

# Media Release

**The Hon Jacinta Allan MP**

Deputy Premier

Minister for Transport Infrastructure

Minister for Suburban Rail Loop

Minister for Commonwealth Games Delivery



Friday, 29 July 2022

## COMMONWEALTH GAMES FEVER BUILDS

Let the excitement begin, with our athletes set off to show their stuff in Birmingham as the Commonwealth Games begins.

Victoria has more than 80 members joining the Australian contingent, with 15 athletes coming from regional Victoria, which will be the home of the games in 2026.

The 2026 Commonwealth Games will be held from March 17-29 and will deliver a unique model of Games – not centred around one city. Instead, four regional hubs will be established in Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat and Gippsland, each with their own athletes' village and sports program.

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

Victoria 2026 will also invest significantly in community infrastructure, including housing and world-class sports facilities. This will leave a legacy of affordable housing for the regions and modern sports infrastructure to encourage Victorians to get active and attract future major events.

Victoria will be on show to the world during the handover ceremony at the end of the games.

Regional communities are also encouraged to submit their ideas on how their local town could be showcased during the games.

The process is open to local residents and businesses, Traditional Owner groups, creative and cultural organisations and local councils and closes on August 12.

For more information and to get involved, visit [vic.gov.au/victoria2026](https://vic.gov.au/victoria2026).

To showcase the natural beauty of Victoria, encourage people to visit now, build excitement for Victoria 2026 and highlight the state's role as the next host destination, Visit Victoria will launch a new campaign this weekend.

*A Games like no other in a place like no other will feature across TV, print, and online media and be supported by social media and PR activity. The campaign aims to capture the imagination of Victorians and show that there are plenty of reasons to visit through rediscovering the beauty of the local regions, landscapes, people and culture.*

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Commonwealth Games Delivery Jacinta Allan**

*"We're excited to cheer our large Victorian contingent on over the next two weeks – as work continues to ramp up in Victoria to deliver the 2026 games in Regional Victoria."*

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Commonwealth Games Legacy Shaun Leane**

*"We encourage all communities to get their ideas in about how we can work with you to deliver the best of Victoria to the world."*

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Sport Steve Dimopoulos**

*"Victoria is the sporting capital of the world, with some of Australia's best athletes – Victorians will be right behind them, cheering them on as they watch their success in Birmingham."*

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