

# Media Release

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



Monday, 1 February 2021

## **NEW KEW AGED CARE FACILITY READY TO BE CALLED ‘HOME’**

The Andrews Labor Government is continuing to deliver more high-quality public sector aged care services for older Victorians, with the completion of a new state-of-the-art \$55.57 million aged care facility in Kew.

Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers Luke Donnellan today toured the new facility, which will provide residents with access to first class services that meet the modern expectations and standards of residential aged care, particularly for those living with complex needs.

Named *Berengarra* – the Aboriginal word for ‘the land around Kew’ – the dementia-friendly facility includes 90 private rooms with ensuites split over three levels.

The facility features comfortable and home-like environment with garden outlooks, natural light and common areas for socialising and leisure.

In addition to its high-quality design and environment, the new facility provides residents with access to medical, rehabilitation and allied health care services quickly and easily through St George’s Health. The first residents are expected to move into Berengarra in the coming months.

The project marks the completion of the first stage of the Labor Government’s plan to modernise public sector residential aged care in metropolitan Melbourne.

Under this plan, older facilities in suburban Melbourne are being progressively replaced with purpose-built residential services that enable contemporary models of aged care which are dementia friendly and suited to the needs of people with mental health and complex care needs.

The Government is making a record investment in public sector aged care, including \$81.58 million for a new 120-bed facility in Wantirna, \$134.6 million for a 150-bed facility at the Kingston Centre in Cheltenham and \$900,000 to deliver the first phase of designing and planning for a new 90-bed residential aged care facility.

### **Quotes attributable to Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers Luke Donnellan**

*“We’re modernising and upgrading public residential aged care right across Victoria – providing older people with access to the very best services and care.”*

*“This is just one part of the largest ever revamp of Victoria’s public sector residential aged care facilities as we continue delivering on our promise to senior Victorians.”*

### **Quotes attributable to Member for Hawthorn John Kennedy**

*“Berengarra offers older Victorians exactly what they deserve – a safe, private and comfortable place to call home with the best possible on-site health care.”*

*“This marvelous new facility will provide older members of our community with a safe place for them to call home as they age.”*

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