## **Media Release**

Ms Ros Spence MP
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Youth



Monday, 4 May 2020

## LATROBE YOUTH SPACE DEVELOPMENT TO GENERATE LOCAL JOBS

The Andrews Labor Government is supporting young people across the Latrobe Valley and the Gippsland region with \$4.3 million to design, develop and run the Latrobe Youth Space in Morwell.

Minister for Youth Ros Spence today announced Kubale Constructions based in Warragul has been appointed as the head contractor to redevelop the Latrobe Youth Space, generating up to 50 onsite jobs.

The project will be in parternship with the Latrobe Valley Authority to support the engagement of local contractors.

Plans for the new Latrobe Youth Space site at 497 Princes Drive, Morwell were designed with the help of young people from across the region to ensure it is a safe and welcoming space that meets their needs.

The space connects young people to a range of vital services and activities, and is overseen by YMCA Victoria and the local community through a group of organisations working to improve outcomes for young people in the Latrobe Valley.

A Youth Governance Committee made up of 14 young people aged 12 to 25 guides the development and delivery of Latrobe Youth Space programs and activities, which include education, training and career development opportunities, as well as a range of sport and recreation programs.

From its interim location in the Midvalley Shopping Centre, Latrobe Youth Space has connected with more than 12,000 young people across the region in the last year.

Activities on offer include events, school holiday programs and homework support to music, photography, exercise classes and parenting groups.

Works at the new site will start this month and are expected to take six months to complete.

## **Quote attributable to Minister for Youth Ros Spence**

"The new Latrobe Youth Space is designed by young people, for young people. This space will provide young people across the Valley with the resources and opportunities they need to thrive."

## **Quote attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing**

"The Gippsland community has provided invaluable support to Latrobe Youth Space. Appointing a local contractor to this project means the local community – and the region's economy – will be supported in return."

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