



transforming
DVA

DVA Budget 2018-19

THIS YEAR'S BUDGET AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES



Budget
2018-19

SUMMARY

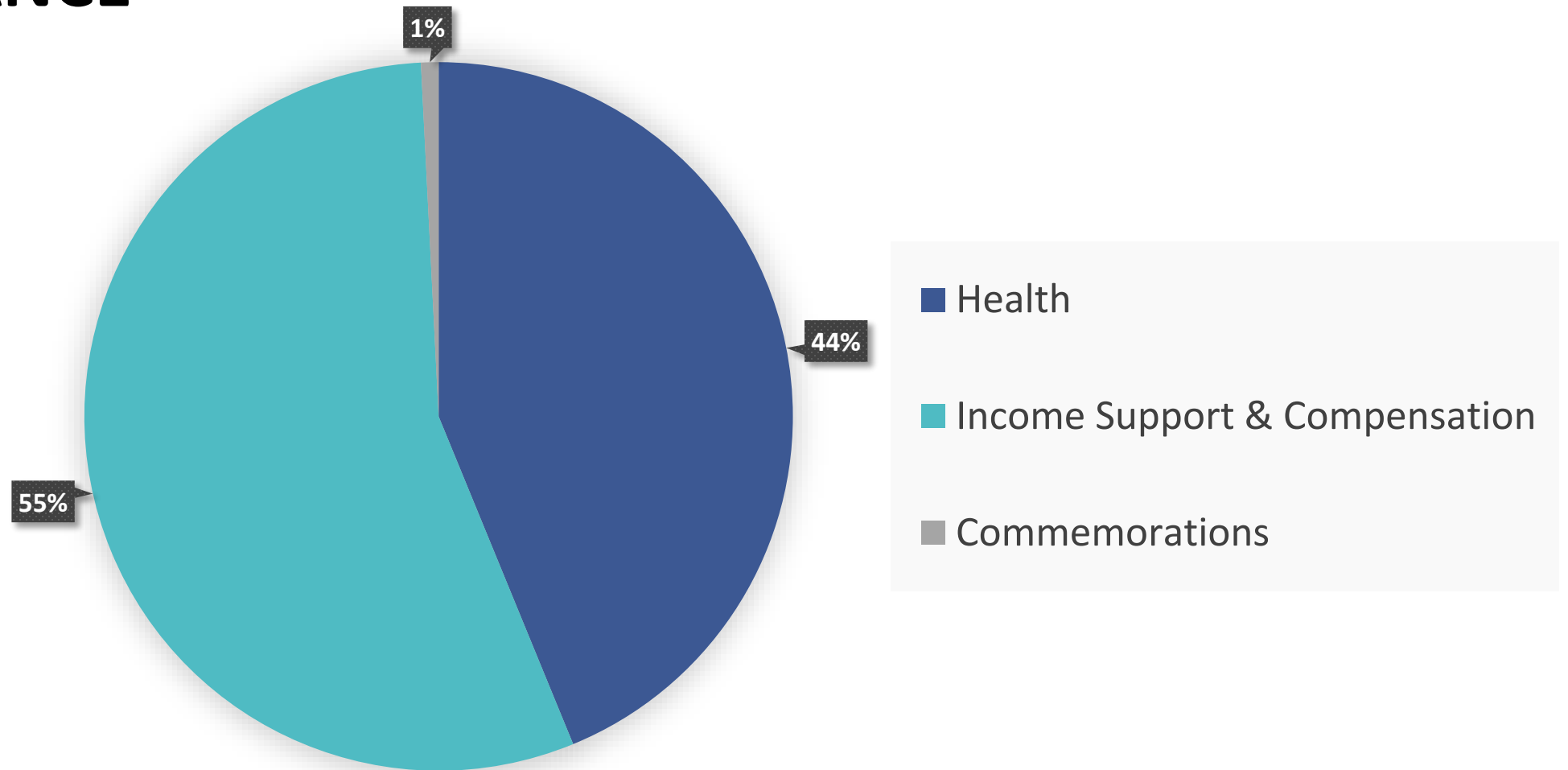
Budget 2018-19 builds on the measures put in place in the 2017-18 MYEFO, including:

- **\$16.1 million** over four years for a new Veteran Payment for financially vulnerable veterans claiming mental health conditions, effective 1 May 2018.
- **\$7.1 million** over four years to extend support for families of veterans, effective 1 May 2018.
- **\$2.1 million** over four years for an annual health assessment for ex-serving ADF members for the first five years post-discharge, commencing 1 July 2019.
- **\$4.0 million** over two years to pilot a case management service for transitioning or recently discharged ADF members, starting 1 July 2018.
- **\$1.7 million** over 12 months to undertake a scoping study to professionalise veterans' advocacy, as announced by the Minister for Veterans' Affairs on 16 April 2018.

SUMMARY

- **\$11.2 billion** has been allocated for Veterans' Affairs in 2018-19.
- This will support around **288,000 clients** (veterans and dependants).
- Funding in 2018-19 comprises **\$6.2 billion** for income support and compensation and **\$4.9 billion** for health services.
- **\$80.0 million** is allocated to commemorations.

AT A GLANCE



WHAT WE WILL COVER

1. DVA measures
2. Australian War Memorial measures
3. Cross-portfolio measures – Department of Social Services
4. Cross-portfolio measures – Department of Health



DVA Budget Measures

NEW AND CONTINUING INITIATIVES THAT HAVE RECEIVED FUNDING

DVA MEASURES

Transforming DVA to put Veterans and their Families First

- Delivering Australia's Digital Future – Veteran Centric Reform - Continuation

Boosting Job Opportunities for Veterans and their Families

- Support for Veterans' Employment Opportunities - Continuation
- Long Tan Bursary – Extension of Eligibility

Better Health Outcomes

- Improved Dental and Allied Health
- Mental Health Treatment for ADF Reservists with Domestic or International Disaster Relief and Certain Other Service

Support for Veterans through Improved Compensation Arrangements

- Removing the Stepdown for Incapacity Payments – Increased Payments for Veterans Studying
- Reversal of 2015-16 Budget Measures – SRCA Reforms

TRANSFORMING DVA TO PUT VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES FIRST

\$111.9 million Delivering Australia's Digital Future – Veteran Centric Reform – Continuation:

- Calling one phone number, 1800VETERAN, to access DVA services with quicker response times and improved call quality.
- Expanding MyService to make lodging claims for incapacity, permanent impairment and income support easier.
- Faster decisions on claims lodged in MyService through streamlined processes and increased automatic acceptance when possible.
- Reaching out to veterans and their families who are not in contact with DVA with more options to learn about our services and support.
- Using the power of data to anticipate the needs of veterans and their families and proactively connecting and offering services and support.
- Providing veterans increased choice and online visibility of aids and appliances.
- Continuing targeted ICT development.

BOOSTING JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Measures:

1. **\$8.3 million** Support for Veterans Employment Opportunities – Continuation:
 - **\$4.0 million** PM's Veterans' Employment Program Development & Promotion
 - **\$4.3 million** Support for Veterans' Employment Opportunities
2. Long Tan Bursary – Extension of Eligibility

SUPPORT FOR VETERANS THROUGH IMPROVED COMPENSATION ARRANGEMENTS

Measures:

\$16.1 million Support for Veterans through Improved Compensation Arrangements:

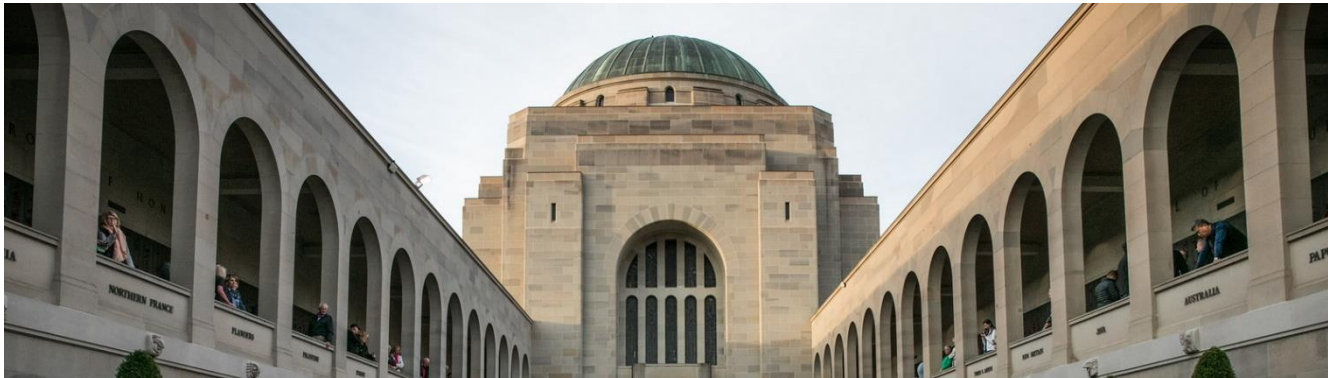
- **\$10.8 million** Removing the Stepdown for Incapacity Payments – Increased Payments for Veterans Studying
- **\$5.3 million** Reversal of 2015-16 Budget Measures – SRCA Reforms



BETTER HEALTH OUTCOMES

Measures:

1. **\$40.7 million (save)** Improved Dental and Allied Health
2. **\$2.2 million** Mental Health Treatment for Australian Defence Force Reservists with:
 - Domestic or International Disaster Relief Services
 - Border Protection Service
 - Serious Training Injury
3. **\$0.1 million** Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – New Listing and Price Amendments



AWM Measure

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL INITIATIVES

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL MEASURE

Measure:

\$13.1 million Australian War Memorial – Digitisation and Sustainment Program:

- **\$8.2 million** Digitisation
- **\$4.9 million** Sustainment



Cross-portfolio Measures

SHARED MEASURES WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES MEASURES

More Choices for a Longer Life – Finances for a Longer Life:

- New Means Testing Rules for Innovation Retirement Income Streams
- Increase and Extend the Work Bonus
- Expansion of Pension Loans Scheme



Cross-portfolio Measures

SHARED MEASURES WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH MEASURES

1. More Choices for a Longer Life - Healthy Ageing and High Quality Care
2. Guaranteeing Medicare - MBS - New and Amended Listings
3. Guaranteeing Medicare - MBS Review - Response to Taskforce Recommendations
4. A Stronger Rural Health Strategy
5. Improving Access to Medicines - Strengthening the Quality Use of Healthcare Services
6. Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – New and Amended Listings
7. Improving Access to Medicines – Encouraging Greater Use of Generic and Biosimilar Medicines