

State Budget Submission

VISION 2020



To read the in-depth State Budget Submission 2019/20, visit www.wacoss.org.au

Child Wellbeing

Recommendation: Disadvantaged and developmentally vulnerable children are supported by a WA Child Poverty and Wellbeing Strategy that includes targeted outreach

Outcome: No child in WA is growing up in poverty, without access to adequate food and nutrition, education and care. Children who have specific needs and developmental vulnerabilities are identified early and proactively offered support. Disadvantaged mothers are assisted to build better lives for themselves and their children. Our community sees our investment in early care and education is building a brighter future for all.

Making Place

Recommendation: Implement a cross-government community engagement strategy and drive change through place-based planning and commissioning

Outcome: There is a clear and consistent approach to community consultation across the WA Government, with clear guidelines about community consultation processes. We have in place the mechanisms to co-design, capability and co-design processes, includes joint-commissioning, pooled budgeting and planning integrated service systems, cohorts and regional consultation processes to co-design, co-design, commissioning and contracting guidelines, outcome frameworks and decision making powers.

Industry Plan

Recommendation: Dedicate a proportion of new revenue to service system transformation and meet future care workforce demand through a 10-year community services industry plan

Outcome: A reliable and predictable revenue stream supports earlier and more effective service delivery. A skilled and caring workforce delivers responsive wrap-around services to all, ready to meet future demand and more effective service delivery. Jobs in the caring professions are desirable and rewarding, provide job security and we can easily identify where we are making a difference and where there are gaps in services or changes in community need.

The Care Economy

Recommendation: Create jobs and economic growth by investing counter-cyclically in the care economy, targeting projected need

Outcome: A strong, prosperous and fair community, with a strong social safety net and no-one left behind. A well-managed, resilient and diversified economy no longer at the mercy of boom and bust cycles in any one sector. A skilled and caring workforce delivers responsive wrap-around services to all, ready to meet future demand growth.

EQUIPPED

Locally train and source our future care workforce through quality fee-free VET courses in priority areas

Support young people in Banksia Hill to achieve better learning outcomes via quality education provided by the Department of Education

Ensure everyone can access digital systems and online services, thanks to a whole-of-government strategy and advisory body

Introduce a Home Energy Action Plan to decrease financial hardship for low income households

Enable social housing tenants to benefit from solar power via the progressive roll-out of a virtual power-plant scheme

CONNECTED

We have strong relationships and are connected to culture and community

Establish place-based joint-commissioning demonstration sites to address entrenched local disadvantage

Implement place-based integrated services for local communities through Regional Supporting Communities Forums

Inform the community about new structures, roles, responsibilities and mechanisms for engagement

Better support kinship carers through trusted local community-based organisations

HEALTHY

We are healthy and well

Develop and resource a nutrition-focused food relief policy, coordinated through a ministerial portfolio, to increase prevention support for households

Support people with mental health conditions or other disabling conditions that include prevention through a whole-of-government portfolio, to improve wellbeing for them and their children

Support people under 65 who have chronic health conditions or other disabling conditions to access the support they need, even if they are not eligible for the MDS

Enable all mothers to access cultural health conditions or other disabling conditions to improve wellbeing for them and their children

Ensure people can access the support they need, even if they are not eligible for the MDS

Implement the priorities in the Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs Services Plan, to meet community support while future programs are co-commissioned with the Commonwealth

Guarantee continuity of suicide prevention support while future programs are co-commissioned with the Commonwealth

We have the resources to contribute to our community and economy

We are safe and free from harm

SAFE

Violence in relationships is decreased by a well-resourced 10-year Family and Domestic Violence Plan

A whole-of-government social reinvestment strategy, including fine default reform, to reduce the number of people in prison

Extend the leaving care age to 21 to ensure young people leaving care transition safely to independence

Keep children in care safe, with independent oversight of child protection

Ensure families can always access legal assistance and support in child protection cases

We are empowered and able to exercise our capacity

EMPOWERED

We are financially secure and have suitable and stable housing

Protect consumers and research in WA energy markets

Provide more human services jobs for Aboriginal people through a workforce development strategy

Grow the Aboriginal community-controlled service sector to deliver services proportionate to need

Ensure all the victims of stolen wages receive comprehensive and effective reparations

Guarantee all Western Australian survivors of institutional child abuse receive fair redress

Introduce a range of fair and efficient new revenue measures that ensure WA has reliable revenue to deliver essential community services

STABLE

Violence in relationships is decreased by a well-resourced 10-year Family and Domestic Violence Plan

Extend the leaving care age to 21 to ensure young people leaving care transition safely to independence

Keep children in care safe, with independent oversight of child protection

Ensure families can always access legal assistance and support in child protection cases

Keep low-income households connected to affordable energy and water, through future price exemptions, reversing the impact of recent increases, and a public inquiry into social concessions

Increase access to social housing via a net increase of 1,000 dwellings per year

Every new development includes 30% affordable housing, one third of which is social housing

Reform the Residential Tenancies Act to ensure renters have improved security and quality of tenure

Guarantee access to housing for people exiting government institutions