# **CANBERRA'S RECOVERY PLAN**

# Community Recovery Roadmap





The Canberra community has been hit hard in 2020 by smoke, bushfires, hail and now COVID-19. This has impacted our wellbeing in different ways, with the highest impacts felt by our young people, those experiencing social isolation, and those who have lost their jobs.

The ACT Government, with our community partners, has responded immediately to deliver practical and meaningful support to Canberrans when they need it most. The Phase 1 snapshot below shows a range of continuing measures to promote wellbeing, support communities and reduce cost of living pressures. Now in Phase 2 we will continue to engage with community sector partners to establish the foundation for recovery and then build resilience into the future as part of Phase 3.

The ACT Wellbeing Framework will help us measure and understand the impacts of COVID-19 and how the community is recovering. Through recovery and beyond we will strive to be a more inclusive community where all Canberrans feel they belong, are valued and can contribute.

# **PHASE 1:**

## **IMMEDIATE COMMUNITY SECTOR RESPONSES**

### All Canberrans

## **Communities & neighbourhoods**

# Families & individuals





















#### Delivering support to benefit the wellbeing and physical and mental health of the whole community.

- \$126 million for our health system to combat COVID-19 including the new emergency centre \*
- \$4.5 million in additional funding for mental health services and support
- \$1.7 million to support a range of non-government organisations in the health sector\*
- COVID-19 rapid response grant funding to support community service organisations
- More online library services to improve access.

#### Working with community sector partners to maintain connection and belonging across Canberra.

- \$35 million for fast track community infrastructure projects and upgrades, including making our community facilities more accessible, planting trees, refreshing playgrounds and improving public spaces\*
- Funding for the AIDS Action Council for online and telehealth activities and for A Gender Agenda to move activities for the LGBTIQ community online
- Relief equivalent to \$3.3million for the sports and recreation sector
- Support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and services during COVID-19
- \$1.5 million to support artists and arts organisations
- Support for people with disability, carers and the disability sector through COVID-19
- Translation of important COVID-19 related information for the non-English speaking community
- Services for seniors and veterans to reduce social isolation.









### Providing practical and meaningful support to keep Canberrans working, reduce cost of living pressures on households impacted by COVID-19, and provide more access to services for families and individuals.

- Keeping Canberrans working through the \$28 million Jobs for Canberrans fund
- \$25.5 million to provide a \$150 rebate on all residential rates and 12 month deferral of rates for households facing hardship
- Annual increases to average rates will not be applied to 2020-21 bills for residential properties
- 12,000 payments of \$250 for eligible tenants in social housing, including public and community housing
- \$7 million to provide households receiving the Utilities Concession with a \$200 rebate through their electricity bill
- A moratorium on evictions, blacklist preventions and temporary freeze of rental increases.

- \$7 million for our non-government organisations to meet increased service demand including:
- \$1.5 million through the Canberra Relief Network
- support for Temporary Visa holders who have lost their jobs and international students impacted by COVID-19
- emergency and long-term accommodation for those facing homelessness
- support for domestic and family violence and sexual assault services
- youth outreach support, family support and conflict mediation
- Solar and sustainability upgrades on public and community housing.

## PHASE 2: **ESTABLISHING A FOUNDATION FOR RECOVERY**

Working with the community and our community partners to understand the needs of those most impacted through the events of 2020 and delivering on a vision for a connected, inclusive and valued community.



- · Community wellbeing calls to those in need
- Encouraging connected communities and neighbourhoods
- Reinvigorating our arts and cultural experiences with programs like RISE Canberra, Where You Are and Floriade Reimagined
- Supporting community sector for return to in-person service delivery
- Future of Education initiatives including 15 hours per week of preschool for 3 year olds for families who will most benefit.







PHASE 3:

**BUILDING RESILIENCE INTO THE FUTURE** 

Ongoing recovery measures that deliver support, provide certainty and promote longer term Community Recovery.





Regular review of outcomes through the Wellbeing Framework

\*funding package includes a range of smaller initiatives

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