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## Victorian auditor general report

The Office of the Auditor-General of Victoria (VAGO) released an audit report this week on the management of support and safety of hubs, which last year pledged to assess whether hubs provide effective and efficient coordination of services for women and families. Orange Door centres are co-ordinating Victoria's family safety and were one of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Family Violence to introduce transformational services and systemic reform of Victoria's response to family violence. Responding to the VAGO report, Eleri Butler, director of Family Safety Victoria, said: We welcome VAGO's recognition that the Orange Gate is a long-term program to transform family violence services systems in Victoria. The Orange Door model includes specialised domestic violence services and children and family services to provide comprehensive assessment and access to support. This includes tailored support for women and children affected by family violence, comprehensive support for Aboriginal families in local communities, help with the care and wellbeing of children, and work with perpetrators to manage risk and change behaviour. We also welcome the auditor's acknowledgement that we have consulted extensively with experts and services to inform about the early development and delivery of the orange doors and to demonstrate our commitment to learning from the feedback received. This approach has helped us to achieve improvements in project planning, which the report recognises as essential to support the development of more efficient operations and practices in all sectors. The government has laid the groundwork for evaluation and review learning, by establishing an independent supervisor to implement domestic violence reform, which the government and its agencies control the implementation of domestic violence reform. We have no hesitation in accepting all nine of the auditor's recommendations, as they have already been determined by their own reviews, feedback from partners and an independent monitor. The measures that result are central to our implementation plans for the next phase of the introduction of orange doors across countries. Having only recently joined the Victoria Family Safety Team, I know how much this job is groundbreaking. Orange Doors are a new way for people to access help and support, and we are working in ways that have never been done before. It is also vital that this programme is included and informed by the wider system of family violence reforms being in place across Victoria. I would like to acknowledge how difficult it is for our teams and partner services to operate locally and across the country to establish and provide this integrated response to services in our communities. Despite recent challenges, we are also on our way to open the Orange Gate in the Central Highlands and Loddon this year. As we move into the next phase of delivery and reproduction, we will continue to work with survivors and work with Summits and Services to improve prevention and the needs of families affected by abuse across the country. A comprehensive summary of victoria 's proposed family safety measures and appropriate timeframes can be found in the appendix of the final report . The Office of the Auditor-General of the Victorian Public Sector Auditing on behalf of Parliament and Victorians VAGO plays a key role in promoting trust in the public sector. We are carrying out audits to ensure the transparency and accountability of public sector entities for the Victorian Parliament and the community. The Victorian Auditor-General's Office recognises Australian Aboriginal people as traditional custodians of the state across Victoria. We respect all Aboriginal communities, their culture and elder past, present and rise. The Victorian Auditor-General Office 2020 Victorian Parliamentary Committee on Public Accounts and Assessment has begun the recruitment process of the new Victorian Auditor-General. Former Auditor-General John Doyle, known for his combative style in clashes with the government, resigned in September following allegations he sexually harassed and harassed a colleague. Although Doyle dismissed the allegations as an example of misinterpretation and apparently subordinates may seem very unpleasant former high court judge, Ken Hayne has been called to investigate and finds the complainant's claims convincing. Hayne's report did not paint a healthy workplace environment in the Victorian Auditor-General's office, which remained in the hands of Dr Peter Frost as acting Auditor-General. Now the Victorian Parliament wants a new auditor-general who can bring some diplomacy into the transformative role of the public sector. The Public Accounts and Estimates Committee, which recommends the governor be appointed to the position, has been hired by the executive search firm Odgers Berndtson to assist with the recruitment process. PAEC began putting ads online and in newspapers on Friday. Candidates must have the highest integrity and diplomacy combined with good judgment to meet their obligations in one of Victoria's most critical and transformative public sector appointments. Exceptional leadership and cross-sectoral knowledge are crucial for this role, together with modern knowledge and understanding of business issues and business practices, emerging public sector trends and risk management principles. Extensive expertise in financial accounting, economics and law also take precedence. The ability to lead, integrate and promote a highly skilled and technical team during the implementation of reforms and organisational performance will be greatly appreciated as the ability to promote sophisticated relationships with multiple stakeholders. Candidates should also show comprehensive work knowledge of the machinery of power in the Westminster system. Functions – The Auditor-General shall carry out and report on financial and performance audits. — VAGO, which has around 185 staff, supports the Auditor-General. Independence – The Auditor-General cannot be directed by anyone, including Parliament and the Government. The dismissal is only a resolution of both parliaments, which is a key protection of independence. Legislation — The Audit Law of 1994 gives the auditor general powers and functions. This includes the legal basis for accessing all government information on freedom of information on the findings arising from audits. Parliament – Although independent, the Auditor-General is still in charge of Parliament through the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee (PAEC). For example, the Auditor-General should consult the PAEC on VAGO's annual plan and all specifications for the VAGO performance audit are regularly audited – financial and performance audits – by auditors recommended by PAEC. Applications close on March 9, 2016. Datasets Activity Stream About raw data supports our dashboard with an interactive visualization tool that summarizes the financial statements data for Victoria's 79 financial... The main body of the 2015-2016 annual report contains our Office's report on operations and financial statements (including the opinion of an independent external auditor... The Office of the Auditor-General of Victoria Auditor-General assures parliament of the accountability and performance of the Victorian public sector. This is achieved through the annual programme of audits of the financial and sound operations of public sector entities of the state and local government. Financial audits Our financial audits review the financial statements prepared by the agencies to assess whether they fairly represent the financial position, cash flows and operating results for the year in accordance with the relevant financial reporting frameworks and standards. Around 550 accounts audited each year and around 108 performance statements of public sector agencies, including government departments, public bodies, government business prelude, super-super-trust, health services, universities, TAFE institutes, water corporations, local committees, and financial accounts of the State of Victoria, these 108 audit opinions on the performance statement, the Financial Audit Group conducts and reviews of the State's Estimated Financial Statements and our thinking on the review has been accounted for by the State Budget Paper. Performance audits Our performance audits may include any of these 550 public sector agencies, as well as private or non-profit providers of public sector services or functions and grant recipients. These audits assess whether the agencies are effectively meeting their objectives, use their resources economically and efficiently and comply with the relevant legislation. Performance audits extend beyond the government agency's financial affairs and transaction review to cover broader governance issues that are relevant to the community. Parliamentary reports Table of reports Parliament on the results of our audits: one report on our revision of the country's annual financial report five reports on the results of financial audits – local administrations, technical and further education institutes, universities, public hospitals and water entities, one report for each performance audit These reports include recommendations directed at the audited agencies and highlight important issues that can create debate in Parliament and in the community. Independence The Auditor-General can decide what to revise, how to carry out the audit and when to do so. Our auditors must be objective, sane and independent of the agencies that audited them. We must avoid situations where our objectivity could be compromised or where sufficiency could affect our judgment. We have extensive powers to access audit information. We collect evidence from a variety of sources, including records, data analysis, interviews and stakeholder surveys. We can also collect information outside the sector, such as universities and similar organisations from other jurisdictions. We may also access information that has restrictions on disclosure imposed by other legislation, such as confidentiality provisions, and documents that are a cabinet confidant or trustee. In certain circumstances, we can carry out searches of the premises and we can force individuals to submit documents they own. With the high-quality evidence we collect, we draw conclusions and draft recommendations to agencies. Read the full list of agencies audited by VAGO. The Victorian Auditor-General's Office recognises Australian Aboriginal people as traditional custodians of the state across Victoria. We respect all Aboriginal communities, their culture and elder past, present and rise. 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