

# Media Release

**The Hon Mary-Anne Thomas MP**

Leader of the House

Minister for Health

Minister for Health Infrastructure

Minister for Medical Research



Monday, 4 September 2023

## WORKS START ON MASSIVE NEW PUBLIC AGED CARE FACILITY

The Andrews Labor Government is ensuring older Victorians can age with dignity, in homes that are purposely designed to meet their needs – with major works on the new Kingston Centre now underway.

Minister for Health Infrastructure Mary-Anne Thomas today turned the first sod on the new \$134.6 million public residential aged care facility – making the start of construction on a project which will ensure residents get the high-quality aged care and comfort they need and deserve, close to home.

Located in Cheltenham, the new four-storey facility will provide an environment that is dementia-friendly and better suited to supporting mental health and the complex care needs of older Victorians.

The facility has been purposefully designed to support mobility and independence while feeling like a home – with all residents having their own room and private ensuite bathroom.

To further create a safe, comfortable and home-like feel for residents, rooms will also be grouped into small households within the facility with separate kitchen and dining areas. The facility will also feature a community room, sacred space and other common areas for residents to enjoy.

Designed to make the most of the surrounding natural environment, all residents will enjoy open area views, an abundance of natural light, and access to terraces and gardens.

The facility will also feature a 'pandemic mode' ventilation and air-conditioning system which, when needed, will help to contain the spread of infectious diseases – with the ability to replace the air in the building.

Built onsite at the existing Kingston Centre, the multi-storey facility will replace the former AG Eastwood residential aged care facility. The location means residents will have easy access to a broad range of integrated healthcare already offered at the Kingston Centre.

The project is on track for completion in 2025 and is expected to create more than 400 jobs during construction.

The Victorian Government is the largest provider of aged care in Victoria and since 2016, the Labor Government has invested more than \$698 million to deliver new and upgraded public sector aged care facilities across Victoria.

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Health Infrastructure Mary-Anne Thomas**

*"We're ensuring residents receive the best care in a home-like environment – with private bedrooms and bathrooms and green space."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Clarinda Meng Heang Tak**

*"With construction now underway, residents can look forward to enjoying bigger, better and brighter facilities that support their independence and dignity."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Mordialloc Tim Richardson**

*"The new facility will meet a range of complex care needs – meaning locals won't have to move away to access the specialised care they need."*

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