

## Auditor-General's Report: Follow-up of Selected Performance Audits Tabled in 2003 and 2004

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A report by **Auditor-General, Des Pearson**, titled *Follow-up of Selected Performance Audits Tabled in 2003 and 2004* was tabled in the Victorian Parliament today.

The report provides information of whether agencies have acted to implement recommendations contained in 4 performance audits which were completed in 2003 and 2004. The 4 audits were:

- *Managing medical equipment in public hospitals* (2003)
- *Addressing the needs of Victorian prisoners* (2003)
- *Managing emergency demand in public hospitals* (2004)
- *Maintaining public housing stock* (2004).

Overall, Mr Pearson's report found that agencies were generally progressing well in implementing the recommendations. He said that, "the 4 follow-up reviews demonstrate the positive work that agencies have undertaken to improve their operations".

Mr Pearson highlighted some areas requiring further improvement, including:

- *Managing medical equipment in public hospitals* – The Department of Human Services could do more, through Health Purchasing Victoria, to increase cost efficiencies in purchasing medical equipment
- *Addressing the needs of Victorian prisoners* – The scheduling and delivery of prisoner rehabilitation programs does not yet meet annual targets for 3 of the 4 programs. The process for assessing the risk of re-offending and prisoner needs also requires further work to ensure timely assessment for all eligible prisoners
- *Managing emergency demand in public hospitals* – Metropolitan hospitals need to improve their emergency department processes relating to patients waiting for treatment, and the time it takes for patients to receive treatment
- *Maintaining public housing stock* – There is scope for the Office of Housing to improve its management of maintenance contractors, including appropriately assessing contractor performance against contract performance standards.

The follow-up of *Maintaining public housing stock* noted that the Housing integrated information Program (HiIP) project is behind schedule. Delays in implementing the project have impeded the achievement of most of the planned benefits.

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Direct link to report: [http://www.audit.vic.gov.au/reports\\_par/agp121cv.html](http://www.audit.vic.gov.au/reports_par/agp121cv.html)

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