



State Budget 2005/06 Information Sheet

Groups Facing Particular Disadvantage – Regional Areas

Although there has been a significant investment in regional infrastructure in this budget, the items below have largely been ignored. In addition to the items listed below, substantial funding has been provided to significantly upgrade regional health services, educational facilities, port facilities and transportation networks. The Government also continues to support the Regional Investment Fund in this budget by allocating \$36.1 million for regional projects and initiatives.

WACOSS' Recommendation	Government's Pre-Election Commitment ¹	Budget Outcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the level of mental health services in regional WA. • Commit funds to community agencies to enable an integrated model of service delivery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Already being achieved through existing programs/strategies (Mental Health Strategy, Independent Living Program): • No further commitments for the Budget. 	\$2.5 million allocated for additional mental health beds and a new Mental Health Clinic in the South West.
Commit funds to develop models to enhance collaboration between government and NGO's.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Already being achieved through existing programs/strategies (Regional Development Policy, Regional Investment Fund, Regional Collocation Scheme). • No further commitments for the Budget. 	No specific budget allocation.
Work with WACOSS and WCDFVS to progress the need for an intensive support model to be provided to DV service providers in rural and remote regions of WA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No commitments made for the Budget. 	No specific budget allocation.
Provide GEHA or equivalent subsidy as benefits available for NGO's to offer as incentive packages for workers in rural and remote regions of WA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No commitments made for the Budget. 	No specific budget allocation.

¹¹This 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*.