



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Communities**

Department of Communities

Annual Report

.....
2021-22

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Statement of compliance



Hon Simone McGurk MLA

Minister for Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services.

Hon John Carey MLA

Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness; Local Government.

Hon Don Punch MLA

Minister for Disability Services; Small Business; Fisheries; Seniors and Ageing.

Hon Dave Kelly MLA

Minister for Water; Forestry; Youth.

Hon Stephen Dawson MLC

Minister for Emergency Services; Innovation and ICT; Medical Research; Volunteering.

For the year ended 30 June 2022

In accordance with section 63 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*, I hereby submit for your information and presentation to Parliament, the annual report of the Department of Communities for the financial year ended 30 June 2022.

The annual report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006*.

Mike Rowe
Accountable Authority
16 November 2022



Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Communities proudly acknowledges Traditional Custodians throughout Western Australia and recognises their continuing connection to their lands, families and communities. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and cultures, and to Elders past and present.

Accessibility statement

The Department of Communities strives to achieve online accessibility when delivering information to be inclusive of a wide range of people, including people with disability. This annual report has been designed in both a PDF and accessible Word format. Some parts of the report may not achieve accessibility standards; for example the text size in some financial tables has been reduced to fit an A4 page. If you require an alternative format, please email: enquiries@communities.wa.gov.au

Operational Structure

The Department of Communities (Communities) was established on 1 July 2017 under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*. At the creation of Communities, the Disability Services Commission (the Commission) and the Housing Authority joined the new department.

The Commission was established under the *Disability Services Act 1993* to provide and improve supports and services to people with disability.

The Housing Authority is a statutory authority established under the *Housing Act 1980* to provide and improve housing and accommodation in Western Australia.

The Commission and Housing Authority have specific reporting requirements in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006* and prepared separate annual reports to meet those requirements.



Contact information

Department of Communities

Address

5 Newman Court
Fremantle WA 6160

PO Address

Locked Bag 5000
Fremantle WA 6959

Telephone: 1800 176 888

Country free call: 1800 176 888

Email: enquiries@communities.wa.gov.au

Website: www.communities.wa.gov.au

Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) – Telephone: 13 14 50

If you are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment, contact us through the [National Relay Service](#).

Voice Relay number

1300 555 727

TTY number

133 677

SMS relay number

0423 677 767



Agency Performance

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Agency performance

Who we are

We partner across government and the community services sector to support diverse cohorts and communities throughout Western Australia.

6,041

Total number of staff



166

Total number of offices



What we do

The Department of Communities brings together vital services and functions that enable individual, family and community wellbeing. We also lead the State's social recovery, following challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

12,469

Total number of child safety investigations commenced



146,193

Number of Working with Children applications processed



5,093
Children in care

2,955

Number of Aboriginal children in care (58%)

2,138

Number of Non-Aboriginal children in care (42%)



35,694

Total number of public housing properties



1,963

Public housing assistances from waitlist



Over 17,500

Total number of homelessness clients supported with support service funding of over \$75 million



2,514

Total number of Keystart loans approved throughout the year totalling more than \$917 million

Keystart.

30

Grants to support COVID-19 recovery, totalling more than \$4.8 million



403,976

Number of Seniors Cards issued



\$1 Billion

Total WA contribution to the NDIS supporting 46,475 participants, with more than 22,000 new participants in 2021-22



Over 740

Total number of community services contracts totalling over \$274 million



Over \$62 million

Total value of all contracts awarded to Registered Aboriginal Businesses





Report on operations

Our achievements

The Department of Communities (Communities) has been at the forefront of assisting the citizens of Western Australia over 2021–22, particularly as the State continues to be affected by COVID-19. Whether providing relief from rising housing market pressures, to delivering services for those most vulnerable in the community, Communities is proud to respond to and support the needs of each individual and the community at large.

Below outlines just a few of the numerous achievements, milestones and outcomes accomplished by Communities, with further achievements and activities detailed on our Communities website.

- Communities supported 5,093 children in out-of-home care in 2021–22, a reduction of 251 children (4.7 per cent) from 30 June 2021. In addition, a total of 12,469 child safety investigations were commenced by Communities during 2021–22.
- As at 30 June 2022, a total of 1,317 child education and care services in Western Australia were being regulated by Communities, an increase of 3 per cent when compared to the same time last year.
- Communities spent over \$269 million in foster care arrangements, providing a stable and nurturing environment for children and young people in care.
- During 2021–22, 146,193 Working with Children Card applications were processed, the first time Communities has processed over 146,000 in one year.
- Communities' Earlier Intervention and Family Support Strategy continued to deliver earlier intervention and family support services more effectively. A key area of focus is the Aboriginal In-Home Support Service (AISS), which successfully helps divert families from the child protection system. The AISS delivered an encouraging outcome for 2020–21 (the latest period of full-year results), which saw 91.4 per cent of referrals to keep children safe at home resulting in the children being at home after 12 months.
- As at 30 June 2022, 190 young people had entered the Target 120 program, across 12 metropolitan and regional sites to support young people at-risk of becoming repeat offenders. Of the 190 young people, 51 have successfully completed the program. Eight sites include Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO) partners, including two sites which are 100 per cent ACCO-led.



- With an ongoing need in Western Australia to support people with disabilities who are not eligible for the National Disability Insurance Scheme, Communities supported 178 people as at 30 June 2022 who received support through the Continuity of Support Arrangements program, with total funding of more than \$9.5 million.
- In 2021–22, Communities established the Office of Disability to provide sector stewardship, advice on State and Commonwealth systems, and drive work and innovation to advance inclusion and participation of people with disability in Western Australia. The Office is also providing leadership to implement, monitor and further develop the '*A Western Australia for Everyone: State Disability Strategy 2020–2030*'.
- In addition to supporting and delivering the outcomes of the '*All Paths Lead to a Home: Western Australia's 10-Year Strategy on Homelessness 2020–2030*', Communities established the Office of Homelessness in early 2022, to provide a dedicated focus on stewardship, coordination, strategic planning, and practices relating to homelessness.
- In 2021, Communities awarded Developmental Disability WA \$125,000 through a grant agreement to administer grants for International Day of Persons with Disabilities activities (\$100,000 was allocated for 100 grants of \$1,000 and \$25,000 was allocated as a one-off administration fee). Grant recipients included a range of organisations and local governments holding activities such as carnivals, picnics, dance and music events, and accessible sport events. The events funded by these grants helped celebrate International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3 December 2021, a United Nations sanctioned day empowering people with disability and emphasise the importance of access and inclusion.
- In 2021–22, Communities assisted 211 State and local authorities in developing, implementing and monitoring their Disability, Access and Inclusion Plans.
- Over 34,000 Worker Screening checks were processed during 2021–22, to ensure those with a disability are receiving best quality and safe support services.
- In August 2021, Communities welcomed the first residents of Boorloo Bidee Mia, providing the first low barrier evidence-based homelessness service of its kind, offering culturally supportive medium-term accommodation for people with some of the most complex needs. This approach provides residents the support they need to transition out of homelessness and into stable, long-term accommodation. Communities also spent more than \$75 million on homelessness support services in 2021–22.



- In 2021–22, Communities established the Office for the Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence, helping to ensure that the correct foundations are in place to drive strong and sustained action to improve victim survivor safety and perpetrator accountability.
- The prevention and response to those experiencing family and domestic violence continued as a priority within Communities, with over \$89 million spent on service delivery in 2021–22, a substantial increase of 25 per cent compared to 2020–21.
- Contributing to the outcomes outlined in the '*Path to Safety: Western Australia's Strategy to Reduce Family and Domestic Violence 2020–2030*', in 2021–22 Communities:
 - Delivered on the \$1.3 million expansion of the Pets in Crisis program into the Great Southern and South-West regions and the establishment of the BARK program.
 - Delivered a \$1.65 million expansion of the Safer Pathways program into Mirrabooka and Midland, supporting additional women and children residing in public housing with tenancy support and specialist outreach support.
 - Delivered a \$2 million expansion to Western Australia's first therapeutic women's refuge, Warlang Bidi.
 - Delivered a \$2 million expansion of the Andrea Mia Women's Refuge in Kwinana, supporting women and children escaping violence.
- Addressing the need for social housing in Western Australia and assisting along the housing continuum continued to be at the forefront of Communities' efforts in 2021–22, providing 1,963 public housing homes to people and more than 3,700 bond assistance loans.
- In continuing to reduce barriers to accessing housing products provided by Communities, the Housing Options registration system was launched on 29 September 2021. This system streamlines and integrates several separate applications into one comprehensive assessment that supports people in making informed decisions about the most suitable housing solution.
- As part of the Social Housing Economic Recovery Package (SHERP), over \$100 million of grants has been awarded in 2021–22 to several community housing organisations across metropolitan, regional and remote areas of the state.
- Notable SHERP maintenance grants include 91 homes in Kurrawang Aboriginal Christian Community and Irrunytju, Punmu and Kunawarritj communities benefiting from \$8.2 million of refurbishment grants.



- Communities continues to work collaboratively with Keystart in assisting first-home owners in achieving home ownership, providing 2,514 new home loans during 2021–22, totalling more than \$917 million in value.
- To improve the liveability of ageing residential buildings for our tenants, a \$12.8 million Building Condition Assessment (BCA) program is being undertaken by Communities to identify property maintenance requirements in a number of its ageing residential buildings over the next four years. Communities commenced a 'pilot' BCA inspection in January 2022 with 196 properties inspected in metropolitan Perth.
- Over \$62 million of contracts were awarded to Registered Aboriginal Businesses by Communities in 2021–22. This placed Communities as the number 1 Agency by expenditure in the Aboriginal Procurement Policy Performance Report 2021–22 and second highest for number of contracts awarded. Communities also awarded a total 389 community services grants in 2021–22, totalling more than \$74 million.
- The number of Seniors Cards issued in 2021–22 totalled 403,976, providing much needed concessions and discounts from businesses across the state for eligible seniors.
- Communities delivered \$4.8 million in keeping seniors safe and secure with the McGowan Government's reintroduction of the Seniors Safety and Security Rebate. WA Seniors Card member can claim a rebate of up to \$400 after purchasing an eligible item or installation service which includes security doors, deadlocks, CCTV cameras, WiFi video doorbells and smoke alarms.
- In November 2021, the contributions of seniors, businesses and local governments who support seniors within Western Australia were acknowledged and celebrated during WA Seniors Week, at the 2021 WA Seniors Awards.
- The State Welfare Incident Coordination Centre (SWICC) provided emergency accommodation and food for 14,892 people who were required to isolate or quarantine outside of the Department of Health-run quarantine hotels throughout 2021–22. SWICC also supported 362 evacuees arriving from Afghanistan into Western Australia under the Australian Government Plan for the Reception of Australian Citizens and Approved Foreign Nationals Evacuated from Overseas (AUSRECEPLAN).
- This year, Communities celebrated 25 years of Cadets WA. The Cadets WA program in Western Australia supports more than 9,500 young people in over 190



cadet units, with more than 1000 volunteer staff engaged, in developing leadership and life skills, and a sense of community responsibility and service.

- In January 2022, Communities launched the Second Action Plan 2021–25 of Stronger Together: WA’s Plan for Gender Equality. The Second Action Plan includes more than 50 actions to support women in our communities including within workplaces, homes, education, and training institutions, the justice system and the health system. A further 17 initiatives are being delivered to drive cultural change within the public sector.
- Communities continued our support of the LGBTI+ community by marching in the Pride Parade, first marching in 2019, and in November 2021 Communities participated in Fairday for the first time.
- During National Volunteer Week, Communities celebrated the work of 173 incredible people who volunteered for 25 years or more at a single organisation.
- Communities, in partnership with WA Police, delivers the Volunteer National Police Certificate (VNPC) Program as part of our commitment to reducing financial barriers and administrative processes for volunteering under the WA Volunteering Strategy. More than 1,600 organisations have accessed the program since it began in 2005, with 8,285 VNPCs processed in 2021–22.
- In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Communities have continued to ensure the safety of staff, delivery of critical internal functions and ongoing external support to our sector partners. Supports and functions that were delivered during 2021–22 include:
 - Online reporting of COVID-19 positive test results for staff, children in care (internal residential care and external placement) and people with disability in Communities’ accommodation care.
 - the outbreak management and contact tracing of employees across Communities workplaces, including Specialised Care and Accommodation facilities (residential care facilities for children in care and group homes for people with disability).
 - Provision of regular and adequate supply of COVID-19 personal protective equipment and clothing and rapid antigen test kits for residential care and disability services group homes.
 - Distribution of more than two million masks, 450 personal protective equipment and clothing kits and 900,000 rapid antigen tests to the community service sector, early education and childcare providers, and remote communities.



Our commitment – Closing the Gap

The National Agreement on Closing the Gap (National Agreement) came into effect on 27 July 2020, committing all Australian governments to a fundamentally new way of developing and implementing policies and programs that impact on the lives of Aboriginal people.

The National Agreement comprises four Priority Reform areas and 17 Socio-economic targets. Communities has a key role in progressing all four Priority Reform areas and is the lead/co-lead agency for four of the Socio-economic targets and sponsors three other targets.

Communities has established the Closing the Gap Implementation Oversight Committee which is responsible for providing leadership and establishing strategic direction towards implementing the Priority Reforms and Socio-economic Outcomes that Communities are accountable for under the National Agreement and WA's Jurisdictional Implementation plan. Progress is reported to the Productivity Commission and is made available on its website.

In line with its commitment to Closing the Gap and implementation of its Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO) Strategy 2022 to 2032, Communities is focussed on driving reforms across its various areas of service delivery to improve the cultural appropriateness of services and supports, and wherever possible, enabling services to be delivered by Aboriginal people, for Aboriginal people. Communities is shifting the way it works, by encompassing shared decision-making on the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs to improve life outcomes for Aboriginal people.



Our stories

The Department of Communities has achieved many success stories in 2021–22. Below are good news stories and achievements that highlight the great work we do, in collaborating with the community sector for those we serve across the State.

Creation of Aboriginal Outcomes division

The Aboriginal Outcomes division was formally established in July 2021. The division's structure and purpose has been informed by a report prepared by PricewaterhouseCoopers' Indigenous Consulting.

The division's purpose is to lead and enable Communities to deliver better outcomes for Aboriginal families and communities.

Guided by the Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy, the Aboriginal Outcomes division's efforts are underpinned by the belief that Aboriginal people should have a genuine say in the design and delivery of the policies, programs and services that affect them.

The division is driving an agency-wide Aboriginal cultural reform agenda to improve the cultural competency of staff and Communities' capability to enable sustainable, positive whole-of-life outcomes for Aboriginal people, children, families and communities.

Aboriginal Outcomes is coordinating Communities' commitment under the 2020 National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

Below are a few key achievements to date:

- Launching the Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO) Strategy. This will lay the foundation for enduring reform to ensure Aboriginal people are at the core of Communities' business and can determine the services that best fit their needs.
- Providing small grants to ACCOs to develop the knowledge and skills to participate in tendering for out-of-home care services.
- Developing the Aboriginal Representative Organisations Pilot Project to help empower Aboriginal families and support them to keep their children safe.
- Establishing the Communities Closing the Gap Implementation Oversight Committee.

Aboriginal Outcomes looks forward to the opportunity to lead the transformation of Communities in driving systemic and structural reform to improve accountability and better respond to the needs of Aboriginal people.



Child Protection – Breaking the cycle

Twenty-year-old Jess (not her real name) lived in out-of-home care from the age of five years. Jess left out of home care at 18 and had her first child in 2020, and became pregnant again in 2021. Jess had very few supports in Perth, as she had recently moved from her hometown in regional WA.

Jess was also experiencing domestic violence. She was referred to Communities for support and participated in pre-birth planning meetings during 2021. It was clear that Jess wanted to protect the children from violence and knew that it wasn't okay for them to see, hear or get caught up in such situations.

Communities developed a safety plan with Jess, and engaged an Aboriginal Support Service, domestic violence support services and leaving care services to help support her in Perth. Jess brought her second child home and had a roster of supports around them. Due to Jess's vulnerable situation, Communities started a period of Intensive Family Support and built a relationship of trust with her and the paternal families of the children. Jess continued to call Communities for help when she needed it, or when things weren't going well.

Through the support of the safety network, Jess and her children have flourished and no longer need the Intensive Family Support program. Since then, Jess has continued to attend parenting groups and has been heard to encourage other young mums experiencing family and domestic violence or experiencing other difficulties to contact Communities, sharing her story of how Communities was able to help her and her children.

Commitment to Social Housing Boost

The Department of Communities added 600 dwellings to Western Australia's social housing stock during 2021–22. As at 30 June 2022, a further 861 social housing dwellings were under contract and an additional 434 older properties have been refurbished and returned to social housing stock.

Communities has responded to current challenges in the housing market by embracing a range of diverse measures to enable new social housing to be fast-tracked and reduce waiting lists and times for vulnerable Western Australians. This includes initiatives using modular factory and rapid timber frame construction methods.

The Social Housing Economic Recovery Package grants program is also playing a critical part in delivering high quality, safe and secure housing, having awarded over \$100 million in 2021–22 to community housing organisations and local government.



Family and Domestic Violence One Stop Hubs

In 2021–22, 270 women and their children were supported and assisted to escape, heal and recover from family and domestic violence by the States two new Family and Domestic Violence One Stop Hubs, which are operating in Mirrabooka and Kalgoorlie.

Establishing one stop hubs was a commitment of the Government in 2017 and an action of the First Action Plan 2020–2022 of Path to Safety: Western Australia's Strategy to Reduce Family and Domestic Violence 2020–2030. Communities worked with key stakeholders to design and procure these services, which commenced in operation in October 2020.

The Family and Domestic Violence One Stop Hubs are an innovative approach to providing wrap around support and services to victim-survivors of family and domestic violence. They are designed to provide a visible service hub in community that provides options for 'soft' entry to specialist support. Specifically, the Hubs:

- Comprise a lead agency (or backbone organisation) and partner agencies to enable multiple services to be delivered from the same location.
- Provide support and services tailored to the unique needs of the client and their child(ren).
- Enable integration between the services on-site to make the client experience as seamless as possible.
- Support victim-survivors at all stages of their pathway to safety and recovery.

Communities also substantially progressed establishment of two further one stop hubs, one in Armadale and one in Broome, West Kimberley, facilitating co-design in these respective locations, securing funding of \$14.7 million to establish Armadale and commencing the procurement process for this location. Funding for Broome and associated procurement processes will be determined in 2022–23.



Boorloo Bidee Mia resident

For one Boorloo Bidee Mia resident, life was following a familiar pattern of repeat stays in prison and a spiralling battle with alcohol and drug addiction.

Having witnessed his own mother struggle with homelessness, the resident was following a similar path and his physical and mental health was rapidly deteriorating as a consequence.

The resident knew he had it in him to turn his life around, but also knew he needed a helping hand to do so. That help arrived through the support of staff at Boorloo Bidee Mia.

The resident believes Boorloo Bidee Mia has helped save his life and says the facility is setting him on a supported path towards independent, stable living. In his five months with Boorloo Bidee Mia, Eddie has quit drugs, quit alcohol and quit smoking. His health has improved dramatically.

He believes every person has their moment to shine, and credits Boorloo Bidee Mia and its network of caring support staff for helping him step out of the dark and into the light.

He's committed to taking it one day at a time but believes for the first time in his adult life that he can now dream of a bright future.

Boorloo Bidee Mia commenced on 5 August 2021, providing the first low barrier evidence-based homelessness services of its kind, offering culturally supportive medium-term accommodation for some of the most complex individuals.

The name, Boorloo Bidee Mia, represents "Perth pathway to housing" in Whadjuk Noongar language. It typifies the approach of the service to provide residents with the support they need to transition out of homelessness and into stable, long-term accommodation. The service is delivered in partnership by Perth-based Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations; Wungening Aboriginal Corporation and Noongar Mia Mia.



Aboriginal Family Safety Strategy Released for consultation

In March 2022, the Department of Communities as the lead agency for prevention of family and domestic violence policy coordination in Western Australia, released a consultation draft of the Aboriginal Family Safety Strategy to seek broader stakeholder and community feedback on the Strategy.

Consultation has been an essential part of the Strategy's development with over 1,000 people engaged as part of the overall process. Workshops were held with Aboriginal community across several regions in Western Australia (WA) to inform the approach, in addition to engaging with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, sector organisations and Government agencies.

The Aboriginal Family Safety Strategy has been designed in partnership with Aboriginal communities and stakeholders in Western Australia to address the unique drivers and disproportionate impact of family violence on Aboriginal women, children, families and communities. Communities would like to acknowledge Tiallara Consulting who led the development and writing of the Strategy.

The Aboriginal Family Safety Strategy is a cross-government initiative that has been developed following extensive community feedback. The Aboriginal Safety Strategy acknowledges that family violence is not a part of Aboriginal culture and has an aim of ensuring that all Aboriginal people in WA live safe and healthy lives free of family violence and that we are all part of the solution.

Aboriginal people experience family violence at disproportionately higher rates, with devastating impacts on their own health and wellbeing, and on the health and wellbeing of their families. The Strategy acknowledges that family violence is not a part of Aboriginal culture and aims to ensure that all Aboriginal people in Western Australia live safe and healthy lives free of family violence and that we are all part of the solution.

Importantly, the Strategy is a cross-Government initiative and forms one of State Government's four key actions in the Closing the Gap Jurisdictional Implementation Plan for Western Australia to respond to Outcome 13 – that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and households are safe.



North-West Aboriginal Housing Fund: Jalbi Jiya Program

Jalbi Jiya, meaning 'your home' in the Yawuru language, is a Nyamba Buru Yawuru program in partnership with Communities through the North-West Aboriginal Housing Fund, creating affordable housing opportunities for Aboriginal people in Broome.

Jalbi Jiya is based on the Yawuru philosophy of wellbeing – mabu liyan (good wellbeing). Mabu liyan is attained when connected to community, culture and Country. Secure housing and home ownership are critical for Aboriginal people to build their financial autonomy and fully participate in the economy and community, with culturally secure support services delivered by Yawuru focussed on building financial capability, economic participation and wellbeing.

In 2021–22, two Aboriginal families successfully progressed to purchasing their home, with an additional family moving towards settlement. Pictured below is Jub Clerc, who was able to purchase her own home through the Jalbi Jiya program.





Shining a collaborative light on elder abuse awareness

If the COVID-19 pandemic has taught us anything, it is that we need greater awareness of things that matter in our communities, elder abuse being one of them.

Elder abuse is a complex issue and for many older Western Australians understanding that what they are experiencing is abuse is the first step towards confronting the issue. Many are surprised to learn that elder abuse is not just physical, that it can take multiple forms including financial, psychological, sexual and emotional. This often results in feelings of fear, helplessness and shame for victims.

Communities, in partnership with Advocare, Council of the Ageing Western Australia, Legal Aid WA, Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre and Bankwest, worked to raise awareness of elder abuse as part of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) on 15 June 2022. This was achieved through the development of a collaborative approach to plan a range of initiatives to raise awareness of elder abuse.

As part of WEAAD, Communities also designed elder abuse bookmarks consistent with the theme of WEAAD and the Department's Elder Abuse Strategy, inscribed with 'Help Stop Elder Abuse' and the Elder Abuse Helpline number. Elder abuse bookmarks were then distributed to 229 public libraries throughout WA, our community service partner organisations and local government networks on request.

Some key events from WEAAD included: shopping centre information exhibitions including the display of the Purple Road at Karrinyup Shopping Centre and Mandurah Forum; digital screen displays in metropolitan and regional Bankwest branches to highlight awareness of elder abuse; lighting iconic Perth landmarks, including Optus Stadium, Bankwest's Wentworth building, Matagarup Bridge, Council House, Trafalgar Bridge, Fraser Avenue in King's Park, Elizabeth Quay and the Bell Tower in purple (the colour of WEAAD); launching the COTA WA Guide 'Understanding the Mistreatment of Older People', the WA Seniors Sector: Responding to Elder Abuse Forum; and launching the Elder Rights WA Service.

It is important that we maintain the dignity and freedom afforded to older people and safeguard them from elder abuse.





WA Youth Awards 2021

The WA Youth Awards 2021 had 39 finalists – young people, youth workers and youth organisations across 10 categories – who were nominated for the exceptional work they do across Western Australia.

Eleven awards were announced across various categories: The 2021 WA Young Person of the Year, The ECU Community Leadership Award, The Commissioner for Children and Young People Participate Award, The Aboriginal Health Council Positive Achievement Award, The Small Organisation Award, The Minister for Youth's Most Outstanding Youth Worker Award, Young Changemaker Award, The Propel Youth Arts Creative Contribution Award, Large Organisation Achievement Award, Innovation for a Sustainable Future Award and The Charmaine Dragun Memorial Award.



Workplace Gender Equality Agency Reporting Pilot

Communities recently participated in the 2021 Workplace Gender Equality Agency Reporting Pilot Program to test voluntary reporting of public sector gender equality data, to identify key areas where women experience disadvantage and discrimination in the workplace.

Reporting gender equality data enables organisations to measure and compare their performance against six gender equality indicators including workforce composition, equal remuneration between women and men, and flexible working practices.

Communities will use the findings of the pilot to continue to drive cultural change and support gender equity within Communities and the broader public sector.



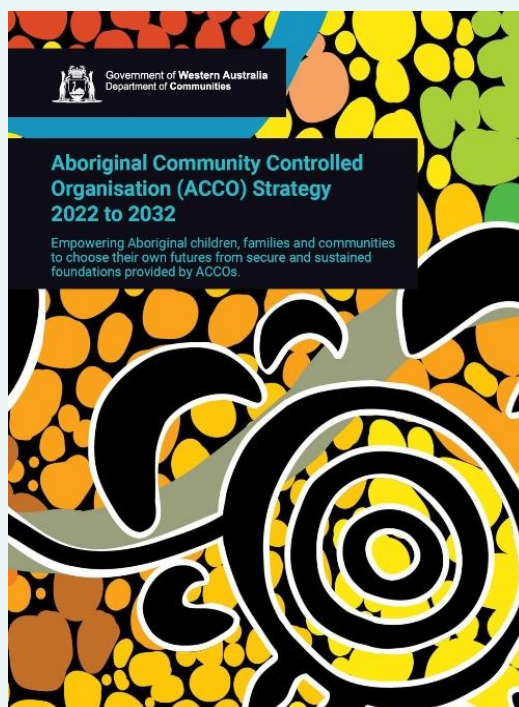
Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Strategy launch

Significant work has been undertaken for the development and launch of the new Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO) Strategy 2022 to 2032 (the Strategy). The Strategy and its Implementation Plan were developed by a working group with representatives from 11 ACCOs across Western Australia, Communities and the Department of Finance. They have shown great commitment and passion, and their insights and knowledge have been instrumental in the development of the Strategy and the priority actions for implementation.

The vision for the ACCO Strategy is for Aboriginal children, families and communities to be empowered to choose their own futures from secure and sustained foundations provided by the ACCOs in the places they live and work.

The ACCO Strategy provides a framework for how Communities will work together with and support Western Australian ACCOs to achieve self-determination, to create safe and healthy families and communities.

The ACCO Strategy will change the way that Communities commissions services to Aboriginal people, so that all services for Aboriginal children, families and communities are grounded in Aboriginal knowledge and culture.





Continuity of Support Arrangements for Disability Services

Andrew (not his real name) came to Australia from New Zealand in 2012 and recently had a long stay in hospital due to a critical illness that left him with a significant and permanent disability. Before his admission to hospital Andrew had an active lifestyle, but due to his now ongoing high support needs he could not return to his former home.

The hospital referred Andrew to Communities in early 2022 and a Continuity of Support Local Coordinator (Local Coordinator) became involved. They got to know Andrew and established his needs and desires, then assisted with planning his discharge from hospital.

Andrew loves the countryside and had wanted to live regionally but recognised this would be challenging given his support needs. The Local Coordinator did some extensive research and was very fortunate to source a newly constructed, purpose-built supported community living option that Andrew was happy to move to. A period of extensive planning, communication and liaising with all stakeholders saw Andrew move first to a regional hospital to become familiar with his new therapy team and local community, and then move into his new home.

Andrew is now settled in his new home and part of an outreach social group and is engaged in the wider community.

Social Student Fieldwork Placement Program

With two intakes each year, the Social Student Fieldwork Placement Program continues to attract new social work students and expose them to the essential work performed by the Department.

In 2021–22 Communities hosted 65 social work students for 14-week full time placements across 15 districts in the state.

Students from the University of Western Australia, Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, Flinders University, Monash University and Southern Cross University, and Charles Sturt University had the opportunity to complete the fieldwork placement required for their degree while learning about the vital work Communities does to support children, families and communities.

The students were supervised by experienced Social Workers and formed professional networks that will support them in their social work career.



National Carers Week

Every October, during National Carers Week, Communities highlights and celebrates the outstanding contribution unpaid carers make to Western Australia.

In Western Australia, there are an estimated 320,000 people that provide unpaid care and support to a family member or friend with disability, has an impairment, mental illness, chronic health condition, terminal illness, alcohol or drug issue, or who is frail.

A range of promotional activities were undertaken during National Carers Week 2021 to raise awareness of the role of unpaid carers, their contribution, and challenges they face. It also helped carers self-identify and find out where they can get support.

In supporting WA carers, Communities provides more than \$1 million each year to Carers WA to deliver carer support services and programs including counselling and training, social support, advice, respite, employment and engagement activities.

Communities organises for Perth landmarks to light up in aqua blue at different times during National Carers Week.





Volunteering – WA Volunteer Service Awards 2022

Since 2012, Communities has acknowledged Western Australia's longest serving volunteers through the WA Volunteer Service Awards. The Awards are held during National Volunteer Week in May and have two categories: people who have served 25 years or more, and those who have served 50 years or more, at a single organisation.

In 2021–22, we celebrated the work of 173 incredible people who have dedicated their time and efforts to Western Australian communities through the WA Volunteer Service Awards. A recognition video was developed to acknowledge the work of this year's recipients while keeping everyone safe amid high ongoing COVID-19 cases in the community.

One recipient of this year's Volunteer Service Awards is Rod Blyth from the Chidlow Bush Fire Brigade. Rod began his career as a volunteer firefighter when he was almost 18 years old. Over the past 52 years he has fought innumerable fires on behalf of his community, including the Wooroloo fire in 2021. He has been mentor and teacher to many younger members joining the brigade and says he enjoys knowing that he is helping other people.

For 2022–23, Communities is expanding the Awards via the creation of a new category of award, the 'Lifetime Volunteer Service Award', for individuals who have dedicated 60 years or more voluntary service to a single organisation, providing greater recognition of the extraordinary commitment of Western Australia's long-serving volunteers.





Summary of key performance indicators

Communities' performance in the achievement of its outcomes and delivery of its services, is demonstrated in the key effectiveness and efficiency indicators, which are outlined in Tables 1 through to 10. Further details on the indicators are contained in the key performance indicators section of this report.

The targets are published in the 2020–21 Western Australian State Budget Paper No 2 (Volume 2, Division 36, Part 8).

Table 1: Access to quality services that enables active participation in the Western Australian community by individuals and families

| Key effectiveness performance indicator | 2020–21 actual | 2021–22 target | 2021–22 actual | Explanation of significant variance |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Percentage of assessed early childhood education and care services that met or exceeded national standards | 75% | 75% | 80% | – |
| The take-up rate of Seniors Card | 95% | 95% | 94% | – |
| Proportion of Working with Children cards issued within 30 days of lodgement where the applicant had no criminal record | 98% | 98% | 98% | – |
| Proportion of decisions finalised within 60 days where the applicant for a Working with Children card had a criminal record | 98% | 96% | 97% | – |



Table 2: Families and individuals experiencing family and domestic violence (FDV), homelessness or other crises are assisted to build their capabilities and be safe

| Key effectiveness performance indicator | 2020–21 actual | 2021–22 target | 2021–22 actual | Explanation of significant variance |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Percentage of homelessness clients with some or all goals achieved at the completion of a homelessness service support period | 88% | 85% | 89% | – |
| Percentage of clients who received an earlier intervention and family support service whose child(ren) did not enter care within 12 months of service completion | 86% | 90% | 86% | – |
| Percentage of departmental clients who were assessed and received a response as a result of a FDV incident and did not require another FDV-related response within 12 months | 75% | 80% | 75% | – |



Table 3: Children and young people needing protection are safe from abuse and harm

| Key effectiveness performance indicator | 2020–21 actual | 2021–22 target | 2021–22 actual | Explanation of significant variance |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Improved safety – Proportion of children not subject to a subsequent substantiation of harm within 12 months of a previous substantiation of harm | 91% | 95% | 92% | – |
| Improved safety – Proportion of children not subject to a substantiation of harm 12 months after an assessment of harm that was unsubstantiated | 95% | 95% | 95% | – |



Table 4: Children and young people in the Chief Executive Officer's (CEO's) care receive a high quality of care and have much improved life outcomes

| Key effectiveness performance indicator | 2020–21 actual | 2021–22 target | 2021–22 actual | Explanation of significant variance |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|---|
| Proportion of Aboriginal children in the CEO's care placed in accordance with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle | 66% | 80% | 65% | The number of Aboriginal children in care continued to be substantially greater than the number of available placement options with Aboriginal carers or relatives. A child's best interests must be the paramount consideration under the <i>Children and Community Services Act 2004</i> . This includes the application of this principle in care arrangement decisions. |
| Proportion of children in the CEO's care with comprehensive care planning undertaken within set timeframes | 76% | 90% | 73% | The main impacts influencing the result were the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic that had a greater reach in Western Australia, staff recruitment and vacancies, complexity of children in care and challenges with convening care planning and engaging with all significant parties. |

**Table 5: Community services**

| Key efficiency performance indicator | 2020–21 actual | 2021–22 target | 2021–22 actual | Explanation of significant variance |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|---|
| Average cost per licensed child care service for regulation and support | \$6,703 | \$6,938 | \$7,511 | |
| Average management cost per Seniors Card | \$6.33 | \$6.56 | \$8.76 | The overspend was primarily related to unbudgeted resourcing requirements of the Seniors Card Centre to deliver election commitments. |
| Average cost per Working with Children Card application processed | \$30 | \$32 | \$38 | The overspend was primarily due to the increased costs expensed by Australia Post for processing Working with Children Card applications. |

Table 6: Homelessness support services

| Key efficiency performance indicator | 2020–21 actual | 2021–22 target | 2021–22 actual | Explanation of significant variance |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Average cost per homelessness support service client | \$3,320 | \$4,147 | \$4,296 | |



Table 7: Earlier intervention and family support services

| Key efficiency performance indicator | 2020–21 actual | 2021–22 target | 2021–22 actual | Explanation of significant variance |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Average cost per earlier intervention and family support case | \$6,966 | \$7,442 | \$7,706 | |

Table 8: Preventing and responding to family and domestic violence (FDV)

| Key efficiency performance indicator | 2020–21 actual | 2021–22 target | 2021–22 actual | Explanation of significant variance |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| Average cost per FDV case | \$4,614 | \$3,507 | \$5,075 | The result was mainly due to re-cashflows and carryovers of unspent funds from prior years relating to various FDV programmes. |

Table 9: Child protection assessments and investigations

| Key efficiency performance indicator | 2020–21 actual | 2021–22 target | 2021–22 actual | Explanation of significant variance |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Average cost per child involved in child protection cases | \$4,985 | \$6,063 | \$6,018 | |

**Table 10: Care arrangements and support services for children in the CEO's care**

| Key efficiency performance indicator | 2020–21 actual | 2021–22 target | 2021–22 actual | Explanation of significant variance |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| Average cost per day of a foster care arrangement | \$148 | \$140 | \$172 | The result was primarily due to additional expenditure associated with children's subsidies and payments to providers for specialised fostering placements. |
| Average cost per day of a residential-based care arrangement | \$2,036 | \$2,088 | \$1,922 | There were less than budgeted employment benefits associated with recruitment delays within the various residential care facilities. Quarterly recruitment rounds occurred throughout the financial year, with a strong focus on recruitment to residential care homes to continue through 2022–23. |
| Average cost per day of an exceptionally complex needs care arrangement | \$1,951 | \$1,618 | \$1,946 | The result was primarily due to over expenditure associated with the Transitional High Needs Program. |
| Average cost per day of a secure care arrangement | \$5,837 | \$6,212 | \$10,119 | The result was mainly due to a lower number of admissions compared to target. The Centre operated at a reduced capacity, from six to three children, due to building works that began early December 2021 and completed in February 2022. The impact of COVID-19 on staffing also affected the total number of children able to be safely managed. |
| Average cost per day to plan for and support a child in the CEO's care. | \$70 | \$68 | \$79 | The result was mainly due to a higher than anticipated Special Purpose Case Support expenditure resulting from districts having to place children in more expensive alternative care arrangements due to a lack of capacity within existing service providers. |



Disclosures and Legal Compliance

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Disclosures and legal compliance

Certification of financial statements

For the reporting period ended 30 June 2022

The accompanying financial statements of the Department of Communities have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the financial year ended 30 June 2022 and the financial position as at 30 June 2022.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars included within the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

Wayne Millen
Chief Finance Officer
15 November 2022

Mike Rowe
Director General
Accountable Authority
15 November 2022



Auditor General's opinion



Auditor General

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

2022

Department of Communities

To the Parliament of Western Australia

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Basis for qualified opinion

The classification of the Department of Communities' restricted cash and cash equivalents of \$30.421 million (Note 7.4) is materially understated by \$27.236 million, and cash and cash equivalents of \$24.932 million (Note 7.3) is equally overstated. This error represents the outstanding balance of restricted funds owed to the Disability Services Commission (\$15.270 million) and the Housing Authority (\$11.966 million), which is reported within Payables (Note 6.4 – Trade payables). The Payables balances identified also exceed the Department's cash balance, indicating that the Department has used these restricted funds to fund shortfalls in its operational cash, however, I am unable to determine the extent to which this has occurred. As a result of the above, the Department has breached the legislative provisions of section 18(2) of the *Financial Management Act 2006*.

As noted in my report on the audit of controls below, there were deficiencies in cash management controls implemented by the Department of Communities during the reporting period.

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of the Department of Communities which comprise:

- the Statement of Financial Position at 30 June 2022, and the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended
- Notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in the Basis for qualified opinion section of my report, the financial statements are:

- based on proper accounts and present fairly, in all material respects, the operating results and cash flows of the Department of Communities for the year ended 30 June 2022 and the financial position at the end of that period
- in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.



Responsibilities of the Director General for the financial statements

The Director General is responsible for:

- keeping proper accounts
- preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions
- such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Director General is responsible for:

- assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern
- disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern
- using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Western Australian Government has made policy or funding decisions affecting the continued existence of the Department.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements. The objectives of my audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website. This description forms part of my auditor's report and can be found at https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf.

Report on the audit of controls

Basis for qualified opinion

I identified the following significant weaknesses in controls by the Department of Communities:

- In the cash management controls as designed and implemented. This resulted in restricted funds received from the Disability Services Commission and the Housing Authority, intended to fund salaries and wages of both the Disability Services Commission and the Housing Authority, being consumed by the Department for its own operational purposes.
- In the management of access to the network and key systems. These weaknesses leave the information technology environment at the risk of unauthorised or inappropriate access to the network and business systems. The general computer controls were therefore not adequate throughout the year.
- In the payroll controls as implemented. These weaknesses could result in salary errors such as overpayments or payments to individuals who are not entitled to receive payments. Consequently, controls to prevent invalid and inaccurate payroll payments were inadequate.



Opinion

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the design and implementation of controls exercised by the Department of Communities. The controls exercised by the Director General are those policies and procedures established to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions (the overall control objectives).

In my opinion, except for the possible effects of the three matters described in the Basis for qualified opinion paragraphs, in all material respects, the controls exercised by the Department of Communities are sufficiently adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions during the year ended 30 June 2022.

The Director General's responsibilities

The Director General is responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining controls to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities are in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006*, the Treasurer's Instructions and other relevant written law.

Auditor General's responsibilities

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the suitability of the design of the controls to achieve the overall control objectives and the implementation of the controls as designed. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3150 *Assurance Engagements on Controls* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements and plan and perform my procedures to obtain reasonable assurance about whether, in all material respects, the controls are suitably designed to achieve the overall control objectives and were implemented as designed.

An assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the suitability of the controls design to achieve the overall control objectives and the implementation of those controls. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including an assessment of the risks that controls are not suitably designed or implemented as designed. My procedures included testing the implementation of those controls that I consider necessary to achieve the overall control objectives.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Limitations of controls

Because of the inherent limitations of any internal control structure, it is possible that, even if the controls are suitably designed and implemented as designed, once in operation, the overall control objectives may not be achieved so that fraud, error or non-compliance with laws and regulations may occur and not be detected. Any projection of the outcome of the evaluation of the suitability of the design of controls to future periods is subject to the risk that the controls may become unsuitable because of changes in conditions.



Report on the audit of the key performance indicators

Opinion

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the key performance indicators of the Department of Communities for the year ended 30 June 2022. The key performance indicators are the Under Treasurer-approved key effectiveness indicators and key efficiency indicators that provide performance information about achieving outcomes and delivering services.

In my opinion, in all material respects, the key performance indicators of the Department of Communities are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the Department's performance and fairly represent indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2022.

The Department's responsibilities for the key performance indicators

The Director General is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions and for such internal control as the Director General determines necessary to enable the preparation of key performance indicators that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the key performance indicators, the Department is responsible for identifying key performance indicators that are relevant and appropriate, having regard to their purpose in accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 904 *Key Performance Indicators*.

Auditor General's responsibilities

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the key performance indicators. The objectives of my engagement are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the key performance indicators are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the entity's performance and whether the key performance indicators are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3000 *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements.

An assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the key performance indicators. It also involves evaluating the relevance and appropriateness of the key performance indicators against the criteria and guidance in Treasurer's Instruction 904 for measuring the extent of outcome achievement and the efficiency of service delivery. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the key performance indicators. In making these risk assessments I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the engagement in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

My independence and quality control relating to the report on financial statements, controls and key performance indicators

I have complied with the independence requirements of the *Auditor General Act 2006* and the relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements. In accordance with ASQC 1 *Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information, and Other Assurance Engagements*, the Office of the Auditor General maintains a comprehensive system of quality control including documented policies and



procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

Other information

The Director General is responsible for the other information. The other information is the information in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2022, but not the financial statements, key performance indicators and my auditor's report.

My opinions on the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators do not cover the other information and, accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and key performance indicators, or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I did not receive the other information prior to the date of this auditor's report. When I do receive it, I will read it and if I conclude that there is a material misstatement in this information, I am required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance and request them to correct the misstated information. If the misstated information is not corrected, I may need to retract this auditor's report and re-issue an amended report.

Matters relating to the electronic publication of the audited financial statements and key performance indicators

This auditor's report relates to the financial statements and key performance indicators of the Department of Communities for the year ended 30 June 2022 included in the annual report on the Department's website. The Department's management is responsible for the integrity of the Department's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Department's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the annual report. If users of the financial statements and key performance indicators are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to contact the entity to confirm the information contained in the website version.

Caroline Spencer
Auditor General for Western Australia
Perth, Western Australia
16 November 2022



Financial statements

Statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 30 June 2022

Table 11: Statement of comprehensive income

| Income and expenses | Notes | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|----------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Cost of services | – | – | – |
| Expenses | – | – | – |
| Employee benefits expense | 3.1.1 | 331,362 | 329,557 |
| Supplies and services | 3.4 | 94,011 | 69,873 |
| Depreciation and amortisation expense | 5.1.1, 5.2, 5.3.1 | 14,220 | 13,410 |
| Finance costs | 7.2 | 227 | 234 |
| Accommodation expenses | 3.4 | 45,893 | 42,958 |
| Grants and subsidies | 3.2 | 260,375 | 177,949 |
| Funding for services | 3.3 | 332,106 | 299,618 |
| Loss on disposal of non-current assets | 4.5 | 1,844 | 35 |
| Other expenses | 3.4 | 15,770 | 16,120 |
| Total cost of services | – | 1,095,808 | 949,754 |
| Revenue and income | – | – | – |
| User charges and fees | 4.2 | 13,971 | 11,369 |
| Other revenue | 4.3 | 14,003 | 4,645 |
| Commonwealth grants and contributions | 4.4 | 59,219 | 58,746 |
| Total revenue | – | 87,193 | 74,760 |
| Total income other than income from State Government | – | 87,193 | 74,760 |
| Net cost of services | – | 1,008,615 | 874,994 |
| Income from State Government | – | – | – |



| Income and expenses | Notes | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|-------|-----------------|----------------|
| Service appropriation | 4.1 | 949,679 | 850,938 |
| Resources received | 4.1 | 15,130 | 5,783 |
| Royalties for Regions Fund | 4.1 | 8,913 | 8,280 |
| Other funds received from State Government | 4.1 | 21,591 | 24,808 |
| Total income from State Government | – | 995,313 | 889,809 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) for the period | – | (13,302) | 14,815 |
| Other comprehensive income | – | – | – |
| Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss | – | – | – |
| Changes in asset revolution surplus | 9.10 | 3,391 | – |
| Total other comprehensive income | – | 3,391 | – |
| Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the period | – | (9,911) | 14,815 |

See also the 'Schedule of income and expenses by service'.

The Statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



Statement of financial position

As at 30 June 2022

Table 12: Statement of financial position

| Assets and liabilities | Notes | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--------------------------------------|---------|----------------|----------------|
| Assets – current | – | – | – |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 7.3 | 24,932 | 10,624 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents | 7.3,7.4 | 21,009 | 19,487 |
| Receivables | 6.1 | 13,279 | 10,504 |
| Amounts receivable for services | 6.2 | 68 | 68 |
| Other current assets | 6.3 | 2,580 | 18,057 |
| Total current assets | – | 61,868 | 58,740 |
| Assets – Non-current | – | – | – |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents | 7.3,7.4 | 9,412 | 7,388 |
| Amounts receivable for services | 6.2 | 159,650 | 144,672 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 5.1 | 113,448 | 109,192 |
| Leasehold improvements | 5.1 | 5,606 | 6,375 |
| Work in progress | 5.1,5.3 | 6 | 6 |
| Right-of-use assets | 5.2 | 7,641 | 7,614 |
| Intangible assets | 5.3 | 10,683 | 12,823 |
| Total non-current assets | – | 306,446 | 288,070 |
| Total assets | – | 368,314 | 346,810 |
| Liabilities – current | – | – | – |
| Payables | 6.4 | 62,451 | 41,589 |
| Lease liabilities | 7.1 | 4,764 | 4,227 |
| Income received in advance | 6.5 | 349 | 291 |
| Employee-related provisions | 3.1.2 | 116,123 | 117,719 |



| Assets and liabilities | Notes | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Total current liabilities | – | 183,687 | 163,826 |
| Liabilities – non-current | – | – | – |
| Payables | 6.4 | 1,944 | 2,224 |
| Lease liabilities | 7.1 | 3,255 | 3,747 |
| Employee-related provisions | 3.1.2 | 25,219 | 26,683 |
| Total non-current liabilities | – | 30,418 | 32,654 |
| Total liabilities | – | 214,105 | 196,480 |
| Net assets | – | 154,209 | 150,330 |
| Equity | – | – | – |
| Contributed equity | 9.10 | 195,129 | 181,339 |
| Reserves | 9.10 | 3,391 | – |
| Accumulated surplus/(deficit) | 9.10 | (44,311) | (31,009) |
| Total equity | – | 154,209 | 150,330 |

See also the ‘Schedule of assets and liabilities by service’.

The Statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 30 June 2022

Table 13: Statement of changes in equity

| Statement of changes in equity | Notes | Contributed equity \$000 | Reserves \$000 | Accumulated surplus/(deficit) \$000 | Total equity \$000 |
|--|-------|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Balance at 1 July 2020 | – | 171,005 | – | (45,824) | 125,181 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | – | – | – | 14,815 | 14,815 |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | – | – | – | 14,815 | 14,815 |
| Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners: | 9.10 | – | – | – | – |
| Capital appropriations | – | 7,619 | – | – | 7,619 |
| Other contributions by owners | – | 2,715 | – | – | 2,715 |
| Total | – | 10,334 | – | – | 10,334 |
| Balance as at 30 June 2021 | – | 181,339 | – | (31,009) | 150,330 |
| Balance at 1 July 2021 | – | 181,339 | – | (31,009) | 150,330 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | – | – | – | (13,302) | (13,302) |
| Other comprehensive income | – | – | 3,391 | – | 3,391 |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | – | – | 3,391 | (13,302) | (9,911) |
| Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners: | 9.10 | – | – | – | – |



| Statement of changes in equity | Notes | Contributed equity \$000 | Reserves \$000 | Accumulated surplus/ (deficit) \$000 | Total equity \$000 |
|---|-------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Capital appropriations | – | 13,416 | – | – | 13,416 |
| Other contributions by owners | – | 954 | – | – | 954 |
| Transfer out of land and building asset to Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage | – | (580) | – | – | (580) |
| Total | – | 13,790 | – | – | 13,790 |
| Balance as at 30 June 2022 | – | 195,129 | 3,391 | (44,311) | 154,209 |

The Statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 30 June 2022

Table 14: Statement of cash flows

| Statement of cash flows | Notes | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|-------|----------------|----------------|
| Cash flows from State Government | – | – | – |
| Service appropriation | – | 934,140 | 836,014 |
| Capital appropriations | – | 13,416 | 7,619 |
| Holding account drawdown | – | 68 | 951 |
| Royalties for Regions Fund | – | 8,913 | 8,280 |
| National Redress Records | – | 7,984 | 3,419 |
| Other funds received from State Government | – | 15,054 | 6,630 |
| Net cash provided by State Government | – | 979,575 | 862,913 |
| Utilised as follows: | – | – | – |
| Cash Flows from operating activities – payments | – | – | – |
| Employee benefits | – | (312,382) | (316,206) |
| Supplies and services | – | (79,523) | (65,223) |
| Finance costs | – | (227) | (234) |
| Accommodation | – | (45,893) | (42,958) |
| Grants and subsidies | – | (260,375) | (176,712) |
| Funding for services | – | (318,761) | (312,700) |
| GST payments on purchases | – | (58,198) | (47,453) |
| Other payments | – | (17,229) | (18,696) |



| Statement of cash flows | Notes | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|-------|------------------|------------------|
| Receipts | – | – | – |
| User charges and fees | – | 13,971 | 11,369 |
| Commonwealth grants and contributions | – | 59,219 | 58,746 |
| GST receipts on sales | – | 1,106 | 2,245 |
| GST receipts from taxation authority | – | 57,092 | 47,642 |
| Other receipts | – | 9,148 | 2,806 |
| Net cash used in operating activities | 7.3.2 | (952,052) | (857,374) |
| Cash flows from investing activities – receipts | – | – | – |
| Proceeds from sale of non-current assets | – | 1,065 | 908 |
| Cash flows from investing activities – payments | – | – | – |
| Purchase of non-current assets | – | (2,669) | (1,923) |
| Net cash used in investing activities | – | (1,604) | (1,015) |
| Cash flows from financing activities – payments | – | – | – |
| Principal elements of lease | – | (8,065) | (6,897) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | – | (8,065) | (6,897) |
| Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | – | 17,854 | (2,373) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year | – | 37,499 | 39,872 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period | 7.3.1 | 55,353 | 37,499 |

The Statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



Notes to the financial statements

1. Basis of preparation

The Agency is a WA Government entity, controlled by the State of Western Australia which is the ultimate parent.

The Agency is a not-for-profit entity (as profit is not its principal objective).

The Financial Statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the State of Western Australia which is the ultimate parent entity has no solvency concerns.

The State budget papers highlight that the Department of Communities is fully appropriated to provide its ongoing services from 2022-23 through to 2025-26, including positive cash at bank and cashflow balances.

To the best of the Agency's knowledge there are no plans from Government to reduce the Agency's ability to meet its obligations. The Agency also has the capacity to seek Supplementary funding from the State of Western Australia as the parent entity, if cash management issues were to arise.

Noting that the appropriation published in the Budget represents the sum of funding provided to the Agency and its subsidiary Statutory Authorities, the Agency has been working with the Department of Treasury to consolidate cash appropriations to simplify arrangements going forward; within this context, there are no overall solvency concerns.

Statement of compliance

These general purpose financial statements are prepared in accordance with:

- 1 The *Financial Management Act 2006* (FMA)
- 2 The Treasurer's instructions (TIs)
- 3 Australian Accounting Standards (AASs) including applicable interpretations
- 4 Where appropriate, those AAS paragraphs applicable for not-for-profit entities have been modified.

The FMA and the TIs take precedence over AASs. Several AASs are modified by the TIs to vary application, disclosure, format and wording. Where modification is required and has had a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and the resulting financial effect are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

Basis of preparation

These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars applying the accrual basis of accounting and using the historical cost convention. Certain balances will apply a different measurement basis (such as the fair value basis). Where this is the case the



different measurement basis is disclosed in the associated note. All values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

Judgements and estimates

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about financial information being presented. The significant judgements and estimates made in the preparation of these financial statements are disclosed in the notes where amounts affected by those judgements and/or estimates are disclosed. Estimates and associated assumptions are based on professional judgements derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Contributed equity

AASB Interpretation 1038 *Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities* requires transfers in the nature of equity contributions, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, to be designated as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to, transfer) before such transfers can be recognised as equity contributions. Capital appropriations have been designated as contributions by owners by TI 955 *Contributions by Owners made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities* and will be credited directly to Contributed Equity.



2. Department outputs

How the Department operates

This section includes information regarding the nature of funding the Department receives and how this funding is utilised to achieve the Department's objectives. This note also provides the distinction between controlled funding and administered funding:

Notes

| | |
|---|-----|
| Department objectives | 2.1 |
| Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service | 2.2 |
| Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service | 2.3 |

2.1 Department objectives

Mission

Collaborating to enable pathways that enable individual, family and community wellbeing.

The Department is predominantly funded by Parliamentary appropriations.

Services

The Department provides the following services:

Service 1: Community services

Provision of community services across Western Australia: Working with Children Checks to increase child safety, regulation and quality assurance of early education and care services, and delivery of benefits and concessions including Seniors Card and other support services.

Service 2: Homelessness support services

A range of accommodation and related support services for individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Service 3: Early intervention and family support services

Earlier and more intense services to divert children and young people from the child protection system and prevent them from needing to enter care.

Service 4: Preventing and responding to family and domestic violence (FDV)

A range of services to people experiencing, or at risk of, FDV, including the provision of crisis accommodation, counselling and community-based response teams that provide coordinated agency responses to FDV incidents.



Service 5: Child protection and investigations

Assessing concerns reported to the Department about the wellbeing of children and young people and responding appropriately, including child protection assessments, investigations and making applications for court orders.

Service 6: Care arrangements and support services for children in the CEO's care

Provision of safe and stable care arrangements and other support services for the safety, support and wellbeing of children and young people in the care of the CEO.



2.2 Schedule of income and expenses by service

For the year ended 30 June 2022

Table 15: Schedule of income and expenses by service

| Income and expenses | Community Services 2022 \$000 | Community Services 2021 \$000 | Homeless-ness Support Services 2022 \$000 | Homeless-ness Support Services 2021 \$000 | Early Intervention and Family Support Services 2022 \$000 | Early Intervention and Family Support Services 2021 \$000 | Preventing and Responding to Family Domestic Violence 2022 \$000 | Preventing and Responding to Family Domestic Violence 2021 \$000 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cost of services – expenses | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Employee benefits expense | 43,018 | 36,032 | 1,342 | 1,507 | 37,307 | 36,986 | 5,001 | 5,204 |
| Supplies and services | 23,624 | 17,176 | 1,587 | 612 | 8,988 | 7,009 | 1,787 | 1,250 |
| Depreciation and amortisation expense | 1,118 | 1,188 | 42 | 33 | 1,841 | 1,679 | 118 | 110 |
| Finance costs | 16 | 20 | – | – | 31 | 33 | 1 | – |
| Accommodation expenses | 3,626 | 3,720 | 1,436 | 82 | 5,224 | 4,906 | 382 | 1,304 |
| Grants and subsidies | 81,627 | 43,762 | 6,572 | 254 | 4,698 | 2,733 | 33,135 | 18,197 |
| Funding for services | 52,622 | 49,538 | 64,159 | 57,202 | 34,689 | 33,961 | 48,914 | 43,464 |



| Income and expenses | Community Services 2022 \$000 | Community Services 2021 \$000 | Homeless-ness Support Services 2022 \$000 | Homeless-ness Support Services 2021 \$000 | Early Intervention and Family Support Services 2022 \$000 | Early Intervention and Family Support Services 2021 \$000 | Preventing and Responding to Family Domestic Violence 2022 \$000 | Preventing and Responding to Family Domestic Violence 2021 \$000 |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Loss on disposal of non-current assets | 1,228 | 2 | 3 | – | 79 | 5 | 14 | – |
| Other expenses | 1,949 | 1,694 | 59 | 62 | 1,801 | 1,810 | 203 | 236 |
| Total cost of services | 208,828 | 153,132 | 75,200 | 59,752 | 94,658 | 89,122 | 89,555 | 69,765 |
| Cost of services – income | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| User charges and fees | 13,895 | 11,262 | – | – | 1 | 2 | – | – |
| Other revenue | 1,706 | 869 | 46 | 10 | 1,696 | 572 | 173 | 48 |
| Commonwealth grants and contributions | 881 | 791 | 29,197 | 26,820 | 363 | – | 26,208 | 30,834 |
| Total income other than income from State Government | 16,482 | 12,922 | 29,243 | 26,830 | 2,060 | 574 | 26,381 | 30,882 |
| Net cost of services | 192,346 | 140,210 | 45,957 | 32,922 | 92,598 | 88,548 | 63,174 | 38,883 |
| Income from State Government | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |



| Income and expenses | Community Services 2022 \$000 | Community Services 2021 \$000 | Homeless-ness Support Services 2022 \$000 | Homeless-ness Support Services 2021 \$000 | Early Intervention and Family Support Services 2022 \$000 | Early Intervention and Family Support Services 2021 \$000 | Preventing and Responding to Family Domestic Violence 2022 \$000 | Preventing and Responding to Family Domestic Violence 2021 \$000 |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Service appropriation | 172,550 | 133,513 | 43,041 | 32,244 | 88,586 | 86,744 | 58,772 | 37,552 |
| Resources received | 1,873 | 608 | 57 | 22 | 1,727 | 651 | 194 | 78 |
| Royalties for Regions Fund | 1,145 | 1,111 | 4,882 | 3,940 | 153 | 139 | 1,737 | 2,145 |
| Other funds received from State Government | 14,576 | 5,193 | 472 | 535 | – | 2,022 | – | 241 |
| Total income from State Government | 190,144 | 140,425 | 48,452 | 36,741 | 90,466 | 89,556 | 60,703 | 40,016 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the period | (2,202) | 215 | 2,495 | 3,819 | (2,132) | 1,008 | (2,471) | 1,133 |

The Schedule of income and expenses by service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**Table 16: Schedule of income and expenses by service**

| Income and expenses | Child Protection and Investigations 2022 \$000 | Child Protection and Investigations 2021 \$000 | Care Arrangements and Support Services for Children in the CEO's care 2022 \$000 | Care Arrangements and Support Services for Children in the CEO's Care 2021 \$000 | Total 2022 \$000 | Total 2021 \$000 |
|--|--|--|--|--|------------------|------------------|
| Cost of services – expenses | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Employee benefits expense | 60,781 | 59,988 | 183,913 | 189,840 | 331,362 | 329,557 |
| Supplies and services | 14,330 | 10,626 | 43,695 | 33,200 | 94,011 | 69,873 |
| Depreciation and amortisation expense | 2,828 | 2,541 | 8,273 | 7,859 | 14,220 | 13,410 |
| Finance costs | 46 | 48 | 133 | 133 | 227 | 234 |
| Accommodation expenses | 8,363 | 7,900 | 26,862 | 25,046 | 45,893 | 42,958 |
| Grants and subsidies | 5,968 | 437 | 128,375 | 112,566 | 260,375 | 177,949 |
| Funding for services | 3,924 | 3,859 | 127,798 | 111,594 | 332,106 | 299,618 |
| Loss on disposal of non-current assets | 120 | 8 | 400 | 20 | 1,844 | 35 |
| Other expenses | 2,697 | 2,736 | 9,061 | 9,582 | 15,770 | 16,120 |
| Total cost of services | 99,057 | 88,143 | 528,510 | 489,840 | 1,095,808 | 949,754 |
| Income | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| User charges and fees | 2 | 3 | 73 | 102 | 13,971 | 11,369 |



| Income and expenses | Child Protection and Investigations 2022 \$000 | Child Protection and Investigations 2021 \$000 | Care Arrangements and Support Services for Children in the CEO's care 2022 \$000 | Care Arrangements and Support Services for Children in the CEO's Care 2021 \$000 | Total 2022 \$000 | Total 2021 \$000 |
|---|--|--|--|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| Other revenue | 2,511 | 843 | 7,871 | 2,303 | 14,003 | 4,645 |
| Commonwealth grants and contributions | 863 | 301 | 1,707 | – | 59,219 | 58,746 |
| Total income other than income from State Government | 3,376 | 1,147 | 9,651 | 2,405 | 87,193 | 74,760 |
| Net cost of services | 95,681 | 86,996 | 518,859 | 487,435 | 1,008,615 | 874,994 |
| Income from State Government | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Service appropriation | 92,516 | 85,162 | 494,214 | 475,723 | 949,679 | 850,938 |
| Resources received | 2,587 | 984 | 8,692 | 3,440 | 15,130 | 5,783 |
| Royalties for Regions Fund | 228 | 210 | 768 | 735 | 8,913 | 8,280 |
| Other funds received from State Government | 6,543 | 3,058 | – | 13,759 | 21,591 | 24,808 |
| Total income from State Government | 101,874 | 89,414 | 503,674 | 493,657 | 995,313 | 889,809 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the period | 6,193 | 2,418 | (15,185) | 6,222 | (13,302) | 14,815 |

The Schedule of income and expenses by service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



2.3 Schedule of assets and liabilities by service

For the year ended 30 June 2022

Table 17: Schedule of assets and liabilities by service

| Assets and Liabilities | Community Services 2022 \$000 | Community Services 2021 \$000 | Homeless- ness Support Services 2022 \$000 | Homeless- ness Support Services 2021 \$000 | Early Intervention and Family Support Services 2022 \$000 | Early Intervention and Family Support Services 2021 \$000 | Preventing and Responding to Family Domestic Violence 2022 \$000 | Preventing and Responding to Family Domestic Violence 2021 \$000 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Assets | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Current assets | 13,855 | 25,777 | 1,517 | 2,032 | 5,476 | 2,622 | 2,172 | 11,363 |
| Non-current assets | 22,301 | 23,758 | 696 | 681 | 32,926 | 30,658 | 2,113 | 2,354 |
| Total assets | 36,156 | 49,535 | 2,213 | 2,713 | 38,402 | 33,280 | 4,285 | 13,717 |
| Liabilities | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Current liabilities | 25,751 | 23,203 | 645 | 1,332 | 20,365 | 17,753 | 2,522 | 3,321 |
| Non-current liabilities | 3,427 | 3,441 | 77 | 286 | 3,577 | 3,757 | 320 | 395 |
| Total liabilities | 29,178 | 26,644 | 722 | 1,618 | 23,942 | 21,510 | 2,842 | 3,716 |
| Net assets/ (liabilities) | 6,978 | 22,891 | 1,491 | 1,095 | 14,460 | 11,770 | 1,443 | 10,001 |

**Table 18: Schedule of assets and liabilities by service**

| Income and Expenses | Child Protection and Investigations 2022 \$000 | Child Protection and Investigations 2021 \$000 | Care Arrangements and Support Services for children in the CEO's care 2022 \$000 | Care Arrangements and Support Services for Children in the CEO's care 2021 \$000 | Total 2022 \$000 | Total 2021 \$000 |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| Assets | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Current assets | 8,533 | 3,319 | 30,315 | 13,627 | 61,868 | 58,740 |
| Non-current assets | 51,035 | 46,724 | 197,375 | 183,895 | 306,446 | 288,070 |
| Total assets | 59,568 | 50,043 | 227,690 | 197,522 | 368,314 | 346,810 |
| Liabilities | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Current liabilities | 32,046 | 28,290 | 102,358 | 89,927 | 183,687 | 163,826 |
| Non-current liabilities | 6,210 | 6,396 | 16,807 | 18,379 | 30,418 | 32,654 |
| Total liabilities | 38,256 | 34,686 | 119,165 | 108,306 | 214,105 | 196,480 |
| Net assets/ (liabilities) | 21,312 | 15,357 | 108,525 | 89,216 | 154,209 | 150,330 |

The Schedule of assets and liabilities by service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



3. Use of our funding

3.1 Expenses incurred in the delivery of services

This section provides additional information about how the Department's funding is applied and the accounting policies that are relevant for an understanding of the items recognised in the financial statements. The primary expenses incurred by the Department in achieving its objectives and the relevant notes are:

Table 19: Expenses incurred in the delivery of services

| Expenses incurred in the delivery of services | Notes | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|-------|---------------|---------------|
| Employee benefits expenses | 3.1.1 | 331,362 | 329,557 |
| Employee-related provisions | 3.1.2 | 141,342 | 144,402 |
| Grants and subsidies | 3.2 | 260,375 | 177,949 |
| Funding for services | 3.3 | 332,106 | 299,618 |
| Other expenditure | 3.4 | 155,674 | 128,951 |

3.1.1 Employee benefits expenses

Table 20: Employee benefits expenses

| Employee benefits expenses | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Wages and salaries | 301,102 | 302,245 |
| Superannuation – defined contributions plans | 30,260 | 27,312 |
| Total employee benefits expenses | 331,362 | 329,557 |
| Add: AASB 16 Non-monetary benefits (non included in employee benefits expense) | 7,240 | 6,226 |
| Less: Employee contribution (per the Statement of comprehensive income) | (1,818) | (1,948) |
| Net employee benefits | 336,784 | 333,835 |

Employee Benefits include wages, salaries and social contributions, accrued and paid leave entitlements and paid sick leave, and non-monetary benefits recognised under accounting standards other than AASB 16 (such as medical care, housing, cars and free or subsidised goods or services) for employees.



Superannuation is the amount recognised in profit or loss of the Statement of comprehensive income comprises employer contributions paid to the GSS (concurrent contributions), the WSS, the GESBs, or other superannuation funds.

AASB 16 Non-monetary benefits are non-monetary employee benefits predominantly relating to the provision of vehicle and housing benefits that are recognised under AASB 16 which are excluded from the employee benefits expense.

Employee contributions are contributions made to the Department by employees towards employee benefits that have been provided by the Department. This includes both AASB 16 and non-AASB 16 employee contributions.

3.1.2 Employee-related provisions

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave for services rendered up to the reporting date and recorded as an expense during the period the services are delivered.

**Table 21: Employee-related provisions**

| Employee-related provisions | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Employee benefits provisions – current | – | – |
| Annual leave and other leave (a) | 50,367 | 51,322 |
| Long service leave (b) | 49,685 | 49,725 |
| Superannuation (c) | 12,012 | 13,147 |
| Purchased leave | 505 | 376 |
| Sub-total | 112,569 | 114,570 |
| Other provisions | – | – |
| Employment on-costs (d) | 3,554 | 3,149 |
| Total current employee-related provisions | 116,123 | 117,719 |
| Employee benefits provisions – non-current | – | – |
| Long service leave (b) | 24,031 | 25,726 |
| Deferred leave (e) | 394 | 175 |
| Other provisions | – | – |
| Employment on-costs (d) | 794 | 782 |
| Total non-current employee-related provisions | 25,219 | 26,683 |
| Total employee-related provisions | 141,342 | 144,402 |

(a) Annual leave and other leave liabilities: Annual leave and other leave liabilities have been classified as current as there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

Table 22: Annual leave and other leave liabilities

| Annual leave and other leave liabilities | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period | 34,121 | 35,220 |
| More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period | 16,246 | 16,102 |
| Total | 50,367 | 51,322 |

The provision for annual leave is calculated at the present value of expected payments to be made in relation to services provided by employees up to the reporting date.



(b) Long service leave liabilities: Unconditional long service leave provisions are classified as current liabilities, as the Department does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period. Pre-conditional and conditional long service leave provisions are classified as non-current liabilities because the Department has an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability until the employee has completed the requisite years of service.

Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

Table 23: Long service leave liabilities

| Long service leave liabilities | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period | 18,796 | 17,687 |
| More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period | 54,920 | 57,764 |
| Total | 73,716 | 75,451 |

The provision for long service leave is calculated at present value, as the Department does not expect to wholly settle the amounts within 12 months. The present value is measured taking into account the present value of expected future payments to be made in relation to services provided by employees up to the reporting date. These payments are estimated using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement and discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

(c) Superannuation provision relates to employer-financed defined benefits due to membership of the Pension Scheme and transferred benefits in Gold State Super (GSS) for Housing Authority employees. Under the Pension Scheme, the employer-financed benefit is a pension benefit payable on retirement, death or invalidity, or a lump sum benefit on resignation. Under the transferred benefits in GSS, the members receive a lump sum benefit at retirement, death or validity which is related to their salary during their employment and indexed during any deferral period after leaving public sector employment.

The provision is the present value of expected future payments calculated by external actuaries based on appropriate Commonwealth Government bond rate, salary increase rate, pension increase rate and CPI. Funding requirements are based on invoices provided to the Department by GESB that represent the cost of the benefits paid to members during the reporting period.

**Table 24: Defined benefit superannuation plans**

| Defined benefit superannuation plans | Pension Scheme 2022 | Pre-transfer GSS benefit 2022 | Pension Scheme 2021 | Pre-transfer GSS benefit 2021 |
|---|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Carrying amount at start of period | 11,508 | 1,639 | 13,652 | 1,695 |
| Interest cost | 164 | 21 | 111 | 12 |
| Net actuarial losses/(gains) recognised | 19 | 47 | (978) | (2) |
| Benefits paid | (1,097) | (289) | (1,277) | (66) |
| Carrying amount at end of the period | 10,594 | 1,418 | 11,508 | 1,639 |

(d) Employment on-costs: The settlement of annual and long service leave liabilities gives rise to the payment of employment on-costs including workers' compensation insurance. The provision is the present value of expected future payments.

Employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance, are not employee benefits and are recognised separately as liabilities and expenses when the employment to which they relate has occurred. Employment on-costs are included as part of 'other expenditure', Note 3.4 (apart from the unwinding of the discount (finance cost))' and are not included as part of the Department's 'employee benefits expense'. The related liability is included in 'Employment on costs provision'.

Table 25: Employment on-costs

| Employment on-costs provision | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Carrying amount at start of period | 3,931 | 4,502 |
| Additional/(reversals of) provisions recognised | 417 | (571) |
| Carrying amount at end of period | 4,348 | 3,931 |

(e) Deferred leave: The provision for deferred leave relates to public service employees who have entered into an agreement to self-fund an additional 12 months leave in the fifth year of the agreement. The provision recognises the value of salary set aside for employees to be used in the fifth year. The liability is measured on the same basis as annual leave.

**Table 26: Deferred leave**

| Deferred leave | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period | – | – |
| More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period | 394 | 175 |
| Total | 394 | 175 |

3.2 Grants and subsidies

Table 27: Grants and subsidies

| Grants and subsidies | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Recurrent | – | – |
| Bereavement assistance | 799 | 961 |
| Case support costs | 27,549 | 23,319 |
| Children's and leaving care subsidies | 96,621 | 85,161 |
| Grants and subsidies private bodies | 65,607 | 30,532 |
| Grants and subsidies to government agencies | 8,524 | 365 |
| Hardship Utility Grant Scheme | 5,538 | 2,760 |
| Natural disaster assistance | 448 | 3,281 |
| Seniors Cost of Living Rebate | 30,060 | 24,646 |
| Other | 25,229 | 6,924 |
| Total grants and subsidies | 260,375 | 177,949 |

Transactions in which the Department provides goods, services, assets (or extinguishes a liability) or labour to another party without receiving approximately equal value in return are categorised as 'Grant or subsidy expenses'. These payments or transfers are recognised at fair value at the time of the transaction and are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are paid. They include transactions such as: grants, subsidies, personal benefit payments made in cash to individuals, other transfer payments made to public sector agencies, local government, non-government schools, and community groups.

Grants can be paid as general-purpose grants which refer to grants that are not subject to conditions regarding their use. Alternatively, they may be paid as specific purpose



grants which are paid for a particular purpose and/or have conditions attached regarding their use.

3.3 Funding for services

Table 28: Funding for services

| Funding for services | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Recurrent | – | – |
| Care arrangements and support services for children in the CEO's care | 127,798 | 111,594 |
| Child protection assessments and investigations | 3,924 | 3,859 |
| Community services | 52,622 | 49,538 |
| Earlier intervention and family support services | 34,689 | 33,961 |
| Homelessness support services | 64,159 | 57,202 |
| Preventing and responding to family and domestic violence | 48,914 | 43,464 |
| Total grants and subsidies | 332,106 | 299,618 |

3.4 Other expenditure

Table 29: Other expenditure

| Other expenditure | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Supplies and services | – | – |
| Communications | 7,352 | 6,157 |
| Consultants and contractors | 33,012 | 26,158 |
| Consumables | 4,809 | 5,500 |
| Contracts, equipment and licences | 10,572 | 7,929 |
| Leased equipment | 799 | 474 |
| Motor vehicle costs | 4,463 | 4,153 |
| Resources received free of charge – expenses | 15,130 | 5,783 |
| Staffing costs | 8,046 | 7,201 |
| Training | 2,197 | 1,233 |
| Travel | 3,240 | 2,649 |
| Other | 4,391 | 2,636 |



| Other expenditure | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Total supplies and services expenses | 94,011 | 69,873 |
| Accommodation expenses | – | – |
| Cleaning, gardening, security, rates and taxes | 4,719 | 4,083 |
| Insurance general | 4,128 | 809 |
| Minor works | 2,012 | 812 |
| Power, water and gas | 1,983 | 2,214 |
| Rentals | 29,325 | 30,417 |
| Repairs and maintenance – buildings | 3,726 | 4,623 |
| Total accommodation expenses | 45,893 | 42,958 |
| Other expenses | – | – |
| Audit fees | 536 | 449 |
| Employment on-costs | 12,517 | 15,535 |
| Expected credit losses expense | 546 | 109 |
| Leave transfer from Housing Authority and Disability Service Commission | 2,151 | – |
| Repairs and maintenance – equipment | 20 | 27 |
| Total other expenses | 15,770 | 16,120 |
| Total other expenditure | 155,674 | 128,951 |

Supplies and services are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are incurred. The carrying amounts of any materials held for distribution are expensed when the materials are distributed.

Rentals are expensed as incurred as Memorandum of Understanding Agreements between the Department and the Department of Finance for the leasing of Office accommodation contain significant substitution rights.

Other expenses generally represent the day-to-day running costs incurred in normal operations.

Employment on-costs include workers' compensation insurance and other employment on-costs. The on-costs liability associated with the recognition of annual and long service leave liabilities is included at Note 3.1.2 Employee related provisions. Superannuation contributions accrued as part of the provision for leave are employee benefits and are not included in employment on-costs.

Expected credit losses expense is recognised for movement in allowance for impairment of trade receivables. Please refer to Note 6.1 Receivables for more details.



Repairs and maintenance – equipment costs are recognised as expenses as incurred, except where they relate to the replacement of a significant component of an asset. In that case, the costs are capitalised and depreciated.



4. Our funding sources

How we obtain our funding

This section provides additional information about how the Department obtains its funding and the relevant accounting policy notes that govern the recognition and measurement of this funding. The primary income received by the Department and the relevant notes are:

Table 30: Funding sources

| Funding sources | Notes | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---------------------------------------|-------|---------------|---------------|
| Income from State Government | 4.1 | 995,313 | 889,809 |
| User charges and fees | 4.2 | 13,971 | 11,369 |
| Other revenue | 4.3 | 14,003 | 4,645 |
| Commonwealth grants and contributions | 4.4 | 59,219 | 58,746 |
| Gains/(Losses) on sale of Assets | 4.5 | (1,844) | (35) |

4.1 Income from State Government

Table 31: Income from State Government

| Income from State Government | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Appropriations received during the period | – | – |
| Service appropriation | 934,140 | 836,014 |
| Salaries and Allowances Act 1975 | 493 | 492 |
| Amounts receivable for services | 15,046 | 14,432 |
| Total | 949,679 | 850,938 |
| Resources received from other public sector entities during the year | – | – |
| State Solicitor's Office – legal services | 4,344 | 4,740 |
| Department of Finance – leasing services and Rapid Antigen Tests | 10,460 | 531 |



| | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Department of Health – health assessments for children in care | 297 | 327 |
| Department of Education – provide training and maintenance of students | 6 | 14 |
| Landgate – land information and valuation services | 8 | 9 |
| Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions – Working with Children Checks | 6 | 7 |
| Corruption and Crime Commission | – | 99 |
| Department of Transport | – | 56 |
| Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development – office accommodation services | 9 | – |
| Total services received | 15,130 | 5,783 |
| Royalties for Regions Fund | – | – |
| Regional Community Services Account – Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development | 8,913 | 8,280 |
| Total Royalties for Regions Fund | 8,913 | 8,280 |
| Other funds received from State Government | – | – |
| Minglya Flood | 45 | – |
| Wooroloo Bushfire | 351 | – |
| Cyclone Seroja | 900 | – |
| CLMIA Reform Project | 104 | – |
| Parenting Community Funding | 529 | – |
| Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangement – received from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services | – | 2,072 |
| Essential municipal services upgrade Program (EMSUP) | 8,930 | – |
| Financial counselling | 500 | 500 |
| Kabul Repatriation | 1,579 | – |
| Support sector | 197 | 385 |
| Youth accommodation drug and alcohol office funds | 472 | 466 |
| National Redress Records Freedom of Information | 7,984 | 3,419 |
| Leave transfer from Housing Authority and Disability Service Commission | – | 17,966 |
| Total other funds received from State Government | 21,591 | 24,808 |
| Total income from State Government | 995,313 | 889,809 |



Service appropriations are recognised as revenues at fair value in the period in which the Department gains control of the appropriated funds. The Department gains control of appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited in the bank account or credited to the 'Amounts receivable for services' (holding account) held at Treasury.

Resources received from other public sector entities are recognised as income (and assets or expenses) equivalent to the fair value of the assets, or the fair value of those services that can be reliably determined and which would have been purchased if not donated.

The Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Account, and Regional Community Services Accounts, are sub-funds within the over-arching 'Royalties for Regions Fund'. The recurrent funds are committed to projects and programs in WA regional areas and are recognised as income when the Department receives the funds.

Summary of consolidated account appropriations

For the year ended 30 June 2022

Table 32: Summary of consolidated account appropriations

| Consolidated Account Appropriations | Budget Estimate 2022 \$000 | Supplementary Funding 2022 \$000 | Revised Budget 2022 \$000 | Actual 2022 \$000 | Variance 2022 \$000 |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Delivery of services | – | – | – | – | – |
| Item 69 Net amount appropriated to deliver services | 887,807 | – | 887,807 | 934,140 | 46,333 |
| Amount authorised by other statutes - <i>Salaries and Allowances Act 1975</i> | 493 | – | 493 | 493 | – |
| Total appropriations provided to deliver services | 888,300 | – | 888,300 | 934,633 | 46,333 |
| Capital | – | – | – | – | – |
| Item 136 capital appropriations | 8,265 | – | 8,265 | 13,416 | 5,151 |
| Total | 896,565 | – | 896,565 | 948,049 | 51,484 |



4.2 User charges and fees

Table 33: User charges and fees

| User charges and fees | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Adoption fees | 66 | 92 |
| Fines and penalties | 257 | 106 |
| Child care licensing fees | 631 | 555 |
| Working with Children screening fees | 9,329 | 9,146 |
| National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) screening fees | 3,677 | 1,453 |
| Other | 11 | 17 |
| Total | 13,971 | 11,369 |

Revenue is recognised at the transaction price when the Department transfers control of the services to customers. Revenue is recognised at a point-in-time for all departmental fees and charges. The performance obligations for these user fees and charges are satisfied when the services have been provided.

4.3 Other revenue

Table 34: Other revenue

| Other revenue | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Employee contributions | 1,818 | 1,948 |
| Rebates and reimbursements | 6,702 | 183 |
| Reimbursement of relocation expenses | 249 | 251 |
| Revaluation of assets | 4,912 | 1,157 |
| Provision written back | – | 308 |
| Other | 322 | 798 |
| Total | 14,003 | 4,645 |

Revenue is recognised at the transaction price when the Department transfers control of the services to customers or where the performance objectives are met.



4.4 Commonwealth grants and contributions

Table 35: Commonwealth grants and contributions

| Commonwealth grants and contributions | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| National Housing and Homelessness Agreement | 47,076 | 46,322 |
| National Initiatives Program – Women's Safety Package | 751 | 724 |
| Indian Ocean Territories Service Delivery Program | 454 | 252 |
| Connected Beginnings Program – Roebourne | 560 | 525 |
| Family Court WA Pilot | 305 | 301 |
| COVID-19 Domestic Violence Support | – | 10,608 |
| COVID-19 FDV Services Respond to COVID | 2,538 | – |
| National Partnership Family Domestic Sexual Violence Respond | 7,535 | – |
| Unaccompanied Humanitarian Minors | – | 14 |
| Total | 59,219 | 58,746 |

Commonwealth grants

Recurrent grants are recognised as income when the grants are receivable.

Income from grants to acquire/construct a recognisable non-financial asset to be controlled by the Department is recognised when the Department satisfies its obligations under the transfer. The Department satisfies the obligations under the transfer to construct assets over time as the non-financial assets are being constructed.

Commonwealth contributions

Where Commonwealth specific purpose funding is received, contributions received are deferred and revenue is recognised when or as the performance obligation is satisfied. This income is disaggregated by National Specific Purpose Payment (SPP) and National Partnership Payments (NPP).



4.5 Loss on disposal

Table 36: Loss on disposal

| Loss on disposal | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| Net proceeds from disposal of non-current assets | – | – |
| Right of use assets | 1,065 | 908 |
| Carrying amount of non-current assets disposed | – | – |
| Land | (670) | – |
| Buildings | (966) | – |
| Office machines, furniture and equipment | (186) | (12) |
| Computer equipment | (17) | – |
| Right of use assets | (1,070) | (931) |
| Net losses | (1,844) | (35) |

Gains and losses on the disposal of non-current assets are presented by deducting from the proceeds on disposal, the carrying amount of the asset and related selling expenses. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss in the Statement of comprehensive income.

5. Key assets

Assets the Department utilises for economic benefit or service potential

This section includes information regarding the key assets the Department utilises to gain economic benefits or provide service potential. The section sets out both the key accounting policies and financial information about the performance of these assets.

Table 37: Key assets

| Key assets | Notes | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|-------------------------------|---------|----------------|----------------|
| Property, plant and equipment | 5.1 | 113,448 | 109,192 |
| Leasehold improvements | 5.1 | 5,606 | 6,375 |
| Work in progress | 5.1,5.3 | 6 | 6 |
| Right of use assets | 5.2 | 7,641 | 7,614 |
| Intangible assets | 5.3 | 10,683 | 12,823 |
| Total key assets | – | 137,384 | 136,010 |



5.1 Property, plant and equipment

Table 38: Property, plant and equipment year ended 30 June 2022

| Year ended 30 June 2022 | Land \$000 | Buildings \$000 | Office machines, furniture and equipment \$000 | Computer equipment \$000 | Leasehold improvements \$000 | Work in progress \$000 | Total \$000 |
|---|---------------|--------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 July 2021 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Gross carrying amount | 56,835 | 52,082 | 4,218 | 2,617 | 36,717 | 6 | 152,475 |
| Accumulated depreciation | – | (485) | (3,517) | (2,558) | (30,342) | – | (36,902) |
| Carrying amount at start of year | 56,835 | 51,597 | 701 | 59 | 6,375 | 6 | 115,573 |
| Additions | – | 96 | 161 | 734 | 101 | 358 | 1,450 |
| Transfers to/(from) work in progress | – | – | – | – | 358 | (358) | – |
| Revaluation increments | 4,470 | 3,834 | – | – | – | – | 8,304 |
| Disposals | (815) | (1,401) | (186) | (17) | – | – | (2,419) |
| Depreciation | – | (2,076) | (367) | (177) | (1,228) | – | (3,848) |
| Carrying amount at 30 June 2022 | 60,490 | 52,050 | 309 | 599 | 5,606 | 6 | 119,060 |
| Gross carrying amount | 60,490 | 52,050 | 2,993 | 1,467 | 34,343 | 6 | 151,349 |
| Accumulated depreciation | – | – | (2,684) | (868) | (28,737) | – | (32,289) |

**Table 39: Property, plant and equipment year ended 30 June 2021**

| Year ended 30 June 2021 | Land \$000 | Buildings \$000 | Office machines, furniture and equipment \$000 | Computer equipment \$000 | Leasehold improvements \$000 | Work in progress \$000 | Total \$000 |
|---|---------------|--------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 July 2020 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Gross carrying amount | 56,084 | 53,758 | 4,415 | 3,245 | 40,228 | 43 | 157,773 |
| Accumulated depreciation | – | (417) | (3,242) | (3,115) | (33,239) | – | (40,013) |
| Carrying amount at start of year | 56,084 | 53,341 | 1,173 | 130 | 6,989 | 43 | 117,760 |
| Additions | – | 11 | 35 | 7 | 47 | 549 | 649 |
| Transfers to/(from) work in progress | – | – | – | – | 586 | (586) | – |
| Revaluation increments/ (decrements) | 751 | 406 | – | – | – | – | 1,157 |
| Disposals | – | – | (12) | – | – | – | (12) |
| Depreciation | – | (2,161) | (495) | (78) | (1,247) | – | (3,981) |
| Carrying amount at 30 June 2021 | 56,835 | 51,597 | 701 | 59 | 6,375 | 6 | 115,573 |
| Gross carrying amount | 56,835 | 52,082 | 4,218 | 2,617 | 36,717 | 6 | 152,475 |
| Accumulated depreciation | – | (485) | (3,517) | (2,558) | (30,342) | – | (36,902) |



Initial recognition

Items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure, costing \$5,000 or more are measured initially at cost. Where an asset is acquired for no or nominal cost, the cost is valued at its fair value at the date of acquisition. Items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure costing less than \$5,000 are immediately expensed direct to the Statement of Comprehensive Income (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

The cost of a leasehold improvement is capitalised and depreciated over the shorter of the remaining term of the lease or the estimated useful life of the leasehold improvement.

Subsequent measurement

Subsequent to initial recognition of an asset, the revaluation model is used for the measurement of:

- land; and
- buildings

Land is carried at fair value.

Buildings are carried at fair value less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Land and buildings are independently valued annually by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Landgate) and recognised annually to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from the asset's fair value at the end of the reporting period.

Land and buildings were revalued as at 1 July 2021 by Landgate. The valuations were performed during the year ended 30 June 2022 and recognised at 30 June 2022. In undertaking the revaluation, fair value was determined by reference to market values for land: \$25.8 million (2021: \$24.0 million) and buildings: \$20.1 million (2021: \$19.9 million). For the remaining balance, fair value of buildings was determined on the basis of current replacement cost and fair value of land was determined on the basis of comparison with market evidence for land with low level utility (high restricted use land).

Revaluation model:

- (a) Fair Value where market-based evidence is available:

The fair value of land and buildings is determined on the basis of current market values determined by reference to recent market transactions. When buildings are revalued by reference to recent market transactions, the accumulated depreciation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount restated to the revalued amount.



(b) Fair value in the absence of market-based evidence:

Buildings are specialised or where land is restricted: Fair value of land and buildings is determined on the basis of existing use.

Existing use buildings: Fair value is determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits embodied in the asset, i.e. the current replacement cost. Where the fair value of buildings is determined on the current replacement cost basis, the gross carrying amount is adjusted in a manner that is consistent with the revaluation of the carrying amount of the asset and the accumulated depreciation is adjusted to equal the difference between the gross carrying amount and the carrying amount of the asset.

Restricted use land: Fair value is determined by comparison with market evidence for land with similar approximate utility (high restricted use land) or market value of comparable unrestricted land (low restricted use land).

5.1.1 Depreciation and impairment

Table 40: Depreciation and impairment

| Charge for the period | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Depreciation | – | – |
| Buildings | 2,076 | 2,161 |
| Office machines, furniture and equipment | 367 | 495 |
| Computer equipment | 177 | 78 |
| Leasehold improvements | 1,228 | 1,247 |
| Total depreciation for the period | 3,848 | 3,981 |

As at 30 June 2022 there were no indications of impairment to property, plant and equipment.

All surplus assets at 30 June 2022 have either been classified as assets held for sale or have been written-off.

Useful lives

All property, plant and equipment having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their estimated useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits. The exceptions to this rule include assets held for sale, land and investment properties.

Depreciation is generally calculated on a straight-line basis, at rates that allocate the asset's value, less any estimated residual value, over its estimated useful life. Typical



estimated useful lives for the different asset classes for current and prior years are included below:

Asset useful life:

- Buildings – 25 years.
- Leasehold improvements – 25 years or life of lease.
- Office machines, furniture and equipment – 5 years
- Computer equipment – 4 years.

The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each annual reporting period, and adjustments should be made where appropriate.

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives.

Land, which are considered to have an indefinite life, are not depreciated. Depreciation is not recognised in respect of this asset because their service potential has not, in any material sense, been consumed during the reporting period.

Impairment

Non-financial assets, including items of plant and equipment, are tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to the recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised.

Where an asset measured at cost is written down to its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised through profit or loss.

Where a previously revalued asset is written down to its recoverable amount, the loss is recognised as a revaluation decrement through other comprehensive income.

As the Department is a not-for-profit agency, the recoverable amount of regularly revalued specialised assets is anticipated to be materially the same as fair value.

If there is an indication that there has been a reversal in impairment, the carrying amount shall be increased to its recoverable amount. However, this reversal should not increase the asset's carrying amount above what would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised in prior years.

The risk of impairment is generally limited to circumstances where an asset's depreciation is materially understated, where the replacement cost is falling or where there is a significant change in useful life. Each relevant class of assets is reviewed annually to verify that the accumulated depreciation/amortisation reflects the level of consumption or expiration of the asset's future economic benefits and to evaluate any impairment risk from declining replacement costs.



5.2 Right-of-use assets

Table 41: Right-of-use assets

| Year ended 30 June 2021 | Employee Housing – Government \$000 | Employee Housing – Private \$000 | Vehicles \$000 | Total \$000 |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1 July 2020 | – | – | – | – |
| Gross carrying amount | 4,569 | 328 | 8,073 | 12,970 |
| Accumulated amortisation | (2,414) | (97) | (2,369) | (4,880) |
| Carrying amount at start of period | 2,155 | 231 | 5,704 | 8,090 |
| Additions | 4,839 | – | 1,608 | 6,447 |
| Disposals | (512) | (292) | (127) | (931) |
| Depreciation | (3,666) | 61 | (2,387) | (5,992) |
| Carrying amount at 30 June 2021 | 2,816 | – | 4,798 | 7,614 |
| Gross carrying amount | 5,420 | 36 | 9,003 | 14,459 |
| Accumulated amortisation | (2,604) | (36) | (4,205) | (6,845) |

**Table 42: Right-of-use assets**

| Year ended 30 June 2022 | Employee Housing – Government \$000 | Employee Housing – Private \$000 | Vehicles \$000 | Total \$000 |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1 July 2021 | – | – | – | – |
| Gross carrying amount | 5,420 | 36 | 9,003 | 14,459 |
| Accumulated amortisation | (2,604) | (36) | (4,205) | (6,845) |
| Carrying amount at start of period | 2,816 | – | 4,798 | 7,614 |
| Additions | 6,558 | – | 1,552 | 8,110 |
| Disposals | (877) | – | (193) | (1,070) |
| Depreciation | (4,531) | – | (2,482) | (7,013) |
| Carrying amount at 30 June 2022 | 3,966 | – | 3,675 | 7,641 |
| Gross carrying amount | 7,298 | – | 9,670 | 16,968 |
| Accumulated amortisation | (3,332) | – | (5,995) | (9,327) |

Initial recognition

At the commencement date of the lease, the Department recognises right-of-use assets are measured at cost comprising of:

- the amount of the initial measurement of lease liability;
- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received;
- any initial direct costs; and
- restoration costs, including dismantling and removing the underlying asset.

The corresponding lease liabilities in relation to these right-of-use assets have been disclosed in Note 7.1 Lease liabilities.

The Department has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases (with a lease term of 12 months or less) and low value leases (with an underlying value of \$5,000 or less). Lease payments associated with these leases are expensed over a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Subsequent Measurement

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement of right-of-use assets, requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses and adjusted for any re-measurement of lease liability.

Depreciation and impairment of right-of-use assets



Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful lives of the underlying assets.

If ownership of the leased asset transfers to the Department at the end of the lease term or the cost reflects the exercise of a purchase option, depreciation is calculated using the estimated useful life of the asset.

Right-of-use assets are tested for impairment when an indication of impairment is identified. The policy in connection with testing for impairment is outlined in Note 5.1.1.

The following amounts relating to leases have been recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income:

Table 43: Leases recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income

| Leases recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Depreciation expense of right-of-use assets | 7,013 | 5,992 |
| Lease interest expense | 227 | 234 |
| Total amount recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income | 7,240 | 6,226 |

The total cash outflow for leases in 2022 was \$8.065 million (2021: \$6.897million). As at 30 June 2022 there were no indications of impairment to right-of-use assets.

The Department's leasing activities and how these are accounted for:

The Department has leases for vehicles, office and residential accommodations and plant and equipment.

The Department has also entered into a Memorandum of Understanding Agreements (MOU) with the Department of Finance for the leasing of office accommodation. These are not recognised under AASB 16 because of substitution rights held by the Department of Finance and are accounted for as an expense as incurred.

The Department recognises leases as right-of-use assets and associated lease liabilities in the Statement of financial position.

The corresponding lease liabilities in relation to these right-of-use assets have been disclosed in Note 7.1.



5.3 Intangible assets

Table 44: Intangible assets – Year ended 30 June 2021

| Year ended 30 June 2021 | Computer software \$000 | Work in progress (WIP) \$000 | Total \$000 |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 July 2020 | – | – | – |
| Gross carrying amount | 40,419 | – | 40,419 |
| Accumulated amortisation | (25,433) | – | (25,433) |
| Accumulated impairment losses | – | – | – |
| Carrying amount at start of year | 14,986 | – | 14,986 |
| Additions | – | 1,274 | 1,274 |
| Transfers from work in progress | 1,274 | (1,274) | – |
| Amortisation expense | (3,437) | – | (3,437) |
| Carrying amount at 30 June 2021 | 12,823 | – | 12,823 |

Table 45: Intangible assets – Year ended 30 June 2022

| Year ended 30 June 2022 | Computer software \$000 | Work in progress \$000 | Total \$000 |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| 1 July 2021 | – | – | – |
| Gross carrying amount | 41,693 | – | 41,693 |
| Accumulated amortisation | (28,870) | – | (28,870) |
| Carrying amount at start of year | 12,823 | – | 12,823 |
| Additions | – | 1,219 | 1,219 |
| Transfers from work in progress | 1,219 | (1,219) | – |
| Amortisation expense | (3,359) | – | (3,359) |
| Carrying amount at 30 June 2022 | 10,683 | – | 10,683 |

Initial recognition

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.



An internally-generated intangible asset arising from development (or from the development phase of an internal project) is recognised if, and only if, all of the following are demonstrated:

- the technical feasibility of completing the intangible asset so that it will be available for use or sale
- an intention to complete the intangible asset, and use or sell it
- the ability to use or sell the intangible asset
- the intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefit
- the availability of adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the intangible asset
- the ability to measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset during its development.

Acquisitions of intangible assets costing \$5,000 or more and internally generated intangible assets costing \$50,000 or more that comply with the recognition criteria as per AASB 138.57 (as noted above), are capitalised.

Costs incurred below these thresholds are immediately expensed directly to the Statement of comprehensive income.

Costs incurred in the research phase of a project are immediately expensed.

Subsequent measurement

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement of intangible assets, requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

5.3.1 Amortisation and impairment

Table 46: Amortisation and impairment

| Charge for the period | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Computer software | 3,359 | 3,437 |
| Total amortisation for the year | 3,359 | 3,437 |

As at 30 June 2022, there were no indications of impairment to intangible assets.

The Department held no goodwill or intangible assets with an indefinite useful life during the reporting period. At the end of the reporting period there were no intangible assets not yet available for use.

Amortisation of finite life intangible assets is calculated on a straight-line basis at rates that allocate the asset's value over its estimated useful life. All intangible assets



controlled by the Department have a finite useful life and zero residual value. Estimated useful lives are reviewed annually.

The estimated useful lives for each class of intangible asset are:

- Computer software (a) – two to 15 years

(a) Software that is not integral to the operation of any related hardware.

Impairment of intangible assets

Intangible assets with finite useful lives are tested for impairment annually or when an indication of impairment is identified.

The policy in connection with testing for impairment is outlined in Note 5.1.1.



6. Other assets and liabilities

This section sets out those assets and liabilities that arose from the Department's controlled operations and includes other assets utilised for economic benefits and liabilities incurred during normal operations:

Table 47: Other assets and liabilities

| Other assets and liabilities | Notes | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---------------------------------|-------|---------------|---------------|
| Receivables | 6.1 | 13,279 | 10,504 |
| Amounts receivable for services | 6.2 | 159,718 | 144,740 |
| Other current assets | 6.3 | 2,580 | 18,057 |
| Payables | 6.4 | 64,395 | 43,813 |
| Income received in advance | 6.5 | 349 | 291 |

6.1 Receivables

Table 48: Receivables

| Receivables | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Current | – | – |
| Trade receivables | 1,192 | 146 |
| Employee-related receivables | 5,541 | 3,863 |
| Other receivables | 394 | 244 |
| Allowance for impairment of receivables (a) | (496) | (109) |
| Accrued revenue | 681 | – |
| GST receivable | 5,967 | 6,360 |
| Total receivables | 13,279 | 10,504 |

Trade receivables are recognised at original invoice amount less any allowances for uncollectable amounts (ie. impairment). The carrying amount of net trade receivables is equivalent to fair value as it is due for settlement within 30 days. The Department does not hold any collateral as security or other credit enhancements for trade receivables.

(a) Based on the expected credit losses (ECL) assessment on Trade receivables as at 30 June 2022, the ECL rate was less than 0.001%. As such there was an immaterial credit risk exposure as at 30 June 2022. The allowance for impairment relates to



employee related and other receivables. Please refer to Note 3.4 for the amount of ECL expensed.

6.1.1 Movement in the allowance for impairment of receivables

Table 49: Movement in the allowance for impairment of receivables

| Movement in the allowance for impairment of receivables | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Reconciliation of changes in the allowance for impairment of receivables | – | – |
| Opening balance | 109 | 388 |
| Expected credit losses expense | 546 | 109 |
| Amount written back during the period | – | (308) |
| Amount written off during the period | (159) | (80) |
| Allowance for impairment at end of period | 496 | 109 |

6.2 Amounts receivable for services (holding account)

Table 50: Amounts receivable for services (Holding Account)

| Amounts receivable for services (holding account) | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Current | 68 | 68 |
| Non-current | 159,650 | 144,672 |
| Total amounts receivable for services at end of period | 159,718 | 144,740 |

Amounts receivable for services represent the non-cash component of service appropriations. It is restricted in that it can only be used for asset replacement or payment of leave liability.

The amounts receivable for services are financial assets at amortised cost, and are not considered impaired (i.e. there is no expected credit loss of the holding accounts).



6.3 Other assets

Table 51: Other assets

| Other assets | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Current | – | – |
| Prepayments | 2,485 | 17,986 |
| Other – prepaid cards | 95 | 71 |
| Total other assets at the end of period | 2,580 | 18,057 |

6.4 Payables

Table 52: Payables

| Payables | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Current | – | – |
| Trade payables | 48,967 | 26,994 |
| Accrued expenses | 7,077 | 9,440 |
| Accrued salaries | 6,407 | 5,155 |
| Total current | 62,451 | 41,589 |
| Non-current | – | – |
| Other – lease incentive liability | 1,944 | 2,224 |
| Total non-current | 1,944 | 2,224 |
| Total payables at end of period | 64,395 | 43,813 |

Payables are recognised at the amounts payable when the Department becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value as settlement for the Department is generally within 30 days.

Accrued salaries represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the reporting period. Accrued salaries are settled within a fortnight after the reporting period. The Department considers the carrying amount of accrued salaries to be equivalent to its fair value.



6.5 Income received in advance

Table 53: Income received in advance

| Income received in advance | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Current | – | – |
| Income received in advance | 349 | 291 |
| Balance at end of period | 349 | 291 |



7. Financing

This section sets out the material balances and disclosures associated with the financing and cash flows of the Department.

| | Notes |
|--|--------------|
| Lease liabilities | 7.1 |
| Finance costs | 7.2 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 7.3 |
| Reconciliation of cash | 7.3 |
| Reconciliation of operating activities | 7.3 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents | 7.4 |
| Commitments | 7.5 |
| Capital commitments | 7.5 |
| Other expenditure commitments | 7.5 |

7.1 Lease liabilities

The statement of financial position shows the following amounts relating to lease liabilities:

Table 54: Lease liabilities

| Lease liabilities | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Current | – | – |
| Lease liabilities (secured) | 4,764 | 4,227 |
| Total current | 4,764 | 4,227 |
| Non-current | – | – |
| Lease liabilities (secured) | 3,255 | 3,747 |
| Total non-current | 3,255 | 3,747 |
| Balance lease liabilities at end of period | 8,019 | 7,974 |

Initial measurement

At the commencement date of the lease, the Department recognises lease liabilities measured at the present value of the lease payments to be made over the lease term. The lease payments are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease. If that rate cannot be readily determined, the Department uses the incremental borrowing rate provided by the Western Australia Treasury Corporation.

Lease payments included by the Department as part of the present value calculation of lease liability include:



- fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives receivable
- variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date
- amounts expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees
- the exercise price of purchase options (where these are reasonably certain to be exercised)
- payments for penalties for terminating a lease, where the lease term reflects the Department exercising an option to terminate the lease.

The interest on the lease liability is recognised in profit or loss over the lease term so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. Lease liabilities do not include any future changes in variable lease payments (that depend on an index or rate) until they take effect, in which case the lease liability is reassessed and adjusted against the right-of-use asset.

Periods covered by extension or termination options are only included in the lease term by the Department if the lease is reasonably certain to be extended (or not terminated).

Variable lease payments, not included in the measurement of lease liability, that are dependent on sales are recognised by the Department in profit or loss in the period in which the condition that triggers those payment occurs.

This section should be read in conjunction with Note 5.2.

Subsequent measurement

Lease liabilities are measured by increasing the carrying amount to reflect interest on the lease liabilities, reducing the carrying amount to reflect the lease payments made and re-measuring the carrying amount at amortised cost, subject to adjustments to reflect any reassessment or lease modifications.

7.2 Finance costs

Table 55: Finance costs

| Finance costs | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Finance costs | – | – |
| Lease interest expense | 227 | 234 |
| Total finance costs expensed | 227 | 234 |

‘Finance costs’ represent the interest component of lease liability repayments.



7.3 Cash and cash equivalents

7.3.1 Reconciliation of cash

Table 56: Reconciliation of cash

| Reconciliation of cash | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents | 24,932 | 10,624 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents | 30,421 | 26,875 |
| Total cash and cash equivalents at end of period | 55,353 | 37,499 |

For the purpose of the Statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalent (and restricted cash and cash equivalent) assets comprise cash on hand and short-term deposits with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.



7.3.2 Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows used in operating activities

Table 57: Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows used in operating activities

| Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows used in operating activities | Notes | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|----------|------------------|------------------|
| Net cost of services | – | (1,008,615) | (874,994) |
| Non-cash items | – | – | – |
| Depreciation and amortisation expense | 5.1, 5.3 | 14,220 | 13,410 |
| Expected credit losses expense | 3.4 | 546 | 109 |
| Services received free of charge | 4.1 | 15,130 | 5,783 |
| Net loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment | 4.5 | 1,844 | 35 |
| Revaluation movement | 3.4, 4.3 | (4,913) | (1,157) |
| Provision written back | 4 | – | (308) |
| Leave transfer | 4 | 2,151 | 17,966 |
| (Increase)/decrease in assets | – | – | – |
| Current receivables (a) | – | (3,168) | (31) |
| Other current assets | – | 15,477 | (12,680) |
| Increase/(decrease) in liabilities | – | – | – |
| Current payables (a) | – | 18,165 | 5,630 |
| Current provisions | – | (1,596) | (5,232) |
| Other income received in advance | – | 58 | (374) |
| Non-current payables | – | (280) | (190) |
| Non-current provisions | – | (1,464) | (1,307) |
| Change in GST receivables/payables (b) | – | 393 | (4,034) |
| Net cash used in operating activities | – | (952,052) | (857,374) |

(a) Note that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) receivable/payable in respect of GST and the receivable/payable in respect of the sale/purchase of non-current assets are not included in these items as they do not form part of the reconciling items.

(b) This is the net GST paid/received, i.e. cash transactions.



7.4 Restricted cash and cash equivalents

Table 58: Restricted cash and cash equivalents

| Restricted cash and cash equivalents | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Current | – | – |
| Commonwealth Paid Parental Leave Scheme (a) | 243 | 324 |
| Essential and Municipal Services Improvement in Remote Aboriginal Areas (EMSUP) | 2,968 | 4,702 |
| Indian Ocean Territories Service Delivery Program (b) | 161 | 159 |
| National Redress Records | 3,514 | 3,239 |
| Redress Unclaimed Monies | 93 | 93 |
| Royalties for Regions Fund (c) | 2,214 | 1,732 |
| Community Services Trust (d) | 156 | 138 |
| Children and Young People in CEO's care private cash account (e) | 1,158 | 773 |
| Seniors rebates (f) | 10,502 | 8,327 |
| Total | 21,009 | 19,487 |
| Non-current | – | – |
| Accrued salaries suspense account (g) | 9,412 | 7,388 |
| Total restricted cash and cash equivalents | 30,421 | 26,875 |

(a) Funds held in this account are to be used for purposes of meeting payments to eligible working parents with 18 weeks of Parental Leave Pay.

(b) Funds held for the provision of Child Protection Programs for the Indian Ocean Territories. Refer to Note 9.8 Special purpose accounts.

(c) These unspent funds are committed to projects and programs in WA regional areas.

(d) Funds held in trust for children under the care of the Department. Refer to Note 9.8 Special purpose accounts.

(e) Funds held on behalf of children under the guardianship of the Director General of the Department (Child Protection and Family Support). Refer to Note 9.8 Special purpose accounts.

(f) Amounts representing unclaimed Seniors rebates.

(g) 27th pay in a financial year that occurs every 11 years. This will become due in the 2026-2027 financial year.



7.5 Commitments

7.5.1 Capital commitments

Capital expenditure commitments, being contracted capital expenditure additional to the amounts reported in the financial statements, are payable as follows:

Table 59: Capital commitments

| Capital commitments | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Within 1 year | 1,257 | 1,048 |
| Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years | – | – |
| Later than 5 years | – | – |
| Total | 1,257 | 1,048 |

The total amounts presented for capital commitments are GST inclusive.

8. Risks and contingencies

This note sets out the key risk management policies and measurement techniques of the Department.

| | Notes |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Financial risk management | 8.1 |
| Contingent assets | 8.2.1 |
| Contingent liabilities | 8.2.2 |
| Fair value measurements | 8.3 |

8.1 Financial risk management

Financial instruments held by the Department are cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and cash equivalents, receivables, payables, and finance leases. The Department has limited exposure to financial risks. The Department's overall risk management program focuses on managing the risks identified below.

(a) Summary of risks and risk management

Credit risk

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of the Department's receivables defaulting on their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Department.



Credit risk associated with the Department's financial assets is minimal because the main receivable is the amounts receivable for services (holding account). For receivables other than Government, the Department trades only with recognised, creditworthy third parties. The Department has policies in place to ensure that sales of products and services are made to customers with an appropriate credit history. In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Department's exposure to bad debts is minimal. Debt will be written-off against the allowance account when it is improbable or uneconomical to recover the debt. At the end of the reporting period there were no significant concentrations of credit risk.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises when the Department is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due.

The Department is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business.

The Department has appropriate procedures to manage cash flows including drawdown of appropriations by monitoring forecast cash flows to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet its commitments.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices such as foreign exchange rates and interest rates will affect the Department's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. The Department does not trade in foreign currency and is not materially exposed to other price risks (e.g. equity securities or commodity prices changes). The Department's exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates relate primarily to the long-term debt obligations.

Other than as detailed in the interest rate sensitivity analysis table at Note 8.1(d), the Department is not exposed to interest rate risk because the majority of cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash are non-interest bearing and it has no borrowings other than finance leases (fixed interest rate).

**(b) Categories of financial instruments**

The carrying amounts of each of the following categories of financial assets and financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period are:

Table 60: Categories of financial instruments

| Categories of financial instruments | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Financial assets | – | – |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 24,932 | 10,624 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents | 30,421 | 26,875 |
| Receivables (a) | 7,312 | 4,144 |
| Amounts receivable for services | 159,718 | 144,740 |
| Total financial assets | 222,383 | 186,383 |
| Financial liabilities | – | – |
| Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost | 62,451 | 41,589 |
| Finance lease liability | 8,019 | 7,974 |
| Total financial liabilities | 70,470 | 49,563 |

(a) The amount of receivables / financial assets at amortised cost excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).



(c) Liquidity risk and interest rate exposure

The following table details the Department’s interest rate exposure and the contractual maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities. The maturity analysis section includes interest and principal cash flows. The interest rate exposure section analyses only the carrying amounts of each item.

Table 61: Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities

| | Interest rate exposure | | | | | Nominal amount \$000 | Maturity dates | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|---|---|-------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|
| | Weighted average effective interest rate % | Carrying amount \$000 | Interest rate exposure Fixed interest rate \$000 | Interest rate exposure Variable interest rate \$000 | Interest rate exposure Non-interest bearing \$000 | | Maturity dates Up to 1 month \$000 | Maturity dates 1-3 months \$000 | Maturity dates 3 months to 1 year \$000 | Maturity dates 1-5 years \$000 | Maturity dates More than 5 years \$000 |
| 30 June 2022 financial assets | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Cash and cash equivalents | – | 24,932 | – | – | 24,932 | 24,932 | 24,932 | – | – | – | – |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents | – | 30,421 | – | – | 30,421 | 30,421 | 21,009 | – | – | – | 9,412 |
| Receivables(a) | – | 7,312 | – | – | 7,312 | 7,312 | 7,312 | – | – | – | – |
| Amounts receivable for services | – | 159,718 | – | – | 159,718 | 159,718 | – | – | 68 | – | 159,650 |
| Total | – | 222,383 | – | – | 222,383 | 222,383 | 53,253 | – | 68 | – | 169,062 |



| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|---------------|---|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| 30 June 2022 Financial liabilities | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Payables | – | 62,451 | – | – | 62,451 | 62,451 | 62,451 | – | – | – | – |
| Lease liabilities – employee housing | 1.83 | 3,982 | – | – | 3,982 | 3,982 | 394 | 667 | 1,973 | 948 | – |
| Lease liabilities – vehicles | 4.24 | 4,037 | – | – | 4,037 | 4,037 | 365 | 268 | 1,097 | 2,294 | 13 |
| Total | – | 70,470 | – | – | 70,470 | 70,470 | 63,210 | 935 | 3,070 | 3,242 | 13 |

(a) The amount of receivables excludes the GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).



Table 62: Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities

| Interest rate exposure and maturity dates | Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate % | Carrying Amount \$000 | Interest rate exposure Fixed interest rate \$000 | Interest rate exposure Variable interest rate \$000 | Interest rate exposure Non-interest bearing \$000 | Nominal amount \$000 | Maturity dates Up to 1 month \$000 | Maturity dates 1-3 months \$000 | Maturity dates 3 months to 1 year \$000 | Maturity dates 1-5 years \$000 | Maturity dates More than 5 years \$000 |
|---|--|-----------------------|--|---|---|----------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|
| 30 June 2021 Financial assets | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Cash and cash equivalents | – | 10,624 | – | – | 10,624 | 10,624 | 10,624 | – | – | – | – |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents | – | 26,875 | – | – | 26,875 | 26,875 | 19,487 | – | – | – | 7,388 |
| Receivables(a) | – | 4,144 | – | – | 4,144 | 4,144 | 4,144 | – | – | – | – |
| Amounts receivable for services | – | 144,740 | – | – | 144,740 | 144,740 | – | – | 68 | – | 144,672 |
| Total | – | 186,383 | – | – | 186,383 | 186,383 | 34,255 | – | 68 | – | 152,060 |
| 30 June 2021 Financial liabilities | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Payables | – | 41,589 | – | – | 41,589 | 41,589 | 41,589 | – | – | – | – |
| Lease liabilities- Employee Housing | 1.1 | 2,826 | – | – | 2,826 | 2,826 | 304 | 509 | 1,355 | 658 | – |



Disclosures and Legal Compliance

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------|---------------|---|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| Lease liabilities- Vehicles | 3.97 | 5,148 | – | – | 5,148 | 5,148 | 389 | 322 | 1,348 | 3,051 | 38 |
| Total | – | 49,563 | – | – | 49,563 | 49,563 | 42,282 | 831 | 2,703 | 3,709 | 38 |

(a) The amount of receivables excludes the GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).



(d) Interest rate sensitivity analysis

The Department's financial assets and liabilities at reporting date are not subject to any interest rate risk.

8.2 Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the statement of financial position but are disclosed and, if quantifiable, are measured at the best estimate.

Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

8.2.1. Contingent assets

The following contingent assets are excluded from the assets included in the financial statements:

Litigation in progress

There is currently a legal case pending for which the outcome is not certain. The State Solicitor's Office has estimated that a total amount of \$0.65 million (2021: \$1.9 million) may be receivable as compensation to the Department at some future point in time.

8.2.2 Contingent liabilities

The following contingent liabilities are excluded from the liabilities included in the financial statements:

Litigation in progress

There are currently a number of legal cases pending for which the outcomes are not certain. The State Solicitor's Office has estimated that a total amount of \$11.362 million (2021: \$24.244 million) may be payable as compensation to claimants at some future point in time. Whilst this is acknowledged as a contingent liability of the Department, it has yet to be determined whether the Department will ultimately be responsible for funding the actual amounts paid as compensation, if any.

Contaminated sites

Under the *Contaminated Sites Act 2003*, the Department is required to report known and suspected contaminated sites to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). In accordance with the Act, DWER classifies these sites on the basis of the risk to human health, the environment and environmental values. Where sites are classified as *contaminated – remediation required* or *possibly contaminated – investigation required*, the Department may have a liability in respect of investigation or remediation expenses.

The Department has no sites that are classified as contaminated sites as at reporting date.



8.3 Fair value measurements

Table 63: Fair value measurements 2022

| Assets measured at fair value: | Note | Level 1 \$000 | Level 2 \$000 | Level 3 \$000 | Fair value at end of period \$000 |
|--------------------------------|------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Land | 5.1 | – | 25,792 | 34,698 | 60,490 |
| Buildings | 5.1 | – | 20,117 | 31,933 | 52,050 |
| Total | – | – | 45,909 | 66,631 | 112,540 |

Table 64: Fair value measurements 2021

| Assets measured at fair value: | Note | Level 1 \$000 | Level 2 \$000 | Level 3 \$000 | Fair value at end of period \$000 |
|--------------------------------|------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Land | 5.1 | – | 23,981 | 32,854 | 56,835 |
| Buildings | 5.1 | – | 18,677 | 32,920 | 51,597 |
| Total | – | – | 42,658 | 65,774 | 108,432 |

There were no transfers between Levels 1, 2 or 3 during the current and previous periods.

Valuation techniques to derive Level 2 fair values

Level 2 fair values of non-current assets held for sale, land and buildings (office accommodation) are derived using the market approach. Market evidence of sales prices of comparable land and buildings (office accommodation) in close proximity is used to determine price per square metre.

Non-current assets held for sale have been written down to fair value less costs to sell. Fair value has been determined by reference to market evidence of sales prices of comparable assets.

**Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)****Table 65: Fair value measurements 2022**

| 2022 | Land \$000 | Buildings \$000 | Total \$000 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Fair value at start of period | 32,854 | 32,920 | 65,774 |
| Additions | – | 49 | 49 |
| Revaluation increments | 2,633 | 2,841 | 5,474 |
| Transfers from/(to) Level 2 | 26 | – | 26 |
| Disposal | (815) | (2,667) | (3,482) |
| Depreciation expense | – | (1,210) | (1,210) |
| Fair value at end of period | 34,698 | 31,933 | 66,631 |

Total gains or losses for the period included in profit or loss, refer to Note 4.5.

Table 66: Fair value measurements 2021

| 2021 | Land \$000 | Buildings \$000 | Total \$000 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Fair value at start of period | 31,848 | 34,085 | 65,933 |
| Additions | – | 12 | 12 |
| Revaluation increments | 1,006 | 211 | 1,217 |
| Depreciation expense | – | (1,388) | (1,388) |
| Fair value at end of period | 32,854 | 32,920 | 65,774 |

Land (Level 3 fair values)

Fair value for restricted use land is based on comparison with market evidence for land with low level utility. The relevant comparators of land with low level utility is selected by Landgate and represents the application of a significant Level 3 input in this valuation methodology. The fair value measurement is sensitive to values of comparator land, with higher values of comparator land correlating with higher estimated fair values of land.

Buildings (Level 3 fair values)

Fair value for existing use specialised buildings is determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits embodied in the asset, i.e. the current replacement cost. Current replacement cost is generally determined by reference to the market observable replacement cost of a substitute asset of comparable utility and the gross project size specifications, adjusted for obsolescence. Obsolescence



encompasses physical deterioration, functional (technological) obsolescence and economic (external) obsolescence.

Valuation using current replacement cost utilises the significant Level 3 input, consumed economic benefit/obsolescence of asset which is estimated by Landgate. The fair value measurement is sensitive to the estimate of consumption/obsolescence, with higher values of the estimate correlating with lower estimated fair values of buildings.



9. Other disclosures

This section includes additional material disclosures required by accounting standards or other pronouncements, for the understanding of this financial report.

| | Notes |
|--|--------------|
| Events occurring after the end of the reporting period | 9.1 |
| Initial application of Australian Accounting Standards | 9.2 |
| Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative | 9.3 |
| Key management personnel | 9.4 |
| Related party transactions | 9.5 |
| Related bodies | 9.6 |
| Affiliated bodies | 9.7 |
| Special purpose accounts | 9.8 |
| Remuneration of auditor | 9.9 |
| Equity | 9.10 |
| Supplementary financial information | 9.11 |
| Explanatory statement | 10.1 |

9.1 Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

There were no events occurring after the end of the reporting period except for the recent announcement made by the Premier that full time public sector employees will receive an immediate payment of \$3,000 to offset the current inflationary pressure. Casual and part-time employees will receive a pro-rata payment based on average working hours. This payment is subject to the Public Sector Union's acceptance of the proposed pay increment and the registration of the new Public Sector CSA Agreement.

9.2 Initial application of Australian Accounting Standards

After assessed all new or amended standards issued but not yet effective, the Department has determined that none of those issued standards impact future reported results.

9.3 Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative

The Department cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 *Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements* or by an exemption from TI 1101. Where applicable, the Department plans to apply the following Australian Accounting Standards from their application date.

AASB 2020–1 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current*

This Standard amends AASB 101 to clarify requirements for the presentation of liabilities in the statement of financial position as current or non-current.

There is no financial impact.



Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after 1 January 2023.

AASB 2020–3 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Annual Improvements 2018-2020 and Other Amendments

This Standard amends: (a) AASB 1 to simplify the application of AASB 1; (b) AASB 3 to update a reference to the Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting; (c) AASB 9 to clarify the fees an entity includes when assessing whether the terms of a new or modified financial liability are substantially different from the terms of the original financial liability; (d) AASB 116 to require an entity to recognise the sales proceeds from selling items produced while preparing property, plant and equipment for its intended use and the related cost in profit or loss, instead of deducting the amounts received from the cost of the asset; (e) AASB 137 to specify the costs that an entity includes when assessing whether a contract will be loss-making; and (f) AASB 141 to remove the requirement to exclude cash flows from taxation when measuring fair value.

There is no financial impact.

Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after 1 January 2022.

AASB 2020–6 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current – Deferral of Effective Date

This Standard amends AASB 101 to defer requirements for the presentation of liabilities in the statement of financial position as current or non-current that were added to AASB 101 in AASB 2020–1.

There is no financial impact.

Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after 1 January 2022.



AASB 2021–2 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure of Accounting Policies and Definition of Accounting Estimates*

This Standard amends: (a) AASB 7, to clarify that information about measurement bases for financial instruments is expected to be material to an entity’s financial statements; (b) AASB 101, to require entities to disclose their material accounting policy information rather than their significant accounting policies; (c) AASB 108, to clarify how entities should distinguish changes in accounting policies and changes in accounting estimates; (d) AASB 134, to identify material accounting policy information as a component of a complete set of financial statements; and (e) AASB Practice Statement 2, to provide guidance on how to apply the concept of materiality to accounting policy disclosures.

There is no financial impact.

Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after 1 January 2023.



9.4 Key management personnel

The Department has determined key management personnel to include cabinet ministers and senior officers of the Department. The Department does not incur expenditures to compensate Ministers and those disclosures may be found in the Annual Report on State Finances.

The total fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for senior officers of the Department for the reporting period are presented within the following bands:

Compensation of members of the Accountable Authority

Table 67: Compensation band

| Compensation band (\$) | 2022 | 2021 |
|------------------------|------|------|
| 490,001 – 500,000 | – | 1 |
| 480,001 – 490,000 | 1 | – |
| 380,001 – 390,000 | 1 | – |
| 340,001 – 350,000 | 1 | – |
| 330,001 – 340,000 | – | 1 |
| 290,001 – 300,000 | – | 1 |
| 270,001 – 280,000 | 1 | – |
| 240,001 – 250,000 | 1 | – |
| 230,001 – 240,000 | 3 | 2 |
| 220,001 – 230,000 | 3 | 6 |
| 210,001 – 220,000 | 1 | 2 |
| 200,001 – 210,000 | – | 1 |
| 190,001 – 200,000 | – | 1 |
| 180,001 – 190,000 | 1 | – |
| 170,001 – 180,000 | – | 1 |
| 160,001 – 170,000 | 1 | 1 |
| 150,001 – 160,000 | 1 | 2 |
| 130,001 – 140,000 | 2 | – |
| 120,001 – 130,000 | 1 | 2 |
| 110,001 – 120,000 | 2 | 2 |



| | | |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| 80,001 – 90,000 | 1 | 2 |
| 60,001 – 70,000 | 2 | – |
| 50,001 – 60,000 | 1 | 1 |
| 40,001 – 50,000 | – | 1 |
| 30,001 – 40,000 | – | 1 |
| Total | 24 | 28 |

Table 68: Compensation of senior officers

| Compensation of senior officers | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Short-term employee benefits | 3,764 | 3,991 |
| Post-employment benefits | 404 | 380 |
| Other long-term benefits | 417 | 403 |
| Termination benefits | 131 | 426 |
| Total compensation of senior officers | 4,716 | 5,200 |

Total compensation includes the superannuation expense incurred by the Department in respect of senior officers.

9.5 Related party transactions

The Department is a wholly owned and controlled public sector entity of the State of Western Australia.

Related parties of the Department include:

- all cabinet ministers and their close family members, and their controlled or jointly controlled entities
- all senior officers and their close family members, and their controlled or jointly controlled entities
- other departments and statutory authorities, including related bodies, that are included in the whole of government consolidated financial statements (i.e. wholly-owned public sector entities)
- associates and joint ventures of a wholly owned public sector entity
- the Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB).

**Significant transactions with government-related entities**

In conducting its activities, the Department is required to transact with the State and entities related to the State. These transactions are generally based on the standard terms and conditions that apply to all agencies. Significant transactions include:

- service appropriation (Note 4.1)
- capital contributions (Note 9.10)
- superannuation contributions to GESB (3.1.1)
- lease rentals payments to the Department of Finance (Note 3.4) and related outstanding balances (Note 6.4)
- insurance payments to the Insurance Commission of Western Australia and RiskCover (Note 3.4)
- Legal Aid assistance grant (Note 3.3)
- Income from Public Trustee (Note 4.2)
- remuneration for services provided by the Auditor General (Note 9.9).

Material transactions with related parties

Outside of normal citizen type transactions with the Department, there were no other related party transactions that involved key management personnel and/or their close family members and/or their controlled (or jointly controlled) entities.

9.6 Related bodies

A related body is a body that receives more than half of its funding and resources from a Department and is subject to operational control by that Department. The Department has no related bodies during the financial year.

9.7 Affiliated bodies

In accordance with TI 951 *Affiliated Bodies*, the Department provided funding for the following services to a significant number of government and non-government bodies during the financial year:

Table 69: Affiliated bodies

| | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Child Protection and Family Support | 260,623 | 245,284 |
| Community Development | 44,336 | 39,702 |
| Total | 304,959 | 284,986 |



9.8 Special purpose accounts

Special Purpose Account section 16(1)(c) of the FMA.

Trust Statement No 3

Community Services Trust

The purpose of the account is to hold monies in trust for children under the care of the Department, and such other monies as are received from any other person or organisation for the provision of amenities in Departmental facilities which house and for such other children specific purposes as directed by the donors.

Table 70: Community Services Trust

| Community Services Trust | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Balance at start of period | 138 | 118 |
| Receipts | 134 | 173 |
| Payments | (116) | (153) |
| Balance at end of period | 156 | 138 |

Trust Statement No 27

Children and Young People in Chief Executive Officer's Care Private Cash Account

The purpose of the account is to hold private funds on behalf of individual children under the guardianship of the Director General, Department for Child Protection and Family Support.

Table 71: Children and Young People in Chief Executive Officer's Care Private Cash Account

| Children and Young People in Chief Executive Officer's Care Private Cash Account | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Balance at start of period | 773 | 441 |
| Receipts | 533 | 463 |
| Payments | (148) | (131) |
| Balance at end of period | 1,158 | 773 |



Special Purpose Account section 16(1)(d) of the FMA.

Trust Statement No 28

Indian Ocean Territories Service Delivery Program

The purpose of the account is to hold funds received from the Commonwealth for funding for the Indian Ocean Territories Service Delivery Program.

Table 72: Indian Ocean Territories Service Delivery Program

| Indian Ocean Territories Service Delivery Program | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Balance at start of period | 159 | 239 |
| Receipts | 454 | 304 |
| Payments | (452) | (384) |
| Balance at end of period | 161 | 159 |

9.9 Remuneration of auditors

Remuneration paid or payable to the Auditor General in respect of the audit is as follows:

Table 73: Remuneration of auditors

| Remuneration of auditors | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Auditing the controls, financial statements and key performance indicators | 497 | 453 |



9.10 Equity

Table 74: Equity

| Equity | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Contributed equity | – | – |
| Balance at start of period | 181,339 | 171,005 |
| Contribution by owners | – | – |
| Capital appropriations | 13,416 | 7,619 |
| Transfer of land asset to Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage | (580) | – |
| Transfer in from other agencies | 954 | 2,715 |
| Total contribution by owners | 13,790 | 10,334 |
| Total contributed equity at end of period | 195,129 | 181,339 |
| Asset revaluation surplus | – | – |
| Balance at the start of period | – | – |
| Net revaluation increments/(decrements) | – | – |
| Buildings | 3,391 | – |
| Balance at end of period | 3,391 | – |
| Accumulated surplus/(deficit) | – | – |
| Balance at start of period | (31,009) | (45,824) |
| Result for the period | (13,302) | 14,815 |
| Accumulated surplus/(deficit) at end of period | (44,311) | (31,009) |
| Total equity at end of period | 154,209 | 150,330 |



9.11 Supplementary financial information

(a) Write-offs

Authorised by the Accountable Authority.

Table 75: Write-offs

| Write-offs | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Subsidy overpayments (foster carers) | 69 | 80 |
| Other | 90 | 1 |
| Total | 159 | 81 |

(b) Gifts of public property

Table 76: Gifts of public property

| Gifts of public property | 2022 \$000 | 2021 \$000 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Gifts of public property provided by the Department | 2 | 1 |
| Total | 2 | 1 |

(c) Act of Grace payments

During the reporting period there was no Act of Grace payment (2021: \$45,000) made under the authority of the Minister.



10. Explanatory statements

This section explains variations in the financial performance of the Department.

| | Notes |
|---|--------------|
| Explanatory statement for controlled operations | 10.1 |

10.1 Explanatory statement (Controlled operations)

This explanatory section explains variations in the financial performance of the Department undertaking transactions under its own control, as represented by the primary financial statements.

All variances between annual estimates (original budget) and actual results for 2022, and between the actual results for 2022 and 2021 are shown below. Narratives are provided for key major variances, which vary more than 10% from their comparative and that the variation is more than 1% of the total aggregate of:

- Total Cost of Services for the Statement of comprehensive income and Statement of cashflows (ie. 1% of \$949,754,000); and
- Total Assets for the Statement of financial position (ie. 1% of \$331,116,000).

**(a) Statement of comprehensive income variances****Table 77: Statement of comprehensive income variances**

| Statement of comprehensive income variances | Variance notes | Estimate 2022 \$000 | Actual 2022 \$000 | Actual 2021 \$000 | Variance between actual and estimate \$000 | Variance between actual results for 2022 and 2021 \$000 |
|---|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|---|
| Expenses | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Employee benefits expense | – | 323,672 | 331,362 | 329,557 | 7,690 | 1,805 |
| Supplies and services | 1, (a) | 82,337 | 94,011 | 69,873 | 11,674 | 24,138 |
| Depreciation and amortisation expense | – | 14,579 | 14,220 | 13,410 | (359) | 810 |
| Finance costs | – | 314 | 227 | 234 | (87) | (7) |
| Accommodation expenses | 2 | 28,265 | 45,893 | 42,958 | 17,628 | 2,935 |
| Grants and subsidies | 3, (b) | 213,881 | 260,375 | 177,949 | 46,494 | 82,426 |
| Funding for services | (c) | 337,258 | 332,106 | 299,618 | (5,152) | 32,488 |
| Loss on disposal of non-current assets | (d) | – | 1,844 | 35 | 1,844 | 1,809 |
| Other expenses | – | 21,827 | 15,770 | 16,120 | (6,057) | (350) |



| Statement of comprehensive income variances | Variance notes | Estimate 2022 \$000 | Actual 2022 \$000 | Actual 2021 \$000 | Variance between actual and estimate \$000 | Variance between actual results for 2022 and 2021 \$000 |
|---|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|---|
| Total cost of services | — | 1,022,133 | 1,095,808 | 949,754 | 73,675 | 146,054 |
| Revenue and income | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| User charges and fees | 4, (e) | 12,558 | 13,971 | 11,369 | 1,413 | 2,602 |
| Other revenue | 5, (f) | 3,430 | 14,003 | 4,645 | 10,573 | 9,358 |
| Commonwealth grants and contributions | — | 55,563 | 59,219 | 58,746 | 3,656 | 473 |
| Total income other than income from State Government | — | 71,551 | 87,193 | 74,760 | 15,642 | 12,433 |
| Net cost of services | — | 950,582 | 1,008,615 | 874,994 | 58,033 | 133,621 |
| Income from State Government | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Service appropriation | (g) | 888,300 | 949,679 | 850,938 | 61,379 | 98,741 |
| Resources received | 6, (h) | 2,635 | 15,130 | 5,783 | 12,495 | 9,347 |
| Royalties for Regions Fund | 7 | 7,006 | 8,913 | 8,280 | 1,907 | 633 |



| Statement of comprehensive income variances | Variance notes | Estimate 2022 \$000 | Actual 2022 \$000 | Actual 2021 \$000 | Variance between actual and estimate \$000 | Variance between actual results for 2022 and 2021 \$000 |
|---|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|---|
| Other funds received from State Government | 8 | 32,232 | 21,591 | 24,808 | (10,641) | (3,217) |
| Total income from State Government | — | 930,173 | 995,313 | 889,809 | 65,140 | 105,504 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) for the period | — | (20,409) | (13,302) | 14,815 | 7,107 | (28,117) |
| Other comprehensive income | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Changes in asset revaluation reserve | — | — | 3,391 | — | 3,391 | 3,391 |
| Total other comprehensive income | — | — | 3,391 | — | 3,391 | 3,391 |
| Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the period | | (20,409) | (9,911) | 14,815 | 10,498 | (24,726) |



Major Variance Narratives

Variations between estimate and actual results for 2022

1. **Supplies and services** expenses are \$11.7 million (14.2%) higher than the Published Budget mainly due to increase in resources received free of charge as a result of:
 - provision of free rapid antigen tests by Department of Finance.
 - provision of services by the State Solicitors Office.
2. **Accommodation** expenses are \$17.6 million (62.4%) higher than the Published Budget mainly due to the \$12 million shortfall in the government office accommodation (GOA) lease budget following the Housing Machinery of Government Reforms.

There was also a shortfall of \$5.8 million in insurance budget due to increase in insurance premiums as a result of an increase in the number and complexity of workers' compensation claims and higher property and projected motor vehicle claims.

These shortfalls have since had funding approved in 2021–22 after the published budget.

3. **Grants and subsidies** expenses are \$46.5 million (21.7%) higher than the Published Budget mainly due to:
 - payment of grants relating to COVID-19 Small Business Financial Counselling Services, COVID-19 Test Isolation Payments and COVID-19 Preparedness in the Care Sector. Budget was approved in 2021–22 after the published budget.
 - payment of small grants (election commitment) budgeted for in 2020–21.
 - new grant agreement with WA Council on Addictions.
 - increase in case support costs.
4. **User charges and fees** are \$1.4 million (11.3%) higher than the Published Budget mainly due to increase in revenue for childcare licensing, working with children screening fees and NDIS workers screening fees and increase in revenue from fines and penalties relating to childcare licensing.



5. **Other revenue** is \$10.6 million (308.3%) higher than the Published Budget mainly due to:
 - recoup of King Square lease from Housing Authority for 2020–21.
 - increase in returned unspent funds relating to previous years.
 - gains on annual Landgate revaluation of land and buildings.
 - funding received from Department of Finance for the Perth CBD Office.

6. **Resources received** free of charge are \$12.5 million (474.2%) higher than the Published Budget mainly due to recognising the increase in provision of free rapid antigen tests by Department of Finance and provision of services by the State Solicitors Office.

7. **Royalties for Regions Fund** are \$1.9 million (27.2%) higher than the Published Budget mainly due to increase in:
 - the monies received for Derby Aboriginal Visitors Accommodation Centre and Broome Aboriginal Visitors Accommodation Centre were receipted in the incorrect entity. A recoup will be done in the new financial year.
 - reinstating the carryover of funding for the Family Domestic Violence – Women's Refuges (Peel).

8. **Other funds received from State Government** are \$10.6 million (33.0%) less than the Published Budget mainly due to not receiving the full Essential and Municipal Services Upgrade Program (EMSUP) funding.



Variations between actual results for 2022 and 2021

- (a) **Supplies and services** are \$24.1 million (34.6%) higher than 2020–21 primarily due to increase in:
- resources received free of charge as a result of provision of free rapid antigen tests by Department of Finance.
 - contract services costs, software licences costs and data rental costs.
- (b) **Grants and subsidies** are \$82.4 million (46.3%) higher than 2020–21 primarily due to increase in children in care subsidies; settlement payments related to Historical Institutional Abuse of Children; isolation payments and increase in grants relating to the COVID-19 responses, family domestic and sexual violence, homelessness and other grants.
- (c) **Funding for services** are \$32.5 million (10.8%) higher than 2020–21 primarily due to increase in expenditure for Specialised Fostering Placements, disability placements, child placements services and family and domestic violence and homelessness initiatives.
- (d) **Loss on disposal of non-current assets** is \$1.8 million (5,168.6%) higher than 2020–21 predominantly due to the sale of the Child Care Centre in Padbury.
- (e) **User charges and fees** is \$2.6 million (22.9%) higher than 2020–21 primarily due to increase in revenue for childcare licensing, working with children screening fees and NDIS workers screening fees and fines and penalties relating to childcare licensing.
- (f) **Other revenue** is \$9.4 million (201.5%) higher than 2020–21 primarily due to:
- recoup of King Square lease from Housing Authority for 2020–21.
 - increase in returned unspent funds relating to previous years.
 - gains on annual Landgate revaluation of land and buildings.
 - funding received from Department of Finance for the Perth CBD Office.
- (g) **Service appropriation** is \$98.7 million (11.6%) higher than 2020–21 primarily due to receipt of additional appropriation to fund services including front line child protection, maintaining service provision through the COVID-19 response, Historical Institutional Abuse of Children settlement payments and family domestic violence and homelessness initiatives.



- (h) **Resources received** free of charge is \$9.3million (161.6%) higher than 2020–21 primarily due to recognising the increase in provision of free rapid antigen tests by Department of Finance.

**(b) Statement of financial position variances****Table 78: Statement of financial position variances**

| Statement of financial position variances | Variance notes | Estimate 2022 \$000 | Actual 2022 \$000 | Actual 2021 \$000 | Variance between estimate and actual \$000 | Variance between actual results for 2022 and 2021 \$000 |
|---|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|---|
| Current Assets | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Cash and cash equivalents | – | 18,476 | 24,932 | 10,624 | 6,456 | 14,308 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents | – | 8,486 | 21,009 | 19,487 | 12,523 | 1,522 |
| Receivables | – | 6,131 | 13,279 | 10,504 | 7,148 | 2,775 |
| Amounts receivable for services | – | 68 | 68 | 68 | – | – |
| Other current assets | (a) | 3,063 | 2,580 | 18,057 | (483) | (15,477) |



| Statement of financial position variances | Variance notes | Estimate 2022 \$000 | Actual 2022 \$000 | Actual 2021 \$000 | Variance between estimate and actual \$000 | Variance between actual results for 2022 and 2021 \$000 |
|---|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|---|
| Total current assets | — | 36,224 | 61,868 | 58,740 | 25,644 | 3,128 |
| Non-Current Assets | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents | — | 6,042 | 9,412 | 7,388 | 3,370 | 2,024 |
| Amounts receivable for services | (b) | 159,586 | 159,650 | 144,672 | 64 | 14,978 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 1 | 102,596 | 113,448 | 109,192 | 10,852 | 4,256 |
| Leasehold improvements | — | 3,917 | 5,606 | 6,375 | 1,689 | (769) |
| Work in progress | — | 43 | 6 | 6 | (37) | — |
| Right-of-use assets | — | 10,094 | 7,641 | 7,614 | (2,453) | 27 |
| Intangible assets | — | 12,614 | 10,683 | 12,823 | (1,931) | (2,140) |



| Statement of financial position variances | Variance notes | Estimate 2022 \$000 | Actual 2022 \$000 | Actual 2021 \$000 | Variance between estimate and actual \$000 | Variance between actual results for 2022 and 2021 \$000 |
|---|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|---|
| Total non-current assets | — | 294,892 | 306,446 | 288,070 | 11,554 | 18,376 |
| Total assets | — | 331,116 | 368,314 | 346,810 | 37,198 | 21,504 |
| Current liabilities | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Payables | — | 38,231 | 62,451 | 41,589 | 24,220 | 20,862 |
| Lease liabilities | — | 5,734 | 4,764 | 4,227 | (970) | 537 |
| Income received in advance | — | 665 | 349 | 291 | (316) | 58 |
| Employee-related provisions | — | 118,448 | 116,123 | 117,719 | (2,325) | (1,596) |
| Total current liabilities | — | 163,078 | 183,687 | 163,826 | 20,609 | 19,861 |
| Non-current liabilities | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Payables | — | 2,414 | 1,944 | 2,224 | (470) | (280) |
| Lease liabilities | — | 5,035 | 3,255 | 3,747 | (1,780) | (492) |



| Statement of financial position variances | Variance notes | Estimate 2022 \$000 | Actual 2022 \$000 | Actual 2021 \$000 | Variance between estimate and actual \$000 | Variance between actual results for 2022 and 2021 \$000 |
|---|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|---|
| Employee related provisions | — | 27,990 | 25,219 | 26,683 | (2,771) | (1,464) |
| Total non-current liabilities | — | 35,439 | 30,418 | 32,654 | (5,021) | (2,236) |
| Total liabilities | — | 198,517 | 214,105 | 196,480 | 15,588 | 17,625 |
| Net assets | — | 132,599 | 154,209 | 150,330 | 21,610 | 3,879 |
| Equity | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Contributed equity | — | 186,838 | 195,129 | 181,339 | 8,291 | 13,790 |
| Accumulated deficit | — | (54,010) | (44,311) | (31,009) | 9,699 | (13,302) |
| Reserves | — | (229) | 3,391 | — | 3,620 | 3,391 |
| Total equity | — | 132,599 | 154,209 | 150,330 | 21,610 | 3,879 |

Major variance narratives

Variations between estimate and actual results for 2022

- Property, plant and equipment** are \$10.9 million (10.6%) higher than the Published Budget mainly due to increase in capitalisation of software costs and annual Landgate revaluation of land.



Variations between actual results for 2022 and 2021

- (a) **Other current assets** are \$15.5 million (85.71%) less than 2020–21 Actuals mainly due to a change in accounting treatment. Grants and Subsidies are expenses and not prepaid.
- (b) **Amounts receivable for services** are \$15.0 million (10.4%) higher than the 2020–21 Actuals mainly due to the Department's policy of not drawing down the holding account but receiving capital appropriation for its capital works program.



(c) Statement of cash flows variances

Table 79: Statement of cash flows variances

| Statement of cash flows variances | Variance notes | Estimate 2022 \$000 | Actual 2022 \$000 | Actual 2021 \$000 | Variance between estimate and actual \$000 | Variance between actual results for 2022 and 2021 \$000 |
|--|----------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|--|
| Cash flows from State Government – receipts | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Service appropriation | (a) | 873,318 | 934,140 | 836,014 | 60,822 | 98,126 |
| Capital appropriations | – | 8,265 | 13,416 | 7,619 | 5,151 | 5,797 |
| Holding account drawdown | – | 68 | 68 | 951 | – | (883) |
| Royalties for Regions Fund | – | 7,006 | 8,913 | 8,280 | 1,907 | 633 |
| National Redress Records | – | 4,314 | 7,984 | 3,419 | 3,670 | 4,565 |
| Other funds received from State Government | 1 | 32,232 | 15,054 | 6,630 | (17,178) | 8,424 |
| Net cash provided by State Government | – | 925,203 | 979,575 | 862,913 | 54,372 | 116,662 |
| Utilised as follows: | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Cash Flow from operating activities | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Payments | – | – | – | – | – | – |



| Statement of cash flows variances | Variance notes | Estimate 2022 \$000 | Actual 2022 \$000 | Actual 2021 \$000 | Variance between estimate and actual \$000 | Variance between actual results for 2022 and 2021 \$000 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|
| Employee benefits | – | (322,176) | (312,382) | (316,206) | 9,794 | 3,824 |
| Supplies and services | (b) | (82,191) | (79,523) | (65,223) | 2,668 | (14,300) |
| Finance costs | – | (314) | (227) | (234) | 87 | 7 |
| Accommodation | 2 | (27,804) | (45,893) | (42,958) | (18,089) | (2,935) |
| Grants and subsidies | 3, (c) | (213,881) | (260,375) | (176,712) | (46,494) | (83,663) |
| Funding for services | – | (335,662) | (318,761) | (312,700) | 16,901 | (6,061) |
| GST payments on purchases | 4, (d) | (43,235) | 58,198 | (47,453) | (14,963) | (10,475) |
| Other payments | – | (20,964) | (17,229) | (18,696) | 3,735 | 1,467 |
| Receipts | – | – | – | – | – | – |



| Statement of cash flows variances | Variance notes | Estimate 2022 \$000 | Actual 2022 \$000 | Actual 2021 \$000 | Variance between estimate and actual \$000 | Variance between actual results for 2022 and 2021 \$000 |
|--|----------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|--|
| User charges and fees | — | 12,133 | 13,971 | 11,369 | 1,838 | 2,602 |
| Commonwealth grants and contributions | — | 51,249 | 59,219 | 58,746 | 7,970 | 473 |
| GST receipts on sales | — | 82 | 1,106 | 2,245 | 1,024 | (1,139) |
| GST receipts from taxation authority | 5 | 43,153 | 57,092 | 47,642 | 13,939 | 9,450 |
| Other receipts | — | 3,855 | 9,148 | 2,806 | 5,293 | 6,342 |
| Net cash used in operating activities | — | (935,755) | (952,052) | (857,374) | (16,297) | (94,678) |
| Cash flows from investing activities – receipts | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Proceeds from sale of non-current assets | — | — | 1,065 | 908 | 1,065 | 157 |
| Cash flows from investing activities – payments | — | — | — | — | — | — |



| Statement of cash flows variances | Variance notes | Estimate 2022 \$000 | Actual 2022 \$000 | Actual 2021 \$000 | Variance between estimate and actual \$000 | Variance between actual results for 2022 and 2021 \$000 |
|--|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|
| Purchase of non-current assets | — | (2,198) | (2,669) | (1,923) | (471) | (746) |
| Net cash used in investing activities | — | (2,198) | (1,604) | (1,015) | 594 | (589) |
| Cash flows from financing activities – payments | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Principal elements of lease | — | (5,634) | (8,065) | (6,897) | (2,431) | (1,168) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | — | (5,634) | (8,065) | (6,897) | (2,431) | (1,168) |
| Net increase/ (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | — | (18,384) | 17,854 | (2,373) | 36,238 | 20,227 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period | — | 51,902 | 37,499 | 39,872 | (14,403) | (2,373) |
| Net cash transferred to other agencies | — | (514) | — | — | 514 | — |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period | — | 33,004 | 55,353 | 37,499 | 22,349 | 17,854 |



Major Variance Narratives

Variances between estimate and actual results for 2022

1. **Other funds received from State Government** are \$17.2 million (53.3%) less than the Published Budget primarily due to not receiving the full Essential and Municipal Services Upgrade Program (EMSUP) funding.
2. **Accommodation** payments are \$18.1 million (65.1%) higher than the Published Budget primarily due to a funding shortfall in the government office accommodation (GOA) lease budget following the Housing Machinery of Government Reforms.

There was also a shortfall of \$5.8 million in insurance budget due to increase in insurance premiums as a result of an increase in the number and complexity of workers' compensation claims and higher property and projected motor vehicle claims.

These shortfalls have since had funding approved in 2021–22 after the published budget.

3. **Grants and subsidies** payments are \$46.5 million (21.7%) higher than the Published Budget primarily due to:
 - payment of grants relating to COVID-19 Small Business Financial Counselling Services, COVID-19 Test Isolation Payments and COVID-19 Preparedness in the Care Sector. Budget was approved in 2021–22 after the published budget.
 - payment of small grants (election commitment) budgeted for in 2020–21.
 - new grant agreement with WA Council on Addictions.
 - increase in case support costs.
4. **GST payments on purchases** are \$15.0 million (34.6%) more than the Published Budget primarily due to increase in Grants and Subsidies in 2021-22.
5. **GST receipts from taxation authority** are \$13.9 million (32.3%) more than the Published Budget primarily due to increase in Grants and Subsidies.

Variances between actual results for 2022 and 2021

- (a) **Service appropriation** received is \$98.1 million (11.7%) higher than 2020–21 primarily due to receipt of additional appropriation to fund services including front line child protection, maintaining service provision through the COVID-19 response, Historical Institutional Abuse of Children settlement payments and family domestic violence and homelessness initiatives.
- (b) **Supplies and services** payments are \$14.3 million (21.9%) higher than 2020–21 primarily due to increase in contract services costs, software licences costs and data rental costs.
- (c) **Grants and subsidies** payments are \$83.7 million (47.3%) higher than 2020–21 primarily due to increase in children in care subsidies; settlement payments related to



Historical Institutional Abuse of Children; isolation payments and increase in grants relating to the COVID-19 responses, family domestic and sexual violence, homelessness and other grants.

- (d) **GST payments on purchases** are \$10.7 million (22.6%) higher than 2020–21 primarily due to an increase in Grants and Subsidies payments in 2021–22.



Key Performance Indicators

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Key performance indicators

Certification of key performance indicators

For the reporting period ended 30 June 2022

I hereby certify that the key performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Department of Communities' performance, and fairly represent the performance of the Department of Communities for the financial year ended 30 June 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike Rowe'.

Mike Rowe
Director General
Accountable Authority
15 November 2022



Outcome based management reporting framework

State Government goal

Communities contributes to the State Government goal of “Safe, Strong and Fair Communities: Developing healthy and resilient communities.”

Outcome: Access to quality services that enables active participation in the Western Australian community by individuals and families

Key effectiveness indicators

Percentage of assessed early childhood education and care services that met or exceeded national standards

This indicator reports the proportion of early childhood education and care services assessed in 2021–22 that met or exceeded national standards.

Table 80: Percentage of assessed early childhood education and care services that met or exceeded national standards

| 2021–22 Target | 2021–22 Actual | 2020–21 Actual | 2019–20 Actual |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 75% | 80% | 75% | 78% |

The take-up rate of Seniors Card

This indicator reports on the take up rate of the Seniors Card based on the estimated residential population of eligible seniors in the financial year.

Table 81: The take-up rate of Seniors Card

| 2021–22 Target | 2021–22 Actual | 2020–21 Actual | 2019–20 Actual |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 95% | 94% | 95% | 93% |



Proportion of Working with Children cards issued within 30 days of lodgement where the applicant had no criminal record

This indicator reports on the proportion of Working with Children cards issued within 30 days of lodgement where the applicant did not have a criminal record. The measure uses a proportion of all notices issued within the reporting period.

Table 82: Proportion of Working with Children cards issued within 30 days of lodgement where the applicant had no criminal record

| 2021–22 Target | 2021–22 Actual | 2020–21 Actual | 2019–20 Actual |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 98% | 98% | 98% | 98% |

Proportion of decisions finalised within 60 days where the applicant for a Working with Children card had a criminal record

This indicator reports on the proportion of decisions finalised within 60 days for Working with Children card applications where the applicant has a criminal record. The measure uses a proportion of all notices issued within the reporting period.

Table 83: Proportion of decisions finalised within 60 days where the applicant for a Working with Children card had a criminal record

| 2021–22 Target | 2021–22 Actual | 2020–21 Actual | 2019–20 Actual |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 96% | 97% | 98% | 96% |



Service 1: Community services

Key efficiency indicators

Average cost per licensed child care service for regulation and support

This indicator reports on the average cost of regulation and quality assurance of early education and care services against required service standards. This includes development of planning, capacity building and support for early education and care services.

Table 84: Average cost per licensed child care service for regulation and support

| Year | Average cost Target | Average cost Actual | Total cost Target | Total cost Actual | Number of licensed services Target | Number of licensed services Actual |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2021–22 | \$6,938 | \$7,511 | \$9,573,897 | \$9,892,527 | 1,380 | 1,317 |
| 2020–21 | \$8,628 | \$6,703 | \$10,914,000 | \$8,579,200 | 1,265 | 1,280 |
| 2019–20 | \$9,540 | \$7,382 | \$11,887,000 | \$9,139,023 | 1,246 | 1,238 |



Average management cost per Seniors Card

This indicator reports on the cost to deliver the benefits and concessions, including the Seniors Card, administered by Communities. The Seniors Card offers a range of benefits to seniors, including the Cost of Living Rebate payment and the Seniors Card Centre.

The 2021–22 average cost was higher than the target and the previous year. The overspend was primarily related to unbudgeted resourcing requirements of the Seniors Card Centre to deliver election commitments.

Table 85: Average management cost per Seniors Card

| Year | Average cost Target | Average cost Actual | Total cost Target | Total cost Actual | Number of Seniors Cards Target | Number of Seniors Cards Actual |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2021–22 | \$6.56 | \$8.76 | \$2,772,113 | \$3,538,132 | 422,679 | 403,976 |
| 2020–21 | \$7.16 | \$6.33 | \$2,897,000 | \$2,556,120 | 404,529 | 404,094 |
| 2019–20 | \$6.95 | \$6.63 | \$2,739,000 | \$2,642,119 | 394,017 | 398,296 |



Average cost per Working with Children Card application processed

The Working with Children Check aims to screen and prevent people who are a risk to children from gaining employment in work involving children. The indicator reflects the average cost per Working with Children check application processed.

The 2021–22 average cost was higher than the target and the previous year. The overspend was primarily due to the increased costs expensed by Australia Post for processing Working with Children Card applications.

Table 86: Average cost per Working with Children Card application processed

| Year | Average cost Target | Average cost Actual | Total cost Target | Total cost Actual | Number of applications Target | Number of applications Actual |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2021–22 | \$32 | \$38 | \$4,584,740 | \$5,540,958 | 145,000 | 146,193 |
| 2020–21 | \$35 | \$30 | \$4,935,000 | \$4,381,896 | 142,000 | 145,878 |
| 2019–20 | \$35 | \$36 | \$4,847,000 | \$4,711,469 | 139,000 | 132,053 |



Outcome: Families and individuals experiencing family and domestic violence (FDV), homelessness or other crises are assisted to build their capabilities and be safe

Key effectiveness indicators

Percentage of homelessness clients with some or all goals achieved at the completion of a homelessness service support period

This indicator reports on the proportion of clients who have received a homelessness service (excluding FDV services) and have achieved some or all case management plan goals at the end of their support. The result for this indicator is based on data from the previous financial year. This is due to the timeframe of data supplied by specialist homelessness services to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Table 87: Percentage of homelessness clients with some or all goals achieved at the completion of a homelessness service support period

| 2021–22 Target | 2021–22 Actual | 2020–21 Actual | 2019–20 Actual |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 85% | 89% | 88% | 85% |

Percentage of clients who received an earlier intervention and family support service whose child(ren) did not enter care within 12 months of service completion

Earlier intervention and family support services comprise a range of in-house, intensive intervention and support services for vulnerable families with children at risk of entering care. Since the implementation of the Early Intervention and Family Support Strategy in 2018, a number of community service organisations have been engaged to provide these services. These services are in addition to the ongoing Intensive Family Support Service, which is delivered within Communities' internal child protection services.

This indicator shows the extent to which the internally delivered Intensive Family Support Service was successful in preventing a child from entering the care of the CEO. The indicator reports on the proportion of children who received an Intensive Family Support Service and did not enter the care of the CEO within 12 months of the completion of that service.



Table 88: Percentage of clients who received an earlier intervention and family support service whose child(ren) did not enter care within 12 months of service completion

| 2021–22 Target | 2021–22 Actual | 2020–21 Actual | 2019–20 Actual |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 90% | 86% | 86% | 82% |

Percentage of departmental clients who were assessed and received a response as a result of a family and domestic violence (FDV) incident and did not require another FDV-related response within 12 months

This indicator shows the extent to which FDV-related child protection interventions were successful in preventing further interventions occurring. The indicator reports the proportion of clients who received a child protection service response to an FDV-related incident and did not require another similar response within 12 months.

Table 89: Percentage of departmental clients who were assessed and received a response as a result of an FDV incident and did not require another FDV-related response within 12 months

| 2021–22 Target | 2021–22 Actual | 2020–21 Actual | 2019–20 Actual |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 80% | 75% | 75% | 77% |



Service 2: Homelessness support services

Key efficiency indicator

Average cost per homelessness support service client

This indicator reports the average cost per homelessness client, excluding family and domestic violence (FDV) services, who was supported by a community sector organisation funded by Communities. The result for this indicator is based on data from the previous financial year. This is due to the timeframe of data supplied by specialist homelessness services to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Table 90: Average cost per homelessness support service client

| Year | Average cost Target | Average cost Actual | Total cost Target | Total cost Actual | Number of clients Target | Number of clients Actual |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2021–22 | \$4,147 | \$4,296 | \$74,639,540 | \$75,198,692 | 18,000 | 17,505 |
| 2020–21 | \$3,883 | \$3,320 | \$67,169,000 | \$59,760,992 | 17,300 | 17,998 |
| 2019–20 | \$3,313 | \$3,271 | \$53,015,000 | \$56,461,344 | 16,000 | 17,261 |



Service 3: Earlier intervention and family support services

Key efficiency indicator

Average cost per earlier intervention and family support case

This indicator reports the average cost per earlier intervention and family support case which was either supported by Communities or a funded community sector organisation. This result for this indicator is based on the Department's data from the 2020–21 financial year; however, data from community sector organisations is based on the 2020 calendar year.

Table 91: Average cost per earlier intervention and family support case

| Year | Average cost Target | Average cost Actual | Total cost Target | Total cost Actual | Number of cases Target | Number of cases Actual |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 2021–22 | \$7,442 | \$7,706 | \$93,024,903 | \$94,658,089 | 12,500 | 12,283 |
| 2020–21 | \$7,356 | \$6,966 | \$97,103,000 | \$89,142,769 | 13,200 | 12,796 |
| 2019–20 | \$6,572 | \$7,051 | \$85,819,000 | \$89,744,066 | 13,059 | 12,727 |



Service 4: Preventing and responding to family and domestic violence (FDV)

Key efficiency indicator

Average cost per FDV case

This indicator reports the average cost per FDV case which was supported by a community sector organisation funded by Communities. This result for this indicator is based on the:

- 2021 calendar year cases for State Government-funded FDV services
- previous financial year cases for FDV specialist homelessness services. This is due to the timeframe of data supplied by specialist homelessness services to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

In 2021–22 the number of cases of FDV substantially increased as did investment in FDV services.

The 2021–22 average cost was higher than the target and the previous year. This can be attributed to two main factors:

1. Re-cashflows and carryovers of unspent funds from prior years relating to the following programmes:
 - Mobile Outreach Workers for Women’s Refuges, FDV Response Teams and Job Retraining for Women in Refuges Initiative
 - Kimberley Family Violence Initiative
 - Family Domestic Violence Refuge – Peel
 - National Partnership Agreement COVID-19 on Domestic and Family Violence Responses.
2. Many new programs including Peel Refuge, grant agreements for pilot initiatives and the mobile outreach program are not capturing case information the same way as other contracts, due to different reporting arrangements.



Table 92: Average cost per FDV case

| Year | Average cost Target | Average cost Actual | Total cost Target | Total cost Actual | Number of cases Target | Number of cases Actual |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2021–22 | \$3,507 | \$5,075 | \$54,674,838 | \$89,554,507 | 15,590 | 17,645 |
| 2020–21 | \$4,980 | \$4,614 | \$76,190,000 | \$69,795,096 | 15,300 | 15,127 |
| 2019–20 | \$3,116 | \$3,387 | \$49,227,000 | \$53,177,720 | 15,800 | 15,702 |



Outcome: Children and young people needing protection are safe from abuse and harm

Effectiveness indicators

Improved safety – Proportion of children not subject to a subsequent substantiation of harm within 12 months of a previous substantiation of harm

This indicator shows the effectiveness of departmental responses to substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect in preventing further harm occurring. The indicator shows the proportion of children who were the subject of a substantiation of harm in the previous year and who were not the subject of a subsequent substantiation of harm within the following 12 months.

Table 93: Improved safety – Proportion of children not subject to a subsequent substantiation of harm within 12 months of a previous substantiation of harm

| 2021–22 Target | 2021–22 Actual | 2020–21 Actual | 2019–20 Actual |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 95% | 92% | 91% | 91% |

Improved safety – Proportion of children not subject to a substantiation of harm 12 months after an assessment of harm that was unsubstantiated

This indicator measures the effectiveness of child safety investigations in identifying risks to children and the extent to which intervention services protect children from harm in the future. The indicator shows the proportion of children who were the subject of an assessment of harm that was unsubstantiated in the previous year and who were not the subject of a substantiation of harm within the subsequent 12 months.

Table 94: Improved safety – Proportion of children not subject to a substantiation of harm 12 months after an assessment of harm that was unsubstantiated

| 2021–22 Target | 2021–22 Actual | 2020–21 Actual | 2019–20 Actual |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 95% | 95% | 95% | 95% |



Service 5: Child protection assessments and investigations

Key efficiency indicator

Average cost per child involved in child protection cases

This indicator reports the average cost per child involved in child protection assessments and investigations, and/or a protection application that commenced during the year or that commenced in a prior year and remained ongoing during 2021–22.

Table 95: Average cost per child involved in child protection cases

| Year | Average cost Target | Average cost Actual | Total cost Target | Total cost Actual | Number of children Target | Number of children Actual |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2021–22 | \$6,063 | \$6,018 | \$109,138,620 | \$99,056,243 | 18,000 | 16,461 |
| 2020–21 | \$4,640 | \$4,985 | \$92,793,000 | \$88,126,236 | 20,000 | 17,679 |
| 2019–20 | \$4,320 | \$4,846 | \$86,395,000 | \$93,051,594 | 20,000 | 19,202 |



Outcome: Children and young people in the Chief Executive Officer's (CEO's) care receive a high quality of care and have much improved life outcomes

Key effectiveness indicators

Proportion of Aboriginal children in the CEO's care placed in accordance with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle

This indicator shows the proportion of Aboriginal children in placements that met the first three of the four placement options under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle contained in the *Children and Community Services Act 2004*. These include placements with the child's extended family, members of their community or other Aboriginal people or services, as a proportion of all Aboriginal children in the CEO's care. It is important for Aboriginal children who come into care to maintain a connection with family and culture.

The 2021–22 result is slightly lower than last year and remains below target. The result was consistent with the performance of other child protection jurisdictions nationally (63.8%), as reported in the *Report on Government Services 2022*.

The achievement of this target is one of Communities' most difficult challenges. A child's best interests must be the paramount consideration under the *Children and Community Services Act 2004*, and this includes the application of the principle when care arrangement decisions are made.

With approximately 3,000 Aboriginal children in care and a limited number of available care arrangements with Aboriginal carers or relatives, the 2021–22 result reflects these challenges and the complex factors that must be considered when making care arrangement decisions. Communities is working to increase the number of culturally appropriate care arrangement options for Aboriginal children in care through the Out of Home Care recommissioning process in 2022–23 alongside the implementation of the Foster Care Refresh Project.

The State Government is also seeking to reinforce the placement principle through proposed amendments to the *Children and Community Services Act 2004* to require consultations with Aboriginal Representative Organisations prior to arranging a placement for Aboriginal children.



Table 96: Proportion of Aboriginal children in the CEO’s care placed in accordance with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle

| 2021–22 Target | 2021–22 Actual | 2020–21 Actual | 2019–20 Actual |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 80% | 65% | 66% | 66% |

Proportion of children in the CEO’s care with comprehensive care planning undertaken within set timeframes

This indicator represents the proportion of children in care with care planning completed within set timeframes. Care plans identify a child’s educational, health and cultural needs and the steps required to address those needs.

The 2021–22 result was lower than both the target and the previous year result. The primary impacts influencing the result were the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic that had a greater reach in Western Australia, staff recruitment and vacancies, complexity of children in care and challenges with convening care planning and engaging with all significant parties.

Table 97: Proportion of children in the CEO’s care with comprehensive care planning undertaken within set timeframes

| 2021–22 Target | 2021–22 Actual | 2020–21 Actual | 2019–20 Actual |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 90% | 73% | 76% | 84% |



Service 6: Care arrangements and support services for children in the CEO's care

Key efficiency indicators

Average cost per day of a foster care arrangement

The majority of children in care live with family or community foster carers. Foster carers receive a subsidy towards the ordinary day-to-day costs of caring for a child. The level of subsidy depends on the child's age and the complexity of their needs.

The 2021–22 average cost was higher than the target and the previous year. The result was primarily due to additional expenditure associated with children's subsidies and payments to providers for specialised fostering placements.

Table 98: Average cost per day of a foster care arrangement

| Year | Average cost Target | Average cost Actual | Total cost Target | Total cost Actual | Number of care arrangement days Target | Number of care arrangement days Actual |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| 2021–22 | \$140 | \$172 | \$237,703,161 | \$271,632,567 | 1,700,000 | 1,581,340 |
| 2020–21 | \$127 | \$148 | \$221,735,000 | \$245,596,793 | 1,750,000 | 1,662,621 |
| 2019–20 | \$127 | \$138 | \$209,075,000 | \$235,846,856 | 1,650,000 | 1,705,544 |



Average cost per day of a residential-based care arrangement

Residential care services provide temporary therapeutic residential care, which focuses on creating and sustaining care environments capable of healing the traumatic impact of abuse and neglect and the disrupted attachment that ensues.

The 2021–22 average cost was lower than the target and the previous year. The result is primarily due to an underspend, with less than budgeted employment benefits associated with recruitment delays within the various residential care facilities. Due to the inability to recruit staff, the COVID-19 vaccination mandate and COVID-19 sickness, two residential-based care houses were closed for most of the financial year. Quarterly recruitment rounds occurred throughout the financial year, with a strong focus on recruitment to residential care homes to continue through 2022–23.

Table 99: Average cost per day of a residential-based care arrangement

| Year | Average cost Target | Average cost Actual | Total cost Target | Total cost Actual | Number of care arrangement days Target | Number of care arrangement days Actual |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| 2021–22 | \$2,088 | \$1,922 | \$70,985,579 | \$62,510,550 | 34,000 | 32,525 |
| 2020–21 | \$1,775 | \$2,036 | \$62,127,000 | \$66,006,533 | 35,000 | 32,416 |
| 2019–20 | \$1,715 | \$1,807 | \$59,154,000 | \$62,589,238 | 34,500 | 34,631 |



Average cost per day of an exceptionally complex needs care arrangement

The Transitional High Needs Program caters for children and young people with extremely complex behaviours and high needs who often pose a risk to themselves and the broader community. These care arrangements provide individualised and specialised care.

The 2021–22 average cost was higher than the target. The result was primarily due to over expenditure associated with the Transitional High Needs Program. There was an increase in the number of care arrangement days due to the Children and Carer Connection Hub absorbing district funded placements that were previously under Special Purpose Funding. This brought on more providers and added additional days to the programmes. In addition, other providers that were successful in the last tender process have now started providing services, thus also adding more days. COVID-19 has led to an increasing demand for care options for children with high and complex needs who are coming into care, with Communities therefore needing to increase capacity in the programmes to cater for this.

Table 100: Average cost per day of an exceptionally complex needs care arrangement

| Year | Average cost Target | Average cost Actual | Total cost Target | Total cost Actual | Number of care arrangement days Target | Number of care arrangement days Actual |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| 2021–22 | \$1,618 | \$1,946 | \$16,993,618 | \$22,059,038 | 10,500 | 11,338 |
| 2020–21 | \$1,499 | \$1,951 | \$14,244,000 | \$20,868,299 | 9,500 | 10,697 |
| 2019–20 | \$1,496 | \$1,947 | \$14,212,000 | \$18,164,063 | 9,500 | 9,327 |



Average cost per day of a secure care arrangement

Secure care provides planned, short-term intensive therapeutic care for young people aged 12–17 years who are considered to be at immediate and substantial risk of causing significant harm to themselves and/or others, and there are no other options for managing that risk and meeting their needs.

The 2021–22 average cost was significantly higher than the target and the previous year. The result was mainly due to a lower number of admissions compared to target. Since the emergence of COVID-19, there has been a general decrease in the number of admissions to Secure Care. It is likely that the way districts have had to prioritise workloads and adapt to the additional pressures of COVID-19 has led to a decrease in the total number of referrals being made to the Centre. The Centre has also been operating at a reduced capacity, from six to three children, due to building works that began early December 2021 and completed in February 2022. In addition, an inability to recruit staff, the COVID-19 vaccine mandate and staff absences due to COVID-19, resulted in staff shortages that impacted on the total number of children able to be safely managed. The Centre has continued to recruit on a regular basis, and this will remain a priority throughout 2022–23.

Table 101: Average cost per day of a secure care arrangement

| Year | Average cost Target | Average cost Actual | Total cost Target | Total cost Actual | Number of care arrangement days Target | Number of care arrangement days Actual |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| 2021–22 | \$6,212 | \$10,119 | \$6,833,366 | \$6,668,463 | 1,100 | 659 |
| 2020–21 | \$5,213 | \$5,837 | \$6,777,000 | \$6,163,945 | 1,300 | 1,056 |
| 2019–20 | \$5,006 | \$5,682 | \$6,508,000 | \$6,119,960 | 1,300 | 1,077 |



Average cost per day to plan for and support a child in the CEO's care

Expenditure includes case support costs, contract costs for community service organisations funded to provide reunification and leaving care services. These costs are coupled with the caseworker time allocated to address a child's health, education and other needs as detailed in their care plan.

The 2021–22 average cost was higher than the target and the previous year. The result was mainly due to a higher than anticipated Special Purpose Case Support expenditure resulting from districts having to place children in more expensive alternative care arrangements due to a lack of capacity within existing service providers.

Table 102: Average cost per day to plan for and support a child in the CEO's care

| Year | Average cost Target | Average cost Actual | Total cost Target | Total cost Actual | Number of care arrangement days Target | Number of care arrangement days Actual |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| 2021–22 | \$68 | \$79 | \$135,788,143 | \$149,863,666 | 2,000,000 | 1,888,940 |
| 2020–21 | \$57 | \$70 | \$115,871,000 | \$137,043,223 | 2,050,000 | 1,963,144 |
| 2019–20 | \$55 | \$67 | \$105,386,000 | \$133,681,911 | 1,900,000 | 1,986,754 |



Other Requirements



Other requirements

Ministerial directives

There were no ministerial directives in 2021–22.

Act of Grace payments

During the reporting period there was no Act of Grace payment made under the authority of the Minister.

Unauthorised use of credit cards

Officers of the Agency hold corporate credit cards where their functions warrant usage of this facility. Cardholders are reminded of their obligations annually under the Agency's credit card policy. In 2021–22, a number of employees inadvertently used their corporate credit cards for a personal purpose. The matters were not referred for disciplinary action as the Agency noted the purchases were made in error, and received prompt advice and settlement from the employees.

Table 103: Personal expenditure using Government issued credit cards in 2021–22

| Details of personal expenditure | 2021–22 |
|--|------------|
| Number of instances the Western Australian Government Purchasing Card has been used for a personal purpose | 100 |
| Aggregate amount of personal use expenditure for the reporting period | \$4,930.28 |
| Aggregate amount of personal use expenditure settled by the due date | \$3,047.71 |
| Aggregate amount of personal use expenditure settled after the period required by the due date | \$942.63 |
| Aggregate amount of personal use expenditure outstanding at the end of the reporting period | \$939.94 |
| Number of referrals for disciplinary action instigated by the notifiable authority during the reporting period | – |



Advertising, market research, polling and direct mail

In accordance with section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*, the Department incurred expenditure in advertising and media advertising. Total expenditure for 2021–22 was \$243,249.95.

Table 104: Advertising expenditure for 2021–22

| Expenditure | Organisation | Amount |
|-------------------|--|---------------------|
| Advertising | Initiative Media Australia Pty Ltd | \$41,640.48 |
| | Carat Australia Media Services Pty Ltd | \$155,334.17 |
| Market research | PricewaterhouseCooper's Consulting (Australia) Pty Ltd | \$45,000.00 |
| Polling | – | – |
| Direct mail | – | – |
| Media advertising | Have a Go News | \$1,275.30 |
| Total | – | \$243,249.95 |



Disability Access and Inclusion Plan

Communities is committed to continually improving access and inclusion for people with disability, their families and carers. Our intention is to offer an equal level of service to all people, provide accessible events and facilities, and consult with people with disability to help ensure that barriers to access and inclusion are identified and appropriately addressed.

Throughout the 2021–22 period, Communities undertook extensive consultation and engagement with staff and key stakeholders to inform the development of a new Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2022–2027.

The new Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2022–2027 will build on the previous plan and set out the strategies and outcomes that will guide the Department's activities to improve access to services, buildings and information. The new Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2022–2027 is currently being finalised and will be formally activated during the 2022–23 period.

Agents and contractors

Communities' procurement processes require that our contracted organisations are aware of their Disability Access and Inclusion Plan responsibilities and reporting requirements. These organisations will be updated on the responsibilities and reporting requirements under Communities' new Disability Access and Inclusion Plan.

Recordkeeping plan

In accordance with section 19 of the State Records Act 2000, Communities follows the principles and standards governing recordkeeping by State organisations in its approved Recordkeeping Plan (RKP 2017036).

Communities evaluates the efficiency and effectiveness of its recordkeeping system through ongoing reviews to confirm that staff are following correct recordkeeping practices within client and administrative files. Communities operates an online recordkeeping awareness training program that covers staff obligations, rights and responsibilities under the State Records Act 2000 and also the Communities Information Management Policy. Ongoing training is provided to enhance the search skills of staff and improve their management of client and administrative records.

Communities regularly reviews its recordkeeping training initiatives and materials to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and standards, as well as keeping content and staff up to date with changes in recordkeeping systems. Recordkeeping awareness training is a mandatory component of staff induction training. The effectiveness of the



induction program in addressing employee roles and responsibilities is regularly reviewed to ensure compliance with the State Records Act 2000 and other relevant State legislation.

Board and committee remuneration

Individual and aggregated costs of remunerating positions on all boards and committees, as defined in the Premier's Circular 2019/07 – State Government Boards and Committees, have been outlined in the tables below.

Remuneration for the Disability Services Commission Board and the Ministerial Advisory Council on Disability is reported in the Disability Services Commission Annual Report for 2021–22.

Minister's Aboriginal Advisory Panel

The Minister's Aboriginal Advisory Panel was established to provide cultural and expert advice to the Hon Simone McGurk MLA, Minister for Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services. The Panel consisted of Aboriginal people from a variety of backgrounds from across the State and provided strategic advice, informed Government on policies and decisions affecting Aboriginal children, families and communities and provided culturally-appropriate solutions to specific issues. The panel is still in existence, however the terms of appointed members had ceased prior to July 2021 and therefore no payments were made in 2021–22.

Carers Advisory Council

The Carers Advisory Council advises the Minister for Community Services on issues experienced by carers. It provides an annual report to the Minister on compliance with the *Carers Recognition Act 2004* by the Department of Health, the Disability Services Commission, and the Mental Health Commission.

Table 105: Carers Advisory Council remuneration

| Position title | Member name | Period of membership in 2021–22 | Type of remuneration | Gross/actual remuneration for the financial year |
|----------------|---------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Chairperson | Esme Bowen | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$13,500 per annum | \$12,473.50 |
| Member | Stan Chirenda | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$228/half day \$351/full day | \$729.60 |



Other Requirements

| | | | | |
|--------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Member | Tony Vis | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$228/half day \$351/full day | \$2,431.50 |
| Member | Gloria Moyle | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$228/half day \$351/full day | \$2,267.03 |
| Member | Jenni Perkins | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$228/half day \$351/full day | \$1,263.83 |
| Member | Carrie Clarke | 11/01/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$228/half day \$351/full day | \$1,765.43 |
| Member | Ros Thomas | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$228/half day \$351/full day | \$1,869.24 |
| Member | Andrew Sinclair | 16/08/2021 – 25/12/2022 | \$228/half day \$351/full day | \$1,711.14 |
| Member | Beatitude Chirongoma | 16/08/2021 – 22/01/2022 | \$228/half day \$351/full day | \$1,947.00 |
| Member | Kim Hudson | 16/08/2021 – 30/04/2022 | \$228/half day \$351/full day | \$456.00 |
| Total | – | – | – | \$26,914.27 |

Note:

(1) The Chair, Deputy Chair and members are eligible for respite at \$20 to \$45 per hour as applicable and travel allowance.



Adoption Applications Committee

The functions of the Adoption Applications Committee are outlined in section 13 of the *Adoptions Act 1994* and include considering the suitability of prospective adoptive parents.

Table 106: Adoptions Applications Committee remuneration

| Position title | Member name | Period of membership in 2021–22 | Type of remuneration | Gross/actual remuneration for the financial year |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Chairperson | Alan Moroni | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$150/hour | \$12,750 |
| Deputy Chairperson | Margaret van Keppel | 31/12/2021 – 01/07/2022 | \$120/hour | \$5,082 |
| Independent Member | Rhiarne Bruce | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | N/A | \$0 |
| Independent Member | Diane Davies | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$120/hour | \$10,362 |
| Independent Member | Melanie Boulton | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$120/hour | \$7,530 |
| Independent Member | Geoff Parnell | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$120/hour | \$7,458 |
| Departmental Member | Diane Scarle | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | N/A | \$0 |
| Departmental Member | Jeffrey Hughes | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | N/A | \$0 |
| Independent Member | John Gardiner | 21/02/2022 – 30/06/2022 | \$120/hour | \$2,460 |
| Total | – | – | – | \$45,642 |



Care Plan Review Panel

The Care Plan Review Panel is an independent panel established to review care planning decisions made by Communities for children in the care of the CEO. The best interests of the child who is the subject of the care planning decisions is the paramount consideration in panel deliberations.

During 2021–22, 32 applications for a review of a decision, or decisions, were received. Nine applications were in relation to Aboriginal children in care. Fourteen applications were lodged by a biological parent, eleven were lodged by a foster carer, five by a grandparent or other relative, and two applications were lodged by two children in care.

Of the 32 applications received during 2021–22, 18 proceeded to a hearing. A total of 13 hearings were held during 2021–22. One hearing heard two separate applications, and another hearing heard four separate applications relating to the same child. One hearing will be held in the 2022–23 period.

Four hearings were related to Aboriginal children in care and one hearing related to a child from a culturally and linguistically diverse background.

There were a range of care planning decisions reviewed by the Care Plan Review Panel, often relating to contact or the child or children’s care arrangement.

Fourteen of the 32 applications received during 2021–22 did not proceed to a hearing. This may have been due to the application being outside of the Panel’s remit or not meeting the timeframe for review.

Each panel hearing comprises of, at a minimum, three members who are independent from Communities, including a Chairperson with a legal qualification. There are currently four Aboriginal Panel members.

Table 107: Care Plan Review Panel remuneration

| Position title | Period of membership in 2021–22 | Type of remuneration | Gross/actual remuneration for the financial year |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Chairperson | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$1,540/Full day hearing \$1,012/Half day hearing \$770/Full day training \$506/Half day training | \$21,516 |
| Deputy Chairperson/ Member 1 | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$1,400/Full day hearing \$920/Half day hearing \$460/Full day training \$300/Half day training | \$3,240 |



Other Requirements

| | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|--|---------|
| Member 2 | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$920/Full day hearing \$600/Half day hearing \$460/Full day training \$300/Half day training | \$3,960 |
| Member 3 | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$920/Full day hearing \$600/Half day hearing \$460/Full day training \$300/Half day training | \$2,120 |
| Member 4 | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$920/Full day hearing \$600/Half day hearing \$460/Full day training \$300/Half day training | \$5,200 |
| Member 5 | 01/07/2021 – 31/12/2021 | \$920/Full day hearing \$600/Half day hearing \$460/Full day training \$300/Half day training | \$1,840 |
| Member 6 | 01/07/2021 – 31/12/2021 | \$920/Full day hearing \$600/Half day hearing \$460/Full day training \$300/Half day training | \$1,840 |
| Member 7 | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | N/A | \$0 |
| Member 8 | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$920/Full day hearing \$600/Half day hearing \$460/Full day training \$300/Half day training | \$2,440 |
| Member 9 | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$920/Full day hearing \$600/Half day hearing \$460/Full day training \$300/Half day training | \$1,840 |
| Member 10 | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | N/A | \$0 |
| Member 11 | 01/01/2022 – 30/06/2022 | \$920/Full day hearing \$600/Half day hearing \$460/Full day training \$300/Half day training | \$3,820 |
| Member 12 | 01/01/2022 – 30/06/2022 | \$920/Full day hearing \$600/Half day hearing \$460/Full day training \$300/Half day training | \$5,660 |
| Member 13 | 01/01/2022 – 30/06/2022 | \$920/Full day hearing \$600/Half day hearing \$460/Full day training \$300/Half day training | \$1,380 |



Other Requirements

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Member 14 | 01/01/2022 – 30/06/2022 | \$920/Full day hearing \$600/Half day hearing \$460/Full day training \$300/Half day training | \$460 |
| Member 15 | 01/01/2022 – 21/03/2022 | \$920/Full day hearing \$600/Half day hearing \$460/Full day training \$300/Half day training | \$460 |
| Member 16 | 01/01/2022 – 30/06/2022 | \$920/Full day hearing \$600/Half day hearing \$460/Full day training \$300/Half day training | \$460 |
| Total | – | – | \$56,236 |

Note:

Member names have been withheld because of the sensitive nature of their decisions and to protect their anonymity.



Ministerial Youth Advisory Council

The Ministerial Youth Advisory Council is comprised of up to 12 young people aged between 16 and 25 years. The Council is an important first point of engagement for the Minister for Youth on youth-focused matters across a range of portfolios. The role of the Council is to provide advice to the Minister for Youth on matters relating to young people. The Council may also provide advice to any other State Government Minister, subject to the approval of the Minister for Youth. The Council will provide a forum for young Western Australians to communicate directly with the Western Australian Government.

Table 108: Ministerial Youth Advisory Council remuneration

| Position title | Member name | Period of membership in 2021–22 | Type of remuneration per meeting | Gross/actual remuneration for the financial year |
|----------------|---|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Co-chair | Haseeb Riaz | 01/07/2021– 30/06/2022 | \$385 (< 4 hours) \$593 (> 4 hours) | \$1,999 |
| Co-chair | Zahra Al Hilaly | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$385 (< 4 hours) \$593 (> 4 hours) | \$1,999 |
| Member | Amy Astill | 01/07/2021– 30/06/2022 | \$251 (< 4 hours) \$385 (> 4 hours) | \$887 |
| Member | Caitlin Eaton | 01/07/2021– 30/06/2022 | \$251 (< 4 hours) \$385 (> 4 hours) | \$1,389 |
| Member | Ryan Pohl | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$251 (< 4 hours) \$385 (> 4 hours) | \$887 |
| Member | Izabela Barakovska | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$251 (< 4 hours) \$385 (> 4 hours) | \$1,389 |
| Member | Lauren Clark | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$251 (< 4 hours) \$385 (> 4 hours) | \$1,138 |
| Member | Cameron Hee | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$251 (< 4 hours) \$385 (> 4 hours) | \$1,004 |
| Member | Christopher-John (CJ) Daudu | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$251 (< 4 hours) \$385 (> 4 hours) | \$887 |
| Member | Maeson Harvey (Legal name Rhegan Harvey) | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$251 (< 4 hours) \$385 (> 4 hours) | \$1,138 |
| Member | Kiana Yasso | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$251 (< 4 hours) \$385 (> 4 hours) | \$887 |



| | | | | |
|--------------|------------|----------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Member | Alicia Roe | 08/03/2022 – 30/06/2022 | N/A | \$0 |
| Total | – | – | – | \$13,604 |

Western Australian Council on Homelessness

The Western Australian Council on Homelessness was established as an external advisory body to Government on homelessness matters. It provides accurate, timely advice and support to the Minister for Homelessness about current and emerging pertinent issues affecting homelessness in Western Australia. The terms of reference for the council are to:

- contribute to the development and ongoing review of State and regional homelessness action plans, ensuring integrated responses with non-government, Government and mainstream services to ensure a more connected and responsive service system
- undertake sector consultation, examining current and emerging pertinent issues affecting homelessness in WA
- provide accurate, timely advice and support to the Minister for Community Services.

Table 109: Western Australian Council on Homelessness remuneration

| Position title | Member name | Period of membership in 2021–22 | Type of remuneration | Gross/actual remuneration for the financial year |
|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Chairperson | Samantha Drury | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$13,400 per annum | \$5,585 |
| Member | Louise Giolitto | 01/07/2021 – 30/6/2022 | \$200 half day/ \$300 full day | \$1,000 |
| Member | Michelle Mackenzie | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$200 half day/ \$300 full day | \$800 |
| Member | Sandra Harben | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$200 half day/ \$300 full day | \$400 |
| Member | Lesley Nelson | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$200 half day/ \$300 full day | \$600 |
| Member | Sandy McKiernan | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$200 half day/ \$300 full day | \$1,000 |



Other Requirements

| | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Member | Alison Evans | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$200 half day/ \$300 full day | \$600 |
| Member | Danni Forster | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | \$200 half day/ \$300 full day | \$1,000 |
| Member | Kelly McManus | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | N/A | \$0 |
| Member | Mark Petrich | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | N/A | \$0 |
| Member | Chad Stewart | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | N/A | \$0 |
| Member | Michelle Harper | 01/07/2021 – 30/06/2022 | N/A | \$0 |
| Total | – | – | – | \$10,985 |

Note:

Five meetings of the Western Australian Council on Homelessness were convened on decision by the Chair. A number of Council members were also members of the Supporting Communities Forum and the Supporting Communities Forum Working Group on Homelessness.



Compliance with Public Sector Standards and ethical codes

Communities complies with the Public Sector Standards and the Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics. As an agency subject to section 31(2) of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, Communities' compliance reporting obligations are met by completing the relevant periodic returns requested by the Public Sector Commission (PSC).

This is in accordance with the PSC's 'Annual report guidelines for 2021–22' published 7 May 2021.

Work Health and Safety, Injury Management and Wellbeing

Our commitment

The Communities Leadership Team (CLT) is committed to building and fostering a positive and values-based safety culture that nurtures consultation and enables a risk management approach to maintaining the health and safety of our people, including those involved with our operations. This is emphasised in the Director General's Work Health and Safety (WHS) Statement of Commitment, our WHS Policy, Safety Management Systems, and the WHS Strategic Plan 2019–2024, which continues to be implemented across Communities.

The CLT is also committed to ensuring Communities safety culture, WHS management systems, strategy and operations provide assurance and governance around the requirements of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020* (the WHS Act), which took effect from 31 March 2022, *Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981*, and associated safety legislative instruments, which are included in corporate planning.

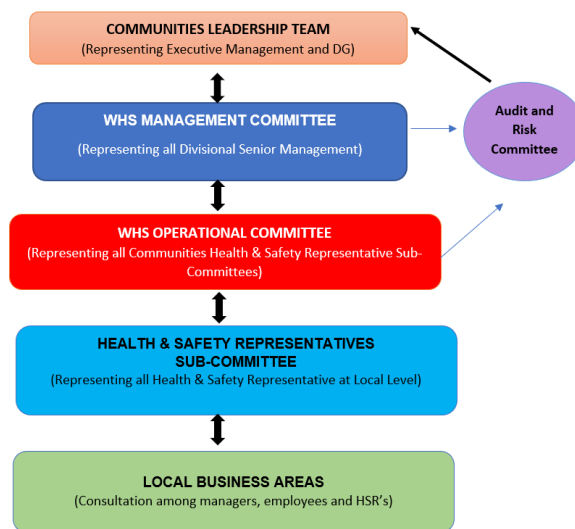
Our WHS Management System, endorsed by the CLT, forms an integral part of our business management system and has been designed to meet the requirements of the National Standards AS/NZS 4801:2001 and ISO45001. The WHS Management System is underpinned by our leadership commitment to enhance Communities' safety culture and ensure safety governance. WHS is a standing agenda item at all CLT and other senior and operational meetings. All Communities' meetings, including CLT, commence with a Safety Moment, encouraging staff to identify recent WHS achievements and areas for improvement, and for personal safety reflection



The WHS Directorate monitors and oversees Communities’ WHS Management System, which is regularly reviewed and evaluated. Quarterly reports on our safety management system performance through lead and lag indicators are provided to CLT. This forms an integral part of WHS governance and assurance and enables informed decision making by CLT about emerging WHS risks and issues, so steps can be taken to embrace best practice and ensure continual improvement.

Communities uses an established WHS Governance and Consultation Framework, which determines the way in which WHS consultation occurs across Communities. This consultative model has been adopted to ensure that identified outcomes of our WHS Management System are able to be consistently achieved, regularly evaluated, and continually improved. Communities’ Audit and Risk Committee is integrally involved in this consultative model to ensure that our corporate safety risks are regularly identified, assessed, actioned, and monitored.

WHS Governance Consultative Model



Our Health and Safety Representatives (HSRs) meet locally within their regions at quarterly HSR Sub-Committee meetings, where they discuss emerging health and safety matters that are then escalated to the WHS Operational Committee for oversight and action as required. The minutes of the HSR Sub-Committees are tabled at the WHS Operational and Management Committee Meetings. HSRs also form part of the quarterly Communities’ WHS Operational Committee with an average attendance of 40 HSRs at each meeting. The minutes of the WHS Operational Committee meetings and key updates from the HSR Sub-Committee meetings are tabled at the WHS Management Committee meetings.

Our WHS Management Committee comprises of senior executives representing all Divisions and the CLT. The Management Committee meets quarterly to ensure health,



safety and wellbeing considerations across all workplaces are discussed and actions taken to raise the profile of health and safety across Communities. The Management Committee oversees policy and safety direction, and advocates and escalates any WHS matters that require CLT consideration and action. The WHS Management Committee Meetings are tabled at CLT meetings, thus enabling informed leadership decision making and strategic oversight of safety matters across Communities.

In addition, our Director General plays an important role in promoting safety messaging across Communities. The Director General has committed to sending out two safety specific broadcasts on a regular basis, these being a general safety information broadcast and a safety compliance broadcast. This has received positive feedback from staff, including management, and sets WHS expectations across Communities.

Health and Safety Representatives

Communities undertakes rolling recruitment of its HSRs due to Communities' significant span of activities and locations. Communities has 124 HSRs spread across the State who all play a vital role in representing their workplaces. They work closely with staff and managers, reviewing safety policies and procedures at the local and corporate level, promoting safety messages including safety alerts, investigating workplace hazards and incidents, consulting with their peers and line managers on safety matters, and actively engaging in the resolution of workplace incidents. For the financial year 2021–22, Communities' HSRs investigated 1379 incidents, which involved them providing objective reports, recommending actions, and liaising with employees and managers.

Communities has a customised HSR Training Program to ensure all HSRs receive mandatory training within 12 months of appointment and yearly refreshers.

Communities produces a bi-monthly HSR newsletter and other correspondence to ensure HSRs and other workers are fully aware of trending health, safety and wellbeing matters.

Workers' compensation and injury management

Communities' Injury Management Policy and Procedures were developed in accordance with the *Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981*. The Director General's Statement of Commitment to Work Health and Safety reinforces our commitment to injury prevention and management, including early intervention strategies aimed at providing meaningful return to work programs for injured workers, thereby encouraging the retention of experienced staff.

Our Injury Management team undertake monthly professional development sessions facilitated by leading industry experts to remain current on emerging trends and treatments for injured workers. The team continues to provide business partnering services specific to the various regions within Communities with continued positive



engagement with the District Directors and the Regional Executive Directors on a monthly basis.

Our Injury Management Consultants provide comprehensive injury management and workers' compensation support for both injured workers and line managers, through consultative engagement that enables the development of proactive and suitable return to work programs for injured workers.

Incident reporting and hazard/risk management

Our new customised, consolidated and dynamic Incident Management System (SolvSafety) was implemented in April 2021 and has been operational for just over a 12-month period. This enables employees, line managers and HSRs to actively engage in incident investigations, risk assessment, risk rating and the implementation of suitable resolution actions. Matters with a risk rating above high are automatically escalated to senior management for their attention and involvement as required.

There was an overall reduction in the number of incidents reported during 2021–2022 (1316 incidents) when compared to 2020–2021 (1379 incidents), which could be attributed to Solv Safety's implementation.

Safety Reports generated by SolvSafety have also enabled hazard and incident management trend analysis, which positively contributes towards the evaluation, gap analysis and improvement of our WHS Management System.

The WHS Directorate conducts regular training to staff, managers and HSRs on the use of SolvSafety for incident and hazard reporting and resolutions.

Key initiatives in managing workplace incidents and hazards

- Occupational Violence and Aggression (OVA) has been identified as an extreme risk within Communities. As a proactive initiative to find ways of mitigating risk of harm to staff, an OVA Project was approved by the CLT in 2021 to investigate the violence and aggression experienced by staff across child protection residential care homes, community homes, regional and remote communities housing services, and call centre engagements including customer service counters, and to study the interface between the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020* (WHS Act) and legislation relevant to Communities' frontline operations. Phase 1 of this significantly impacting project has resulted in several business area improvements and the granting of approvals for new homes and services, which Communities is confident will ultimately assist in reducing the frequency and impact of OVA within Communities.
- Communities is currently in the final stages of implementing a Duress Alarm Project to assist with mitigating risks associated with OVA and to consolidate,



expand and improve the use of personal duress alarms for our frontline staff. This project spans all of Communities' residential facilities, housing services and front office staff and has a phased implementation approach undertaken in consultation with management and staff in our service delivery areas.

- Communities commenced a bespoke mental health program and entered into partnership with Curtin University's Future of Work Institute to implement the 'Thrive at Work' program. The aim of the program is to enable Communities as a whole to develop a strategic approach to workplace mental health by measuring employee perception of how well Communities is able to mitigate illness, prevent harm, and promote thriving. Scoping work has been completed with a survey to all staff to be rolled out in 2022–23 to gauge psychological wellbeing at work.

Employee wellbeing initiatives

- Our Employee Assistance Program (EAP) has been well utilised by staff, with an increase of 0.63% in EAP use in 2021–22 compared to 2020–21.
- The CLT approved the commencement of a new EAP tender process that included a high focus on trauma management and Aboriginal staff support services.
- A total of 286 wellbeing welfare calls were made during the year for a variety of concerns, such as those related to critical incidents, individual welfare, COVID-19, and emergency deployment of staff in the State Welfare Incident Coordination Centre.
- Trauma counselling and training sessions were provided to all staff on focussed topics such as 'Remembering is not required', 'Complex Trauma and Memory', 'When Loss Gets Lost', 'Understanding and Supporting Children and Young People Who Are Grieving', 'Hurt People - A Trauma Understanding of Violent & Aggressive Behaviours', and much more.
- Communities contracted an Aboriginal healing service as part of its EAP to provide support specifically to Aboriginal staff experiencing trauma or in need of wellbeing support.
- A total of 61 wellbeing webinars were offered throughout 2021–22, which were attended by 1,337 staff. Topics included but were not limited to 'Managing Anxiety while Balancing Work', 'Life and COVID', 'Finding Mindfulness in a Time of Unlimited Distractions', 'Maintaining a Healthy Body and Healthy Mind', and 'Grief and Loss'.
- A total of 1,410 staff (24% of total Communities staff and from both metropolitan and regional work locations) participated in the 2022 Influenza Program which was conducted through onsite vaccination clinics as well as via the use of vouchers and reimbursements.



- A total of 170 ergonomic assessments were undertaken to assist staff in preventing and managing musculoskeletal symptoms associated with their role.

WHS Training

A revitalised WHS e-Learning module called 'WHS and Injury Management for Managers' was rolled out across Communities in April 2022 to 1,500 line managers and supervisors. Following the introduction of the new WHS Act further enhancements are being made to the e-learning module in relation additional responsibilities for these line managers and supervisors,

A revised and refreshed e-Learning WHS module for all employees is currently being developed and includes a module on the new WHS Act.

CLT members have and continue to receive training in the new WHS Act and its implications from a due diligence, systems and assurance perspective. Due diligence training has also been scheduled for senior executives at Communities. Further capability development and webinars to better support managers and staff with the new obligations under the WHS Act is underway.

All safety training references Communities' iCREATE values of, Integrity, Courage, Respect, Empathy, Accountability, Trust and Empowerment.

Our WHS Consultants, who are also safety business partners, continued to travel across various regional and metropolitan locations to provide scheduled and ad-hoc training on various WHS topics, which included psychological risk assessment, management of violence and aggression in the workplace, safety during home visits, due diligence obligations (staff and manager specific), WHS roles and responsibilities, and undertaking of hazard/incident investigations.

Assessment of the occupational safety and health management system

A WHS Management System Gap Analysis was undertaken in February 2020, based on the WorkSafe Plan. The Gap Analysis identified 156 areas of improvement at the time and all these improvements were addressed. With the implementation of the new WHS Act, further actions were taken to ensure the efficacy of our WHS Management System.

Communities established a 'Work, Health and Safety Act Implementation Working Group' to understand how the new WHS Act impacts all business areas across Communities. The Working Group comprises of senior leaders from various business areas, our legal services team and co-opt external consultants such as the State Solicitors Office, legal and training consultants as required. The Working Group meets monthly to review and progressively update all WHS procedures and processes, provide advice on and facilitate relevant training relating to WHS obligations for staff across all



levels, and undertake analysis and assessments across our different business areas to identify and correct WHS gaps. The Working Group continues to monitor and apply best practice in order to enhance our safety culture and ensure improved WHS performance.

Ongoing internal audits will continue to occur at regular intervals to ensure we are achieving our WHS key performance indicators and outcomes as per our WHS Strategic Plan 2019–2024.

Asbestos Management

Reporting progress in achieving the relevant targets of the National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Awareness and Management 2019–2023

In 2021–22 Communities reviewed its Asbestos Policy documents and has adopted a new Asbestos Management Framework, approved by the CLT in November 2021.

The new framework applies to all areas of Communities and aligns with national targets set in the National Strategic Plan (NSP) for Asbestos Awareness and Management. It is intended to further raise awareness (as per target one of the NSP) and better define and update our asbestos registers and risk management (target two of the NSP).

The framework sets out objectives and responsibilities of relevant business units, and provides guidance on regulations and business practices including inspection and asbestos register updates.

Communities has just over 11,000 assets containing asbestos, the bulk of which are social housing dwellings but also include some offices and vacant land. Asbestos containing material in Communities properties is a key consideration in asset management decision making relating to end-of-life and refurbishment. Due to this focus, the number of assets containing asbestos is gradually reducing overall. In 2021–22, this number reduced from 11,208 in the previous year to 11,097, a reduction of 111 assets.

**Table 110: Work health and safety Key Performance Indicators and trends**

| Measures | Results 2019–20 | Results 2020–21 | Results 2021–22 | Targets | Comments towards targets |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|---|
| Number of fatalities | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Achieved |
| Lost time injury and disease incidence rate | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.3 | 0 or 10% reduction in incidence rate | Not Achieved. There was an 8% reduction compared to last year. Preventative and proactive hazard and incident management strategies continue to be adopted to mitigate risk of harm and reduce injuries. |
| Lost time injury and severity rate | 25 | 40 | 35.5 | 0 or 10% reduction in severity rate | Achieved an 11.3% reduction compared to last year. However considerable work is underway in injury prevention and management. |
| Percentage of injured workers returned to work within 13 weeks | 59% | 72% | 50% | Greater than or equal to 80% returned to work within 26 weeks | Not achieved compared to the previous years due to the complex, severe, cumulative nature of injuries. Early intervention injury management strategies continue to be implemented in handling complex psychological claims and supporting staff with trauma. The 2021–22 result can also be attributed to the challenges associated with safely returning staff in a COVID-19 restricted environment. |
| Percentage of injured workers returned to work within 26 weeks | 64% | 75% | 55.4% | | |



Other Requirements

| Measures | Results 2019–20 | Results 2020–21 | Results 2021–22 | Targets | Comments towards targets |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|--|
| Percentage of managers trained in occupational safety, health and injury management responsibilities, including refresher training within 3 years | 43% | 55% | 74% | Greater than or equal to 80% | Not achieved. There has been a 72% increase over three years as at 30 June 2022. New E-Learning 'Work Health and Safety and Injury management' Course for managers was rolled out in April 2022. Due to increased leave utilisation as a result of COVID-19, the target of 80% was not able to be achieved, however actions are currently underway to closely monitor completion rates to ensure the target is met in 2022–2023. |



Advancing employee health and wellbeing

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic:

- a dedicated COVID-19 Response Management intranet page continues to be updated and managed within Communities
- two COVID-19 registers have been developed. The COVID-19 Self-Isolation Register tracks the COVID-19 status of employees, time lost and COVID leave utilised. A COVID-19 Employee Vaccination Register provides valuable data on the vaccination status of our employees to help us better manage workforce matters should Covid-19 arise
- a dedicated mailbox (safety@communities.wa.gov.au) has been set up for all staff queries on matters relating to COVID-19 including safe work practices, vaccinations, self-isolation and COVID testing outcomes. All relevant COVID-19 data is entered into the information management system WebEOC
- Communities continues to review its home-based working applications, as part of flexible working, enabling us to identify workplace issues associated with COVID-19 and the supports and interventions required to keep our employees safe.

WA Multicultural Policy Framework

Background

On 22 December 2021, Minister McGurk received confirmation from Minister Buti that the Department of Communities' Multicultural Plan 2021–2023 (the Plan) meets the requirements for implementing the Western Australian Multicultural Policy Framework (the Framework). Consistent with the Framework, the Plan articulates three policy priority areas:

1. Harmonious and inclusive communities
2. Culturally responsive policies programs and services
3. Economic, social, cultural, civic and political participation

Within these priority areas, the Plan includes a series of strategies and actions, with responsibilities, targets and timeframes identified along with a supporting governance structure.

Current Status

Key outcomes and achievements for priority policy areas are included below.

1. Harmonious and inclusive communities
 - A multi-faith space, located on Level 1, the Djiraly (North) campus, at Walyalup (Fremantle), has been established and promoted.



- During Harmony Week 2022 (21–27 March), Communities profiled staff members with a multicultural background, acknowledged Close the Gap Day and promoted Communities' formal support for the “Racism. It Stops with Me” campaign to all staff across Western Australia.
 - Communities is undertaking a talent acquisition and retention project which will review and revise recruitment practices to eliminate indirect discrimination, and training on recruitment.
2. Culturally responsive policies, programs and services
 - Diverse WA online training modules are now mandatory for all new employees and included in the Human Resources onboarding process.
 3. Economic, social, cultural, civic and political participation
 - CALD background staff represent 16.1% of Communities' workforce, which is above the sector average of 15.3% and exceeds the planned representation for the sector of 15.5% by 2025.

