

Media Release

The Hon Jacinta Allan MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for Transport Infrastructure

Minister for Suburban Rail Loop

Minister for Commonwealth Games Delivery



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VICTORIANS TO HELP SHAPE 2026 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Victorians are being encouraged to have their say about the 2026 Commonwealth Games, with the Andrews Labor Government extending the deadline on the Call for Ideas process to 12 August.

Local communities across the state have been asked for ideas on how to best showcase their region as part of the world-wide sporting event.

The Call for Ideas process is capturing ideas from local residents and businesses, Traditional Owner groups, creative and cultural organisations, and local councils – ensuring every part of Victoria can benefit from the Commonwealth Games.

With four regional hubs including Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat and Gippsland officially confirmed for the Games, there is now the opportunity for more regions to play a role in Victoria 2026.

The Games will deliver significant economic and social benefits to the Gippsland region, including housing and world-class sports facilities.

Gippsland is also expected to benefit greatly from the influx of visitors and sporting fans travelling to watch the Games be played at Latrobe City Stadium and other venues across the region.

It is estimated the Commonwealth Games will contribute more than \$3 billion to the state's economy, creating more than 600 full-time jobs before the Games, 3,900 jobs during the Games and a further 3,000 jobs beyond the Closing Ceremony.

With hundreds of athletes and officials set to be housed in the athlete village, the region will benefit in the long term with a proportion of the village to be converted into affordable and social housing following the Games.

For more information and to get involved, visit vic.gov.au/victoria2026.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Commonwealth Games Delivery Jacinta Allan

"We're working closely with a number of different community groups to ensure the 2026 Victoria Games showcase the very best regional Victoria has to offer."

"The Commonwealth Games will deliver major benefits to the regions, and it is fantastic to see local clubs and venues including Latrobe City Stadium becoming home to some of the world's best athletes."

Quotes attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing

"Bringing the Commonwealth Games to Gippsland in 2026 will deliver a lasting legacy for growth and the development of sport in the region."

"Victoria 2026 will provide a huge boost to tourism and local businesses as people from across Australia and the world explore Gippsland's diverse and stunning natural environment."