

**# VOTE  
FOR  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH**

# CREATING A HEALTHIER FUTURE FOR VICTORIA

ELECTION PLATFORM FOR THE  
2022 VICTORIAN STATE ELECTION

## ASK 1

### **Invest 5% of total government health expenditure on preventive health by 2030**

Our loved ones – from infants to our elders – should have the opportunity to live healthy, full lives. We know that 38% of illness, disease and early deaths can be prevented and this unfairly impacts Victorians who are most in need. To protect all Victorians from preventable illness, and reduce strain on the State's hospitals, the Victorian government must commit to increase spending on preventive health to 5% of the State's overall health budget.

## ASK 2

### **Commit to a minimum five-year funding for Local Public Health Units (LPHUs) to deliver local health promotion, protection and prevention activities**

It is fair for all Victorians from across the State to benefit from coordinated efforts to protect and improve health and wellbeing – no matter where they live. So that more of our friends, families and communities can enjoy their lives fully, supported by a localised and connected health response, our State needs to commit to funding the health promotion, prevention and protection role of our Public Health Units for at least 5-years ((\$150m per annum).



**Public Health Association**  
AUSTRALIA



### ASK 3

## Develop a Victorian Public Health Officer (PHO) training program

Our communities learnt through COVID-19 that highly skilled public health professionals are important to protect health, inclusion and the peace of the whole community. With climate change, we will see more frequent health emergencies in the future. Establishing a three-year training scheme to assess, train and place at least 10 medically and non-medically trained staff (\$7 million per annum) will enable the health and protection of our communities into the future.

### ASK 4

## Invest 5% of total government mental health expenditure on prevention by 2030

Victorians of all ages deserve a health system that keeps people mentally healthy and prevents mental health conditions from occurring in the first place, wherever possible. Our State's recent Royal Commission called for protected funding to tackle the causes of poor mental health and keep our community mentally healthy. To achieve this, the Victorian government must make an ongoing commitment to dedicate at least 5% of the mental health budget to the promotion of mental wellbeing and prevention of ill mental health.

### ASK 5

## Support the self-determination of Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have the right to culturally safe and effective health care. The Victorian government must recognise the strength, capability and humanity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by committing to a policy that gives the community-controlled health sector the power to determine how to best meet community priorities and needs. This should be backed by an ongoing fund for ACCHOs to build and maintain with necessary health care facilities.

### ASK 6

## Establish a state-based Victorian Sustainability Health Unit

People everywhere want to live in a safe climate that is in balance with nature. Although tackling a big and interconnected problem is challenging, Victorians are innovative and have a history of solving complex problems to save lives. Our State must act now to protect our children and future generations from the health impacts of climate change. At a cost of \$10 million per annum, Victorian Sustainability Health Unit will enable coordinated and local action to both lessen the climate impacts of the health sector and support communities to adapt to the health impacts of climate change.