



PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA
Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

MEDIA RELEASE

New public inquiry investigates gender responsive budgeting in Victoria

The Public Accounts and Estimates Committee has launched a new public inquiry into the way the state government budget addresses gender equality.

The Committee's inquiry will examine how gender responsive budgeting at the state level can help to address inequality.

"Government policies aimed at increasing workforce participation, early childhood development, supporting particular industries or regions, sport, or caring for the disabled or elderly, as well as tax, all have gender implications," Committee Chair Lizzie Blandthorn said.

Examples of gender responsive budgeting in Victoria include Women's Budgets that were developed from 1986 to 1996 and the first Gender Equality Budget Statement issued with the 2017-18 State Budget.

"As Australia has been an international pioneer in this area, we want to ensure that we continue to improve our budgetary processes so that governments can allocate and use public resources to advance gender equality."

Gender responsive budgeting is being increasingly adopted worldwide as a tool to ensure that public financial management contributes to gender equality.

"As part of this inquiry we will be considering how other countries are dealing with these issues and whether there are any best practice approaches that we can learn from in advancing gender responsive budgeting in Victoria," Ms Blandthorn said.

"The Committee is keen to hear from organisations and people in the community who have views to share on how the State Budget can help to improve gender equality for Victorians."

The Committee is inviting public submissions to be made by 2 December 2019.

For more information about the inquiry, including on how to make a submission, go to the Committee's [website](#).

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