

Media Release

Ingrid Stitt MP
Minister for Mental Health
Minister for Ageing
Minister for Multicultural Affairs



Thursday, 30 November 2023

FUNDING TO UPGRADE VICTORIAN MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES

The Allan Labor Government is upgrading and modernising Victoria’s mental health facilities with a new grants program now open– delivering on another recommendation from the *Royal Commission into Victoria’s Mental Health System*.

Minister for Mental Health Ingrid Stitt today announced mental health services across Victoria can apply for their share in the new \$10 million *Mental Health Capital Renewal Fund* –with grants of up to \$1 million available.

The fund has been established so our highly skilled and dedicated mental health workforce can continue to deliver Victorians the care they need, in the best possible facilities for patients, carers and visitors.

Projects eligible for funding include renewal, reconfigurations and refurbishments that improve staff, consumer, and carer safety, increase quality and efficiency of services and enhance patient experience, while supporting Victorians on their mental health recovery journey.

The fund delivers on the Royal Commission recommendation to address existing physical safety and wellbeing risks in the state’s mental health system.

Projects funded through the Labor Government’s *Mental Health Capital Renewal Fund* will be supported by the Victorian Health Building Authority (VHBA) and delivered by the publicly funded health service provider.

Applications for the fund are now open and will close on 5 February 2024 – recipients will be announced in April 2024.

The Labor Government has embarked on the biggest modernisation of a mental health system in Australian history, including a \$6 billion investment to deliver every single recommendation from the Royal Commission.

Further information on the fund, including guidelines and the submission process, can be found by visiting vhba.vic.gov.au/mental-health/mental-health-capital-renewal-fund.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Mental Health Ingrid Stitt

“We’re not wasting a minute in re-building the system from the ground up, so that every Victorian has access to care as soon as they need it, no matter where they live – this fund is an important aspect of this vital and ongoing work.”

“These improvements will ensure staff, consumers and their carers can deliver and receive treatment in a welcoming environment that feels modern, comfortable and safe.”