Supporting Customers in Financial Hardship

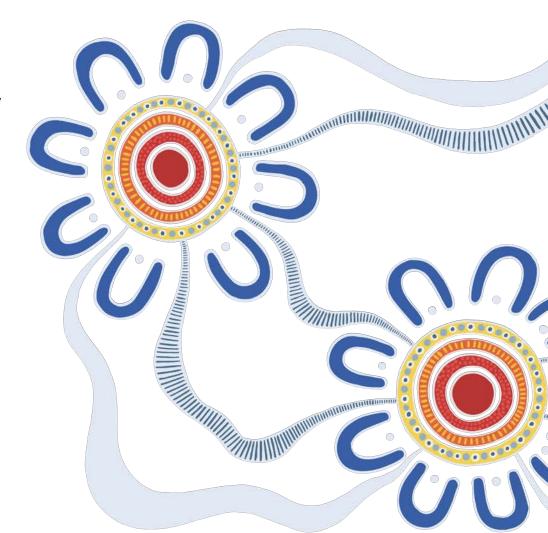
Financial Inclusion Network – Road to Resilience Conference

February 2022



## **Acknowledgement of Country**

I begin today by acknowledging the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, and pay my respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. I extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people here today.





## Service NSW is committed to making it easier for NSW residents and businesses to connect with government

- A positive customer experience is our highest priority
- Easier access to Government services
- Single point of contact
- Service NSW provides over 1200 types of transactions
- Navigational and relationship-based services for the people of NSW
- Provide customers with a multi-channel service delivery (digital, over the counter, over the phone).





## The original overarching aim of the NSW Government Cost of Living Program is to put money back in the pockets of its citizens

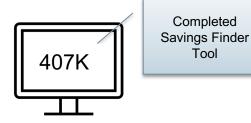
- Cost of Living was launched in July 2018
- Consolidated rebates and savings information onto one website
- Designed to increase awareness and uptake of NSW Government rebates and savings
- Currently, there are over 70 rebates and savings currently available to the people of NSW



## Since its inception (July 2018) our customers have accessed more than \$1.7 billion in potential rebates and savings

- Over 90,000 Cost of Living appointments
- 47,000 face to face appointments
- Over 67,000 appointments where savings were claimed
- Average saving of \$600 per customer
- A total saving of \$40.7 million dollars
- Overall satisfaction with Cost of Living appointments is tracking above 99%
- Over 2.9M customers accessed the Savings Finder tool to identify potential saving outcomes







#### COVID-19 Support



### **COVID-19 Financial support**

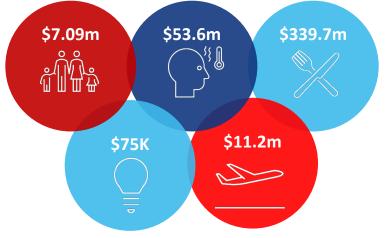




Job Saver Payment Program

Diner & Discover Vouchers







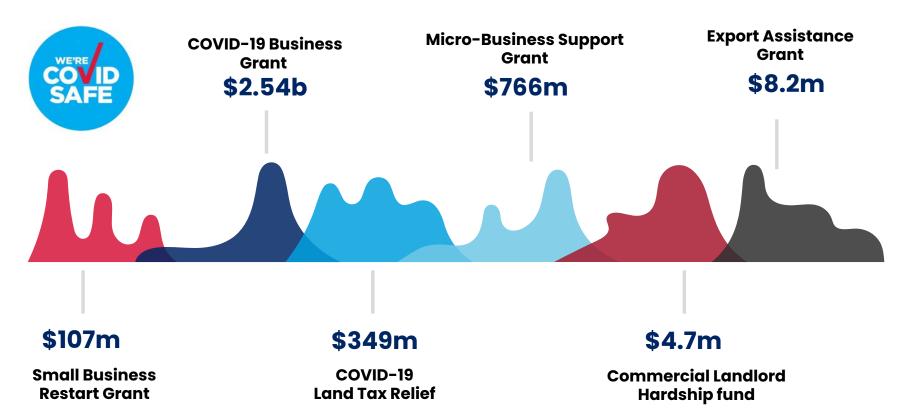
Energy Account Payment Assistance

Accommodation Support Grant

## COVID-19 Support

## **COVID-19 Financial support - Business**



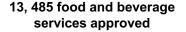


#### Service NSW

## **Dine & Discover Program**

- The Dine & Discover Program was initiated as part of the disaster recovery initiatives introduced by Service NSW
- Vouchers include:
  - 3 x \$25 Dine NSW Vouchers to be used for dining in at restaurants, cafés, bars, wineries, pubs and clubs or for takeaway
  - 3 x \$25 Discover NSW Vouchers to be used for entertainment and recreation, including cultural institutions, live music, and arts venues.





5 million+ consumer registrations

\$582K
Total customer spend













15, 762 business applications approved

\$752K
Total value of vouchers
issued

\$346K Value of vouchers redeemed

Service

### **Disaster Recovery**





Disaster Welfare Assistance 20-21 115,429 calls





Disaster Assistance Finder 138,555 completed

#### Floods & Storms

#### Appointments:

- Flood Recovery Customer Care (F2F): 28
- Flood Recovery Customer Phone: 495
- Total number of customers registered for flood assistance at a Recovery centre: 4.017
- Visits to Floods Landing Page: 181,000



2,147,75 total households in impacted areas

#### **Bushfires**

- Number of Customer Care calls received: 7,587
- Total Assisted Customers:12,413

Small Business grants:

Paid: \$48.4m

Applications: 4,017

Business Concierge: 2,816 calls



Over 6,300 properties damaged or destroyed

### **Work in progress**





## Tell Us Once when you are experiencing Financial Hardship

**Aim:** to make it easier for customers to understand and access the support services and concessions available across when experiencing financial hardship.

13.3% of the total NSW population live below the poverty line.
(NCOSS, 2019)



#### **Tell Your Story Once for Disaster Affected People**

**Aim:** to enhance the disaster registration and recovery assistance process and reduce the difficulty associated with applying for government assistance.



#### **Service NSW Customer Care**

**Aim**: to deliver a personalised customer care service providing systemic support and navigation to NSW customers as an integrated multichannel offering with digital assistance finder capability, appointment based, conversation style, personal customer interactions and proactive follow ups.

## **Cultural and Diversity & Inclusion Programs**

Service NSW

These programs aim to build strong relationships with local communities by providing an inclusive environment for both our team members and all our customers.





# Refugee Internship Program

## Thank you



