

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee 2006-07 Aged Care Portfolio Budget



Meeting the Challenges

Hon Gavin Jennings MLC
21 June 2006

Challenges - Ageing of the Victorian population

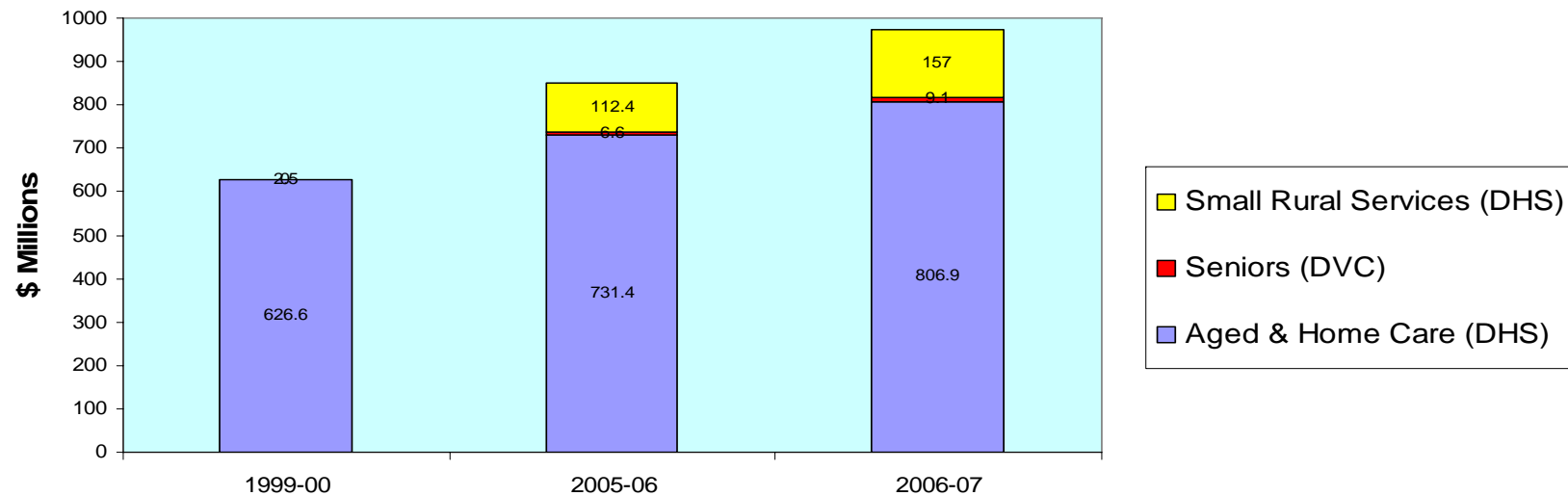
- The population will continue to age significantly, with the age structure taking on a new shape:



Aged Care Portfolio Budget

- Total Aged Care & Seniors budget \$973m in 2006-07
 - Budget spread across three Output Groups
 - Increases by 14.4% or \$122.5m over 2005-06
 - Represents 54.6% increase since 1999-2000

Growth in Portfolio - 1999-00 to 2006-07



Meeting the challenge : Access to appropriate residential care when needed

- Victoria is 1731 operational residential care places short of Commonwealth benchmark
- Specific shortage of High Care-at-entry places
- Loss of inner-city places
- Rural access requires continued State presence
- SRS pension-only sector under pressure
- Recent events highlight the community's concerns with quality of care and resident security issues

Meeting the challenge

- Facilitating - Aged Care Land Bank provides new inner-city high-care places
- Supporting viability of pension level SRS for the most disadvantaged (SRS: Supporting Accommodation for Vulnerable Victorians Initiative)
- Redeveloping facilities – \$130m. in capital for aged care centres; \$339.7m. committed since 1999 to rebuild >25% of public sector beds
- Legislation – new protections on medication administration for high care residents; and SRS to underpin quality of care
- Advocating to the Commonwealth for strengthened responses to abuse of residents in residential care

Meeting the challenge: Keeping people cared for in the community and at home

- Funding for *Health and Active Living for Seniors* and *Well for Life* to support engagement and independence
- Fully matching Commonwealth funding for *Home and Community Care* (\$44 m over 4 years)
- Developing alternative service models to make community care more effective
- State-only funding for community support programs
 - \$55m over and above matching required for HACCC
 - \$28m for other programs supporting peoples' independence
- Developing policy – Dementia Framework; Care Relationships; *Care in your community*

Meeting the challenge: Valuing the contribution our Seniors make

- Empowering older people to make their own decisions and live independently.
- Valuing Victoria's Seniors package:
 - Further support for lifelong learning through U3A
 - Community active living programs for seniors - *Go for your life* seniors
 - Protecting older Victorians - new prevention and response initiatives to strengthen Victoria's response to elder abuse
- Extending public transport concessions and providing *Flexible Transport Solutions* at the local level