

# Media Release

**The Hon Martin Foley MP**  
Minister for Health  
Minister for Ambulance Services  
Minister for Equality



Saturday, 16 October 2021

## **BOOST FOR OUR METROPOLITAN HEALTH SERVICES**

The Victorian Government is ensuring our health services have the infrastructure they need to deliver the care Victorians deserve.

Minister for Health Martin Foley today announced the 26 health services, community health and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations who will share in the newly created \$200 million Metropolitan Health Infrastructure Fund (MHIF).

The MHIF is ensuring health services across metropolitan areas can continue to provide world-class healthcare for all Victorians with almost 50 projects receiving funding under the first round of the program.

Under the new program, Austin Health are receiving more than \$25.8 million for upgrades at their Heidelberg sites – delivering new equipment to boost surgery capabilities.

More than \$5.7 million is being invested to upgrade the Aboriginal Community Elders Services in Brunswick including staff amenities, health, counselling and consultation rooms and a new kitchen.

Central Bayside Community Health Services are receiving more than \$2.6 million, delivering increased capability and capacity with an additional flexible group and therapy space for social and allied health care.

The MHIF is also enabling health services and agencies to adopt new technologies and deliver contemporary models of care, improving the quality and safety of care for patients and staff.

To help researchers and clinicians diagnose diseases, \$5.2 million is being invested to deliver a new state-of-the-art anatomical pathology lab at the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

Established as part of the *Victorian Budget 2020/21*, the MHIF provides funding for construction, remodelling and refurbishment projects, equipment, information and communication technology and other vital upgrade works to expand capacity, improve patient amenity, and enhance safety and infection prevention and control measures.

Since 2014, the Government has investment more than \$133 billion in Victoria's healthcare system.

More information on the MHIF is available at: [vhba.vic.gov.au/health/hospitals/metropolitan-health-infrastructure-fund](https://vhba.vic.gov.au/health/hospitals/metropolitan-health-infrastructure-fund)

### **Quotes attributable to Minister for Health Martin Foley**

*"We're investing in health services across the state, helping them deliver the high-quality care Victorians deserve and ensure hospitals can continue doing what they do best – saving lives."*

*"This is about ensuring our busiest hospitals have the vital infrastructure and equipment they need – because Victorians should be able to access quality healthcare, no matter where they live."*