

ACT Budget Bulletin 2022-23

Introduction

This bulletin provides a summary of ACT Council of Social Service (ACTCOSS) responses to the 2022-23 ACT Budget announced on 2 August 2022.

It highlights key announcements relevant to community service organisations and the Canberrans they support. It also includes a list of measures about which ACTCOSS will be requesting more information. Lastly, it highlights gaps that are not addressed in this Budget.

Overall, ACTCOSS welcomes funding for housing, homelessness, and the ACT community sector, including \$57.2m for public housing maintenance, \$30m for additional public housing, \$37.5m for mental health services and \$7.2m for continuing specialist homelessness services. ACTCOSS has also welcomed a \$13m investment in additional supports for alcohol and other drug treatment services in the Territory.

Other key budget measures welcomed by ACTCOSS include:

- \$3.059m for legal assistance for vulnerable members of the community including continuation of funding for services established during COVID-19.
- \$37.5m for mental health services for young people, families and young children.
- Investments in the health sector, including \$4.6m for making medical and surgical abortions more affordable; and \$12.1m for public maternity services, including for scoping for a new perinatal mental health wellbeing facility.
- \$3.7m over 4 years for implementing the Capital of Equality LGBTIQ+ Strategy; and \$2.5m to support Canberrans born with variations in sex characteristics.
- Funding over four years to cover the community sector's additional 4.43% indexation with a new methodology to reflect the Fair Work Commission Annual Wage Review.

- Increase of the Utilities Concession by \$50 to \$800 for the next year.

We also welcome key measures aimed at supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples including:

- Funding for the Aboriginal Legal Service to establish a Care and Protection Legal Advocacy Service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Funding for the establishment of an independent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Commissioner.
- Funding to support the continuation of Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Services' holistic model of health service delivery to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre.
- Additional funding for the construction of new accommodation for the Gugan Gulwan Youth Aboriginal Corporation.
- Investments in programs to reduce incarceration rates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Investment to implementing community-led, culturally appropriate responses to domestic violence in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

ACTCOSS will be monitoring the implementation of these measures to ensure there is an appropriate distribution of funding between ACT Government services and the community sector. While a strong ACT public service is important, we need to ensure that a fairer share of resources is provided to frontline community services who are best placed to deliver support to the community.

However, some gaps remain. The ACT Government must ensure funding for the community sector includes operational support costs, such as increased rent, insurance, long service leave provisions and the full cost of delivering services. While we welcomed an increase of the Utilities Concession by \$50 to \$800 following advocacy by ACTCOSS and other partners, we had hoped to see additional support to tackle the cost of living pressures faced by Canberrans on low incomes including a major review of the amount and targeting of financial concessions.

A number of other issues have not been addressed by this Budget. These include gaps in supports for older Canberrans and for implementing recommendations in the Disability Strategy, Disability Health Strategy and Disability Justice Strategy. ACTCOSS is also disappointed that the Budget was not clear about the funding for responses to domestic and family violence and what proportion of this would be allocated to frontline and community sector services.

The Budget also fails to address ongoing calls for a Commission of Inquiry or Royal Commission into the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the justice system. We also need to see significant increases in investments and supports for Aboriginal community-controlled organisations, including through funding and provision of adequate and appropriate facilities.

However, overall, the 2022-23 ACT Budget provides a basis for the shared work of government and the community sector.

Investment in community organisations also supports our local economy by delivering significant returns on investment through jobs and spending in the local economy.

ACTCOSS looks forward to using this Budget as the starting point towards a more equitable and just ACT community.

Key announcements

Note: all page numbers refer to the provided PDF version of [ACT Budget 2022-23 documents](#) at time of embargoed release.

Fix Canberra's housing and homelessness crisis

- \$7.285m over three years for expanding **specialist homelessness service** capacity. (Budget Outlook, p. 176) This continues funding put in place during COVID-19.
- \$57.262m in capital and \$500,000 in 2022-23 for **public housing maintenance and repairs**. (Budget Outlook, p. 176) This is in addition to \$80m committed in the last budget and follows years of neglect of public housing maintenance.
- \$52.186m (including \$22.386m capital offset, for a net capital increase of \$29.8m) over four years for year four of delivering additional public housing dwellings promised under the **Growth and Renewal Program**. (Budget Outlook, p. 177)
- \$1.648m (fully offset by existing funding) for **projects to support affordability and delivery of affordable housing, particularly for low- and middle-income households**. This includes examination of opportunities to enhance community housing and an examination of the **Affordable Home Purchase Scheme**. (Budget Outlook, p. 155)
- \$5m in 2024-25 and 2025-26 in forgone revenue for lease variation charge discounts for **Build-to-Rent for community housing projects**. (Budget Outlook, p. 126)

- \$750,000 in 2022-23 for the Chief Minister's Charitable Fund charity house program (Hands Across Canberra) to purchase **land for two charity homes**. (Budget Outlook, p. 129)

Valuing the community sector

- \$8.865m over four years to cover **additional 4.43% indexation with a new methodology to reflect the Fair Work Commission Annual Wage Review**. (Budget Outlook, p. 133) (slightly behind 4.6% increased wage costs and additional 0.5% super contribution). (Budget Outlook, p. 221). We seek written details as to the new methodology and whether it will be implemented on an ongoing basis and across directorates. Further, this does not respond to gaps in funding as highlighted by the [Counting the Costs](#) report.

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander self-determination

- \$3.059m over three years to the ACT's community-based legal assistance sector to continue services put in place during COVID-19 including \$743,000 for the establishment of a **new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care and protection legal advocacy** service through the Aboriginal Legal Service NSW/ACT, in response to a recommendation of the *Our Booris, Our Way* report. (Budget Outlook, p. 179)
- \$3.598m over four years to establish **an independent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Commissioner**, in response to a recommendation of the *Our Booris, Our Way* report. (Budget Outlook, p. 178)
- \$11.487m over four years to **reduce Indigenous incarceration rates** in ACT including: (Budget Outlook, p. 180)
 - Providing culturally appropriate support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in police custody through the Interview Friends program.
 - Increased sitting days for the Galambany Circle Sentencing Court.
 - Expansion of community corrections reporting pilot.
 - Expansion of the Yarrabi Bamirr program.
 - Supporting ex-detainees to reconnect with country and community through the On Country and Empowerment Yarning Circles program.
 - Continuation of the Ngurrambai Bail Support program.
 - One-on-one intensive case management pilot program for a group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees.

- \$9.4m (offset by \$7.191m) over four years to support the continuation of **Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Services** holistic model of health service delivery to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees at the **Alexander Maconochie Centre**. (Budget Outlook, p. 163)
- \$3m (offset by \$400,000) over two years for the next stage of the **Watson Health Precinct** to support the construction and operation of an **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander alcohol and other drug residential rehabilitation facility**. (Budget Outlook, p. 175)
- \$2.1m (offset by \$1.908m) over four years to begin the transition of the **Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm** to a residential program and provide Elder-in-residence support. (Budget Outlook, p. 175)
- \$935,000 (offset by \$275,000) over two years **to undertake broad consultation** with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities **to ensure culturally informed implementation of all recommendations in the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program Report**. (Budget Outlook, p. 139)
- \$600,000 (fully offset) over four years to provide grant funding to the **Winanggaay Ngunnawal Language Group** to promote the integration and understanding of local Ngunnawal language and culture into ACT public schools. (Budget Outlook, p. 147)
- \$4.251m (\$19.017m with capital provision offset of \$12.886m and prior year capital offset of \$1.880m) over three years in additional funding for **the construction of new accommodation for the Gugan Gulwan Youth Aboriginal Corporation**, including the incorporation of detailed cultural design features. (Budget Outlook, p. 133)
- \$4.806m (fully offset) over four years to boost outpatient paediatric services through the establishment of a neurodevelopmental and behavioural assessment and treatment service, as well as a GP-led multidisciplinary outpatient clinic for **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young adults**. (Budget Outlook, p. 173)
- \$1.886m (\$1.343m offset by the Safer Families Levy) over four years for implementing **community-led family violence responses for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities** in response to progressing the recommendations in the *We Don't Shoot Our Wounded* report. (Budget outlook, p. 138)

Poverty, inequality and cost of living

- \$1.56m in 2022-23 to extend the increase to the **Utilities Concession** by \$50 to \$800 for one year only. (Budget Outlook, p. 131)

- \$700,000 over three years to **CARE ACT** to enable continuation of the Mobile Debt Clinic (previously known as the *Reach Out* program) which supports Canberrans experiencing financial abuse as a result of domestic and family violence. (Not referenced in Budget Outlook, see ACT Government Legal Assistance/Media release)
- \$180,000 in 2022-23 to provide additional funding for **the Refugee, Asylum Seeker and Humanitarian program Services Access card** for one year only. (Budget Outlook p. 135)

Better health

- \$2.598m over four years (fully offset through the Health Funding Envelope) to continue support for Leo's Place through **Palliative Care ACT**, a respite hub for people with life-limiting illness. (Budget Outlook, p. 164)
- \$8.5m (capital) and \$850,000 over four years for improving access to **hydrotherapy services**. (Budget Outlook, p. 164)
- \$3.05m (fully offset through Health Funding Envelope) over four years for **more nurse practitioners** at walk-in centres. (Budget Outlook, p. 163)
- \$46.263m (\$20.132m offset by Commonwealth funding) for 2022-23 to continue implementation of the **COVID-19 public health support package**. (Budget Outlook, p. 165)
- \$34.636m (capital) and \$2.820m (fully offset through Health Funding Envelope and Medicare Benefits) for **delivering new clinical equipment and building services** at the **Canberra hospital**. (Budget Outlook, p. 166)
- \$780,000 (fully offset) for 2022-23 for site selection and design for a **new palliative care ward** at the Canberra Hospital. (Budget Outlook, p. 166)
- \$52.410m over four years for implementation of the **Canberra Hospital Master Plan** and transforming the Canberra Hospital Campus. (Budget Outlook, p. 167)
- \$4.638m over two years for replacing and enhancing **critical equipment** at **Calvary Public Hospital**. (Budget Outlook, p. 167)
- \$5.977m over four years (fully offset through Health Funding Envelope) for **clinical governance and workforce planning** for health. (Budget Outlook, p. 168)
- \$12.113m over four years (fully offset through Health Funding Envelope) for **better public maternity services** including for scoping for a new **perinatal mental health wellbeing facility**. (Budget Outlook, p. 169)

- \$29.786m over four years (fully offset through Health Funding Envelope) for delivering more **elective surgeries**. (Budget Outlook, p. 169)
- \$3.417m over four years (fully offset through Health Funding Envelope) for health care for **vulnerable people with complex needs** in partnership with **Directions, the Junction and Companion House**. (Budget Outlook, p. 170)
- \$5.678m over two years (fully offset through Health Funding Envelope) for **reducing hospital wait times** and **endoscopy services**. (Budget Outlook, p. 171)
- \$16.353m over four years (fully offset through Health Funding Envelope) for expanding the **allied health workforce** to deliver exceptional healthcare for patients. (Budget Outlook, p. 172)
- \$17.047m over four years (fully offset through Health Funding Envelope) for **expansion of outpatient services** at **Calvary Public Hospital**. (Budget Outlook, p. 174)
- \$825,000 from 2022-23 to 2025-26 for **supporting social inclusion through implementation of the ACT Carers Strategy**. Funding includes community initiatives, awareness-raising and support for operation of the Carers Strategy Governance Group. (Budget Outlook, p. 142)

Alcohol and other drugs

- \$1.673m (capital) and \$6.463m (fully offset by Health Funding Envelope) over four years for continuing support for **alcohol and other drug services treatments and services** in the community – includes funding for carer support service, boosted funding for residential treatment services and targeted treatment for methamphetamine dependence. (Budget Outlook, p. 174)
- \$1m in capital in 2022-23 and \$1.998m (with \$400,000 offset by Health Funding Envelope) over two years for development of the **Watson Health Precinct** redevelopment for alcohol and other drug treatment. (Budget Outlook, p. 175)

Mental health

- \$9.384m over four years (fully offset through the Health Funding Envelope) for the **Home Assessment Acute Response Team** for community-based responses to mental health, and expansion of mental health liaison position at Calvary Hospital, an Adult Dialectical Behaviour Therapy Program and a Homelessness Outreach Team. (Budget Outlook, p. 160) Note no additional

funding for the community services that support patients remaining in the community and the carers who support them.

- \$8.138m over four years (fully offset through Commonwealth revenue and Health Funding Envelope) for expansion of **suicide prevention programs** and mental health support for at risk youth and young adults. (Budget Outlook, p. 162)
- \$14.462m over four years (fully offset through Commonwealth revenue and Health Funding Envelope) for strengthening **mental health support services for families**, adolescents and young children aged 0-12, including universal perinatal mental health screening and data collection. (Budget Outlook, p. 165)
- \$1.997m (including \$759,000 Health Funding Envelope offset) in 2022-23 for expansion of the Police, Ambulance, and Clinician Early Response **(PACER) mental health program**. (Budget Outlook, p. 162) Note there is no additional funding for the community services that support carers and patients remaining in the community.

Disability

- \$260,000 for 2022-23 for the development of the **ACT Disability Health Strategy and First Action Plan**. (Budget Outlook, p. 161)
- \$443,000 for 2022-23 to continue the **Children and Young People Equipment Loan Service (CAYPELS)** for children who experience developmental delay, high physical or medical needs or disability. This is for one year only. (Budget Outlook, p. 134)

Climate and energy

- \$8.457m (including \$3.579m offset) over four years for the **Gas Transition Taskforce**. (Budget Outlook, p. 152)
- \$8.476m over four years (and \$-7.076m net capital) for the **Vulnerable Household Energy Support Scheme** (Part of \$50m already committed in 2021-22). (Budget Outlook, p. 153)
- \$8.681m over four years (and \$3m in capital) for the **Zero Emissions Vehicles Strategy**. (Budget Outlook, p.154) This funding is focused on middle to high income earners and no measures are included to support community service organisations to switch to ZEVs.
- \$633,000 (net capital) from 2022-23 to 2023-24 and \$254,000 (net cost – fully offset by revenue from levy on utilities) from 2024-25 to 2025-26 to undertake first phase of new client interface system **for ACAT to assist**

customers in financial hardship and under threat of disconnection of their utility service. (Budget Outlook, p. 183)

Justice

- \$975,000 capital in 2022-23 (\$456,00 capital offset) and \$294,000 costs for improving safety at **Bimberi Youth Justice Centre** – focused on infrastructure upgrades. (Budget Outlook, p. 136)
- \$1.465m (including \$600,000 offset) in 2022-23 for continuing to **reduce harmful impacts from electronic gaming machines** including design work for bet and load-up limits. (Budget Outlook, p. 178)
- \$12.417m (and \$433,000 in capital) over four years for implementing recommendations of **A new future for custodial services, ACT Corrective Services Blueprint for Change** – including increasing staff and support for staff. (Budget Outlook, p. 179) No indicators or information on how this investment will improve outcomes for detainees has been provided.
- \$3.059m over three years for **improving equity in the justice system** for additional legal assistance for vulnerable members of the community, including establishing a new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care and protection legal advocacy service. (Budget Outlook, p. 179)
- \$2.841m over four years to **support Legal Aid’s Family Violence Unit, the Older Person’s ACT Legal Service and the Legal Aid helpline.** (Budget Outlook, p. 180)

Children, young people and families

- \$1.825m over three years from 2022-23 to 2024-25 to **support organisations to provide physical activities for children and young people.** Funding will be provided to the Physical Activity Foundation, the Heart Foundation, Kulture Break, Abilities Unlimited Australia, Pegasus Riding School and Every Chance to Play. (Budget Outlook, p. 119).
- \$330,000 (fully offset by existing resources of the Community Services Directorate and Canberra Health Services) across four years for **supporting Roundabout Canberra** to provide essential items for vulnerable families. (Budget Outlook, p. 135)
- \$66.216m (\$36.413m offset) over four years for more investment in therapeutic services as part of the **Next Steps for our Kids** strategy. (Budget Outlook, p.136).
- \$3.568m (capital) in 2022-23 for **COVID-19 support** for ventilation and shade structures in public schools. (Budget Outlook, p. 144).

- \$6.625m over four years to continue **delivery of public four-year-old preschool**. (Budget Outlook, p. 144).
- \$2.103m over four years for the implementation of key reforms in the **Education Amendment Act 2022** to enable early identification of vulnerable students. (Budget Outlook, p. 145).
- \$1.141m for one year only to **embed safety culture in ACT public schools** by establishing the Safe@Schools taskforce. (Budget Outlook, p. 145).
- \$3.008m for one year only for **equitable enrolment adjustments** to support inclusion of students with additional needs. (Budget Outlook, p. 146).
- \$3.839m across 2022-23 to 2025-26 to continue funding **ACT Policing's Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Team**. (Budget Outlook, p. 183).
- \$5.943m (\$3.898m offset by the Safer Families Levy) from over three years for **delivering the Family Violence Safety Action Program (FVSAP)**. FVSAP provides intensive case management, case coordination and information sharing. (Budget Outlook, p. 137)
- \$1.807m (fully offset by the Safer Families Levy) over two years for **domestic and family violence training and resources**. (Budget Outlook, p. 137)
- \$620,000 (fully offset by the Safer Families Levy) over two years for **providing support to people escaping domestic and family violence**. Funding will support the Domestic Violence Crisis Service as well as the Canberra Rape Crisis Centre. (Budget Outlook, p. 138)

Women, gender and sexuality

- \$3.736m (\$2.728m offset) over four years for **implementing the Capital of Equality LGBTIQ+ Strategy**. A continuation of the Capital of Equality Strategy. This initiative will bring together two existing initiatives – 'More support for families and inclusion: Making Canberra a more LGBTIQ+ friendly city', and 'Better support when it matters – Office of LGBTIQ+ Affairs'. (Budget Outlook, p. 120)
- \$2.564m (\$1.121m offset by the Health Funding Envelope) over four years for **supporting Canberrans born with variations in sex characteristics**. Funding will be provided for dedicated healthcare workers, a new statutory body to support best treatment practices, awareness campaigns and a boost to A Gender Agenda's (AGA) peer support fund. (Budget Outlook, p. 131)
- \$1.484m over four years for **establishing a team of independent sexual violence advisors** as part of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Steering Committee's final report (Phase 1). (Budget Outlook, p. 139)

- \$4.367m over four years for a **Multi-Disciplinary Centre (MDC)** as part of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Steering Committee's final report (Phase 1). The MDC will fund a range of specialist roles to be co-located. (Budget Outlook, p. 139)
- \$1.093m over four years for the **Prevention of Sexual Assault Strategy** as part of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Steering Committee's final report (Phase 1). (Budget Outlook, p. 140)
- \$515,000 (fully offset by the Justice and Community Safety and Community Services Directorates) over four years for **reinstating the wraparound service model** as part of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Steering Committee's final report (Phase 1). (Budget Outlook, p. 140)
- \$585,000 over two years for **special services review related to sexual violence** as part of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Steering Committee's final report (Phase 1). (Budget Outlook, p. 141)
- \$1.434m over four years for **victim survivor consultation program** as part of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Steering Committee's final report (Phase 1). (Budget Outlook, p. 141)
- \$4.642m (fully offset by the Health Funding Envelope) over four years for **making medical and surgical abortions more affordable**. (Budget Outlook, p. 173)

Human rights Jurisdiction

- \$4.221m over four years for supporting the **ACT Ombudsman**. (Budget Outlook, p. 125)
- \$200,000 over two years for **fostering neighbourhood democracy pilot**. The pilot program will be implemented in five suburbs and is the first stage in delivering on the commitment made in the Parliamentary and Governing Agreement of the 10th Legislative Assembly. (Budget Outlook, p. 130)
- \$3.366m (fully offset by directorates' existing funding) over four years for **ACT Public Service workforce diversity and inclusion**. (Budget Outlook, p. 130)
- \$1.494m (\$981,000 offset by existing program funding) over four years for **continued support for ACT community language schools**. Initiative builds on development of the Multicultural Recognition Act. (Budget Outlook, p. 132)
- \$2.666m (\$1.648m offset by user charges and sponsorship revenue) for one year only for **National Multicultural Festival – 25th Anniversary**. (Budget Outlook, p. 132)

- \$400,000 over two years for **developing the Social Recovery Framework**. Development of the framework is intended to support better understanding of priorities for individuals, the community sector and broader community for social recovery following a disaster. (Budget Outlook, p. 134)
- \$278,000 over two years for **supporting the Human Rights Commission (HRC)** including supporting use of the HRC's complaint process and strengthening capacity of HRC to support Discrimination, Health Services, Disability and Community Services Commissioner. (Budget Outlook, p. 184)
- Funding for refugee, asylum seeker and humanitarian support can be found under poverty, inequality and cost of living.

Planning and transport

- \$3.99m including \$3.609m in net capital in 2022-23 for **Kippax Group Centre Master Plan** which includes detailed design work for a new community hub, skate park and 80 urban infill dwellings as part of the **Indicative Land Release Program**. (Budget Outlook, p. 151)
- No increase in public transport fares in 2022-23. (Budget Outlook, p. 207)
- \$200,000 over two years for the co-design of a **new library and community facility in the Molonglo Commercial Centre**. (Budget Outlook, p. 193)
- \$1.290m (\$791,000 offset) for 2022-23 to continue **weekday flexible public transport**; ensure services are maintained while evaluation is completed for feasibility on options to deliver improved on-demand services. (Budget Outlook, p. 197)

Measures requiring further consideration

- Is the increase to indexation for the community sector being applied across all directorates? What is being done to cover growing demand and other cost increases outside of salary rises?
- What plans are there to conduct a review of programs such as PACER or HART – aimed at keeping people out of hospital – to ensure best outcomes for communities and carers are being met?
- How much of the funding for the Watson Health Precinct is for the development of the Aboriginal community-controlled residential rehabilitation service? How much is for the other services that already exist at the precinct?
- How much of the funding for alcohol and other drug services will be targeted towards people with complex mental health needs or experiencing

homelessness so that we can have a robust whole-of-government response to people who use drugs who are in crisis?

- How will investments in this budget contribute to service system reforms needed for raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility?
- How will the government respond to the *Counting the Costs* report on community sector service costs and co-design future services approaches, including through commissioning? (Budget Statement G (Community Services), p.4)
- More information is needed on how the community sector will be involved in Developing the Social Recovery Framework. (Budget Outlook, p. 134)
- How much of the \$1.471m in refurbishing community and government buildings is going to the community sector? What are the details for \$7.249m in capital and \$750,000 over three years for refurbishing community and government buildings, including maintenance and upgrade works across ACT Government owned buildings? (Budget Outlook, p. 113). Noting a further \$1.766m over four years for refurbishment of existing office space in Gungahlin to create flexi hubs. (Budget Outlook, p. 123)
- How will the community sector be involved in the significant refresh of the ACT Infrastructure Plan?
- Is any of the funding for implementing the Capital of Equality LGBTIQ+ Strategy targeted toward Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities?
- How much of the funding allocated as a result of the increase in the Safer Families Levy and funding for Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence will be allocated to community sector and frontline response services?
- How will Universal Design and accessibility mechanisms for housing be implemented and what funding is there for oversight of this?
- How much of the \$3.008m for equitable enrolments will go towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children? How much to children with disabilities? (Budget Outlook, p. 146)
- What proportion \$16.353m allocated to the expansion of allied health workforce will go toward delivering more Aboriginal liaison? (Budget Outlook p. 172)
- What are the details of funding to develop a new culturally sensitive single-story building at the Bruce CIT campus, to accommodate the Yurauna Centre, a dedicated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander educational centre of excellence providing tailored Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander courses, study support and cultural advice? (Budget Outlook, p. 69)

- Why is there only one year of allocated funding for the Asylum Seeker Services Access Card? (Budget Outlook, p. 135)
- How will community sector organisations be supported and resourced to participate in upcoming reviews? For example, will any of the funding for a review of the Family Violence and Sexual Assault sector go toward enabling staff to participate?
- How can we ensure that increased funding is available to meet increased demand for services given rising costs of living?

What's missing

- Adequate funding for the ACT National Preventative Mechanisms (NPMs) - Inspector of Correctional Services, the Human Rights Commission and the ACT Ombudsman to carry out monitoring relating to the implementation of OPCAT requirements in the ACT.
- Funding to implement the Playspaces Strategy.
- Funding for the Recovery College.
- Funding and resources for the Volunteering Strategy.
- Funding to support a multicultural health service.
- Funding for a Commission of Inquiry or Royal Commission into the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the justice system.
- Further investment and resourcing for Aboriginal community-controlled organisations to deliver much needed programs and services.
- Operational support costs for the community sector such as increased rent, insurance, long-service leave provisions, cost of delivering services, and increased demand: note \$6.592m for whole-of-government human resources management information system (Budget Outlook, p. 125); \$3,568m in 2022-23 on improved ventilation in schools (Budget Outlook, p. 144); \$2.442m over two years for a modern rostering system for public health system. (Budget Outlook, p. 172)
- Any targeted funding for supports for older Canberrans, especially given the recent Review of Older Person's Mental Health Supports.
- An outcome and impact evaluation of the ACT Housing Strategy to ensure baseline figures, clear targets, achievements and overall housing stock levels for social housing and affordable rentals are clearly reported on a regular basis.

- Funding and support for an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community-controlled housing provider.
- Funding for an LGBTIQ+ housing strategy and ongoing LGBTIQ+ awareness training and support for housing and homelessness services.
- A review of ageing community facilities and community organisation facilities with a view to developing an investment plan.
- A review of the Targeted Assistance Strategy to ensure concessions are addressing need.
- A trial of free public transport with the view to analyse costs, benefits and distributional impact.
- Funding for implementing a fully inclusive education model with the long-term goal of making all schools accessible and inclusive for all students.
- Funding for a specialty disability legal service within the community legal assistance sector.
- Investment in ensuring all recommendations from the Healthy Prison Review 2019 and the forthcoming 2022 Review are implemented.
- Further funding for detainee wellbeing in the Alexander Maconochie Centre, including access to a financial literacy and education program, high quality health and mental health care, the implementation of a needle and syringe program, and a health promotion program for women.
- Dedicated funding for an independent advocacy voice for culturally and linguistically diverse Canberrans in the ACT.
- Further funding for lifting the cap on the Taxi Subsidy Scheme.

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ACTCOSS is committed to reconciliation, acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land and pays respect to elders past and present.

ACTCOSS advocates for social justice in the ACT and represents not-for-profit community organisations.

Initiative of

