

Court Services Victoria

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee
2020-21 Financial and Performance Outcomes

Louise Anderson
Chief Executive Officer

Tuesday 9 November 2021



Purpose



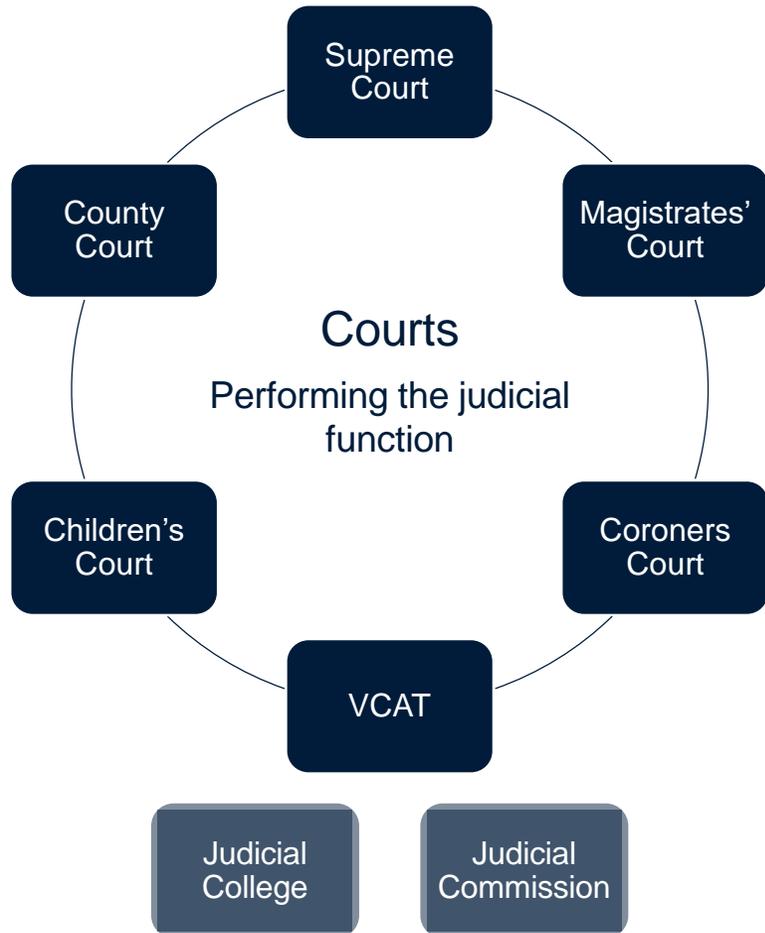
Court Services Victoria was established under the *Court Services Victoria Act* on 1 July 2014

CSV is an independent statutory body with the function of providing the administrative services and facilities necessary for the Victorian courts and VCAT to operate independently of the direction of the executive branch of government, similar to the Department of the Parliament

Victorian courts and VCAT have a clear and important responsibility to administer justice fairly, transparently, impartially and with integrity. CSV, as an independent body, supports them to do so

One Courts Group

All jurisdictions and administration operating collectively where appropriate



Key 2020-21 Operational Highlights

Court Services Victoria



Total operating budget of \$723 million

Total capital budget of \$117.3 million

Total expenditure on COVID-19 related operations, including asset refits, ICT and Health and Safety of \$49.6 million

Operates 75 separate buildings in 66 locations across Victoria

Employs more than 2,500 staff

Supports 380+ judicial officers and statutory appointees

Key Strategy Initiatives



**Strategic Plan
2020-2025**

**Strategic
Asset Plan
2021-2036**

**Digital
Strategy**

**Self-
Determination
Plan**

**Review of
Sexual
Harassment**

New and Enhanced Courts

Bendigo Law Courts

- a regional court for Bendigo that puts people and community first

Wyndham Law Courts

- will be the largest court complex outside of the Melbourne CBD to meet current and future demand in Melbourne's west

Sunshine Law Courts

- two new courtrooms, and conversion of two courts into custody courts

Drug Court Expansion

- new Drug Courts in Shepparton and Ballarat, and expansion to the County Court

Specialist Family Violence Courts

- SFVC courts now in Shepparton, Ballarat, Moorabbin, Heidelberg and Frankston

VCAT New Venues

- three stand-alone community based venues in Oakleigh, Frankston and Bundoora



COVID Safe Hearings



Managed COVID-19 risks through hygiene and safety initiatives across all Victorian court buildings and offices with active infection risk mitigation, cleaning, personal protective equipment and QR check-ins

Delivered \$7.5 million of critical works state-wide to enable jury trials to resume in COVID Safe ways

County Court building works to increase the number of courtrooms able to run criminal jury trials

Upgrading courtrooms in William Cooper Justice Centre

Supported the courts and VCAT to:

- Reduce need for physical attendances and transportation of people on remand or in custody
- Prioritise cases to ensure most urgent and important matters continued to be heard, whether through technology or in-person
- Adjourn non-urgent matters while physical distancing measures, technology and procedural changes put in place

Support to the Courts and VCAT

2020-21

Measures to enable the resumption of jury trials

Technology upgrades in more than 200 courtrooms

Koori Court expanded to Dandenong and Heidelberg

Measures to facilitate electronic filing and electronic inspection of documents and digital workflows

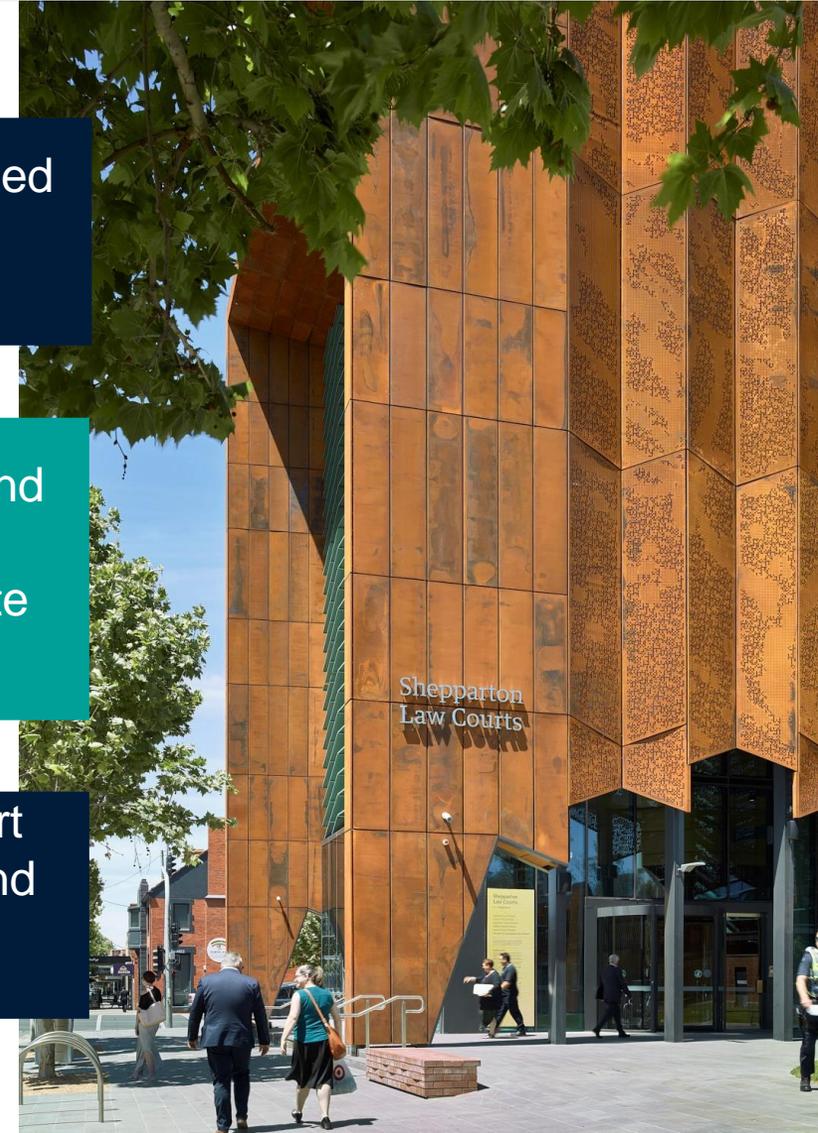
County Court Drug and Alcohol Treatment Court first sitting on 7 June 2021

Supported courts and VCAT to hold more than 476,000 remote hearings

Renewal of Children's Court Family Drug Treatment Court

CMS Project eDocs portal launched in December 2020

Measures to support wellbeing, health and safety of staff and judiciary



Thank you

