

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee



Housing Portfolio
Candy Broad
Minister for Housing
6 July 2006

Government policy context

- The Bracks Government has committed to:
 - Expanding the supply of affordable housing (*Labor's Financial Statement 2, A Fairer Victoria*);
 - Improving the quality of social housing (*Melbourne 2030*);
 - Reducing disadvantage in health, education and housing among communities (*Growing Victoria Together 2*); and
 - Delivering better services and support for homeless Victorians (*A Fairer Victoria*).

Challenges and priorities

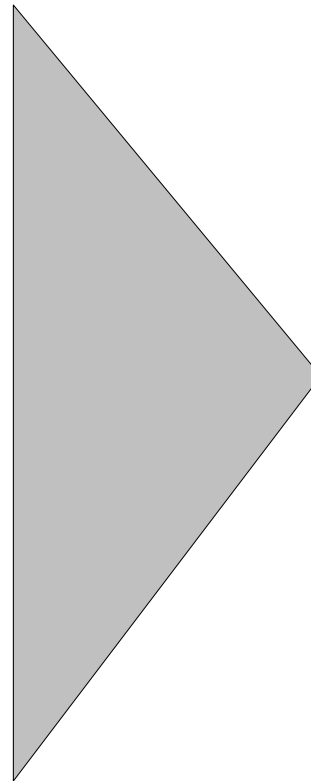
CHALLENGES

Falling revenue

Changing housing market -
increasing affordability problems

High cost of asset management -
ageing stock

Changing client need - increasing
complexity; homelessness; family
violence; concentrations of
disadvantage



PRIORITIES

More housing assistance

Better quality housing

Better homelessness assistance,
including an integrated response to
family violence

Better communities

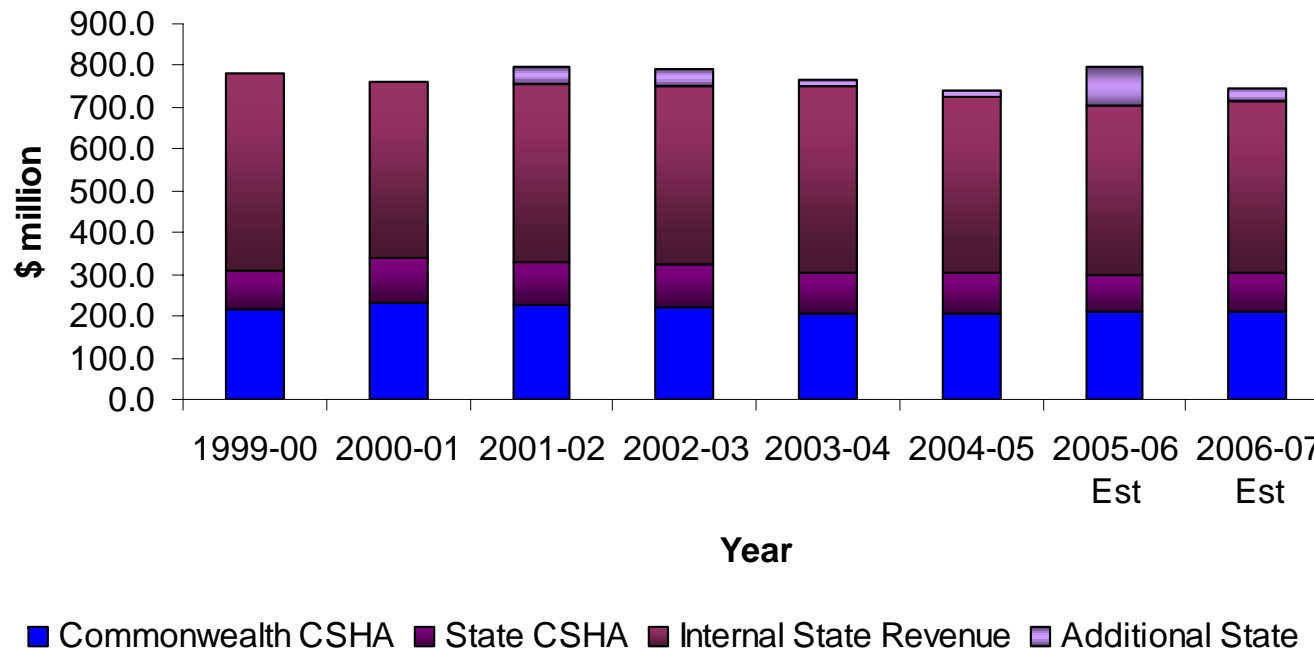
2006-07 State Budget priorities

- \$8.84 million (\$28.77 million over four years) to enhance homelessness assistance through:
 - the Supported Accommodation and Assistance Program (SAAP) (\$13.81 million over four years); and
 - new and flexible initiatives targeted at young people (\$10.81 million over four years) and people with mental health issues (\$4.15 million over four years).
- \$50.5 million extra boost for social housing to:
 - expand the supply of affordable housing (\$25.5 million); and
 - enhance quality of public housing across the State (\$25.0 million).

Additional State funding for housing assistance

- The 2006-07 State Budget allocations continues the significant investment in housing assistance made under the Bracks Government.

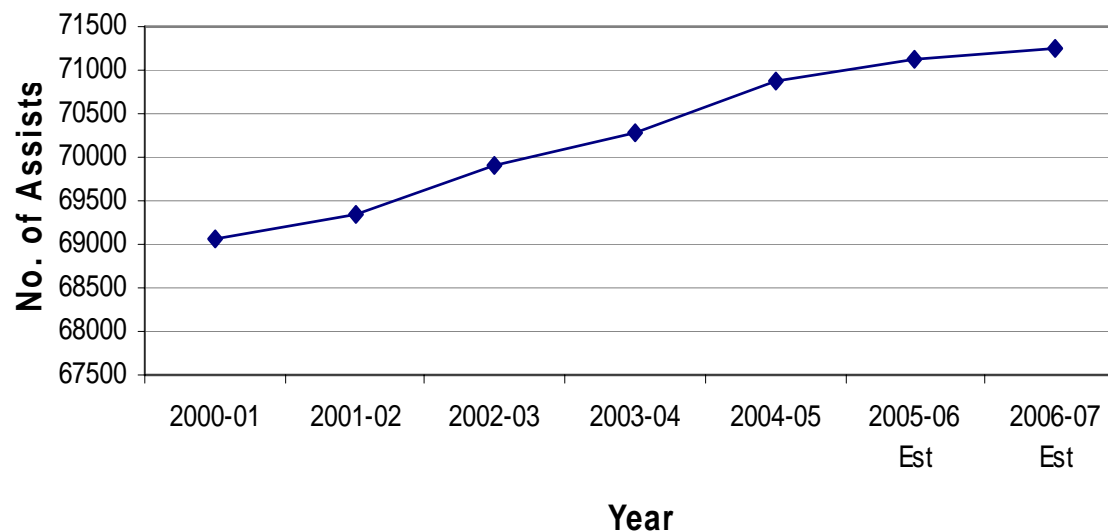
Sources of funds for housing assistance



More housing assistance

- Additional State investment in housing by the Bracks Government has meant that more Victorians are getting the housing assistance they need.

Long Term Housing Assistance

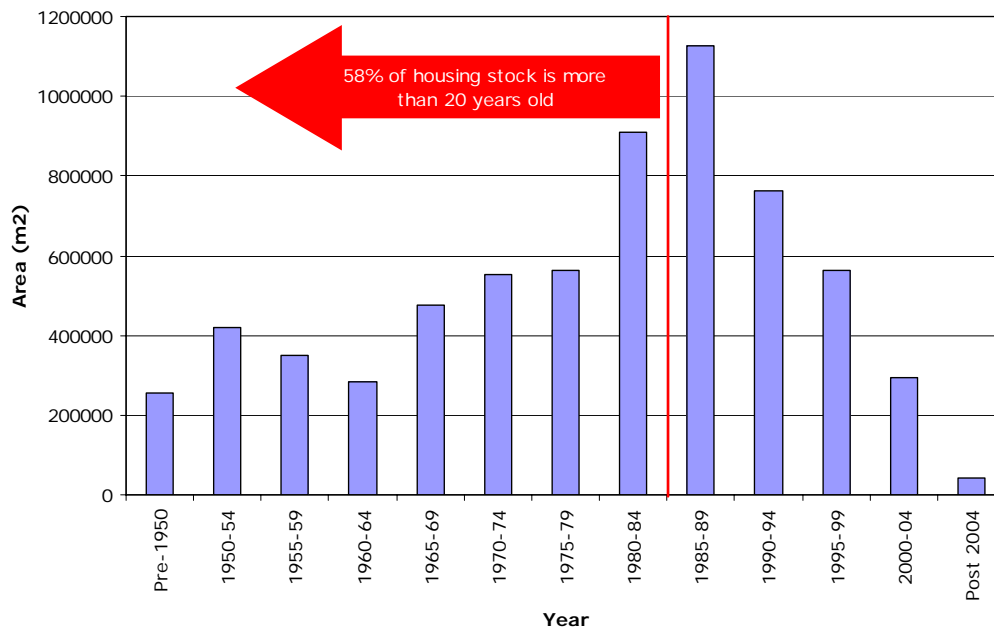


	2005-06 Target	2005-06 Exp	2006-07 Target
Long term housing assistance output measure			
Number of households assisted with long term housing	70,450	71,115	71,261

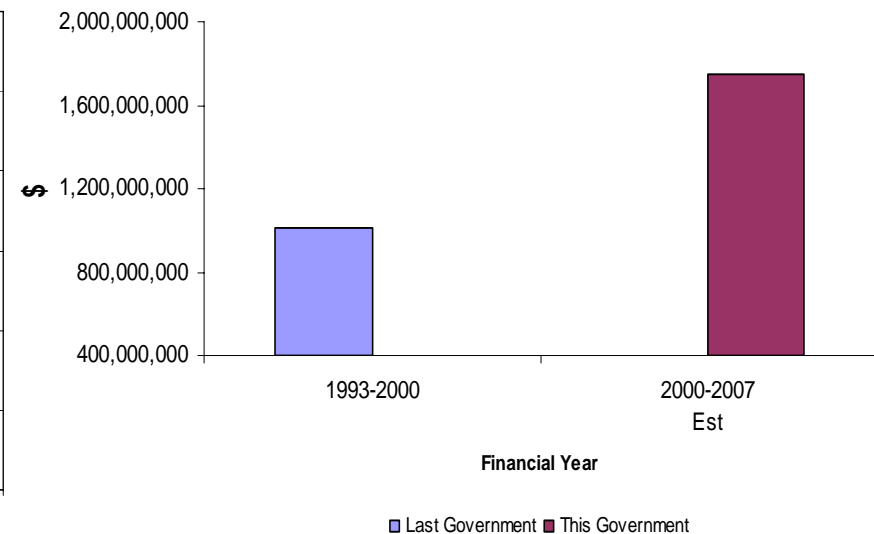
Better quality housing

- This Government is serious about maintaining and upgrading its asset base to ensure quality living environments for all tenants.

Housing stock by age of construction



Investment in maintenance and physical improvements

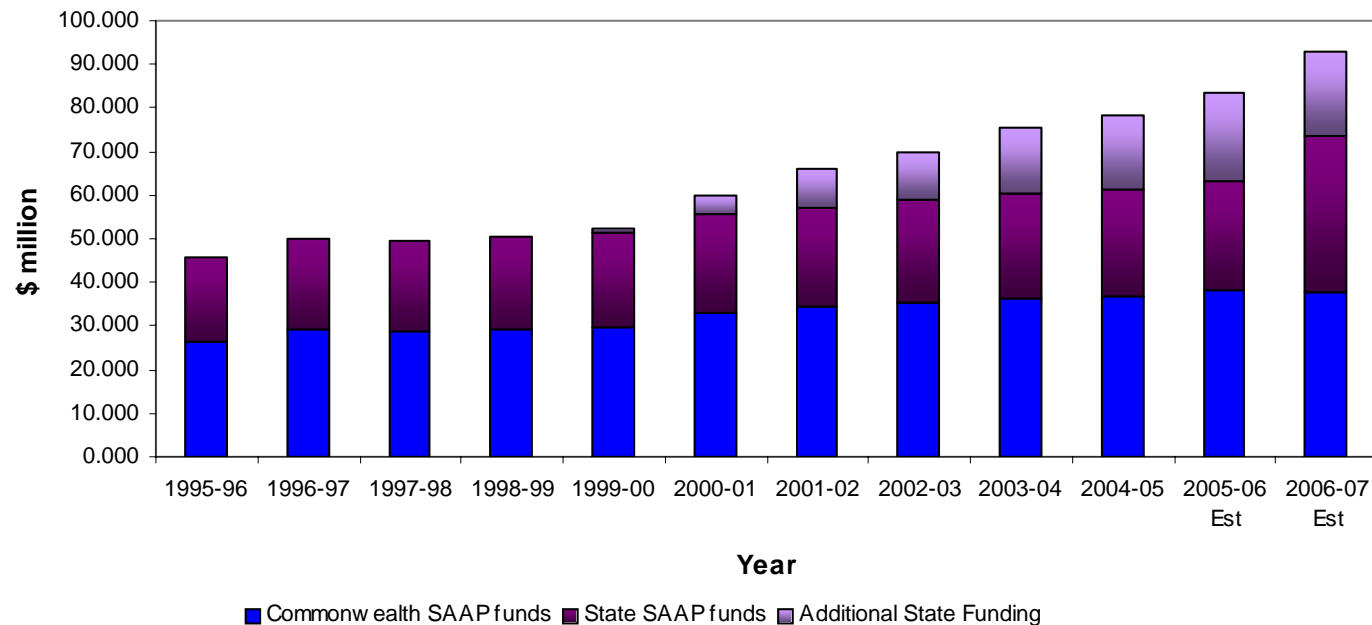


Long term housing assistance output measure	2005-06 Target	2005-06 Exp Outcome	2006-07 Target
Major upgrades	2,200	2,200	2,685

Better homelessness assistance

- This Government has already invested significant funds in the area of homelessness assistance and this priority focus continues in the 2006-07 Budget.

Additional SAAP funds



Homelessness assistance output measure	2005-06 Target	2005-06 Exp Outcome	2006-07 Target
SAAP support episodes (occassions of service)	35,700	35,700	37,115

Better communities

- This Government's place-based Neighbourhood Renewal program is achieving real and tangible benefits for communities experiencing disadvantage throughout Victoria.



Conclusion

- Victoria has invested, and continues to invest, significant amounts in housing over and above Commonwealth requirements.
- New funds in 2006-07 will enable us to acquire more homes and better homes and improve our response to homelessness.
- Future is about new opportunities and partnerships for growth, responsible asset management and providing better services to low income Victorians.