



The Hon Jim Chalmers MP
Treasurer
House of Representatives
PO Box 6022, Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Treasurer,

Indi Budget Submission – May 2023

Since my election in 2019 in advance of each Federal Budget, I have worked closely with the nine Local Governments in Indi to prepare a detailed Budget Submission outlining the key funding priorities in our region. I have subsequently met with the Treasurer to discuss that Submission and identify opportunities for funding for our regional priorities.

I continued this practice into the 47th Parliament by providing a submission for the May 2023 Budget. I look forward to working closely with you over the forthcoming Budget cycles.

Please see below our submission in advance of the May 2023 Federal Budget.

The projects in this submission were identified in consultation with the nine LGAs across Indi including Alpine, Benalla, Indigo, Mansfield, Murrindindi, Strathbogie, Towong, Wangaratta, and Wodonga, as well as the broader Regional Development Australia (Hume Region), the Alpine Resort Management Boards of Mount Hotham, Falls Creek, Mount Stirling, Lake Mountain and Mount Buller and other local stakeholders, including Albury Wodonga Health and Tourism North East.

Other funding opportunities across the electorate are also profiled spanning renewable energy, tourism, health and aged care, housing and roads, and mobile and internet coverage.

I ask that you consider these projects in the upcoming budget, and I look forward to meeting with you and your cabinet colleagues to discuss them alongside the Expenditure Review Committee process.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Helen Haines'.

Dr Helen Haines MP

31 January 2023

cc: Hon. Anthony Albanese MP, Prime Minister
Senator Katy Gallagher, Finance Minister

Dr Helen Haines MP

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Local Government Priority Projects

Alpine Shire

Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing

The Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing is a proposed multi-day 57-kilometre walk through the spectacular Alpine region from Falls Creek to Mt Hotham. It will be one of Australia's outstanding alpine walking experiences that captures the essence of the Australian Alps – the solitude, the seasons, the breathtaking beauty, and the stories of the High Country.

To create the proposed 57-kilometre route, existing tracks will be used for most of the walk. Up to 3 kilometres of new track will be built to connect existing tracks and new overnight campgrounds and protect sensitive areas. The facilities created as part of the five-day, four-night route may also provide options for shorter overnight walks. Stage 1 of the project involves doing track upgrades and creating up to two overnight campgrounds and is expected to be completed in 2024.

Total Project Cost:	\$32,000,000
State Contribution:	\$17,000,000 for planning, business case and Stage 1.
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$15,000,000
Portfolio:	Tourism; Infrastructure and Regional Development

Alpine Better Places Harrietville

The project will deliver new and upgraded infrastructure at three of Harrietville's popular precincts - Dredge Hole Precinct, Pioneer and Taware Parks and Community Hall - creating a vibrant and enhanced open spaces that uplift the heart of the township and community. Development of these popular landmarks includes a meeting plaza, picnic shelters, amenities, landscaping, and directional trail signage. The project designs draw inspiration from Harrietville's gold mining and Chinese settlement heritage. This community supported project will create a revitalised and connected town, improve liveability, and help strengthen Harrietville's reputation as a nature-based tourism hub. The project will aid social and economic recovery and resilience after the Black Summer Bushfires.

Total Project Cost:	\$4,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$4,000,000
Portfolio:	Tourism; Infrastructure and Regional Development

Electric Vehicle Infrastructure for Alpine

The project would fund five Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations to be installed across Alpine Shire. Electrical vehicle infrastructure (charging stations) will be critical for our communities and visitors as the demand for electric vehicles continues to rise. This project strategically fills gaps by providing chargers at remote townships (e.g. Bright, Mount Beauty, Harrietville) and expanding EV tourism and regional connectivity by providing users low risk of running out of power with spacings of 50-100km



between recharge sites. This will increase economic development with an estimated linger time of around 20-60 min, providing local cafes and businesses with greater visitation and tourism expenditure.

Total Project Cost:	\$600,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$600,000
Portfolio:	Transport and Environment

Alpine Better Places Tawonga

This project will deliver new and upgraded infrastructure across the Tawonga CBD and Pioneer Memorial park, including vibrant playspaces for the local community and visitors, safer pedestrian connections through the CBD, and upgraded community facilities. A key feature of the upgrade will be a new public display facility showcasing the history of the area from the First Nations through to the more recent settlers. This well-supported project will deliver a sense of destination for the Tawonga township, encouraging passing traffic to stop and enjoy a revitalised and connected town. The project will aid social and economic recovery and resilience after the Black Summer Bushfires and subsequent impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Total Project Cost:	\$3,500,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$3,500,000
Portfolio:	Tourism; Infrastructure and Regional Development

Bright Western Gateway

This project will leverage benefit for visitors and the local community from a significant residential development taking place at the township's Western Gateway, through upgrades to adjacent public infrastructure including open spaces and footpath links, improvements to a local waterway, and upgrades to local roads. On completion, the residential development will increase the housing stock in the township by approximately 10% and is the largest residential development in Bright's history, and the works proposed through this project will ensure that the nearby public infrastructure supports appropriate connectivity between the new housing and our CBD.

Total Project Cost:	\$2,900,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$2,900,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government



Kiewa River Trail Extension

An extension of the shared trail from the existing end point to complete a full sealed loop via the Kiewa River East Branch has long been requested by the local community and will add a significant draw card for visitors to the town. Mount Beauty and Tawonga South are currently poorly served by walking and cycling trails in close proximity to town, and particularly those accessible to the less mobile within our community and visitors to the town.

Total Project Cost:	\$950,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$950,000
Portfolio:	Sport; Tourism



Benalla Rural City

Benalla Indoor Recreation Centre

Benalla, as a growing regional city, sees an opportunity to create a sporting hub for the future. This could be built into a community multi-purpose sport precinct for the future that could be utilised 7 days a week to build onto the 500-600 participants that currently utilise the facility.

In 2017/18 the Council resolved to allocate \$10,000 towards a review of the 2002 Masterplan for the Benalla Indoor Recreation Centre (BIRC). A committee worked on the revised Masterplan and in October 2019 the Council received and adopted that Plan. The Council has obtained a commitment of \$15,000,000 towards the redevelopment from the Victorian state government. Early estimates indicate that the total project will be in the range of \$23,000,000. We are requesting support from the Federal Government of up to \$5,000,000 towards the project.

Total Project Cost:	\$23,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$5,000,000
Other Information:	Open to co-fund
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Rail Precinct Upgrade

Aside from the benefits to the regional economy on the planned Inland Rail project that is to be delivered in the next 3-5 years, we see tremendous opportunity for increased activity in the visitor economy and general commuter use utilising passenger rail services.

The rail precinct that includes Mackellar Street, Carrier Street and Railway Place are key thoroughfares that connect the rail precinct to the Benalla CBD and surrounding areas. An upgrade of these streets and the land abutting the rail precinct will lift the visitor and commuter experience.

Total Project Cost:	\$2,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$1,500,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Benalla CBD Upgrade

In March 2021, Benalla Rural City Council commissioned a landscape architect to develop streetscape designs for the town centre and surrounding areas. The streetscape plan covers a number of components including pedestrian connectivity, entrance gateway feature, signage and way-finding, safer crossings, shaded structures, street planting, bicycle route and public spaces.

Total Project Cost:	\$8,000,000
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Commonwealth Contribution:	\$6,000,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Benalla Art Gallery Phase 2

This project was drawn from the Benalla Art Gallery, Feasibility and Business Case completed by Urban Enterprises in August 2020. Phase one of the project which is funded and is due for completion in early 2023 will see the construction of a secure off-site facility for the optimal storage of art and cultural artefacts. It will also see enhancements to the café and facilities for back of house operations. Phase 2 will see an expansion of gallery space to activate opportunities to improve the interface and activities between the gallery, Lake Benalla, the CBD and the heritage Botanical Gardens to create a unique point of difference for Benalla.

Total Project Cost:	\$15,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$7,500,000
Portfolio:	Arts and Tourism

Benalla Urban Growth Strategy – West Drainage

An outcome of the development of the Benalla Urban Growth Strategy conducted by the Victorian Planning Authority has indicated that the growth of Benalla will be constrained if critical drainage work is not completed in the area to the west and northwest of Benalla. The Hume Regional Growth Plan provides strategic justification for the project and highlights the enduring benefits for the north-east region from the project. Over the past four years new industry has come to town and this combined with expansion of current businesses has led to an increased demand for residential development.

Total Project Cost:	\$10,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$10,000,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government



Indigo Shire

Beechworth Swimming Pool

Construction of new swimming pool to address structural safety concerns of existing infrastructure. (Designs and costings known). Construction of 8 lane 25m outdoor pool, toddlers/learners pool, change rooms, staff room, administration/kiosk, store, first aid room, pool plant and sunshade. This facility will meet community demand for a new facility to improve health, wellbeing, and social connection needs across the town.

Total Project Cost:	\$10,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$10,000,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Regional Development and Local Government

Implementation of Pools Development Plan

The Pools Development Plan relates to the five Indigo pools which all require upgrades and improvements to basic amenities and infrastructure. The project would build on the importance of local swimming pools to local communities.

Total Project Cost:	\$1,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$1,000,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Regional Development and Local Government

Implementation of Playground Development Plan

Council is only able to undertake basic maintenance on its community playgrounds. This project would provide an opportunity to rejuvenate the playgrounds of highest use to maximise their amenity and opportunities for community connections.

Total Project Cost:	\$1,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$1,000,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Regional Development and Local Government

Kiewa Community Park Development

The project will support the development of the newly acquired Kiewa Community Park which has a Master Plan incorporating a range of community facilities and spaces including access to the Kiewa River, community market space, Men's Shed, playgrounds and other amenities.

Total Project Cost:	\$1,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$1,000,000



Portfolio:

Infrastructure, Regional Development and Local
Government



Mansfield Shire

Emergency Services Precinct - Resilience and Recovery Hub

Construct a Resilience and Recovery Hub within an emergency precinct co-locating SES, CFA and Ambulance Victoria services (potentially VicPol later). The Resilience and Recovery Hub will include training facilities, volunteer support facilities and shared meeting spaces to promote efficiency of emergency preparedness, response and recovery in a modern, central location. Fit for purpose infrastructure will reduce the vulnerability of the Mansfield community, and increase its capacity to respond to and recover from emergencies and support the growing resident and visitor populations.

Mansfield Shire's natural assets, including the Alpine National Park, Lake Eildon, and vast tracts of land referred to as the 'High Country', provide challenges for visitors and the local community because of the topography, in some parts isolation, and the frequency of natural disasters events such as bushfires, storms or floods.

Response data from Ambulance Victoria shows the Mansfield Station is one of the lowest performing stations in the state with travel distances, local geography, and patient transfers to Wangaratta and Melbourne all having an impact. Co-location and integration of emergency services is consistent with State Government emergency services policies and plans and is repeated in the strategic plans for all Victorian emergency services agencies.

Total Project Cost:	\$6,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$4,000,000
Status:	Scoping Study Complete
Portfolio:	Emergency Management

Gough's Bay Cycling Trails

This project will build more cycling/tourism product on and around Lake Eildon by constructing a network of cycling paths in and around Jamieson and Goughs Bay with a longer-term vision of cycling paths in these destinations joining up with the Great Victoria Rail Trail from Mansfield to Tallarook. The paths will link to key tourist destinations including Jamieson township to the Jamieson Brewery and Gough's Bay township to the Maze and Mountain Bay

Currently over 160,000 annual tourism visitors to North East Victoria who cycle contribute approximately \$131 million in direct expenditure to the region. There is a need to develop product in the southern part of the Tourism North East region following solid investment by Government to the northern part of the region. This project is consistent with the Ride High Country Strategy for North East Tourism and the Lake Eildon Master Plan.

Total Project Cost:	\$1,000,000
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Commonwealth Contribution:	\$800,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Roundabout Design and Construction

Roundabouts are required in 4 strategic locations around Mansfield to provide improved traffic movement and road safety due to increased population growth and residential development. The intersections proposed are:

1. Dead Horse Lane and Mansfield-Whitfield Road (Heavy Vehicle Alternate Route)
2. Dead Horse Lane and Midland Highway (Heavy Vehicle Alternate Route)
3. Mt Buller Rd and Greenvale Lane (Heavy Vehicle Alternate Route)
4. Mt Buller Rd and Highton Lane

Total Project Cost:	\$8,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$6,400,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Lords Reserve Sports Pavilion

A new community sports pavilion at the Lords Reserve oval will provide changing facilities and a community meeting space for this multi-user sports ground. The existing facilities do not have adequate changerooms, particularly for use by women's sport or junior sport. Increased population growth has increased the need to upgrade these facilities as a matter of priority.

Total Project Cost:	\$2,500,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$2,000,000
Portfolio:	Sport; Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Upgrade of unsealed roads

High priority roads require an upgrade to a sealed surface to improve residential amenity and accommodate increased tourist traffic. They include Buttercup Rd in Merrijig (3.8km) and Walshs Rd in Gough's Bay (1.8km).

Road upgrades will provide improved tourism, residential amenity and resilience to extreme weather events.

Total Project Cost:	\$6,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$4,800,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government



Murrindindi Shire

Alexandra-Thornton-Eildon Rail Trail Link – Great Victorian Rail Trail Extension – Stage 2

The Great Victorian Rail Trail Extension (GVRT) currently terminates at Alexandra and there is no rail trail or similar linkage between the towns of Alexandra, Thornton, and Eildon. Any cycle traffic between these towns at present is along the main road with other road users. This project will ultimately link the premier tourist attractions of the GVRT and Lake Eildon. Eildon is a high-profile water-based activity destination, notably fishing and boating. The Great Victorian Rail Trail use has seen an 18% increase of usage over the past 5 years.

Provision of an off-road trail will add to the list of tourist offerings and encourage visitors to stay. Stage 2 covers Back Eildon Rd to Thornton section.

Total Project Cost:	\$4,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$4,000,000
Other Information	Open to co-fund with state government
Portfolio:	Tourism; Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Tourism Roads and Infrastructure Upgrade Package

The proposed upgrades will deliver important safety and amenity improvements at key tourist locations across Murrindindi Shire. Tourism North East identified that the Shire receives 1 million visitors each year but has the lowest economic yield across the region. An increased visitor stay will encourage a greater economical yield, should funding be provided for this important infrastructure upgrade package.

This proposal includes a range of local tourism, road safety and infrastructure projects:

- Recreational Vehicle Accreditation Program – A program to upgrade intersections on high use transport and tourist routes to improve road safety and intersections that comply with current road safety standards.
- Kinglake West Streetscape works - Improvements to streetscape and parking at the Kinglake West Activity area to support increased visitation and tourism in the town.
- Castella Rd, Castella - Sealing and upgrade of the road so that the road meets appropriate road safety standards due to the increased traffic volumes.
- Snodgrass St, Yea – Provision of safe long vehicle parking close to Yea activity area and main shopping street providing a safer environment for road users and pedestrians.
- Cheviot Tunnel Rd, Limestone – Sealing and upgrade of the road so that the road meets appropriate road safety standards due to the increased traffic volumes.
- Two Hills Rd, Glenburn – Sealing and upgrade of the road so that road meets appropriate road safety standards due to the increased traffic volumes.



- Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre, Yea – Carpark extension and upgrades. Sealing and upgrades to informal parking area to provide additional parking to support increased visitation and tourism in the town.
- Alexandra Township – Tourism parking precincts. The provision of additional parking to support increased visitation and tourism in the town due to the new Alexandra Rotary Park Precinct upgrades.

Commonwealth Contribution: \$11,000,000
Portfolio: Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

[Kinglake Memorial Reserve Master Plan Implementation](#)

The Kinglake Memorial Recreation Reserve Master Plan has been prepared to optimise the use and benefits of the Reserve for active and informal recreation and seeks to provide quality facilities to meet current and future community needs. The Reserve is a central location for sporting groups in Kinglake Central and the surrounding townships. The infrastructure works will deliver appropriate upgrades and renewal that ensure this valued precinct meets the needs of the community into the future. The delivery of the Kinglake Memorial Recreation Reserve Oval Renewal Project will provide a playable surface for user groups and community, minimising the risk of injury and ensuring sporting codes can continue to train and play through all seasons.

Total Project Cost: \$1,500,000
Commonwealth Contribution: \$1,500,000
Portfolio: Sport; Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

[Road Rehabilitation Program](#)

The Council's 720 km unsealed road network has significantly deteriorated due to the recent years of increased rain and wet weather and urgently needs repair. This project will involve replacing lost stone material washed away from the rain, rehabilitating the road pavement that has softened due to the extensive wet weather, improve the shape and profile of the road lost from the rain and improve road drainage through the installation of culverts at low spots along the road. The project scope will also include significant resheeting, soil stabilisation and grading so that the roads are brought back to standard. Any future road rehabilitation or upgrade works should also be constructed so that the road is more resilient to the impact from climate change.

Rural roads in the current poor conditions have a high community cost. They are unsafe and contribute to the road toll; they slow down and damage farm and transport vehicles, pushing up the



cost of labour and repairs. This is paid for with higher consumer product and food prices at the supermarket and elsewhere.

The last three years of high rainfall have undermined and degraded our road network to an extent that repairing the damage cannot be funded by Council alone. Additional major fund to address these issues is urgently required to deliver this program of works over two financial years (\$5 million per annum). This will bring Council's unsealed roads back to a safer, more durable and serviceable standard.

Total Project Cost:	\$10,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$10,000,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government



Mansfield and Murrindindi Shire Joint Project

Skyline Road Touring Route

The construction and sealing of the last remaining section of Skyline Road will remove a missing link to complete an iconic continuous touring route around Lake Eildon, Victoria's largest inland water storage and popular visitor destination. The touring route also connects the two communities of Bonnie Doon (Mansfield) and Eildon (Murrindindi) whose economies are reliant on tourism.

The project to seal this section of road and create a touring route, is one of four catalyst projects identified in the recently adopted Lake Eildon Master Plan to activate the region, create jobs and increase visitation and yield.

The unsealed section of road is identified in the Lake Eildon Master Plan as a major barrier to mobilising private 'investment ready' opportunities in much needed contemporary tourism related infrastructure, including higher standard accommodation, restaurant and attractions, to improve visitor attraction, dispersal around the region, and visitor spend. The Skyline Road Tourism Precinct Business Case identifies that such investment would contribute to economic growth through the creation of 148 jobs with an annual increase in economic output of \$54 million across the Hume region in the short term. The design is near complete and the project will be shovel ready by April 2023.

Total Project Cost:	\$25,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$25,000,000
Portfolio:	Tourism; Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government



Strathbogie Shire

Foundational energy infrastructure upgrades to renewable energy

The lack of energy security is the most significant barrier to attracting new small to medium businesses to Strathbogie Shire. Frequent power outages, some lasting days, are caused by a single electricity supply line connecting Benalla to Euroa via Violet Town. This fragile energy infrastructure deters investment and puts community at risk during natural disasters. While a second transmission supply line from Seymour to Euroa would ensure power reliability if the single line failed, AusNet is prohibited from cross-subsidising from other regions to build this infrastructure.

The Shire is exploring reliable stand-alone energy solutions to attract businesses to the Shire. Following the success of a community-led small-scale microgrid, the Shire is seeking a \$5 million commitment for a large-scale micro-grid for the Euroa township (stage 2 expanding to Violet Town), either through ARENA's Regional Microgrid Program or as a direct grant.

Total Project Cost:	\$5,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$5,000,000
Portfolio:	Climate Change and Energy

Provide fibre to the towns of Avenel and Violet Town

A large proportion of Strathbogie Shire's residents and businesses rely on fixed wireless internet connections. Slow speeds, dropouts, congestion at peak usage times and no mobile signal are causing dissatisfaction and disparity, including in areas which are only a short distance from town. Businesses and farms are not served well by fixed wireless internet connections and often face restraints from satellite services.

As the result of a collaboration with NBNCO, Strathbogie Shire Council seeks further rollouts of fixed broadband and fibre to the node connections. This would greatly improve services and reduce demand on the wireless towers. The Council bid into Round Two of the Regional Connectivity Program for a \$5 million grant to fund the installation of fibre in the town, however this funding was declined. Improving internet connection would ensure the region does not miss out on economic development opportunities or exposed during emergency events.

Portfolio: Communications

Stage Three of Greening Euroa – Water Security

The Greening Euroa Project is an innovative community-driven project that uses recycled water to irrigate public green spaces during the summer months. This plan taps into the available excess water from the Euroa Wastewater Treatment Plant to irrigate public ovals and sporting grounds. This is the first of its kind in Victoria and received a Victorian Premier Sustainability Award in 2022. This infrastructure will make our Strathbogie Shire a more climate resilient region, attractive to visitors and keep our open spaces green during years of climate variability and increasing water insecurity.



The preliminary work for Greening Euroa has been completed. Stage 1 and 2 of the project are now complete, with facility site audits, risk analysis and infrastructure design, and Treatment plant and route capital infrastructure design and quantity surveyor analysis and Environmental Management Plan. The Shire is now seeking \$3.8 million in funding for stage three, which involves implementation and construction.

Total Project Cost:	\$3,800,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$3,800,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Regional Development and Local Government; Environment and Water

Nature Based Playground – Euroa Sevens Creek

Strathbogie Shire Council and the Euroa community wish to develop an iconic nature-based playground suited for all ages and abilities. From a sensory garden to explore, rocks to clamber over, to logs to balance on, the possibilities to interact with nature and the environment are endless. It is proposed the all-abilities play space will be designed with the people who will use it most. This would be co-located with the Tesla Electric Charge Station, create a place for families wanting a genuine child and youth friendly place to stop with a unique offering. This community supported project will offer improved liveability and help strengthen Euroa and our Shire's reputation as a destination. Increasing economic development with an estimated linger time of between 20 to 60 minutes provides local cafes and businesses with greater visitation and tourism expenditure.

Our ask is for \$1.5 million for detailed design and construction of the play space.

Total Project Cost:	\$1,500,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$1,500,000
Portfolio:	Tourism; Infrastructure, Regional Development and Local Government

Streetscape Renewal Project: Stage 2 Works – Euroa, Violet Town, and Strathbogie

Following extensive community engagement, township-based streetscape renewal plans have been developed to provide a visual guide for future streetscape development which can be implemented progressively. The plans aim to improve the commercial vitality of our main streets by:

- delivering infrastructure improvements that create a distinctive sense of place for local residents, visitors and businesses,
- provide a high quality, attractive public space where people want to visit and shop, and
- improve the attractiveness, comfort, accessibility, connectivity and safety each of our main streets or main commercial areas.

Total Project Cost:	\$650,000
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Commonwealth Contribution:	\$650,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Regional Development and Local Government

Sale Yard Biosecurity Truck Wash

Our Saleyard committee and users understand that hygiene and sanitation play a critical role in the prevention of spreading of disease. Biosecurity of our agriculture industry has never been more important, particularly in a post Covid environment. The biosecurity truck wash will see the development of a specifically designed bio secure truck wash to accommodate small transport vehicles up to large b-doubles. Trucks and transport vehicles that exit a saleyards premise must be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly to prevent the spread that can happen through the movement of vehicles and equipment.

This much needed facility will be available 24/7 and uniquely located to draw from a broader region to support agribusiness to thrive and prosper. By implementing biosecurity measures in day-to-day transport operations, it aims to improve on-farm biosecurity across the region to minimising production losses and unnecessary costs. Biosecurity at the local level underpins regional biosecurity, which in turn underpins national biosecurity.

Total Project Cost:	\$450,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$450,000
Portfolio:	Agriculture

Road maintenance funding

Strathbogie Shire Council's 2,210kms road network has been significantly damaged by ongoing wet weather and floods. With about 7,500 ratepayers our ability to generate enough revenue to cover the actual costs to construct, maintain and upgrade roads and other assets is impossible without assistance from State and Federal governments.

Recent flooding and ongoing wet weather have deteriorated road surfaces to a point where some sections are difficult to navigate without significant reductions in speed. In some instances the whole road base has been washed away. It is frustrating for our community and it is a safety concern. There has been a large increase in pavement failures due to the rain penetrating the sealed surface.

The current cost of sealed road major patching works in our area can be between \$85 - \$125 per square meter depending on depth of pavement. The unsealed road infrastructure consists of roads which have a 150mm layer of manufactured material, typically a class 3 crush rock, and some instances Non-Descript Crushed Rock (NDCR) which is widely used for sheeting. The current cost to lay and compact the material to the original condition is about \$65 per lineal meter laid at a 4.5m pavement width.

Before the floods, we had 227.678km of roads that had been so badly impacted by ongoing wet weather they required re-sheeting, equating to \$14,799,070 to restore our road infrastructure back to the condition it was three years ago. Post flooding we estimate the damage bill could be three times this amount - reaching as high as \$50 million.



Total Project Cost: \$14,799,070. The full damage bill expected to be up to \$50 million.
Portfolio: Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.



Towong Shire

Telecommunications Towers and Last Mile Connectivity Program

Telecommunications towers at Tallangatta Valley, Nariel Valley and Lucyvale are required to address significant mobile blackspots within the region, ensuring reliable communication and digital connectivity for emergency services, residents, and commercial operations.

The project will establish sub-networks at the edge of the existing telecommunications network providing connection to householders in remote valleys. It will have a major impact on the resilience and safety of some of Victoria's most bushfire prone areas. Successful delivery of the program would provide a full-scale pilot that could be translated across Australia for remote areas.

Total Project Cost:	\$2,800,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$2,800,000
Portfolio:	Communications and Emergency Services

Our Bellbridge Our Future

Building the capacity of services in the Berringa Peninsula area is key to supporting regional growth. The development of an integrated community, childcare and kindergarten centre and commercial services precinct including a café, brewery, and boat club facilities will see the Peninsula's infrastructure is ready to support its growing population, and position Bellbridge as the key service centre. A unique, architecturally designed Bellbridge Boathouse will become an iconic regional epicurean attraction synonymous with Lake Hume, broadening the region's current offering, and encouraging dispersal of visitors into regional areas from nearby Albury Wodonga.

Total Project Cost:	\$7,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$7,000,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.

Corryong Integrated Community Centre

Establishment of a multipurpose integrated family and community centre in Corryong will deliver integrated community, library, maternal child health, childcare, and kindergarten services. The centre will upgrade disparate aging early years and family infrastructure into an integrated centre that supports all people with social and community connections and support.

Total Project Cost:	\$7,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$7,000,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.



Benambra Corryong Road Upgrade

The Benambra – Corryong Road (C545) is 137 km long and links the Towong Shire, Upper Murray town of Corryong, through Nariel Valley into the Australian Alps to Benambra in East Gippsland. 70km requires upgrade and sealing to establish a reliable and safe link between East Gippsland, North-East Victoria, and Southern New South Wales; as well as providing alternate access to Canberra. The three alternative routes available in linking these two destinations are longer and often inadequate and unsafe due to adverse weather conditions.

The project aims to achieve reduced travel times, save on fuel usage and general wear and tear of vehicles for users, improved public safety and access for emergency services. Increased employment opportunities and economic benefits to communities through tourism and development and long-term financial benefits for governments by minimising maintenance and repair costs to the unsealed section and distributing heavy vehicle traffic across the arterial road network.

Total Project Cost:	\$40,000,000 (Stage 1 only)
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$40,000,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.

High Country Rail Trail Extension

Development of Victoria’s longest rail trail creating an iconic cycle path linking the Victorian High Country between Wodonga and Corryong will build the region’s economic development opportunities through increasing tourism visitation and multiday cycle experiences. This project will see 46 km of trail upgraded to link Corryong to the existing 80km of High-Country Rail Trail which traverses from Wodonga, through Tallangatta, and onto Shelley.

Traversing through diverse and offering breathtaking scenery the completion of the High-Country Rail Trail will provide a hero tourism product for the region. The high yielding cycle tourism market will greatly assist in the economic recovery of the region.

Total Project Cost:	\$12,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$12,000,000
Portfolio:	Tourism; Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.



Rural City of Wangaratta

Grit and Resilience Program – Mental Health

The Grit and Resilience Program has had extraordinary success since the Federal Government funded a trial program in 2019 in Wangaratta in response to high suicide rates and community-based activism. The program brings together a range of partner agencies across the community who support it. The recent Royal Commission into the Mental Health System of Victoria highlighted the impact the program has had, and will continue to have, in Wangaratta. The Commission recommended the establishment and recurrent funding of ‘community collectives’ to support community-led activity that promotes social connection and inclusion in each of the state’s 79 local government areas.

The Rural City of Wangaratta is seeking \$300,000 per year through the federal and state governments to support a sustainable model for the Grit and Resilience Program in Wangaratta. The mental health and community services sector within the municipality consists of active and engaged partner agencies – including Northeast Health, Gateway Health, Victoria Police, Headspace, Albury Wodonga Health and Albury Wodonga Aboriginal Health Service.

Total Project Cost:	\$300,000 per year, ongoing
Other Information:	Open to co-fund
Portfolio:	Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

Organics Processing Plant

In 2020, Council developed the Wangaratta Organics Processing Plant, now in operation for almost two years. This project would increase the capacity of the existing plant and provide a local processing facility that will enable the acceleration of other councils to commence a full food and garden organics service, or to operate their existing service more efficiently, and with better environmental outcomes.

The current license for this plant allows for the processing of 5,200 tonnes of organic material per annum however, the current set up has a capacity of 12,000 tonnes per annum.

This project would increase that capacity even further to 25,000 tonnes per annum so that the facility can service the Hume region of Northeast Victoria - becoming a true regional facility.

It is estimated 10 full time jobs would be created during construction with direct value-add and indirect consumption adding a further \$3 million to the local economy. With the increased processing capacity of the facility, it is expected that a further 5 full-time jobs will be created with a supply chain and value-add impact of \$3.3 million to the local economy. Victorian organic waste is estimated to account for 35% of household waste with recovery rate of only 43% in 2018. Removing organics from landfill saves 400kg CO₂e (Carbon dioxide equivalent) per tonne of organic waste. With the plant at full capacity, it will reduce CO₂ emissions by 10,000t per year or 30,000,000km in a medium sized car.



The expansion to 25,000 could be completed within 2 years subject to material lead time and EPA approval.

Total Project Cost:	\$8,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$6,000,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure; Environment

Benalla-Whitfield Road Upgrade

The Benalla – Whitfield Road is a key link for rural communities in the upper reaches of the King Valley (Whitfield, Whitlands, and Myrree). It is increasingly being used as a key road for visitor movement throughout the valley. Visitation is forecast to grow by 300,000 per year to over a million per year by 2030. The road is narrow, and winding, with steep drop offs, and many hazards. The subbase pavement is poor, and the increasing impact of climate change on gravel roads makes this road a consistent issue for maintenance in both dry and wet conditions. Locally there is a significant crash history over several years. This project will see the last remaining 6km of gravel upgraded and sealed. This section of road is the last unsealed designated collector road within the municipality. The project construction will create 18 full-time jobs during construction phase. The estimated combined total output of direct, supply-chain and consumption effects of these additional jobs and construction activity will equate to up to \$5.75 million towards the local economy.

Total Project Cost:	\$5,000,000
Other Information:	Open to co-fund
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Wangaratta-Whitfield Road Upgrade

The Wangaratta-Whitfield Road Upgrade will improve a 22km stretch of road running from Moyhu to Whitfield with works including widening and shoulders, improvements to blind spots and resealing the road in several sections to bring it up to the required quality. As a major arterial road that services almost half of the municipality, the road is of inadequate quality and too narrow to service the thousands of local, agricultural and tourism vehicles that pass along it every day. The quality and width of the road is also a significant concern for cyclists.

The region is fast becoming known as a cycling destination; therefore, the issue of safety and shared use is of paramount concern. Further upgrades required include barriers, tactile indicators, and signage. From a direct increase in economic output of \$15 million it is expected that 26 jobs will be created during construction and the corresponding increase in direct value-added, flow on supply-chain effects in terms of local purchases of goods and services, and the indirect impacts would result in an increase to value-added of \$7.8 million to the local economy.

Total Project Cost:	\$15,000,000
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Other Information:	Open to co-fund
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Prosecco Road Tourism Project

The objective of the King Valley is to achieve sector ownership of the Australian Prosecco market. The 'Prosecco Road' project will build global acknowledgment of the brand and position the King Valley as Australia's premier Prosecco region. To achieve the King Valley's visitor economy potential as a premium destination, a range of enhancements and enabling infrastructure investment is required.

In 2021 Tourism North East developed the 'Activating King Valley Prosecco Road Plan' and three supporting business cases which identify key actions and indicative costings for investment.

Investment in the three key project areas is expected to drive the King Valley visitor economy from an existing \$268m in output and 1,267 in jobs to \$369m in output and 1,734 jobs once projects are completed and operational.

This project focuses on developing the Prosecco Trail and will include key township enhancements in the form of streetscaping and upgrades to amenities, road infrastructure, support to the agricultural sector, development of tourism products such as farmgate sales, cellar door connections, gravel gridding cycle tracks, accommodation, and nature-based activities.

Total Project Cost:	\$53,100,000
Private Investment (Hotel):	\$30,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$15,000,000
Other Information:	Open to co-fund and private sector investors
Portfolio:	Tourism and Community Infrastructure

Wangaratta Ovens College Site Redevelopment

Wangaratta is a growing regional city experiencing an increase in median house prices and increases in weekly rent. Current figures showing there are almost 900 social housing applicants in the local area with very few social housing options available.

The Wangaratta Ovens College Site is owned by the Rural City of Wangaratta with the intention to redevelop the site for a combination of social, affordable and key worker housing. It is in a prime location, close to the CBD and shopping precincts with links to public transport, local parks and playgrounds.

In order to deliver the redevelopment, \$1.6 million is required for site preparation, such as safely demolishing old buildings, and \$0.5 million is required for supply of headwork infrastructure.

Total Project Cost:	\$20,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$2,000,000



Other Information:

Open to co-fund

Portfolio:

Housing; Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development
and Local Government



City of Wodonga

Wodonga Creek Activation

Improved access to and activation of Wodonga Creek provides the opportunity to promote an active and healthy lifestyle for residents and visitors, by encouraging greater use of the city's natural assets and recreational facilities and through enhancing the attraction of Wodonga Creek as a recreational and tourist destination. Infrastructure will include providing water access, paddling, and swimming areas, seating and viewing locations, picnic tables, toilets, barbecue areas and play areas including a splash park. Two distinct precincts will be activated including Diamond Park and Wright Road Precincts. The project includes access and path linkages, wayfinding signage and public art installation.

Total output, including all direct, supply-chain and consumption effects will increase by up to \$11 million. 8 direct jobs and 15 indirect jobs are expected to be created, with direct and indirect wages and salaries increasing by \$2 million and an addition \$3.9 million in direct and indirect value added to the economy.

Total Project Cost:	\$10,100,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$5,560,000
Portfolio:	Tourism; Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Community and Commercial Space

The construction of a modern multipurpose commercial and community complex in the southern end of Wodonga's Central Business Area (CBA) will serve as an important contributor to the social, cultural and economic activity of the precinct through the development of infrastructure which supports existing and diverse new community and commercial functions. Businesses in the CBA have been negatively impacted by Covid and border closures, so it is critical that development continues to be planned for and delivered to continue to strengthen the southern end of the CBA.

Stage One will be completed in the first quarter of 2023 and involves a concept and feasibility study to assess the potential of a repurposing the Senior Citizens' facility into a multipurpose site. Stage Two, which involves detailed design, is paid for by Council. Stage 3, which involves construction, would cost \$12 million and requires funding. Total output, including all direct, supply-chain and consumption effects will increase by up to \$12.4 million. 13 direct jobs and 7 indirect jobs are expected to be created, with direct and indirect wages and salaries increasing by \$2.5 million and an addition \$4.7 million in direct and indirect value added to the economy.

Total Project Cost:	\$12,600,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$6,000,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government



CBD Transport Network Safety, Reliability & Accessibility Connectivity Renewal

Wodonga's revitalised CBD features an inner and outer ring road network. The quality and convenience of the transport network connecting to the CBD is critical to the overall liveability of the rapidly growing and changing city which services surrounding districts, to improve reliability and accessibility, and improve road safety. Improvements will facilitate improved cyclist, pedestrian and vehicle movements.

The High St roundabout, which forms a major intersection accommodating a modelled peak of about 3,100 vehicle movements per hour and is likely to grow, requires improvements to increase vehicle efficiency and to facilitate vastly improved cyclist and pedestrian movements. Upgrades would cost \$1.6 million.

The High-Huon streets intersection is identified as an increasingly congested location due to increased visitation in nearby recreational areas. Design works to this intersection are likely to be \$60,000 while construction and installation costs are likely to be \$650,000.

Total Project Cost:	\$2,650,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$2,000,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, and Tourism

Wodonga Mixed Income Housing Project

Consistent population growth and a strong property market is creating pressure on housing affordability and access in Wodonga. This is particularly relevant for low income residents and key workers. In addition, Wodonga's social housing stock is ageing and does not reflect diversity in its stock to meet the needs of a changing family demographic. There is evidence that housing stress, homelessness and risk of homelessness are increasing, and that an increased supply of affordable housing is required.

Redevelopment of existing aged housing stock would cost \$30 million, which would be used to build higher quality housing stock with environmentally sustainable design to reduce living costs, smaller one and two bedroom dwellings to meet local demand, and renew precincts with high level amenity, opportunities for social connection and access to health services and economic opportunities.

Total Project Cost:	\$30,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$30,000,000
Portfolio:	Housing; Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government



Seamless City Taskforce for Albury Wodonga Region

Through the Two Cities One Community partnership agreement between the Wodonga City Council and its NSW neighbour AlburyCity, the councils collaborate to advocate for cross-border issues. A taskforce, costing \$1.5 million, will work towards developing solutions and proposals to harmonise regulatory barriers, streamline service delivery and address cross border challenges to support regional growth, job growth and improved services for the region.

Total Project Cost:	\$1,500,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$1,500,000
Portfolio:	Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government



Key Stakeholder Priority Projects

Regional Development Australia (Hume) Region Wide Priorities

Regional Development Australia, Hume Region (RDA Hume) consults with 12 regional and rural local governments in advocating for investment into the region, as well as developing a single, unified voice and actively working to align government funding with regional priorities. RDA Hume, in consultation with local governments, have identified the following projects as additional priorities from a region-wide perspective:

- **Wodonga Logic Logistics Hub.** The Hub needs enabling infrastructure for it to provide maximum benefit to the regional economy. \$15.2 million towards improved road infrastructure and sewer and storm water system installation would create jobs in Wodonga while positioning it to take advantage of the opportunities presented by the development of inland rail. The upgrades have been designed and are tender-ready.
- **Food Unity Hub.** An \$11 million purpose-built food processing and storage facility based on Wodonga TAFE's main campus. This will build regional resilience and recovery from bushfire and other disasters by enabling the expansion of existing food rescue and distribution teamed with education and training.
- **Dinner Plain Snow Park Enhancements** including a ski run and toboggan run to improve snow coverage, access, car parking and safety.
- **Beechworth Historic Precinct.** \$10 million to establish a new leading contemporary heritage experience in Victoria, with a focus on virtual reality, guided tours, landscape and amenity improvements, events spaces, visitor information services, Australian history, gold rush and bushrangers. This will be complementary to Ned Kelly at Glenrowan, BAG, Ned Kelly Alive Plan.
- **Tangambalanga Industrial Land Development.** \$2 million towards developing existing light Industrial Land sites at Tangambalanga would support the ongoing stimulus being generated through expanding business activity and regional growth, and provide opportunities for business connections and access from Wodonga and Wangaratta economic centres.
- **Mansfield Station Precinct Development.** \$700,000 to develop a Civic Hub, integrated gallery, events and community meeting space.
- **Wangaratta CBD Revitalisation, Activation and Pedestrianisation.** \$7 million towards infrastructure, footpath, wayfinding and pedestrian safety upgrades to implement the Wangaratta CBD Masterplan.



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- **Balmattum Hill Mountain Bike Trail.** The creation of a multi-purpose trail for all forms of mountain biking and outdoor recreation on Balmattum Hill. The development of the trail will create a recreational facility in harmony with the natural assets of the site, overlooking the Euroa township and provide an excellent addition to the already established list of ‘Tracks and Trails’ within the region.



Alpine Resorts

Ten Year Visitor Economy Development Plan

The Victorian Alpine Resorts are iconic tourism attractions and a key economic driver in the region.

Five of the six resorts – Falls Creek, Lake Mountain, Mt Buller, Mt Hotham, Mt Stirling – are within the electorate of Indi, with Mt Baw Baw being the one exception.

The resorts contribute \$2.5 billion in economic output, employing over 10,100 people and attracting over 1.3 million visitors in 2019. Visitation generates 9 per cent of all regional visitor economy jobs and visitor spend in Victoria, and 28 per cent of all tourist visitors to the High Country.

There is strong latent demand for Alpine experiences in Victoria. The resorts have the potential to increase the number of annual visitors from 1.1 million to 1.9 million during the snow season, and from 0.2 million to 0.9 million during the green season.

However, low public sector investment has limited the ability of the resorts to realise this potential and achieve the vision of a year-round visitor economy.

There are over 100 projects across the six resorts available for public sector investment which will deliver record levels of future growth.

The resorts require a total of \$439 million in public and \$298 million in private funding over 10 years to implement this game-changing investment.

10 Year Investment	Public Sector	Private Sector	Total
Victorian Alpine Resorts	\$439M	\$298M	\$737M
Mt Buller/Stirling	\$140M	\$67M	\$207M
Falls Creek	\$112M	\$119M	\$231M
Mt Hotham	\$82M	\$95M	\$177M
Mt Baw Baw	\$78M	\$19M	\$97M
Lake Mountain	\$26M	-	\$26M



The strategic projects span **four key investment areas**:

Investment	Public	Private	Total
<p>Vibrant, accessible, and diverse alpine villages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amenity, beautification and placemaking projects including landscaping, lookouts, public art and placemaking, village lighting, village squares, and outdoor break out spaces to increase visitor satisfaction and stay length. • Village community and visitor amenity buildings to provide indoor spaces for breakout, rest and protection from the weather. These buildings will centralise public amenity and improve the visitor experience, particularly for the daytrip and snow play market. • Projects to diversify accommodation stock and provide experiential accommodation to meet visitor demand. • Commercial development including diversification of retail, food and beverage offerings, night life and other commercial activities, and to encourage additional visitor spend and year-round village activation. 	\$112m	\$184m	\$296m
<p>Infrastructure to enable sustainable growth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport projects to address a range of mountain access, parking capacity and road quality issues as well as pedestrian and access issues. • Critical services and infrastructure projects to remove barriers to growth in winter and to create demand in green season including water, sewer telecommunications and renewable power projects • Affordable staff accommodation projects, to avoid reducing the amount of available visitor accommodation and help make commercial operators within the resorts employers of choice. 	\$179m	\$45m	\$224m
<p>Compelling and quality winter experiences for all visitors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment in snowmaking, expansion of snow play zones, night-time snow play projects, and other diversification of the traditional snow experience will help to secure the future of the winter experience. 	\$76m	\$55m	\$131m
<p>Motivating green season products and experiences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of iconic walking experiences to motivate visitors in green season. This will include low intensity and view oriented short walks with architecturally designed experiences such as the Hotham Heaven Walk. • Investment in mountain biking across all resorts, including trail upgrades and extensions within the Mt Buller mountain bike park and continued investment in Falls Creek mountain biking experiences. • A range of low intensity activities such as alpine coasters and ziplines, playgrounds, and pump tracks. 	\$71m	\$15m	\$86m
Total	\$439m	\$298m	\$737m



The impact of this investment, combined with the current economic contribution of the resorts as of 2019, will double the economic contribution of the Resorts to Victoria by 2031. A total of 2.7 million visitors across the Resorts will generate \$4.8 billion in direct and indirect expenditure, 20,400 ongoing annual jobs and \$2.1 billion GSP.

	Visitors	Output	Jobs	GSP
Current (2019)	1.3 M	\$2.5 B	10,133	\$1.1 B
Additional (2031)	1.4 M	\$2.3 B	10,300	\$1 B
Total	2.7 M	\$4.8 B	20,400	\$2.1 B

Priority Projects – Mt Hotham

Mt Hotham Business, Visitor and Community Centre

Mt Hotham is looking to develop a new commercial and administrative precinct that will provide the resort with a much-needed village hub. A key feature of this precinct will be the Mt Hotham Business, Visitor and Community Centre, which will centralise public amenity and range of new services and experiences in one facility. This includes a visitor centre and transport interchange, retail offering, commercial gym and office/operational space for a range of public, private and not-for-profit entities. This has been prioritised for funding due to the multifaceted nature of the facility and its ability to deliver triple bottom line outcomes for the resort in one icon development.

Total Project Cost:	\$20,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$19,000,000

Hotham Heaven Walk and Trails Upgrade

Mt Hotham aspires to be the lead walking tourism destination in Victoria, leveraging its 360-degree vistas of the Australian Alps and stunning natural assets to deliver a world class walk experience. In support of this goal, Mt Hotham is looking to upgrade and expand its existing trail network to better meet market demand, and also develop a new iconic tourism attraction called the 'Hotham Heaven Walk'. Stretching from one end of the resort to the other, the Hotham Heaven Walk will feature cantilevered walkways and architecturally designed features and lookouts that will delight and inspire visitors, ensuring that it acts as major tourism driver for the High Country.

Total Project Cost:	\$22,500,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$21,000,000



Public Safety, Access and Amenity Upgrade

While Mt Hotham features striking natural assets, its urban amenity is old and tired, lacking visual appeal and intuitive form. This project will lift the entire resort offering, including placemaking initiatives (landscaping, lighting, walkways etc), verge and carpark sealing, and the upgrade of resort bus stop and transit areas. Collectively, the program will improve public access and safety; enhance the visitor experience; and improve operational efficiencies and environmental outcomes.

Total Project Cost: \$11,000,000

Commonwealth Contribution: \$10,000,000

Mt Hotham Alpine Arts Installation Series

Hotham is looking to diversify its year-round tourism offering through the installation of a series of artistic installations that provide people with reasons to visit and spend time in-resort, generating yield opportunities for mountain businesses. This project involves the installation of large, high-impact, permanent sculptural pieces across the resort's five key resort precincts, which draw from the natural environment, traditional owner heritage and ski field history.

Total Project Cost: \$1,500,000

Commonwealth Contribution: \$1,500,000

Priority Projects – Falls Creek

Falls Creek Emergency Response Village Road Connections

To facilitate further growth and in order to ensure safe travel around the village precinct, the village road network needs to resolve a series of dead ends, which make navigation for large vehicles difficult (particularly CFA vehicles and medium sized heavy-duty transport).

This impacts safe access for fire response appliances and means constrained single direction egress for lodges. This project proposes to connect dead end roads to create a simple loop-based system allowing larger vehicles to easily navigate the road network in both summer and winter. The project will also consider future adaptation infrastructure needed for ski-to-the-node integration with the ski field to facilitate ski-in ski-out challenges posed by climate change.

Total Project Cost: \$3,500,000

Commonwealth Contribution: \$3,100,000

Falls Creek Recreation & Events Centre

The construction of the multi-purpose event, recreation and training centre will provide much needed facilities to a wide range of sporting groups and clubs, from the local primary school, and regional sporting clubs to elite athletes seeking the benefits of altitude training. The proposal incorporates a



training field/oval alongside the universally designed venue facility that will expand the resorts reputation as an altitude training and event destination. The event centre will be a hub for the local community, providing much needed community space whilst also facilitating the hosting of local and regional community sports and training opportunities. In addition, the centre will be the base of the Australian Cross Country Ski team and enable the promotion of world class snow sports events.

At present, Falls Creek hosts the largest snow sports event in the southern hemisphere, the Kangaroo Hoppet. This 42-kilometre race attracts over 1000 competitors from 30 countries. The International Ski Federation have endorsed the event being made a World Cup event, with the completion of the venue and facilities. The Hoppet would then be Australia's only internationally recognised and accredited snow sport event. Applying universal design principles, the centre will offer Disabled Winter Sports and other groups catering to people with disabilities, a base for its members to utilise in both skiing and adaptive mountain biking camps and training. As a venue the centre will also host large scale indoor and outdoor events, from conferences, concerts, seminars, weddings etc.

This project is a critical part of the resorts green season adaptation planning and is shovel ready with all required permits in place for construction start.

Total Project Cost:	\$10,700,000
Commonwealth Contribution:	\$9,900,000

Falls Creek MTB Park Network Expansion

Falls Creek Alpine Resort, along with Regional Development Victoria, has invested in 55kms of dedicated single track mountain bike trail. Staged over 5 development cycles, the existing network contributes to the North East Victorian cycling optimisation plan and the recognition of the region as a biking destination. The purpose built professionally designed trail has resulted in double digit visitation growth in the formal green season, attracting state and national mountain bike events, together with festivals and bespoke activations. The challenge for riders and resort stakeholders is providing a riding experience that facilitates both a longer stay opportunity for both whilst providing a progression perfect product to cater to a broader market. The resort tracks and trails expansion strategy identifies the need for the network to be expanded by a further 25kms of dedicated single track to deliver:

- Provision of a UCI accredited downhill course within resort - providing unique opportunity for global and national event hosting
- Increasing resort access to dedicated MTB single track
- Ensuring the network is focused on skills transition riding
- Increasing opportunities to host MTB events, including large international events
- Achieving the right mix of gravity and cross-country trails to respond to user needs
- Activating Cloud 9 area at the top of the mountain and lifting riders/sightseers from Slalom Plaza.



- Developing adaptive and accessible descent trails for disabled riders
- Undertaking trail planning, development and maintenance in a sensitive manner that responds to the social, environmental and cultural values of the resort and surrounding landscape.

Total Project Cost: \$2,300,000
Commonwealth Contribution: \$2,000,000

Round The Lake Multi-use Trail

This iconic project involves the completion of an 'around the lake' multi-use trail, circumnavigating Rocky Valley Lake and integrating with the existing trail network at Falls Creek. This trail will be flat gradient, designed as universal access and provide an unrivalled high plains nature based experience.

A section of the trail would include a pontoon across the highest body of water in Australia, providing a truly unique experience, like no other in Australia, supplementing the Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing walking route at this location. The trail will be constructed in a manner which minimises ecological impact footprint, with a unique construction solution along the high-water mark of the lake. The project will be executed in partnership with AGL and Parks Victoria.

Total Project Cost: \$6,200,000
Commonwealth Contribution: \$5,800,000

Priority Projects – Mount Buller

Releasing land and rebuilding the village square as a vibrant heart of the resort

A public/private partnership to construct an undercover transport hub on top of a multi-storey carpark skinned with apartments. This, and replacing an existing road with a tunnel releases valuable real estate in the middle of the village to expand the range of visitor services and create a vibrant village heart. It also includes a public / private partnership to construct a new multi-storey, multi-purpose public shelter and toilets to deal with chronic shortages by more than doubling capacity, while adding retail spaces and capping the building with apartments. It then involves resurfacing the outdoor areas of the expanded village square including paving, seating, lighting, playground, and other visitor activations. This will in-turn unlock private investment in additional visitor activities which will be popular despite snow levels and increase year-round visitation.

Total Project Cost: \$40,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution: Co-fund opportunity

Staff accommodation to address critical shortages impacting delivery of visitor services

A public/private partnership to construct 2 buildings accommodating 240 staff on blocks within the Mt Buller village which are zoned for this purpose. It also involves the installation of 8x2-bedroom cabins at Mirmbah to accommodate 40 staff during the snow season on a fee to use basis and be hired



out as riverside family holiday units during summer. Lack of staff accommodation is making it increasingly difficult to attract staff to provide visitor services and impacting business viability.

Total Project Cost: \$9,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution: Co-fund opportunity

Priority Projects – Mount Stirling

Additional visitor attractions and improved amenities to increase visitation

A new visitor centre to increase capacity and provide an educational base for an increased number of students who would be accommodated in three additional eco-camps. It also includes an iconic 15km extension to the existing horse trail network to connect Craigs Hut with Mt Stirling, and a 3-day Buller / Stirling cattlemans hut walk and camp grounds. This would increase visitation by 50% (4,000 p.a.) in the snow season and increase the number of commercial operators and visitors in summer.

Total Project Cost: \$9,500,000
Commonwealth Contribution: Co-fund opportunity

Road and carpark sealing to improve visitor safety

This project is to improve safety by sealing the 9km gravel road between Mirimbah and Mt Stirling (reducing geotech risk by routing water through culverts, removing the need to undertake season grading, and allowing it to be cleared of snow during winter) and excavating and rebuilding the TBJ carpark (which was initially constructed on fallen tree trunks that are progressively rotting and resulting in sink holes and increased geotech risk).

Total Project Cost: \$11,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution: Co-fund opportunity

Priority Projects – Lake Mountain

Integrated Power Solution

Since the resort has been operating, Lake Mountain Alpine Resort has relied on diesel-generated power. The integrated power solution is designed to provide a continuous supply of three-phase power from solar and battery to any one of three diesel generators. A programmable logic device will monitor and select power sources according to load and stored energy conditions. The system will automatically select the most efficient energy source. A reduction of energy costs is accomplished with this solution and moving towards a more sustainable energy power option.

Total Project Cost: \$5,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution: Co-fund opportunity



Accommodation Project

A complete fit-out of upper-level Bistro would provide accommodation and conference space to generate a new revenue stream for Lake Mountain Alpine Resort. This will provide a new level of experience to guests during the day and throughout the evening.

Total Project Cost: \$5,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution: Co-fund opportunity

Portable Water Supply

Lake Mountain Alpine Resort currently has no potable water, relying on bottled water for staff and guests. This project will provide drinking water to our guests and our staff. In addition, the project will significantly reduce single-use plastic bottle use and contribute to a more sustainable solution and expectation of Lake Mountain Alpine Resort.

Total Project Cost: \$1,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution: Co-fund opportunity

Visitor Experience Building Project

In order to provide a greater visitor amenity, retail and guest services space, there is a requirement for the delivery of a new multi-level building that provides a link between the existing amenity buildings. Creating a welcoming visitor entry point, education spaces, repositioning & redesign of rental area, address resort accessibility issues.

Total Project Cost: \$10,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution: Co-fund opportunity

Mountain Bike Park Enhancements

The Lake Mountain Biking product has seen extensive development over the past 10 years and has been an instrumental driver of green season visitation. Continued enhancements are required to maintain interest levels, support all abilities of rider and continue our competitive position.

Total Project Cost: \$5,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution: Co-fund opportunity

Priority Projects – Mount Baw Baw

Staff Accommodation

It is proposed to construct affordable on-resort staff accommodation facilities to support 120 winter seasonal staff within the Baw Baw Village. Adaptive family style cabins are proposed that can be hired to visitors during summer. Lack of staff accommodation is impacting business sustainability and reducing valuable higher yield public access accommodation capacity.



Total Project Cost: \$4,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution: Co-fund opportunity

Visitor Welcome Hub, Indoor Recreation and Conference Facility

The development of a visitor centre 'welcome hub' will establish the resort as a gateway to the Mount Baw Baw National Park. This facility will act as an entry hub for resort services, for the Alpine walking trail, guided experiences, and deliver interpretive and educational outcomes for schools and families. To be constructed adjacent to the main day visitor car park, the facility includes multi-purpose indoor recreation facilities (emergency relief space, climbing and abseiling wall, multi-purpose sports court, all-weather outdoor education spaces) and meeting, conference, and event facilities.

Total Project Cost: \$8,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution: Co-fund opportunity

Carpark, Roadway and Pedestrian Pathway Upgrades

Existing unsealed car parks require sealing to improve capacities, amenity and snow clearing efficiencies. New car parking spaces are needed to meet growing day visitor demand. Shared internal village roadways are in urgent need of re-sealing and addition of curbing and channelling to improve drainage and pedestrian safety. A protected pedestrian pathway connecting car parks to the Village is needed to get pedestrians off the main access roadway. Realignment of the Mt Baw Baw Tourist Road is needed at Chairlift Corner to support improved vehicle safety at a dangerous hairpin bend. Redesign of the entry precinct, including access lanes and chain bay, is urgently needed as well.

Total Project Cost: \$8,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution: Co-fund opportunity

Renewable Energy Power Solution

The Baw Baw Village is remote to the national grid. The resort Microgrid energy power solution will be transformative for the resort. The resort plans to transition from high cost, inefficient and unreliable high emission carbon-based fuels to renewable energy. Options under consideration include solar PV, wind, micro-hydro, geothermal, short and long term storage, including hydrogen. This project will remove a significant barrier to sustainability and private investment at the resort.

Total Project Cost: \$5,000,000
Commonwealth Contribution: Co-fund opportunity



Albury Wodonga Health

New Single-Site Hospital

Albury Wodonga Health (AWH) is already one of the busiest regional health services in the state. As the population on the border grows, it's only going to get busier. By 2040 we will need a hospital capable of handling 150,000 emergency presentations, 40,000 surgeries and 1,900 births every year.

The AWH Clinical Services Plan (2021) recommends that AWH increase the range and complexity of services it provides so that members of the local community can access the care that they need, close to home. It further recommends that all acute and sub-acute bed-based services be located on a single campus to improve patient safety, to increase the ability to provide higher acuity care and to create efficiencies for workforce and support services.

In October 2022 the NSW and Victorian Governments announced a partnership to deliver a \$558 million redevelopment of Albury Base Hospital. They each pledged \$225 million in addition to the \$108 million already invested by NSW and Commonwealth Governments. This initial tranche will support consolidation of the majority (but not all) of acute clinical services to one site. However, the funding does not achieve the recommendations detailed in the 2021 AWH Clinical Service Plan to deliver a single site world-class hospital for the region.

The Government should make a significant contribution towards funding the new, single site world-class hospital on the border.

Collaborative Centre for Contemporary Education and Research

A new, purpose-built research and education centre will be developed on the site of, or adjacent to, the Albury campus of Albury Wodonga Health, consistent with the Albury City Council's plans to develop a health precinct in the area. The centre will provide under-graduate and post-graduate student facilities including a simulation centre to support clinical training. AWH will work in partnership with the university sector to establish a strong translational research program including consideration of development of the Australian Rural and Regional Natural Disaster Health Research Institute to focus on the health impacts of natural disasters including drought, bushfire and pandemic and to develop new strategies in response.

AWH have identified that the Commonwealth should fund research and collaboration projects including a Collaborative Centre for Contemporary Education and Research that would include partners such as the Australian Defence Force, TAFE, La Trobe University, Charles Sturt University and the NSW Rural Clinical School. \$500,000 is needed to develop the model and analyse the strategic and economic benefits which would accrue to the region and the community.

Commonwealth Contribution: \$40 million



Brain and Mind Centre Albury – Phase 2

The new Brain and Mind centre opened in early 2020 and is providing community mental health and drug and alcohol services from a modern, purpose-built facility. Phase 2 would see the development of the second floor of the building to accommodate 38 additional workspaces, training facilities, student work areas, meeting rooms, storage and bathroom facilities to support the colocation of AWH’s mental health access and immediate response teams and NSW TAFE to provide on-site training for the mental health workforce. This will create a one-stop shop for consumers and integrated care opportunities. Planning for Phase 2 is well progressed.

Commonwealth Contribution: \$1 million



Tourism North East

TNE Marketing

A sustained approach to economic recovery is imperative as the multiple crisis of the 2020 bushfires, COVID-19 pandemic and recent flooding have cost the region's visitor economy in excess of \$2.5 Billion in the past 3 years. Tourism is significant to the High Country's economic profile. In the year ending December 2019 (the last full year of trade prior to COVID-19), Victoria's High Country welcomed 5.9 million visitors who generated \$1.9 Billion in direct expenditure and \$2.7 billion in total economic output. This supported an estimated 27% of total employment across the region.

This project aims to activate not only the latent demand within Tourism North East's existing and potential target markets, but also new visitor markets. Tourism North East is seeking \$3.3 million over three years (2023–25) in funding to execute a multichannel, integrated marketing program targeting high-value consumers within the 'Lifestyle Leader' market, driving visitation, yield and dispersal across the region. This activity will dovetail into and activate a raft of newly completed infrastructure projects and product development initiatives across the private sector.

Tourism North East has a proven track record of delivering successful domestic campaigns, most recently leveraging \$1.1 million in marketing spend into \$30 million in return to the visitor economy in 2019.

Total Project Ask: \$3,300,000

TNE Digital Skills Program

The High Country aspires to achieve digital excellence, setting industry best practice for the use of digital technologies in all aspects of the region's tourism offering. In 2019 Tourism North East secured \$243,000 from the Regional Skills Fund to deliver a digital upskilling program for the region's tourism operators. Launched in December 2019, the program provides industry partners with personalised training focused on developing the skills required to optimise online opportunities for both their business and the broader region. The low-commitment, practical and tactical nature of the program has been incredibly well received by industry operators.

Since launching in December 2019, the Digital Skills Program has delivered over 1,000 business engagements and is scheduled to conclude in December 2023. Tourism North East is seeking a further \$150,000 to extend the delivery of the program to December 2025.

Total Project Ask: \$150,000

Regional Digital Signage Network



Tourism North East seeks to develop and implement an industry leading digital path to market that will revolutionise the visitor experience and make it easier for visitors to dream, plan and explore Victoria's High Country.

Delivered via a smartphone enabled platform, the application will act as a central hub of information for visitors, enabling them to maximise their stay when in Victoria's High Country and maintain a relationship with the area when out of region. In September 2020, Tourism North East was successful in obtaining \$750,000 of funding from the Victorian State Government to undertake this unique and exciting project.

Digitally enabled signage is one of the core three initiatives identified in the Victoria's High Country future state vision for visitor servicing. Tourism North East is seeking a further \$500,000 to implement digitally enabled signage across the region.

Total Project Ask: \$500,000



Portfolio funding opportunities

Climate Change, Energy and the Environment

Climate Agricultural Extension Officers

Australia is aiming to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, but with the agricultural sector currently generating 16% of the nation's emissions, more support is required for farmers if we are to reach this target and for farmers to get the most out of a net zero economy. There are over 80,000 farming businesses in Australia, and 95% of them are small to medium sized businesses with under \$2 million in revenue. Reducing emissions is a challenge for farmers, who do not have ready access to clean technologies to cut the chief sources of their emissions.

Agricultural Extension Officers (AEOs) have helped farmers adopt new farming practices like mixed cropping and pest management. A climate-specific AEO program could support farmers and landholders to take advantage of new research and technology, mitigation practices and to participate in new markets, such as carbon credits.

The Government should fund a network of 200 climate AEOs, located in regional hubs across Australia, to work with farmers on implementing emissions reduction strategies.

Expand ARENA's functions to support community energy

The renewable energy transition taking place in regional Australia is witnessing billions of dollars of investment in large-scale renewable energy projects. The benefits of this transformation – in terms of jobs, income, lower power prices, lower emissions, and greater power reliability – are clear and overwhelming. However, everyday regional communities do not always capture the full benefits.

Community energy, whereby communities develop their own locally-owned and driven energy projects, is a compelling model for the next phase of the renewable energy transition in the regions. If communities themselves are empowered with technical capabilities and financial resources, they can develop their own energy projects, delivering more local jobs, more local buy-in, and more local opportunities for income diversification, than purely commercial operations.

The Government should undertake a review of ARENA to consider how it can support locally-owned community energy, including establishing a dedicated regional community energy fund within ARENA.

Incentivise cheaper home batteries to encourage home electrification

Australian households could save thousands in lower energy bills while reducing emissions and ensuring energy security if home batteries were cheaper. Over one-third of Australians have installed rooftop solar on their home, but just one percent have a home battery, because they are simply too expensive. The Government should incentivise cheaper home batteries and should



consider adopting my Cheaper Home Batteries Bill, which would incorporate home batteries into the Small-Scale Renewable Energy Scheme, lowering the cost of batteries by \$3,000 and tripling the number of batteries in Australian households within three years.

I request the Government include in the budget incentives to make home batteries cheaper.

[No-interest loans for home electrification](#)

I support the Government's plans to develop a package in the Budget to assist households and businesses electrify their operations, improve their energy performance and cut energy bills, with a focus on low-income households.

My Cheaper Home Batteries Bill called on the Government to offer no-interest loans to low-income households to purchase solar and battery installations. I worked with the Australian Council of Social Services on this bill, who supported a no-interest loan program.

I encourage the Government to include no-interest loans to low-income households and businesses as part of their home and business electrification package.

[Community Batteries for Household Solar Program](#)

I support this \$200 million program to enable Australians to store affordable solar energy for use during peak times, and to share excess power with other households in their area. Many communities in Indi, including Beechworth, Yackandandah, Euroa and Corryong, are leaders in locally owned, regionally located renewable energy. Regional Australia is particularly in need of community batteries to ensure energy security during emergencies such as bushfires.

Locations for the first 58 communities have already been decided and are listed under the grant guidelines.

The Government must ensure regional communities, including Indi communities, are eligible for the next grant round.

Communications

[Mobile Black Spot Funding](#)

Indi has been very successful at securing funding to fix mobile black spots, in great part due to the advocacy of the Indi Telecommunications Advisory Group convened by my office who have identified black spots and collaborated on grant applications with Federal and State governments. In 2021, we secured funding for 10 new mobile towers, from Cudgewa to Harrietville. But the job is far from done. There are still 46 priority black spot locations across the electorate that I am committed to fixing.

The Government must ensure that funding continues under the Mobile Black Spot Program, and that grant guidelines allow for entrenched black spots to be remedied. This will require government raising the cap on funds from \$500,000 to \$1 million so we can tackle the most complex cases.



Finish the NBN Build in Regional Australia

In September 2020, NBN Co established a \$300 million Regional Co-Investment Fund (RCIF) to finance local NBN infrastructure projects to deliver high speeds to households, businesses, and communities primarily in regional and remote areas currently served by NBNs Fixed Wireless and Satellite footprint. The RCIF calls on local governments to propose commercially viable projects for *joint* funding.

This proposal is unacceptable. The impost on local government is not viable. It shows that the Commonwealth Government has failed to deliver on its commitment to complete the NBN build to a high quality in regional Australia and is attempting to pass the buck to capacity-constrained local governments instead of finishing the job.

I request the Government to remove the LGA co-fund component of the RCIF and instead provide \$300 million in direct capital funding to regional communities to ensure the NBN build is complete and accessible to all without forcing local government to foot the bill.

Housing

North East Workforce Management and Appropriate Housing Project (NEWMAH)

This innovative proposal from eight Councils in Indi and three Alpine Resort Management Boards, lead by Tourism North East seeks government investment to address the lack of appropriate and affordable housing, and in turn address the challenges of retaining key workers. It seeks to do this through partnering with government in the NEWMAH project itself, and subsequent government loans to construct workplace accommodation. The NEWMAH project has estimated the following investment is required:

- \$6.7 million investment to establish NEWMAH – development of jobs brokerage software and marketing and communications.
- \$13.4 million loan from the government for construction of on-mountain accommodation.
- \$5 million loan to trial modular on-farm accommodation.

This project has been presented to the Minister for Housing in detail and we understand further engagement will occur in February 2023.

We seek further engagement with Government to enable this project to progress.



Regional Housing Infrastructure Fund

Indi is facing a housing supply and affordability crisis. Councils identify that a challenge to unlocking private investment in new houses is lack of funds to build the basic infrastructure needed for new housing development. This means new or upgraded infrastructure for electricity and gas, transportation and roads, water and sewerage, and telecommunications.

I have campaigned for a dedicated Rural Housing Infrastructure Fund to address this need where the previous National Housing Infrastructure Facility (NHIF) has failed to do so. Overall, the NHIF spent just \$411 million out of its full \$1 billion allocation. That funding has supported around 6900 dwellings across Australia, none of which are within the electorate, and none of which had a regions-specific focus. The NHIF's mandate was also very restrictive; it could not fund social infrastructure, like childcare centres and schools.

I am calling on the Government to establish a \$2 billion Regional Housing Infrastructure Fund (RHIF) to be deployed over four years in regional Australia to unlock private investment in new houses by building the basic infrastructure needed for new housing development, including social infrastructure.

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Increase Financial Assistance Grants

As outlined above almost every one of Indi's 9 local councils desperately need assistance to fund critical road upgrades and maintenance, and other enabling infrastructure. The Commonwealth's Financial Assistance Grants are relied on by local councils to spend funds where it's most needed. These grants make up 42 per cent of the operating revenue for rural agricultural councils, according to the Australian Local Government Association. Yet, over the last three decades, grant payments have declined from one per cent of Commonwealth taxation revenue to around 0.53 per cent. At the same time, the demands on these councils have only increased after experiencing extreme weather events.

I request the Government increase Financial Assistance Grants

Health and Aged Care

Bright District Hospital Health Precinct Development

Bright is the only township of its size in Victoria that does not have a high needs residential aged care facility. The Bright District Hospital Health Precinct Development will co-locate hospital, aged care, medical and allied health services, and health education services in Bright and surrounds. It will include a new 35 bed high care aged care facility with the potential for additional units leading to 49 beds. It will also include refurbishment of the existing hospital bed-based services and nursing facilities with



new extensions for a production kitchen (servicing the new aged care facility as well) and community and allied health services to ensure the provision of an expanded range of allied and specialist services.

The existing Hawthorn Village will be adapted for re-use as Alpine Institute's health education facility and accommodation centre to support the provision of international nurse education and health worker accommodation. On 3 May 2022 the Victorian Government pledged \$1.52 million for design and plan for the Bright Health Precinct and redevelopment of Alpine Health's Hawthorn Village, with this process due for completion in March 2023.

I request the Government fund \$26 million, including through the Aged Care Capital Assistance Program, to develop the residential aged care component of the Bright District Hospital Health Precinct Development.

[Mansfield District Hospital](#)

The Mansfield District Hospital Master Plan involves the construction of a new hospital, including community health and high needs facilities, on new land in Mansfield. The plan was submitted to the Victorian Building Authority over two years ago in November 2019.

Average local population growth more than tripled during the pandemic in Mansfield, heightening the need for upgraded facilities – particularly the Urgent Care Unit which is often at capacity during peak tourism seasons. The hospital also suffered approximately \$50,000 worth of damage during the recent earthquake in September 2021. The designated site is located on Highett Street behind Bindaree, with the plan able to be rolled out in stages. In the October 2022 election the Victorian Government pledged \$60 million towards redeveloping the hospital.

I request the Commonwealth Government to engage with the State Government to commit the remaining funding to invest in the implementation of the Mansfield District Hospital Master Plan.