

State Budget 2007/08 Information Sheet

Strengthening Community Services

WACOSS' Recommendation	Budget Outcome	Comments
<p>State Government commit to working with the sector to determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total value of the programs currently delivered (beyond service delivery); • The value of quality improvement initiatives currently being undertaken by the sector; • The total cost of delivering services including an accurate costing of current and future overheads; and • Appropriate pricing principles for government funding to enable Full Cost Recovery for the sector. <p>This should be conducted by a Taskforce (possibly under the umbrella of the Industry Council) made up of Government and Sector representatives.</p>	<p>No specific allocations in this budget</p>	<p>The budget has not responded to these community asks, however there is opportunity to continue to push for resolution of these issues through the recently established Industry Roundtable.</p>
<p>A comprehensive workforce plan for the Community Services sector should be completed. This workforce plan would be overseen by a Human Services Industry Taskforce made up of Government and Sector representatives.</p>	<p>The NGHSS has been allocated an indexation rate of 3.3% This is well below the 4% rate which is reflective of the budget estimates of the Wage Price Index and Consumer Price Index.</p>	<p>The treasurer has offered to look to adjust the figure after the mid-term review – so the sector will need to hold him to that commitment.</p>
<p>Create a new Ministerial portfolio dedicated to the Community Services Sector, supported by an Office for the Community Services Sector.</p>		
<p>As part of the investigations into full cost recovery, provision should be made for regional differences in costs, and service agreements increased accordingly.</p>		