they accessed along with the following information: - the value of funding requested and approved in-principle by the Treasurer - the value of the funding drawn down - a description of the purpose of each Treasurer's Advance - the related outputs that the Treasurer's Advance contributed to - an explanation of, or reason, why the purpose was urgent and unforeseen.	Support-in-Principle	Treasurer's Advances are utilised where there is an 'urgent' need or claim. This includes payments in the event of unforeseen circumstances (for example, for emergency events and disaster response) and release of funding as key milestones are achieved or uncertainties are resolved, facilitating enhanced central oversight and good financial management. Departmental financial reports already disclose the amount of funding received in the form of Treasurer's Advances, along with an explanation for unspent funds where funds have not been fully spent. In addition, the State's Annual Financial Report discloses the purpose and amount of each Treasurer's Advance payment to each department (note 8.2.13 of 2023-24 Financial Report). Accordingly, there are already detailed disclosures on Treasurer's Advances. DTF will continue to look at opportunities to further strengthen disclosures in this area as part of the FY2025-26 Model Report.

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RECOMMENDATION 5 Departments and agencies make reports and studies listed in their Committee questionnaire responses or their annual reports publicly available wherever possible.	Support-in-Principle	Department of Premier and Cabinet: The Department of Premier and Cabinet and its agencies remain committed to transparency and accountability and continue to align with the disclosure principles outlined in the Department of Treasury and Finance's Model Report. The department will continue to make the listed reports and studies publicly available where possible. Exceptions include where making the report or study publicly available would reveal sensitive information (e.g. commercially sensitive), confidential information (including information that is Cabinet-in-Confidence or otherwise subject to executive privilege) or is otherwise contrary to law. Where full reports are assessed as unsuitable for public release, the department may also consider whether parts or sections of reports can be made available.
	Support-in-Principle	Department of Justice and Community Safety: The Department of Justice and Community Safety and its agencies remain committed to transparency and accountability and continue to align with the disclosure principles outlined in the Department of Treasury and Finance's Model Report. The department will continue to make the listed reports and studies publicly available where possible. Exceptions include where making the report or study publicly available would reveal sensitive information (e.g. commercially sensitive), confidential information (including information that is Cabinet-in-Confidence or otherwise subject to executive privilege) or is otherwise contrary to law. Where full reports are assessed as unsuitable for public release, the department may also consider whether parts or sections of reports can be made available.
	Support-in-principle	Department of Education: The Department of Education and its agencies remain committed to transparency and accountability and continue to align with the disclosure principles outlined in the Department of Treasury and Finance's Model Report. The department will continue to make the listed reports and studies publicly available where possible. Exceptions include where making the report or study publicly available would reveal sensitive information (e.g. commercially sensitive), confidential information (including information that is Cabinet-in-Confidence or otherwise subject to executive privilege) or is otherwise contrary to law. Where full reports are assessed as unsuitable for public release, the department may also consider whether parts or sections of reports can be made available.

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	Support-in-principle	Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action: DEECA and its agencies remain committed to transparency and accountability and continue to align with the disclosure principles outlined in the Department of Treasury and Finance's Model Report. In the DEECA 2023-24 Annual Report in its 'Reviews and studies expenditure' section, every item listed contains a link to publicly available information. The department will continue to make the listed reports and studies publicly available where possible. Exceptions include where making the report or study publicly available would reveal sensitive information (e.g. commercially sensitive), confidential information (including information that is Cabinet-in-Confidence or otherwise subject to executive privilege) or is otherwise contrary to law. For research and studies, considerations may also include whether the findings are not yet conclusive, whether the research is ongoing, whether the study was conducted to inform program design and whether there is a risk of misinterpretation of results. Where full reports are assessed as unsuitable for public release, the department may also consider whether parts or sections of reports can be made available.
	Support-in-Principle	Courts Services Victoria: CSV remains committed to transparency and accountability and continue to align with the disclosure principles outlined in the Department of Treasury and Finance's Model Report. CSV will continue to make the listed reports and studies publicly available where possible. Exceptions include where making the report or study publicly available would reveal sensitive information (e.g. commercially sensitive), confidential information (including information that is Cabinet-in-Confidence or otherwise subject to executive privilege) or is otherwise contrary to law. Where full reports are assessed as unsuitable for public release, CSV may also consider whether parts or sections of reports can be made available.

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	Support-in-Principle	Department of Transport and Planning: The Department of Transport and Planning and its agencies remain committed to transparency and accountability and continue to align with the disclosure principles outlined in the Department of Treasury and Finance's Model Report. The department will continue to make the listed reports and studies publicly available where possible. Exceptions include where making the report or study publicly available would reveal sensitive information (e.g. commercially sensitive), confidential information (including information that is Cabinet-in-Confidence or otherwise subject to executive privilege) or is otherwise contrary to law. Where full reports are assessed as unsuitable for public release, the department may also consider whether parts or sections of reports can be made available.
	Support-in-Principle	Department of Families, Fairness and Housing: DFFH and its agencies remain committed to transparency and accountability and continue to align with the disclosure principles outlined in the Department of Treasury and Finance's Model Report. The department will continue to make the listed reports and studies publicly available where possible. Exceptions include where making the report or study publicly available would reveal sensitive information (e.g. commercially sensitive), confidential information (including information that is Cabinet-in-Confidence or otherwise subject to executive privilege) or is otherwise contrary to law. Where full reports are assessed as unsuitable for public release, the department may also consider whether parts or sections of reports can be made available.
	Support-in-Principle	Department of Health: The Department of Health and its agencies remain committed to transparency and accountability and continue to align with the disclosure principles outlined in the Department of Treasury and Finance's Model Report. The department will continue to make the listed reports and studies publicly available where possible. Exceptions include where making the report or study publicly available would reveal sensitive information (e.g. commercially sensitive), confidential information (including information that is Cabinet-in-Confidence or otherwise subject to executive privilege) or is otherwise contrary to law. Where full reports are assessed as unsuitable for public release, the department may also consider whether parts or sections of reports can be made available.

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	Support-in-Principle	Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions: DJSIR and its agencies remains committed to transparency and accountability and continue to align with the disclosure principles outlined in the Department of Treasury and Finance's Model Report. The department will continue to make the listed reports and studies publicly available where possible. Exceptions include where making the report or study publicly available would reveal sensitive information (e.g. commercially sensitive), confidential information (including information that is Cabinet-in-Confidence or otherwise subject to executive privilege) or is otherwise contrary to law. Where full reports are assessed as unsuitable for public release, the department may also consider whether parts or sections of reports can be made available.
RECOMMENDATION 6 To improve the transparency of reporting, the Department of Treasury and Finance update the Model Report to require the Department of Health to report the amount allocated to each health service for each Treasurer's Advance or contingency release.	Not support	The State's Model Report and Financial Reporting Directions set the financial reporting framework for the broader Victorian public sector, rather than entity/department-specific requirements. Any recommendation for additional disclosures on the Department of Health's financial report needs to be directed to the Department of Health directly.
RECOMMENDATION 7 To improve access to abortion services and minimise inequities in services provision, the Department of Health collect information on the number and location of healthcare practitioners who can prescribe the abortion pill.	Not support	The Department of Health does not hold records of practitioners who prescribe MS-2 Step in Victoria as it falls within the Commonwealth's jurisdiction. Relevant data on prescribing is however also already publicly available via the Women's Health Atlas. In Victoria all GPs, nurse practitioners and endorsed midwives can prescribe MS-2 Step. The Victorian Government supports a number of initiatives improving access to abortion care including sexual and reproductive health hubs, the roll out of 20 new women's health clinics, a mobile women's health clinic, a virtual women's health clinic, a dedicated Aboriginal women's health clinic and funding for Women's Health Victoria to deliver the 1800MyOptions phonenumber and website service finder platforms.

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RECOMMENDATION 8 The Department of Health or the Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission publicly report on progress against each of the sub-components of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System, including any revised implementation dates and reasons for delays. This information should be included as part of the consolidated annual reporting and more detailed reporting on its website.	Support-in-principle	The Department of Health reports on the progress and delivery of key reforms in response to the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System in the previous 12 months through the Chief Officer for Mental Health and Wellbeing annual report. In addition, the Next Phase of Reform Plan, published in December 2024, provides a detailed breakdown of progress to date, the next phase of work and the planned implementation dates. The Department of Health will continue to identify further opportunities to report publicly on Royal Commission implementation progress.
RECOMMENDATION 9 Where errors are identified in Victorian Certificate of Education examinations, the Department of Education and/or the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority notify affected schools, parents/guardians and students as soon as possible, and provide a clear explanation of the problem and remedial action.	Support-in-Principle	If there is an error in a Victorian Certificate of Education examination that may have a material impact on student results, the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) will communicate to schools an explanation of the problem and remedial action as soon as possible. Additionally, VCAA provides supports to schools to enable effective communications from schools to parents and guardians, noting VCAA does not hold these contact details.

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RECOMMENDATION 10 The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority consider publishing the root-and-branch review upon its completion, alongside details of how and when it will address the review's findings.	Support	The Stage One report of the 'root and branch' review led by Dr Yehudi Blacher PSM was published on 15 April 2025 and is available on the Department of Education website. The Stage Two report will be provided to government later in 2025 and government will consider its findings and publish them at the appropriate time.
RECOMMENDATION 11 The Department of Education consider the benefits of publishing in full the strategic evaluation of its workforce attraction and retention initiatives as they are completed.	Support-in-Principle	The Department of Education is considering opportunities for publication of the strategic evaluation of workforce attraction and retention initiatives when completed.
RECOMMENDATION 12 The Department of Education include performance measures in the next budget for programs that support socially disadvantaged students, such as the School Breakfast Club program, the Affordable School Uniforms program, and the Glasses for Kids program.	Support-in-principle	The Department of Education will consider output performance measures related to programs that support students experiencing disadvantage for inclusion in the 2026-27 Departmental Performance Statement, in accordance with the Resource Management Framework.

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RECOMMENDATION 13 The Department of Justice and Community Safety, Victoria Police and the Department of Health consider separately reporting on the specific actions taken to progress implementation of Recommendation 10 of the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System, including revised implementation dates and reasons for any delays.	Support-in-Principle	Department of Justice and Community Safety and Victoria Police: The response to Recommendation 10 of the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System is part of a networked system of mental health crises responses involving complex, multi-agency collaboration, including from The Department of Justice and Community Safety (DJCS), Department of Health, Victoria Police, Triple Zero Victoria, and Ambulance Victoria. The Department of Health has published its Next Phase of Reform plan in December 2024, which includes updates on implementation progress, including for Recommendation 10. DJCS and Victoria Police will work with the Department of Health to explore appropriate mechanisms to report the actions and progress of the recommendation, noting these are interconnected across departments and agencies.
	Support-in-Principle	Department of Health: The Royal Commission recommended a suite of changes to Victoria's mental health and emergency service responses with the intention of improving outcomes for people experiencing mental health crisis through shifting to a health-led response and improving the crisis responses available, particularly after hours. (recommendations 8, 9 and 10). In recognition that the recommendations require complex and integrated solutions, this package of reform is being developed in close collaboration with partners across government, including the Department of Justice and Community Safety and Victoria Police. Please refer to the Department of Health's response to recommendation 8 in relation to reporting.
RECOMMENDATION 14 The Department of Justice and Community Safety and Victoria Police report on its websites the activities undertaken and the outcomes achieved as a result of funding received in the 2021–22 and 2023–24 Budgets to progress Recommendation 10 of the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System.	Support-in-Principle	Funding received in the 2021-22 and 2023-24 Budgets has supported the Department of Justice and Community Safety (DJCS), Victoria Police and Triple Zero Victoria to work with the Department of Health and Ambulance Victoria on the complex, cross-agency design of reforms to progress Recommendation 10 of the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System. DJCS and Victoria Police will explore appropriate mechanisms to report the collective activities and outcomes achieved as a result of funding provided to progress this work.

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RECOMMENDATION 15 Victoria Police update its Mental Health Strategy and Wellbeing Action Plan. The update should align with Victoria Police's other current corporate documents and strategies and should reflect the outcomes and achievements of the Mental Health Strategy and Wellbeing Action Plan 2017–20.	Support	Victoria Police are undertaking an organisation and budget review, and pending outcomes of these reviews will be in a position to revise and update the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Strategy and Action Plan accordingly.
RECOMMENDATION 16 Victoria Police publicly report on the outputs and outcomes of its mental health and wellbeing programs for its members, through its annual reports or future budget papers.	Support-in-principle	Victoria Police prepares its annual report in accordance with the Department of Treasury and Finance's Model Report and includes content that fulfils its obligations under the Financial Reporting Directions and other disclosure requirements, including those that relate to occupational health and safety. Victoria Police will continue to provide updates of its mental health and wellbeing programs in its annual report. Victoria Police will also explore options to publicly report further information on the outputs and outcomes of its mental health and wellbeing programs for its members where possible and appropriate.
RECOMMENDATION 17 Victoria Police disaggregate its annual report data relating to the number of occupational health and safety reported incidents to identify the proportion attributed to a mental health injury.	Support	Victoria Police will disaggregate its annual report data relating to the number of occupational health and safety reported incidents to identify the proportion attributed to mental health injury for inclusion in future annual reports.

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RECOMMENDATION 18 In future annual reports the Department of Justice and Community Safety include comprehensive reasons to explain why it does not meet any of its performance measures by a variance of over 5%.	Support	The Department of Justice and Community Safety prepares its Annual Report in accordance with the guidance provided in the Department of Treasury and Finance's Model Report, which includes providing reasons that the Department's measures have been exceeded or not met, by a variance of more than 5%. All commentary prepared by the department and included in the Annual Report is subject to agreement and endorsement from a range of stakeholders including the relevant portfolio minister. The Department will continue to prepare variance explanations for performance measures where required, ensuring that these explanations are appropriately comprehensive.
RECOMMENDATION 19 Triple Zero Victoria publish details of technical issues affecting its call taking and dispatching services in future annual reports.	Support-in-Principle	The Triple Zero Victoria (TZV) Annual Report is prepared in accordance with the Department of Treasury and Finance Model Report, with a focus on presenting content that fulfils its obligations under the Financial Reporting Directions (FRD) and other disclosure requirements. The Report of Operations component of TZV's Annual Report contains details on TZV's operating performance, including any significant factors affecting TZV's performance during the reporting period. TZV will continue to report on this detail in its future annual reports.
RECOMMENDATION 20 The Department of Justice and Community Safety and the Department of Treasury and Finance publish the details of the Next generation computer aided dispatch system for Triple Zero Victoria, including the expected delivery quarter and year, in Budget Paper No. 5 of the 2025–26 Budget.	Support	Details of the Next generation computer aided dispatch system for Triple Zero Victoria, including the expected delivery quarter and year have been included in the <i>2025–26 Budget Paper 4</i> (page 71).
RECOMMENDATION 21 The Department of Transport and Planning provide more detail around the causes of delays (greater than five years) to capital projects in its Committee questionnaire responses.	Support-in-Principle	The Department of Transport and Planning support-in-principle the recommendation for more detail around the cause of delays in capital projects greater than five years. These would be designed to complement—not duplicate—the existing capital reporting in Budget Paper No. 4 (BP4), which already outlines expected completion dates, including any changes over time.

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RECOMMENDATION 22 The Department of Transport and Planning create new performance measures for the Suburban Rail Loop, North East Link and Level Crossing Removal projects that provide transparent insights on their progress against their original completion dates and budgets published in the budget papers.	Support-in-Principle	The Department of Transport and Planning will consider whether additional output performance measures relating to the delivery of major transport infrastructure projects are appropriate for inclusion in the 2026-27 Departmental Performance Statement, in line with the Resource Management Framework. These would be designed to complement – not duplicate – the existing capital reporting in Budget Paper 4 (BP4), which already outlines each project’s Total Estimated Investment (TEI) and expected completion date, including any changes over time.
RECOMMENDATION 23 The Department of Families, Fairness and Housing develop performance measures that report on the number of people that access the services that Disability Liaison Officers provide.	Support-in-Principle	Further consideration will be given to this recommendation and how this data can be best published.
RECOMMENDATION 24 The Department of Families, Fairness and Housing develop a performance measure for inclusion in its next annual report on vacant public housing stock.	Support-in-Principle	The Department of Families, Fairness and Housing notes that ‘percentage of occupied public housing’ is included in other public reporting mechanisms, such as the Report on Government Services, which monitors housing and homelessness data. The department is considering whether it would be appropriate to develop additional performance measures, including vacancies, as part of the Government’s Response to the Social Housing Regulation Review.
RECOMMENDATION 25 The Department of Families, Fairness and Housing’s performance measure and outcomes on the turnaround time for reletting public housing be included in its next annual report.	Support-in-Principle	The Department of Families, Fairness and Housing notes that ‘turnaround time for reletting public housing’ is included in other public reporting mechanisms, such as the Report on Government Services, which monitors housing and homelessness data. The department is considering whether it would be appropriate to develop additional performance measures, including turnaround time for reletting, as part of the Government’s Response to the Social Housing Regulation Review.

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RECOMMENDATION 26 Breakthrough Victoria further enhance the public reporting of its investments by making investment updates more consistent and easily accessible on its website, including follow-on investments.	Under review	In addition to its public annual reporting, Breakthrough Victoria is enhancing the public reporting of its investments, making investment updates more accessible via its website under the 'our investments' section.
RECOMMENDATION 27 Breakthrough Victoria provide annual updates on the: - Cumulative value of funds it has contributed to each of its investments. - Current estimated fair value of each of its investments at the end of the financial year. - Value of dividends received from each of its investments during the financial year.	Under review	Every Breakthrough Victoria Annual Report has been audited by VAGO and found to be in accordance with both the private sector rules in the <i>Commonwealth Corporations Act 2001</i> and the stringent public sector requirements in <i>Victoria's Financial Management Act 1994</i> .
RECOMMENDATION 28 To promote greater transparency and accountability for its performance, the State Electricity Commission develop and publicly report on appropriate measures and targets for each of its objectives on its website and in its annual report.	Support In Principle	SEC Victoria Pty Ltd (SEC) has a range of measures in place that support public reporting on its operations and performance. Information about SEC responsibilities, related initiatives and long-term goals are outlined in the SEC Victoria Strategic Plan 2023-2035, and are available on SEC's website (www.secvictoria.com.au). SEC's Annual Report and website include information regarding SEC achievement towards its key objectives and financial performance. DEECA and SEC will continue to develop additional appropriate measures and targets for reporting on outcomes publicly, as SEC initiatives are fully implemented.

PAEC recommendation	Response	Action taken to date and commitment to further action
RECOMMENDATION 29 The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action include relevant output objectives, objective indicators and performance measures for the State Electricity Commission in the 2025–26 Budget.	Support In Principle	Information about SEC Victoria Pty Ltd’s (SEC) responsibilities, related initiatives and long-term goals are outlined in the SEC Victoria Strategic Plan 2023-2035. Additionally, the SEC’s Annual Report includes information regarding SEC achievement towards its key objectives, as well as providing statements of its finances. DEECA’s Department Performance Statement has an objective indicator that incorporates SEC outputs, as part of Objective 5 - ‘Relative share of Victoria’s energy sourced from renewables’. Generation from all renewable energy projects will be counted towards Victoria’s renewable energy targets and included in the renewable generation share for the reporting year. Once operational, generation from SEC’s projects will be included.
RECOMMENDATION 30 Once known, the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action provide a public update on any impacts to the Victorian Government’s offshore wind generation targets as a result of Commonwealth approval delays for offshore wind projects.	Support	DEECA acknowledges the importance of keeping the public informed about offshore wind targets and has undertaken a program of explicit, transparent implementation statements which update the public, industry participants and interested parties on the overall status of the Offshore Wind program, targets and future activities.
RECOMMENDATION 31 The Department of Government Services publish the total cost of engaging municipal monitors on a financial year basis in its annual report.	Support-in-Principle	The <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> requires that councils pay a municipal monitor in accordance with their appointment instrument. The total cost to a council for a monitor appointment will differ depending on the hours worked by municipal monitors, any superannuation entitlements that may be payable, and reimbursement for reasonable out of pocket expenses such as travelling, accommodation and meals the monitor may incur in connection with performing their functions. The department will consider options to require councils to report these costs as part of their annual reporting obligations.

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RECOMMENDATION 32 The Department of Government Services and the Department of Treasury and Finance review the base funding and current performance measures related to supporting public libraries for the next budget cycle to ensure they forecast anticipated activity more accurately and reflect changes in library usage.	Support	Base funding to councils to support the delivery of public library services under the Public Libraries Funding Program was maintained at \$48.135 million in 2024-25. Two new performance measures have been introduced for the 2025-26 Performance Statement to provide better visibility of the efficacy of funding to local government for the delivery of library services: • Number of collection items (digital and physical) • Number of loans (digital and physical) These new measures replace two older visitation measures and better reflect the effectiveness of services provided by public libraries. This includes buying new books and collection items, running online services and delivering outreach programs to the community. The new measures allow the expanding online services provided by libraries to be captured.
RECOMMENDATION 33 The Department of Government Services release its plan on how it will transition its entire VicFleet to zero emissions vehicles by 2035.	Support-in-Principle	Department of Government Services (VicFleet) is working to accelerate the adoption of zero emissions vehicles (ZEVs) in the Victorian Government fleet to ensure a timely transition of 100 per cent passenger vehicles and vans to net zero emissions by 2035. The Government Fleet Zero Emissions Vehicle initiative provided \$15 million to transition 400 vehicles within the government fleet to ZEVs. DGS completed the program in May 2024, which included the transition of 400 internal combustion engine vehicles to ZEVs and the installation of 400 charging stations. DGS is now focused on broader measures to encourage the net zero transition by 2035. The plan to strengthen the Standard Motor Vehicle Policy was achieved, with its release in February 2025. The policy includes a requirement to purchase a ZEV first where a fit-for-purpose vehicle is available. Other measures in the policy to support the ZEV transition include the requirement for departments and agencies to prepare strategic asset management plans (incorporating a fleet transition plan), and increased fleet utilisation and decision making through data analytics. The Financial Reporting Directions require each department and agency to report on fleet composition in its annual report.

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RECOMMENDATION 34 The Department of Treasury and Finance: - include an explanation of the value of funding allocated to central contingencies in future budget papers - report payments and the purposes of such payments it makes from central contingencies to departments in the Annual Financial Report that are not made via a Treasurer's Advance, if applicable.	Support-in-Principle	To support its commitment to increased transparency, the Government has improved how output and asset contingencies are presented in the <i>2025-26 Budget</i> including a qualitative description of the individual categories (see <i>Budget Paper 5: Statement of Finances</i>, Chapter 1, section 1.37 page 34 and section 1.38 page 36. This new disclosure highlights that the vast majority of asset contingencies and a significant proportion of output contingencies relate to the delivery of milestones and similar for existing initiatives and projects. These arrangements, whereby funding is released as milestones are being met or as risks and uncertainties are being resolved, facilitate enhanced central oversight and good financial management. One key driver in this context is growth in the capital program. These are multi-year projects and as a measure of financial discipline, the funding is held at the centre and released as key delivery and construction milestones are reached. Payments from central contingencies to departments are made via Treasurer's Advances. Consequently, it is not expected that the recommended reporting will be required.
RECOMMENDATION 35 The Department of Treasury and Finance update the model report to require departments report for each contingency release during the financial year: - the funds received from the central contingencies - the reasons the contingency release was required - the outputs or capital projects which the contingency releases contributed to.	Not support	Contingency releases are transferred to departments in the form of Treasurer's Advances which are already disclosed in detail in departmental financial reports as well as the State's Annual Financial Report (as per our response to Recommendation 4). Budgeted contingency releases are also disclosed in Chapter 1 of Budget Paper 5 – Estimated Financial Statements (notes 1.3.7 and 1.3.8).

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RECOMMENDATION 36 The Department of Treasury and Finance report the expected costs and benefits of all new and existing Early Intervention Investment Framework initiatives in future state budgets.	Support-in-Principle	Further consideration will be given to this recommendation. Currently, the Department of Treasury and Finance reports the expected costs and benefits for Early Intervention Investment Framework initiatives in state budgets.
RECOMMENDATION 37 The Department of Treasury and Finance ensure that when it reports on the committed funding and estimated impacts of Early Intervention Investment Framework initiatives that it reports all estimates over the same time period.	Not Support	Budget papers show avoided costs and economic benefits over 10 years for all initiatives, providing greater transparency of the benefits expected to continue to accrue outside of the funding period. Reducing visibility of benefits to a shorter time frame would underestimate and reduce transparency for new initiatives' benefits. The estimated impacts relate only to the funded program – e.g. a 2-year program will have lower estimated benefits than a 4-year program. The Early Intervention Investment Framework recognises that the benefits from early intervention initiatives tend to accrue over a longer time frame, with related fiscal savings also booked over the longer term.
Recommendation 38 As the coordinating department, the Department of Premier and Cabinet develop targets to measure the outcomes of the five reform areas outlined in Victoria's Housing Statement and report on progress toward these targets on a yearly basis.	Not support	The Housing Statement sets a bold target of building 800,000 homes in Victoria over the decade to 2034. This is the joint outcome of the five reform areas included in the Housing Statement. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) produce regular publicly available reports on building approvals and housing completions. Government has delivered on many of the reforms outlined in the Housing Statement and a progress update was provided in September 2024.

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RECOMMENDATION 39 The Department of Treasury and Finance release its economic modelling in relation to the Housing Statement.	Not Support	Modelling undertaken in developing Housing Statement targets is Cabinet-in-Confidence. However, DTF's modelling of revenue and economic forecasts published in the State's Budget and Budget Update is informed by parameters set in Government policy – including Housing Statement commitments, and inputs include dwelling prices and consumer prices such as rents. Further information on forecasting is available on DTF's website at: https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2025-05/Methods-for-forecasting-macroeconomic-indicators-2025-26-Budget.docx