

## Youth

*There was a welcome investment to provide housing support and homelessness services for young people, however, there was not enough overall action to address the youth homelessness crisis. There are disappointing gaps for young people especially in investment for young people leaving out of home care sector, mental health and training and employment.*

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>At Risk Youth Funding Uplift</b> (BP3, P228, P229)
<b>Investment</b>	\$20.3 million over four years.
<b>Description</b>	To provide a baseline funding uplift for contracts in the At Risk Youth portfolio, including 38 providers in regional WA, to support service sustainability and continuity.
<b>Implications</b>	<i>This is a new uplift for At Risk Youth services. A 15 per cent uplift will be applied to all new service providers from 1 July 2026, meaning the uplift will also form part of the recommissioning from 2027-28. This approach acknowledges the sustainability pressures facing services operating under extended contracts.</i>

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Housing First for Youth</b> (BP2, V2, P481)
<b>Investment</b>	\$20.3 million.
<b>Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commencement of Housing First for Youth services</li> <li>• Operational funding for newly purchased youth supported accommodation services</li> </ul>
<b>Implications</b>	<i>A much needed, welcomed investment in youth homelessness.</i>

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Youth Homelessness – In-Reach Supported Accommodation</b> (BP2, V2, P480)
<b>Investment</b>	\$3.1 million over four years.
<b>Description</b>	Expansion of an in-reach supported youth accommodation service for young people aged 12 to 25, prioritising young people from the LGBTQIA+ community.



<b>Implications</b>	<i>A targeted investment which will enable a better response to the overrepresentation of LGBTQIA+ young people experiencing homelessness.</i>
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<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Uplift to LGBTQIA+ Services</b> <i>(BP2, V2, P481)</i>
<b>Investment</b>	\$3.1 million.
<b>Description</b>	To extend funding to the LGBTQIA+ peak body and sector organisations. Includes a \$660,000 service agreement with the Youth Pride Network.
<b>Implications</b>	<i>We are still seeking clarity on the detail of this new measure.</i>

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Increased Suicide Prevention and Supports</b> <i>(BP2, V1, P232) (BP3, P134)</i>
<b>Investment</b>	\$9.7 million
<b>Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$4.9 million for the expansion of the Children and Young People Responsive Suicide Support program into the South West, providing individual, group or family counselling supports to children and young people who have lost someone to suicide; and</li> <li>• \$4.8 million for more suicide prevention workers in regional areas, to implement, lead and support suicide prevention activities in their communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Implications</b>	<i>These measures may help improve support for children and young people affected by suicide and strengthen local prevention efforts in regional communities. Expanding counselling services and workforce capacity is a positive development, though ongoing investment and broader system changes will be needed to ensure consistent access and long-term impact across different regions.</i>

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Child Sexual Abuse Therapeutic Services and Indigenous Healing Services Commissioning</b> <i>(BP2, V2, P480) (BP3, P154) (BP3, P229)</i>
<b>Investment</b>	\$17.2 million over four years.
<b>Description</b>	To support the recommissioning of specialised Child Sexual Abuse Therapeutic Services and Indigenous Healing Services across WA including providers at 11 regional locations. These services will assist young people who have been affected by child sexual abuse.



<b>Implications</b>	<i>This funding maintains the previous 5 per cent and 15 per cent uplifts and also embeds the previous national partnership agreement funding into baseline recurrent state funding. It does not represent new or additional funding beyond existing commitments. While this provides short-term certainty during recommissioning, it does not address broader sustainability or service growth pressures across these critical services.</i>
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of western australia



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social service