



# RESPONSE TO COMMISSION'S QUESTIONS

## Questions allocated Treasurer/Minister for Economic Growth

This document contains departmental responses to questions 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 69, 70, 71 and 72 directed by the Yoorrook Justice Commission to the Treasurer and Minister for Economic Growth in correspondence dated 8 May 2024.

- Questions 58, 59, 60, 61, 63, 64 and 65 have been responded to by the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DJSIR).
- Questions 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 69, 70, 71 and 72 have been responded to by the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF).
- Question 62 has been responded to by both DJSIR and DTF.

DTF has provided a separate departmental response to questions 4, 5, 13 and 14 in lieu of a formal response from the Treasurer as portfolio responsibility for the Housing Registrar is held by the Assistant Treasurer.

Questions 1, 2, 3, 7, 15, 16 and 17 have been allocated the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing to respond as portfolio responsibility sits with the Minister for Housing.

Questions 66, 67 and 68 have been allocated to the Department of Government Services to respond as portfolio responsibility sits with the Minister for Government Services.

### Yoorrook Justice Commission Focus Topics

Topic area	Requested Focus of Evidence	Response
<u>Addressing barriers to home ownership</u>	<b>Question 6.</b> <b>Has the State of Victoria previously given any consideration to additional</b>	<b>DTF Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes to tax policy are generally considered by Government through Cabinet (and its sub-committee) processes. These deliberations are subject to Cabinet-in-Confidence arrangements.</li> <li>• At present, land and property taxes do not include any exemptions or concessions specifically for First Peoples.</li> </ul>



<p><b>measures to facilitate increased levels of home ownership on the part of First Peoples including exemptions from:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(a) stamp duty; and</b></li> <li><b>(b) land taxes; and/or</b></li> <li><b>(c) rates,</b></li> </ul> <p><b>including in recognition of historic and ongoing land injustice for Victorian First Peoples arising from colonisation?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broadly speaking, tax policy is designed so as to:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ minimise risk of constitutional invalidity;</li> <li>○ avoid imposing unnecessary costs on the economy; and</li> <li>○ raise the revenue needed to finance government activities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• To balance these priorities, the Government considers a number of principles during the policy design (and assessment) phase, including:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Efficiency – a tax is considered efficient if its impact on taxpayer behaviour and decision-making is minimal. The magnitude of this impact depends on how responsive the tax base is to taxation, in combination with the size of the tax. Additionally, a tax is efficient if the administrative costs to government and compliance costs to taxpayers are as low as possible.</li> <li>○ Equity – a tax is considered equitable if it treats individuals with similar economic capacity similarly (horizontal equity), and if those with a greater capacity to pay bear a greater burden (vertical equity). A tax is progressive if an individual’s tax burden increases more than in proportion to their economic capacity. That is, the progressivity of a tax is determined by the degree to which the tax rate increases as economic capacity increases.</li> <li>○ Simplicity and transparency – a tax is considered simple and transparent if it is easy to understand and straightforward to comply with.</li> <li>○ Stability and sustainability – a tax is considered stable if it can operate with minimal changes over time. A tax is considered sustainable if it can provide a consistent long-term source of revenue despite demographic, structural or environmental changes.</li> <li>○ Security – A tax is considered secure if it does not contradict other taxes, legislation, or government agreements. Where possible, the tax system should be consistent both within and across jurisdictions. Additionally, a tax is secure provided all tax parameters and policy mechanisms lie within the government’s jurisdiction.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• These principles (together, the ‘tax principles’) help guide policy development noting that these principles are not mutually exclusive, at times have competing objectives, and must also be balanced against the need to raise revenue to fund essential services and infrastructure provided to</li> </ul>
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		<p>Victorian communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exemptions from taxes or levies (including land and property taxes) are considered with respect to a number of factors, including assessment against the tax principles above, the revenue lost as a result of providing the exemption/s, and any expected impacts on the activities for which an exemption is granted.</li> <li>Broadly, exemptions and concessions are granted based on the use or activity undertaken on the land or property (e.g. if land is used exclusively for charitable purposes). Where a specific exemption relates to the characteristics of a potential taxpayer (rather than use or activity), these potential taxpayers must undertake a verification/compliance process to avail themselves of the exemption (e.g. exemptions or concessions pertaining to land transfer duty for first home buyers).</li> </ul>
<p><u>Rent to Buy and Shared Equity</u></p>	<p><b>Question 8.</b> <b>Is there an intention to increase access to the Victorian Homebuyer Fund, currently at 0.5%, in the case of First Peoples?</b></p>	<p><b>DTF Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DTF has deployed a range of measures to support and grow the share of First Peoples participants in the Victorian Homebuyer Fund (VHF). These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>partnering with Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV) since 2021 to invite advice on additional supports that may assist First Peoples and to promote the scheme;</li> <li>onboarded Indigenous Business Australia to the panel of lenders as a culturally safe lender for scheme participants. Through IBA, First Peoples can access interest rates tailored to their income, which are generally lower than the rate offered by mainstream banks; and</li> <li>offering First Peoples additional supports, including a 10% higher shared equity contribution and a 1.5% lower deposit compared to other participants.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The 2024-2025 Budget provided a further \$700 million in funding to extend the VHF until June 2025 by adopting staggered monthly caps. Access to the VHF will also be expanded to all Victorians by increasing the regional price cap from \$600 000 to \$700 000 and extending the joint applicant income threshold to single parents.</li> <li>With the Commonwealth Government establishing Help to Buy, a nationwide shared equity scheme, the Victorian Government proposes to close the Victorian Homebuyer Fund and transition Victorians</li> </ul>



		to the national scheme.
<u>Rent to Buy and Shared Equity</u>	<b>Question 9.</b> <b>What is the current rate of uptake by First Nations in the Shared Equity program, including as a proportion of total applications?</b>	<p><b>DTF Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Government does not have complete data on the number of First Peoples participating in the VHF, as First Peoples can choose whether or not to access additional supports available exclusively to First Peoples.</li> <li>• The Government does not currently collect data on whether VHF participants identify as First Peoples if they have not accessed those supports.</li> <li>• The Government does have data on the number of Victorians that have accessed the additional supports stream available exclusively to First Peoples. Accessing the additional supports stream requires an applicant to provide a Confirmation of Aboriginality, which can take some time to obtain, so not all First Peoples participating in the VHF may have accessed these additional supports. 63 (approximately 0.5%) of VHF participants have accessed the dedicated additional supports stream available exclusively to First Peoples<sup>1</sup>.</li> <li>• Amongst a small survey of VHF participants in 2023, the First Peoples participation rate across both the general stream and additional supports stream was 1.7% (Homes Vic and VHF Evaluation report, Grosvenor). It is unknown whether the survey responses are likely to be representative of First Peoples' participation in the VHF generally.</li> </ul>
<u>Rent to Buy and Shared Equity</u>	<b>Question 10.</b> <b>What are the key expected deterrents and/or barriers for access to the</b>	<p><b>DTF Response</b></p> <p>Barriers to accessing and take-up the VHF may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To access the First Peoples' stream of the VHF, there is requirement for a Confirmation of Aboriginality (CoA). CoAs are AHV's self-determined method for verifying a person who identifies as First Peoples, yet can:</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> An earlier figure of First Peoples uptake of the stream was provided to the Commission in the DTF Background paper: "Barriers to home ownership for First Peoples in Victoria" which recorded that, as at 26 February 2023, 57 First Peoples from Victoria had accessed the additional supports to purchase homes through the VHF.



	<p><b>program by the part of First Nations individuals and families?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ introduce timing uncertainty and delay access to the VHF, which may serve as a deterrent for those wishing to immediately progress towards buying a home; and</li> <li>▪ be uncertain or difficult for some First Peoples to achieve, particularly for people of the stolen generation, with weak links to their Local Aboriginal Land Council, or those originally from other states.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Home loan eligibility (as this is a requirement to enter the scheme).</li> <li>○ Saving for the deposit and purchase transaction costs.</li> <li>○ Finding a suitable dwelling at a suitable price point, particularly in a competitive and potentially supply-constrained housing market.</li> <li>○ Comfort in co-purchasing a property with the Government, noting the Government will receive a proportional interest in the property that the participant buys back over time.</li> </ul>
<p><u>Rent to Buy and Shared Equity</u></p>	<p><b>Question 11. What input has DTF had in the development of, and supervision of the application of, lenders' eligibility criteria, to mitigate the risk of (direct or indirect) discriminatory impacts on First Peoples applicants?</b></p>	<p><b>DTF Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Government set the eligibility criteria for the VHF.</li> <li>• Banking and financial services, including responsible lending requirements, are regulated by the Commonwealth Government. DTF has not sought to vary nor supervise VHF lenders' compliance with federal laws.</li> <li>• Upon joining the VHF panel, lenders explicitly acknowledge under contract that one of the scheme's objectives is to support First Peoples to overcome the 'deposit gap' and enter home ownership.</li> <li>• To mitigate the possible risk of unconscious bias or discriminatory practices, DTF has:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Provided VHF lenders cultural safety training materials and worked with these lenders to improve their understanding of the CoA process to better support potential applicants through the process;</li> <li>○ Onboarded Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) as a partner lender available to potential applicants. IBA is an established culturally safe bank offering a variety of tailored wraparound support services for First Peoples seeking to purchase a home.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



<p><u>Rent to Buy and Shared Equity</u></p>	<p><b>Question 12.</b>  <b>Has any consideration been given to barriers to take-up of the program by First Peoples communities (including possible concerns regarding the prospect of shared ownership with the State?)</b></p>	<p><b>DTF Response</b></p> <p>Refer to above answer given for question 10.</p>
<p><u>Government measures of success</u></p>	<p><b>Question 58</b>  <b>What is the Department creating to ensure progress against Domain 3 of the Victorian Aboriginal Affairs Framework including Goals 8, 9, and 10?</b></p>	<p><b>DJSIR Response</b></p> <p><b><i>Goal 8 of the Victorian Aboriginal Affairs Framework (VAAF): Aboriginal workers achieve wealth equality</i></b></p> <p><i>Yuma Yirramboi Strategy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2024-25 State Budget has provided \$8.6 million in funding over three years to continue the implementation of the Yuma Yirramboi Strategy which aims to address economic, and support the Government’s commitment to Closing the Gap and self-determination.</li> <li>• In June 2022, the Victorian Government launched the Yuma Yirramboi Strategy (Invest in Tomorrow) with \$25 million in funding over 2 years to support the Strategy’s implementation. The Strategy is the Victorian Government and First Peoples’ shared vision to address inequality and achieve economic parity within a generation.</li> <li>• The Strategy sets out a long-term, coordinated approach to increasing the wealth and prosperity of</li> </ul>



	<p>First Peoples in Victoria.</p> <p><i>Kinaway Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce (Kinaway)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2024-25 State Budget, (via the Department of Government Services), has provided \$400,000 to Kinaway and Social Traders to support Government’s social procurement framework. Kinaway is the Victorian peak body for First Peoples businesses, which aims to advance First Peoples businesses to participate in the national and global economy.</li> <li>• This funding is in addition to the \$1.6 million for 2022-23 and 2023-24 provided to Kinaway under the first stage of the Yuma Yirramboi Strategy. This investment includes:       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ grants for targeted sector development initiatives</li> <li>○ the development of Kinaway as a peak body in supporting First Peoples businesses</li> <li>○ Kinaway Annual Business Awards, recognising the achievements of Victorian First Peoples businesses; and</li> <li>○ working with over 100 businesses to embed Kinaway members into supply chains.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>Social Procurement Framework</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Victorian Government recognises its critical role in creating the economic conditions for First Peoples businesses to thrive and be sustainable, and to incentivise major corporations in Victoria’s private sector to embed First Peoples businesses in supply chains.</li> <li>• Opportunities for First Peoples in Victoria is one of seven social objectives included in Victoria’s Social Procurement Framework. The Framework aims to level the playing field and drive economic prosperity for First Peoples in Victoria.</li> <li>• The Framework identifies the following two outcomes corresponding to this procurement objective:       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ purchasing from First Peoples businesses in Victoria; and</li> <li>○ the employment of First Peoples by suppliers to the Victorian Government.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><i>Goal 9 of the VAAF: Strong Aboriginal workforce participation, in all sectors and at all levels</i></b></p> <p>Yuma Yirramboi is a critical strategy within the Government’s overall approach to improving outcomes for First Peoples in Victoria.</p>
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		<p>The Yuma Yirramboi Strategy is built on six self-determined strategic pillars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• elevate First Peoples culture to realise economic benefits;</li> <li>• support First Peoples throughout their careers;</li> <li>• enable First Peoples business growth;</li> <li>• create wealth and grow the First Peoples estate;</li> <li>• generate jobs to reach employment parity; and</li> <li>• be accountable and transparent in reporting outcomes.</li> </ul> <p>The Productivity Commission in the Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage Report states in relation to First Peoples participation and development that, the extent to which people participate in the economy is closely related to their living standards and affects many aspects of their wellbeing. Having a job or being involved in a business activity not only leads to improved incomes for families and communities (which has a positive influence on health, education of children etc), it also enhances self-esteem and reduces social alienation.</p> <p><b>Goal 10 of the VAAF: Aboriginal income potential is realised</b></p> <p><i>Marrung: First Peoples Education Plan 2016-2026</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Peoples in Victoria still face discriminatory systems and behaviours that present barriers to their everyday lives. The Victorian Government recognises this fact, and to improve the access, participation and outcomes for Koori peoples in education, developed Marrung: First Peoples Education Plan 2016-2026 (<b>Marrung</b>).</li> <li>• Skills and TAFE: Marrung includes sector-specific actions for building excellence in teaching, learning and development in higher education and skills. For the Skills and TAFE portfolio, primary actions relate to revising approaches to supporting First Peoples learners, expanding initiatives under the Toorong Marnong Higher Education Accord, strengthening pathways, and supporting the transition from education into employment.</li> <li>• Self-determination: The Marrung Central Governance Committee, the Marrung Project Control Board and the Koori Skills Working Group support and encourage self-determination in the VET</li> </ul>
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<p><u>Government measures of success</u></p>	<p><b>Question 59.</b> <b>What are the long-term measures of economic success for First Peoples?</b></p>	<p><b>DJSIR Response</b></p> <p>As set out above in the response to question 58, the Yuma Yirramboi Council’s Koori Caucus’ six self-determined measures of success outlined in the Yuma Yirramboi Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• elevate First Peoples culture to realise economic benefits;</li> <li>• support First Peoples throughout their careers;</li> <li>• enable First Peoples business growth;</li> <li>• create wealth and grow the First Peoples estate;</li> <li>• generate jobs to reach employment parity; and</li> <li>• be accountable and transparent in reporting outcomes.</li> </ul> <p>There are no specific targets set in the Strategy against these measures, but the overarching goal is to achieve economic equity for First Peoples within a generation.</p> <p>Metrics that will help assess success including those related to rates of unemployment, median income and rates of entrepreneurship. These measures are already collected and reported on via Census and ABS data.</p> <p>In addition, the National Agreement on Closing the Gap outlines key processes and socio-economic outcomes to be achieved by 2031, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target 6 – By 2031, increase the proportion of First Peoples aged 25-34 years who have completed a tertiary qualification (Certificate III and above) to 70 per cent.</li> <li>• Target 7 – By 2031, increase the proportion of First Peoples youth (15-24 years) in employment, education or training to 67 per cent.</li> <li>• Target 8 - By 2031, increase the proportion of First Peoples aged 25 – 64 who are employed to 62 percent.</li> <li>• Target 16 – By 2031, there is a sustained increase in the number and strength of First Peoples languages being spoken.</li> </ul>



<p><u>Government measures of success</u></p>	<p><b>Question 60.</b> <b>What is the long-term plan to share the economic prosperity of broader Victoria with First Peoples?</b></p>	<p><b>DJSIR Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Yuma Yirramboi (Invest in Tomorrow) Strategy (the Strategy), a whole of Victorian Government initiative, has the goal of addressing economic disparity for First Peoples in Victoria within a generation.</li> <li>• \$8.6 million over three years has been allocated in the 2024-25 State Budget to continue the Strategy’s implementation. This is in addition to the \$25 million allocated across 2022-23 and 2023-24 to begin the Strategy’s implementation.</li> <li>• But, importantly, the goal of the Strategy is relevant to much of the Government’s work in terms of contributing to First Peoples equity within a generation.</li> </ul>
<p><u>Decision making processes</u></p>	<p><b>Question 61.</b> <b>How is self-determination considered in the development of economic policy and strategy?</b></p>	<p><b>DJSIR response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The development of policy is generally considered by Government through Cabinet (and its sub-committee) processes. These deliberations are subject to Cabinet-in-Confidence arrangements.</li> <li>• The Victorian Government is committed to First Peoples self-determination and recognises this is a critical step to achieving parity and sustainable outcomes in economic opportunity, prosperity, social and cultural equity for all First Peoples in Victoria.</li> <li>• Victoria’s Self-Determination Reform Framework (SDRF) guides public service action to enable self-determination in line with Government’s commitments under the Victorian Aboriginal Affairs Framework (VAAF).</li> <li>• The Yuma Yirramboi Strategy recognises the need to adopt a sustained approach that is in the spirit of self-determination. The Strategy also maps a path for supporting Traditional Owners, First Peoples entrepreneurs and businesses, community organisations and individuals to realise their individual and collective economic and employment aspirations.</li> <li>• This is expressed for example by the provision of flexible, up-front grant funding to Traditional</li> </ul>



		<p>Owner corporations to determine how best to invest resources in pursuit of their economic development goals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Strategy was developed by the Koori Caucus, DJSIR's self-determined partnership body, through engagement and consultation with a wide range of First Peoples and non- First Peoples stakeholders with an interest in, and commitment to, creating wealth and prosperity for First Peoples in Victoria.</li> </ul>
<p><u>Decision making processes</u></p>	<p><b>Question 62.</b>  <b>What factors does the Government consider when ensuring that policy decisions consider the financial effects on future generations? (p.4)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As set out above, the development of policy is generally considered by Government through Cabinet (and its sub-committee) processes. These deliberations are subject to Cabinet-in-Confidence arrangements.</li> </ul> <p><b>DTF Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Throughout the budget process, decision makers are encouraged to carefully consider how funding, reforms, and policymaking can be delivered flexibly within the budget cycle. This approach ensures alignment with self-determination principles and avoids negatively impacting Victoria's First Peoples.</li> <li>Budget expenditure can often be tied to strict outcome and reporting requirements, which can limit the extent to which service delivery can be self-determined by these organisations.</li> <li>Government has made a significant commitment to transferring power and resources to Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) for service delivery. This initiative is a key part of the Victorian Aboriginal Affairs Framework (VAAF), which aims to ensure that services are delivered in a way that truly reflects the needs and priorities of First Peoples communities.</li> <li>In line with this commitment, budget proposals are encouraged to be designed to reflect the true cost of First Peoples service delivery and to prioritise funding for ACCOs. This ensures that the necessary resources are allocated effectively and equitably, supporting the sustainable development and self-determination of First Peoples communities.</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Government's Early Intervention and Investment Framework (EIIF) is a social policy and financial management innovation that prioritises efficient use of public funds alongside getting better long-term outcomes for vulnerable Victorians.</li> <li>• EIIF has been in place over the last four budgets, improving the information available to Government on the wellbeing impacts of each individual decision.</li> <li>• For each EIIF initiative, government quantifies expected avoided fiscal costs, economic benefits and broader social outcomes.</li> <li>• The additional evidence generated through EIIF enables Government to make more informed longer-term decisions with the aim of increasing social impact and value of each dollar spent. Annual tracking of the outcomes from each initiative also informs future budget decisions.</li> <li>• To support more engagement, DTF is currently co-designing the Early Intervention Investment Framework (EIIF) Cultural Safety Framework with the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency.</li> </ul> <p><b>DJSIR Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The National Agreement on Closing the Gap provides a pathway to a stronger, fairer future for First Peoples across Australia. It was signed by all First Ministers, the Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peak Organisations (Coalition of Peaks) and the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) in July 2020.</li> <li>• Victoria's Implementation Plan, tabled in Parliament in June 2021, embeds the National Agreement's four Priority Reforms to share decision-making authority; build a strong and sustainable community-controlled sector; transform government institutions; and share access to data with First Peoples.</li> </ul> <p><b>Priority reform areas</b></p> <p><i>Formal partnerships and shared decision-making</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-designing with First Peoples stakeholders and sharing decision-making is core to renewing</li> </ul>
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		<p>relationships with First Peoples. Transferring some control over policy, operational and budgetary decisions to First Peoples stakeholders will support self-determination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Yuma Yirramboi Council is DJSIR’s partnership body on First Peoples community priorities. The Council is a key enabler towards achieving DJSIR’s shared self-determination goals. The Council’s Koori Caucus provides expert advice to the department and ministers and wider leadership on policy and programs to improve First Peoples economic outcomes.</li> <li>• DJSIR is undertaking work to strengthen and broaden the role of the Yuma Yirramboi Council, and has recently – with agreement of the Koori Caucus members – strengthened the Council terms of references and established 3 Council sub-committees to drive change.</li> </ul> <p><i>Building the community-controlled sector</i></p> <p><u>Kinaway Chamber of Commerce</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DJSIR supports the operations of the Kinaway Chamber of Commerce as a peak body in supporting First Peoples businesses. Kinaway’s work includes the Kinaway Annual Business Awards, recognising the achievements of Victorian First Peoples businesses.</li> </ul> <p><u>The Victorian Aboriginal Community Services Association Ltd (VACSAL)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2021 Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV) recognised VACSAL as a First Peoples State Sport and Active Recreation Body (SSARB). This acknowledges the key role VACSAL plays in the sport and recreation sector and their contribution to creating participation opportunities for First Peoples in Victoria. VACSAL now have access to apply for funding through all SRV Community Sport Participation Programs and access to sector capability support from SRV.</li> </ul> <p><i>Transforming government organisations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Departments across the Victorian Government require more ambitious goals to transform their organisations. Despite the benefits of cultural safety training for staff, these types of initiatives alone will not achieve the structural changes needed to eliminate institutional racism.</li> <li>• The implementation of the Yuma Yirramboi Council is helping to change the way DJSIR works</li> </ul>
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		<p>and partners with the First Peoples community to improve accountability and better respond and deliver on First Peoples economic development opportunity and prosperity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Yuma Yirramboi Council is the department’s self-determined partnership body on First Peoples community priorities. The Council is a key enabler towards achieving the department’s self-determination goals.</li> </ul> <p><i>Shared access to data and information at a regional level</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhancing First Peoples’ control of data is imperative. The data held by government is not always made available or disaggregated to a local level. Resourcing First Peoples and organisations to collect, analyse, disseminate and manage data supports self-determination. Data systems need to be transformed to empower First Peoples to exercise agency over data activities.</li> </ul>												
<p><u>Generational wealth</u></p>	<p><b>Question 63.</b>  <b>What is the Department (and State of Victoria more broadly) doing to address the low levels of income, disparities in intergenerational wealth, and barriers to access to finance experienced by First Peoples?</b></p>	<p><b>DJSIR Response</b></p> <p>Examples of strategies and programs relevant to broader First Peoples economic development aspirations are set out in the below table.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="786 871 1991 1327"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="786 871 1402 940">Strategy/program</th> <th data-bbox="1402 871 1991 940">Portfolio</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="786 940 1402 1046">Yuma Yirramboi</td> <td data-bbox="1402 940 1991 1046">Economic Policy, Projects and Coordination</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="786 1046 1402 1118">Regional Economic Development Strategies</td> <td data-bbox="1402 1046 1991 1118">Regional Development</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="786 1118 1402 1190">Creative State 2025</td> <td data-bbox="1402 1118 1991 1190">Creative Industries</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="786 1190 1402 1262">Marrung</td> <td data-bbox="1402 1190 1991 1262">Education and Skills and TAFE</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="786 1262 1402 1327">Wurreker</td> <td data-bbox="1402 1262 1991 1327">Skills and TAFE</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Strategy/program	Portfolio	Yuma Yirramboi	Economic Policy, Projects and Coordination	Regional Economic Development Strategies	Regional Development	Creative State 2025	Creative Industries	Marrung	Education and Skills and TAFE	Wurreker	Skills and TAFE
Strategy/program	Portfolio													
Yuma Yirramboi	Economic Policy, Projects and Coordination													
Regional Economic Development Strategies	Regional Development													
Creative State 2025	Creative Industries													
Marrung	Education and Skills and TAFE													
Wurreker	Skills and TAFE													



Traditional Owner Game Management Strategy

Outdoor Recreation

*Yuma Yirramboi implementation*

The Victorian Government launched the Yuma Yirramboi Strategy in 2022 with \$25 million in funding to support the strategy’s implementation over 2 years. The allocation of those funds is set out in the table below.

Initiative	Allocation (\$m)	Expended as at 26 May 2024 (\$m)	Status
Aboriginal Business Capital Investment Program			received grants to address the lack of capital investment available to First Peoples businesses.
DJPR preparing for Treaty series Micro-Certifications			Funding to be reallocated. Koori Caucus briefed in May 2024.
Aboriginal Tertiary Scholarship Program Extension			Funding to be reallocated. Koori Caucus briefed in May 2024.
Trade Routes Program Extension			Funding to be reallocated. Koori Caucus briefed in May 2024.
Traditional Owner Economic			



			Development Coordinators			recruitment of an Economic Development Coordinator. Within the existing allocation AED is varying grants for additional funding for 5 TOCs.
			Aboriginal Business Innovation and Excellence Awards	[REDACTED]		Completed – Kinaway Annual Business Awards were delivered in 2022 and 2023.
			Yuma Yirramboi Economic Development Innovation Program			(Grants with 10 of the 11 Victorian Traditional Owner Corporations that applied to support the development of their own economic and business development initiatives. Within the existing allocation AED is varying grants for additional funding for the 10 TOCs.
			Dardi Pathways to Employment			Grant to engage 50 clients in job-readiness training and employment supports.
			Social Enterprise and [REDACTED]			Grant to deliver volunteer opportunities, pre-employment programs, mentoring supports, upskilling workshops and employment pathways for community.
			Building capability for the Aboriginal business sector [REDACTED]			Grant with [REDACTED] for operational support and to build additional reporting capacity and capability.
			Building capability for Aboriginal business sector [REDACTED]			Grant with [REDACTED] for operational support and to build additional reporting capacity and capability. Within the existing allocation AED is varying the grant for additional funding.





		Develop First Peoples Tourism Plan		MOU with [REDACTED] for VPS5 resource to develop a First People’s Tourism Plan and policy frameworks. Within the existing allocation AED is varying the [REDACTED] MOU to provide an additional resource.
		Business Growth Fund Phase 2		Grant with [REDACTED] to deliver Phase 2 of the Aboriginal Business Investment Program. FAC meeting reporting requirements.
		[REDACTED] - My money Dream		Grant to deliver the ‘My Money Dream financial literacy program’ to Victoria’s First Peoples. Meeting reporting requirements.
		Killara Business Mentor Program		Grant to deliver 12-week Business Mentor Programs to Victoria’s First Peoples. Meeting reporting requirements.
		Aboriginal Business Directory and Web Presence		Procurement process to scope a new Victorian Aboriginal Business Directory website to improve quality, discoverability, and access to information on Victorian First Peoples businesses.
		Aboriginal Business Development – Events and International Trade		Includes funding to be reallocated. Funding to support trade missions and opportunities for Victorian First Peoples businesses to participate at exhibitions, conferences, and conventions and international trade shows.



		<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="786 204 1028 344">DJSIR Aboriginal Cultural Knowledge Database</td> <td data-bbox="1028 204 1341 1031" rowspan="5" style="background-color: black;"></td> <td data-bbox="1341 204 1980 344">Funding to be reallocated. Caucus briefed in May 2024.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="786 344 1028 549">Aboriginal Economic Hubs</td> <td data-bbox="1341 344 1980 549">Grants with [redacted] to establish hubs at Bendigo, Gippsland and Ballarat. Within the existing allocation AED is varying the grant for additional funding.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="786 549 1028 753">Aboriginal Staff Network Leadership</td> <td data-bbox="1341 549 1980 753">Funding allocated to [redacted] - for grants to preferred education providers via a selective tender process to support and facilitating career pathways and trajectory for [redacted]</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="786 753 1028 957">Aboriginal Employment Action Research</td> <td data-bbox="1341 753 1980 957">Conduct research on a regional basis that will inform a culturally safe employment model for Victoria’s First Peoples communities – four regions identified for research based on socio-economic data.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="786 957 1028 1031">Totals</td> <td data-bbox="1341 957 1980 1031"></td> </tr> </table>	DJSIR Aboriginal Cultural Knowledge Database		Funding to be reallocated. Caucus briefed in May 2024.	Aboriginal Economic Hubs	Grants with [redacted] to establish hubs at Bendigo, Gippsland and Ballarat. Within the existing allocation AED is varying the grant for additional funding.	Aboriginal Staff Network Leadership	Funding allocated to [redacted] - for grants to preferred education providers via a selective tender process to support and facilitating career pathways and trajectory for [redacted]	Aboriginal Employment Action Research	Conduct research on a regional basis that will inform a culturally safe employment model for Victoria’s First Peoples communities – four regions identified for research based on socio-economic data.	Totals		<p><i>Note: Yuma Yirramboi funding is \$25 million over 2 years. In addition to the initiatives listed above there is a component of staffing and administration costs.</i></p>
DJSIR Aboriginal Cultural Knowledge Database		Funding to be reallocated. Caucus briefed in May 2024.												
Aboriginal Economic Hubs		Grants with [redacted] to establish hubs at Bendigo, Gippsland and Ballarat. Within the existing allocation AED is varying the grant for additional funding.												
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Totals														
<p><u>Investment in the regions and non-RAP groups</u></p>	<p><b>Question 64. What programs and initiatives are currently in place,</b></p>	<p><b>DJSIR Response</b></p> <p><b>Yuma Yirramboi Traditional Owner funding:</b> Yuma Yirramboi implementation provides \$11.82 million over two years for 11 Traditional Owner Corporations to set their own self-determined economic development priorities and to establish cultural hubs at Bendigo, Gippsland and Ballarat.</p>												



	<p><b>and investments currently being made, to encourage and expand First Peoples' business activity, particularly that would assist:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>ACCOs; and</b></li> <li>• <b>First Peoples within regional Victoria</b></li> </ul>	<p>This funding includes the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traditional Owner Economic Development Coordinators program: which provides \$6.2 million over two years to provide an Economic Development Coordinator to each of the 11 Traditional Owner Corporations to pursue their own self-determined economic development initiatives.</li> <li>• Yuma Yirramboi Economic Development Innovation Program: which provided \$3.1 million in 2022-23 for 11 Victorian Traditional Owner Corporations to progress their own economic development priorities and self-determined business goals.</li> <li>• Aboriginal Economic Hubs Program: which provides \$2.32 million to support three Traditional Owner Corporations to establish an economic hub on their Country.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>First Peoples within regional Victoria</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Traditional Owner Game Management Strategy (the Strategy) has been established under the Sustainable Hunting Action Plan 2016-2020. Development was led by the Federation of Victorian Traditional Owner Corporations in collaboration with Traditional Owners and Victorian Government agencies.</li> <li>• The Strategy sets out how Victorian Government departments and agencies will partner with Traditional Owners to deliver practical actions to build Traditional Owner participation in hunting, land management and conservation.</li> <li>• A co-governance group has been established between Traditional Owners and State government agencies to provide strategic direction and advice for the implementation of the Traditional Owner Game Management Strategy.</li> <li>• The next iteration of the Sustainable Hunting Action Plan 2021-2024 commits to Partnering with Traditional Owners through Action 2.3. Current progress of Action 2.3 involves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ establishment of a co-governance group and the development of an implementation plan to support increased Traditional Owner involvement in game hunting through delivery of the Traditional Owner Game Management Strategy; and</li> <li>○ the establishment of four pilot projects that will build Traditional Owner participation in hunting, land management and conservation.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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		<p><i>Fisheries</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government has committed to supporting Traditional Owner access to the new oyster aquaculture opportunity in Gippsland Lakes through a partnership arrangement with the Gunaikurnai people through Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC).</li> <li>• Government has provided a significant grant to GLaWAC for this project.</li> <li>• GLaWAC is currently preparing a business plan to better understand the commercial scale and potential of the business opportunity with the view of being able to attract an industry business partner within the next 12 months.</li> <li>• The VFA and GLaWAC are pursuing further funding to expand the trial.</li> </ul>
<p><u>Investment in the regions and non-RAP groups</u></p>	<p><b>Question 65. What are the opportunities in this space, including within Treaty?</b></p>	<p><b>DJSIR Response</b></p> <p><i>Investment in the regions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In addition to the opportunities for investment in the regions that has been out in Question 64 above, a key strength of DJSIR’s previous Traditional Owner Programs has been their flexible design coupled with the provision of in-full, up-front funding.</li> <li>• DJSIR has invited Traditional Owner Corporations and ACCOs to submit proposals based on broad funding criteria, enabling them to identify projects of greatest significance to community through Yuma Yirramboi, the ‘Traditional Owner Economic Development’ and ‘Creating Jobs and Supporting Economic Recovery for Aboriginal Victorians’ (2020/21 – 2021/22) initiatives.</li> <li>• DJSIR aims to replicate this flexible funding model in future Traditional Owner Programs.</li> </ul> <p><i>Treaty</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Treaty process is about embedding self-determination. Self-determination means First Peoples having the control and resources to make and action decisions about their own future.</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Treaty elements required under the <i>Advancing the Treaty Process with Aboriginal Victorians Act 2018</i> (Vic) have been formally agreed between the State and the First Peoples’ Assembly, including the Treaty Authority, Self-Determination Fund, and Treaty Negotiation Framework.</li> <li>• The Victorian Government commits to working in partnership with the First Peoples' Assembly to progress a well-supported, well-planned and transparent Treaty process that delivers meaningful outcomes for First Peoples.</li> <li>• The State will be negotiating Treaty in good faith. It is not appropriate or in the interest of Victorians for the Victorian Government to make public statements about what Treaty may or may not include before negotiations commence.</li> </ul>
<p><u>Budget design</u></p>	<p><b>Question 69.</b></p> <p><b>How are Victorian First Nations communities and Traditional Owners:</b></p> <p><b>a. considered;</b></p> <p><b>and</b></p> <p><b>b. consulted;</b></p> <p><b>and/or</b></p> <p><b>c. involved,</b></p> <p><b>in the allocation of monies within the Victorian State Budget (including the</b></p>	<p><b>DTF Response</b></p> <p><i>Budget proposals</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At present the Government’s engagement with First Peoples' communities when preparing budget proposals can range from consultation to collaboration, partnership and co-ownership.</li> <li>• Government departments, on behalf of their portfolio Ministers, generally draft their own budget proposals and have different methods of involving First Peoples in drafting business cases that impact them.</li> <li>• Departments typically engage First Peoples’ organisations and representatives in the development of reforms and budget proposals that are seen to have significant impacts on First Peoples and self-determination, as well as implementation of relevant initiatives.</li> <li>• A budget proposal is submitted in the form of a budget business case. This is a document that provides decision makers with essential details regarding the level of funding being requested during the budget process. It highlights the problem or issue that the initiative will address, merit of the proposal and key deliverables. The template of a business case includes guidance for departments to:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Where the initiative significantly involves First Peoples communities, clearly state if and how</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	<p><b>development of budget bids for significant projects?)</b></p>	<p>the community or communities have been consulted. Frame the problem as it is defined by the community or the barriers to exercising community strength and self-determination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Where the initiative significantly involves First Peoples communities, provide information on if and how they were involved in the development of the recommended and alternative solutions, their views on each of these, and how the benefits reflect priority outcomes for their community.</li> <li>○ Outline any gender differences in benefits and outcomes of the proposed solution, including consideration of intersectionality i.e. intersectional analysis or consideration of compounding intersections of disadvantage (including Aboriginality, age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, race, religion, sexual orientation).</li> <li>○ Where the initiative involves or relates to First Peoples’ communities, please include any accompanying reports, advice or letters of endorsement from the community or communities.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Engagement with First Peoples’ communities may include consultation, collaboration, partnership and co-ownership. To support more engagement, DTF is currently co-designing the Early Intervention Investment Framework (EIIF) Cultural Safety Framework with the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency.</li> <li>● The EIIF has funded a range of initiatives across multiple portfolios, including around \$108 million in funding to support First Peoples and organisations in the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 budgets. Initiatives relating to First Peoples, and housing and economic life more broadly, have included:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Marrung (Koorie Initiatives Package), which comprised funding of \$39.3 million in the 2021-2022 budget;<sup>2</sup></li> <li>○ Tackling Rough Sleeping – the Journey to Social Inclusion program, which comprised funding of \$26.2 million in the 2021-2022 budget;<sup>3</sup></li> <li>○ Strengthening lifelong Aboriginal health and wellbeing, which comprised funding of \$35.1</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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<sup>2</sup> Funding is provided to deliver on the actions of *Marrung: Aboriginal Education Plan 2016-2026 (Marrung)* to improve the educational outcomes of Koorie students in Victoria. This includes continuing the Koorie Families as First Educators program.

<sup>3</sup> The program is delivered by Sacred Heart Mission and provides intensive wrap-around support and services including head-leased properties to people facing long-term homelessness. The program also provides clients with support to sustain their housing, gain training and employment and establish stronger social connections.



		<p>million in the 2023-2024 budget;<sup>4</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reducing future justice demand and keeping the community safe, which comprised funding of \$24.9 million in total from the 2022-23 and 2023-24 budgets;<sup>5</sup></li> <li>○ 100,000 lives – an initiative to reduce preventable hospital admissions, which comprised funding of \$45.6 million in the 2021-2022 budget;<sup>6</sup></li> <li>○ Driving shorter wait lists and better outcomes from elective surgery, which comprised funding of \$21.5 million in the 2021-2022 budget;<sup>7</sup></li> <li>○ Investing to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring, which comprised funding of \$51.3 million in the 2022-2023 budget;<sup>8</sup></li> <li>○ A Mobile Stroke Unit, which comprised funding of \$12 million in the 2022-2023 budget;<sup>9</sup> and</li> <li>○ Strengthening community-based mental health services, which comprised funding of \$115.6 million in the 2022-2023 budget.<sup>10</sup></li> </ul>
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<sup>4</sup> Funding is provided to Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations to strengthen workforce capacity and deliver more culturally informed, prevention focused episodes of care to First Peoples in Victoria.

<sup>5</sup> Funding is provided for initiatives to reduce future justice demand and keep people out of prison, including: enhancing the Aboriginal Youth Cautioning Program to improve cautioning for young people aged 10–17 years old in collaboration with Victorian Aboriginal communities; funding for a two-year pilot to assist Aboriginal Community Justice Panels in three locations; implementing a regional hub model for Victorian Aboriginal Legal Services (VALS) across five locations; and residential support for perpetrators of family violence.

<sup>6</sup> The program involves large-scale improvement initiatives that work to reduce preventable hospital admissions, reduce unintended harm, and limit unnecessary medical interventions within Victoria’s health system. This funding will improve the health and life outcomes of 100 000 Victorians over five years.

<sup>7</sup> This initiative seeks to improve elective surgery access and outcomes, reduce elective surgery waiting lists by accelerating the uptake of more efficient same day surgical models and rapidly reassessing patients on wait lists, and piloting the expansion of alternative care pathways for suitable patients. This funding will encourage efficient use of existing surgical capacity in health services.

<sup>8</sup> Funding will reform elements of the homelessness service system, shifting to a delivery model that provides tailored support and focuses on early intervention and sustainable housing. Victorians experiencing homelessness and rough sleeping will receive intensive flexible case management to address factors that act as barriers to exiting homelessness, such as substance abuse and poor mental and physical health.

<sup>9</sup> A second Mobile Stroke Unit will be established to improve access to pre-hospital stroke treatment, helping stroke victims to get the urgent care they need without a delay.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targeted programs and services that are specifically designed to support First Peoples’ communities are often delivered by ACCOs.</li> <li>• Budget proposals are drafted with the aim of reflecting the true cost of First Peoples service delivery and that they prioritise funding to ACCOs. This enables ACCOs to self-determine spending priorities for First Peoples in Victoria.</li> <li>• Prior to 2019, DTF worked on a project with representatives from ACCOs on how to reform the funding processes to better support ACCOs and self-determination.</li> <li>• Through whole of Victorian Government working groups and committees, DTF heard from ACCOs about the challenges faced by ACCOs and First Peoples in Victoria resulting from funding allocations and the annual budget process. It became clear that the priority for ACCOs was their engagement in the processes involved in the allocation of funding from government departments that are tasked with the delivery of specific First Peoples’ initiatives. ACCOs often received funding from multiple departments to provide different services. The working group members reported that key challenges were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ having agreements with multiple departments;</li> <li>○ each department using a different template agreement, with different reporting requirements and timelines. This created a large burden of work;</li> <li>○ ACCOs were often providing holistic services that integrated support across multiple types of community needs, but they were funded by different departments for different components of their services. This made it hard for them to demonstrate that they were delivering against each separate agreement, and for them to fund activity that was needed to provide that holistic support but not specified in any particulate agreement.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Work was undertaken in December 2019, to implement actions within the budget process to</li> </ul>
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<sup>10</sup> Funding is provided for a range of initiatives to deliver a mental health and wellbeing system that is reoriented towards community-based treatment, care and support. This includes integrated treatment, care and support for people with a co-occurring mental illness and substance use or addiction, to be established in all Adult and Youth Area Mental Health and Wellbeing Services, as well as expansion of addiction services.





		<p>progress self-determination in Government decision making, these actions were for Government to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Elevate government consideration of First Peoples’ budget proposals via earlier and focused consideration</li> <li>○ Establish opportunities for the First Peoples’ community to voice key issues and priority areas of focus to the government ahead of budget processes</li> <li>○ Reducing the reporting burden on the First Peoples’ community generated through the budget process</li> <li>○ Establish a requirement that budget proposals relating to the First Peoples’ community must be co-designed with the First Peoples’ community.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● These actions have not progressed as quickly as envisaged. These actions may be potential future priorities for the DTF Self-Determination Taskforce once reestablished.</li> </ul>
<p><u>Budget design</u></p>	<p><b>Question 70.</b></p> <p><b>What mechanisms are available for land and resources related revenues to be shared with Traditional Owners (rather than absorbed into general consolidated revenue):</b></p> <p><b>a. administrative; and</b></p>	<p><b>DTF Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Under section 9(2) of the <i>Financial Management Act 1994</i> (FMA), all money raised by or on behalf of or received by the State must be credited to the Consolidated Fund within the Public Account, unless it is required under another Act to be paid to the Trust Fund or another fund. Despite the name, the Trust Fund within the Public Account is not a legal trust and is better thought of as a collection of special purpose accounts to allow money to be held separately for specific purposes.</li> <li>● Due to section 9(2) of the FMA, there are no administrative arrangements that allow for revenue to not be paid into the Consolidated Fund.</li> <li>● Under section 19(1) of the FMA, the Assistant Treasurer can create a trust account within the Trust Fund for a particular purpose without legislation – which is an administrative way to create a special purpose trust account. However, the establishment of a trust account under section 19(1) does not provide automatic authority for that trust account to receive funds into it and section 19(1) does not provide any power for the Assistant Treasurer to direct funds into a trust account, and therefore does not extend to over-riding any other provisions of the FMA. Therefore, unless specific legislative arrangements exist, revenues received must be paid into the Consolidated Fund, under</li> </ul>



	<b>b. legislative;</b>	<p>section 9(2) of the FMA. Other enabling legislation is then required to move funds from the Consolidated Fund into a trust account.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are other sources of revenue drawn from activities undertaken in relation to Government land, waters and natural resources outside of the Treasury portfolio. Queries pertaining to these revenue sources can be directed to the Minister with the relevant portfolio responsibility as outlined in the '<i>Land, waters and resources revenue collected by the Victorian Government</i>' background paper [DEEC.0001.0001.0049].</li> </ul>
<u>Preparations for Treaty</u>	<p><b>Question 71.</b></p> <p><b>What planning is being undertaken by the Department toward Treaty, including (without limitation):</b></p> <p><b>a. mapping revenue streams and potential economic opportunities;</b></p> <p><b>and</b></p> <p><b>b. data collection.</b></p>	<p><b>DTF Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DTF is involved in interdepartmental structures that are supporting the Government's preparations to be ready for Treaty negotiations. Further planning will focus on how DTF will coordinate and progress its policy work to help deliver Treaty outcomes.</li> <li>DTF is currently re-establishing a Self-Determination Taskforce to support DTF's preparation for Treaty.</li> <li>The Taskforce will identify key gaps and priorities in order for the Department to be ready for Treaty.</li> <li>The Victorian Government has committed to working in partnership with the First Peoples' Assembly to progress a well-supported, well-planned and transparent Treaty process that delivers meaningful outcomes for First Peoples.</li> <li>DTF is participating in Treaty preparation work internally and across government. There has been no significant work on data collection or mapping revenue streams in relation to Treaty to date as DTF do not wish to pre-empt what ground Treaty will cover. This work may be undertaken as part of whole of government preparation for Treaty negotiations commencing later in the year.</li> </ul>
<u>Preparations for Treaty</u>	<p><b>Question 72.</b></p> <p>What is the current status of the Self-determination</p>	<p><b>DTF Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under s36 of the <i>Advancing the Treaty Process with Aboriginal Victorians Act 2018 (Vic)</i> (Treaty Act), the statutory purposes of the Self Determination Fund are:</li> </ul>



	Fund?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ supporting First Peoples in Victoria to have equal standing with the State in Treaty Negotiations (Purpose 1); and</li> <li>○ providing a financial resource independent from the State, that empowers First Peoples in Victoria to build capacity, wealth, and prosperity (Purpose 2).</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The State has committed \$65 million to the Self Determination Fund over three years and has so far made transfers of \$50 million. Under the Self Determination Fund Agreement, the outstanding commitment of \$15 million is to be transferred to the Trustee within 30 days of the publication of the 2023-2024 Self Determination Fund annual report.</li> <li>● Without limiting the discretion of the Aboriginal Representative Body under the Treaty Act (the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria) and the Trustee, this funding is intended to support Traditional Owner Groups to advance through the process set out in the Treaty Negotiation Framework, including to:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ satisfy Minimum Standards;</li> <li>○ provide notification of satisfaction of Minimum Standards to the Treaty Authority for entry onto the Negotiations Database;</li> <li>○ form First Peoples' Treaty Delegations; and</li> <li>○ negotiate Traditional Owner Treaties with the State.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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