



State Budget 2005/06 Information Sheet

Capacity of Community Services

While there have been some improvement in the disability services area, the needs of the Non-Government Human Services Sector (NGHSS) outlined below are largely unmet in this budget. A commitment has been made to continue developing the NGHSS Industry Plan but there have been no specific budget allocations to address the issues faced by the sector.

WACOSS' Recommendation	Government's Pre-Election Commitment ¹	Budget Outcome
Review the adequacy of base funding and develop a plan to address wage inadequacy and the current workforce crisis in the NGHSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committed to supporting the work of NGO's through the Industry Plan for the NGHSS. • Further independent analysis of the concept of wage parity and the impact of NGHSS wages on the human services sector is needed. • No specific commitment for the Budget. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An industry council will be established by the Dept. of Premier and Cabinet to monitor and review the progress of the NGHSS Industry Plan. And identify future areas of collaborative action. • No specific budget allocation.
Provide a "catch-up" factor to all State funding for the NGHSS at between 3% and 25% depending on evidenced need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will examine sectoral/program specific approaches relating to cost pressures on NGO's based on evidenced needs, rather than a 3-25% across the NGHSS. • No specific commitment for the Budget. 	No specific budget allocation.
Commit to adequate funding of a sector development model for the NGHSS to be determined by the NGHSS Industry Plan Working Group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committed to the need for capacity building but no specific commitment for the Budget. 	No specific budget allocation.
Continue the "Membership Allowance" to all funded agencies for the purposes of membership fees or service purchasing from their peak representative body.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific commitment for the Budget. 	No specific budget allocation.
Develop an agreed and consistent approach to facilitate the engagement of sector organisations in consultative and participative processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Already being achieved through existing programs/strategies. • No specific commitment for the Budget. 	No specific budget allocation.
Establish an independent and well resourced Sustainability Commission to ensure that the social, environmental and economic dimensions of sustainability are given equivalent consideration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific commitment for the Budget. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In conjunction with the Sustainability Roundtable, the Department of Premier and Cabinet will conduct a review of the 'State Sustainability Strategy' released in 2003. • No specific budget allocation.

¹This is an abridged version of the Government's response to WACOSS' Pre-Budget Submission, for full details please refer to WACOSS' *The Social Issues Scorecard 2005*.

