

Media Release

The Hon Luke Donnellan MP
Minister for Child Protection
Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers



Friday, 11 December 2020

NEW AGED CARE FACILITY FOR MELBOURNE'S SOUTH-EAST

The Andrews Labor Government is getting on with delivering the high-quality aged care services older Victorians deserve, with planning underway for a new up to \$134.6 million state-of-the-art residential facility at Monash Health's Kingston Centre in Cheltenham in Melbourne's southeast.

Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers Luke Donnellan today unveiled a first look at the 150-bed aged care facility, which will cater for complex needs residents and will be designed to promote resident mobility and independence, as well as dementia-friendly environments.

The facility will provide modern single rooms with private ensuite bathrooms, in an environment that feels like home. A community room, sacred space and other common areas will provide for social interactions and activities between residents, families and the community.

The design will also make the most of the surrounding natural environment, with residents having open area views, an abundance of natural light and access to terraces and gardens.

The facility will also feature a 'pandemic mode' ventilation and air conditioning system, which when needed, will help to contain the spread of infectious airborne particles by exhausting all air externally from an infected space and provide 100 per cent fresh air to isolated areas.

Operated and staffed by Monash Health, the facility will have easy access to the broad range of integrated aged care services including cognitive dementia and memory services as well as clinics for falls and balance.

Victoria is leading the way as the first state in Australia to have nurse-to-resident ratios in its public sector residential aged care, providing an important safeguard for both residents and staff, and ensuring older Victorians receive the best care possible.

Scheduled for completion by early 2025, the Kingston Centre facility is part of the Labor Government's record investment in public sector aged care including a new \$55.57 million 90-bed state-of-the-art facility in Kew, \$81.58 million for a new 120-bed facility in Wantirna and another \$900,000 for the first phase of designing and planning a 90-bed residential aged care facility in Coburg.

The *Victorian Budget 2020/21* invested \$175 million in all to ensure our older Victorians have a safe and comfortable home, where they know they'll be cared for.

Quote attributable to Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers Luke Donnellan

"Our public sector residential aged care services play a vital role in supporting vulnerable older Victorians who need specialist care for complex physical or mental health needs."

Quote attributable to Member for Clarinda Meng Heang Tak

"This state-of-the-art aged care service will provide our community with access to quality public aged care designed to provide comfort, privacy and dignity."

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Quote attributable to Member for South Eastern Metropolitan Region Tien Kieu

“When completed this new facility will enable our older community members in the south east to live in the comfortable and supportive environment they deserve.”

Quote attributable to Member for South Eastern Metropolitan Region Lee Tarlamis

“We’re ensuring the older Victorians in our community have a high quality, safe and comfortable home, where they know they’ll be well cared for.”