

State Budget 2006/07 Information Sheet

Sector Viability

WACOSS' Recommendation	Budget Outcomes	Comments
<p>Address the Under-Payment of the 2005/06 Indexation Rate The error in calculation of the 2005/06 payment be addressed through a once-off retrospective payment and that the remainder of the payments made for the financial year be paid at the correct indexation rate.</p>	<p>The State Government will pay a one-off adjustment to the indexation rate for 2005/06 of 0.6%.</p>	<p>Indexation rate in 2006-07 will be 3.4 percent.</p> <p>Because this was calculated using figures from the Mid Year Review, the indexation rate does not match the CPI and wage price index forecast for 2006/7 in the final budget papers.</p>
<p>Review the Efficacy of the Indexation Policy in Meeting Annual Cost Increases That the Indexation Policy be reviewed to address the point of time that indexation is calculated and that the transparency of the calculation and the formula itself be reviewed to ascertain if it is appropriate. If it is found not to be appropriate, a better formula should be developed.</p>	<p>No specific budget allocation</p>	<p>With the actual wage price index and the CPI for 2005/06 being much higher than forecast in the budget forward estimates, this is still a critical issue for the Indexation Policy to resolve.</p>
<p>Provide Capacity to Address the Workforce Crisis An analysis of the current workforce crisis in the non-government human services sector be undertaken by the State Government, along with representatives of the sector, and strategies, including base-funding adjustments, be implemented to address these issues.</p>	<p>No specific budget allocation</p>	
<p>Review Adequacy of Base-Funding Levels A review schedule be developed to examine each government funded program with regard to base-funding level efficacy.</p>	<p>No specific budget allocation</p>	
<p>A Regional, Rural and Remote Loading That the State Government investigates the added costs of non-government human service delivery in regional, rural and remote areas and provide an appropriate loading on all service agreements to cover the relatively higher costs.</p>	<p>No specific budget allocation</p>	
<p>Access to GEHA for Non-Government Human Service Workers That the State Government support the Non-Government Human Services Sectors attempts to improve workforce recruitment and retention through providing access to GEHA housing in areas of high need.</p>	<p>No specific budget allocation</p>	

<p>Support for Volunteers in the Non-Government Human Services Sector</p> <p>That the State Government explore the following volunteering issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impact of the cost of Volunteer Personal Accident Premiums on service delivery; • The cost / benefit of increasing the standard reimbursements for volunteers; and • The cost / benefit of reducing the cost of police checks for volunteers. 	<p>No specific budget allocation but a commitment to:</p> <p>“Work in partnership with the community sector to develop and deliver a helpline, resource manual, website and training program to assist volunteer organisations to undertake effective recruitment, screening, supervision and support of volunteers.”</p>	
<p>Building the Organisational Capacity of Non-Government Organisations</p> <p>The State Government provide adequate resources to implement the recommendations of the NGHSS Industry Plan Sector Reform and Development Working Group.</p>	<p>No specific budget allocation</p>	