

The Hon Martin Foley мр Minister for Health Minister for Ambulance Services Minister for Equality



Thursday, 21 April 2022

## LATROBE REGIONAL HOSPITAL EXPANSION CREATES JOBS BOOST

Work is progressing on the Andrews Labor Government's bigger and better Latrobe Regional Hospital, delivering around 600 jobs and ensuring residents in the Latrobe Valley have access to the high-quality care they need, closer to home.

Minister for Health Martin Foley and Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing visited Latrobe Regional Hospital today and announced the \$217 million project is on track to be completed in late 2023.

The expansion will deliver a new emergency department resuscitation bay, three operating suites, six intensive care unit beds, 14 medical and surgical beds, 44 inpatient beds, a medical imaging and pathology unit and a central sterile services department.

Maternity services are also being expanded with the addition of two new birthing suites, six maternity beds, six special care nursery cots and a kids play area – ensuring more mums can give birth closer to home.

Once complete the expansion will allows for an additional 6,200 elective surgeries per year.

Delivered by the Victorian Health Building Authority (VHBA) in partnership with Latrobe Regional Hospital and Built, the massive expansion will help to meet the region's increasing and complex health demands and is part of the Labor Government's master plan for delivering improved health services throughout Gippsland.

A \$73 million expansion of the Latrobe Regional Hospital (Stage 2) was completed in 2017 and delivered 30 new acute inpatient beds, 12 new short stay beds, a new emergency department and Gippsland's first cardiac catheterisation laboratory.

The Labor Government has invested more than \$133 billion in Victoria's healthcare system and the workers who support it.

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

"This expansion means Latrobe Regional Hospital can meet the needs of a growing community ensuring patients don't have to travel to Melbourne for complex procedures."

"It's vital that our regional areas have the health facilities they need to care for the local community which is why we're delivering the very best healthcare for Victorians no matter where they live."

## Quotes attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing

"We are absolutely determined to invest in a strong and healthy future for Gippsland and to support the ongoing delivery of world-class clinical and patient care in the Latrobe Valley."

"This expansion will create hundreds of local jobs and ensure people in Gippsland get into surgery sooner, with modern world-class facilities they deserve."