

# Media Release

**The Hon Jaala Pulford MLC**

Minister for Employment

Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy

Minister for Small Business



Monday, 30 November 2020

## VITAL FUNDING FOR BUSINESS CHAMBERS AND TRADER GROUPS

The Andrews Labor Government is supporting small businesses, micro-businesses and sole traders across Victoria with grants provided to local business chambers and trader groups.

Minister for Small Business Jaala Pulford said 182 business chambers and trader groups have received \$4.15 million through the *Grants for Business Chambers and Trader Groups* program to support local businesses.

The Mordialloc Traders Association will encourage their community to shop and eat locally, boosting small businesses in their vibrant shopping centre.

The Greater Dandenong Chamber of Commerce will launch a COVID Recover program aimed at its multicultural and diverse business community to assist businesses' reopening and boost their local economy.

Tourism Greater Geelong and the Bellarine will launch a major redevelopment of their website enabling more effective communication, support and insights to be delivered to tourism operators in the region.

The program provides grants of \$10,000, \$20,000 or \$50,000 to business chambers and trader groups across Victoria to support their local business community's recovery and further applications are being assessed.

The *Grants for Business Chambers and Trader Groups* program is part of more than \$7 billion in direct economic support provided by the Labor Government to Victorian businesses and workers to help them weather the storm of the pandemic.

Some \$2.6 billion in funding has supported more than 130,000 small and medium businesses to date through the Business Support Fund while \$87.5 million has been provided to support hospitality businesses prepare for COVID Normal.

For more information about the *Grants for Business Chambers and Trader Groups* program, visit [business.vic.gov.au/businesschambers](https://business.vic.gov.au/businesschambers).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Small Business Jaala Pulford

*"Business chambers and trader groups play a vital role in supporting their local business communities and that's why we are supporting them."*

*"Chambers have played a lead role in our small business mental health initiative and the proposals put forward by groups under this program will also make a real difference to businesses and their workers."*