## Victorian AOD Service Providers Conference

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**Mental Health and Wellbeing Division** 

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### Our shared challenges and opportunities

This financial year we will work to address some of the sectors most significant and enduring challenges

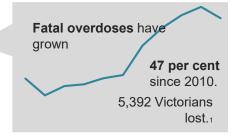
Working to reduce preventable drug harms as a priority

Responding to a demand by standing up new services + supporting AOD capability across sectors

Addressing the immediate and longer-term sustainability of areas in need

Concurrent reforms as an opportunity to strengthen cross-system interoperability

#### OFFICIAL



#### Pharmacotherapy:

On a snapshot day in 2021, nearly **15,000** clients and just over **1000** prescribers...

<sup>1.</sup> Coroners Court of Victoria. Victorian Overdose Deaths 2012-2021. (2022).

<sup>2.</sup>National Opioid Pharmacotherapy Statistics Annual Data Collection, 2021.

### Supported by the 2023-24 State Budget outcomes

The 2023-24 State Budget invests an additional \$255.1 million over four years and \$13.4 million ongoing in Victorian AOD services. This investment will:

Maintain AOD system capacity and expand our harm reduction responses

Establish services to support the **decriminalisation of public drunkenness** (\$78.7 million over three years )

Support the establishment of **treatment services for Victorian workers** (\$12 million over two years)

A **health-based response** will be introduced in Nov 2023 following decriminalisation of **public intoxication**, including:

Dedicated **outreach** and **places of safety** for Aboriginal people in metro and regional Vic + **outreach and a sobering centre** in metro Melbourne for the general population.

2023-24 State Budget outcomes

# Including expansion of our critical harm reduction responses

**Continuation of medically supervised injecting services** in North Richmond (\$45.1 million over four years) and related outreach services in North Richmond and in the CBD (\$11.7 million over two years)

**Expanding access to Naloxone** (\$6.2 million over four years)

**Early warning surveillance** to support timely public health advice (\$4.5 million over four years)

Over 6000 overdoses have been managed within MSIR, with zero fatalities.

Modelling indicates that up to 63 deaths have been prevented.

More than 3300 referrals have been to wrap around supports, including more than **800 clients commencing opioid pharmacotherapy** treatment.

2023-24 State Budget outcomes

# And support for the fundamental components of our treatment system

Maintain **residential rehabilitation and withdrawal capacity** (\$65.4 million over four years and \$13.4 million ongoing)

**Stabilising and improving access** to Victoria's opioid pharmacotherapy program (\$9.9 million over two years)

A new AOD workforce pipeline (\$10.7 million over two years).

**Community-based treatment** for people involved in the criminal justice system + addressing the intersection between family violence and AOD (\$3.4 million over four years)

This outcome allows us to address areas of urgent need + review how we invest in and deliver this critical treatment. We are also working with the Commonwealth on the implementation of dispensing fee subsidies

2023-24 State Budget outcomes

#### With continued work toward sustainability

Implementation of activity associated with State Budget outcomes and options to address the immediate and long-term viability and sustainability of the AOD system, including:

- Addressing key systemic challenges
- Supporting systems and services to deliver integrated care
- Continued partnership with the AOD sector, working together to create a sustainable and thriving AOD system

For opportunities to contribute your AOD experience and expertise to the reforms go to:

www.health.vic.gov.au/mental-health-wellbeing-reform/calendar-of-engagement-opportunities

To stay up to date with forthcoming engagement opportunities and subscribe for fortnightly updates: mentalhealth@health.vic.gov.au

