

# Media Release

**The Hon Ros Spence MP**  
Minister for Agriculture  
Minister for Community Sport  
Minister for Carers and Volunteers



Friday, 22 December 2023

## ARCHITECT APPOINTED TO DESIGN BALLARAT ANIMAL SHELTER

An Architect has been appointed to design the new state-of-the-art Regional Animal Facility at Mitchell Park.

Architecture Matters was awarded the design contract by City of Ballarat Contracts Committee and is expected to finalise the designs for the new facility in 2024.

The Allan Labor Government is investing \$11.5 million in the Regional Animal Facility along with \$3 million from the City of Ballarat.

The new facility will enhance the quality of life and care for animals from across Western Victoria and allow for an additional 50 cats and 50 dogs to be cared for.

It will improve the living situation for the animals, with integrated outdoor and indoor facilities, and more space for animals to rest and play.

The new facility will also improve infection control, allow for safer quarantine measures and improved boarding facilities not only for surrendered animals but also crisis situations such as family violence and flood or bushfire emergencies.

The designs are expected to be finalised in mid-2024, with tenders calling for construction anticipated to be released later in the year.

For updates on the project visit, [ballarat.vic.gov.au/regionalanimalfacility](http://ballarat.vic.gov.au/regionalanimalfacility).

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence**

*“Victorians love their pets and want the best for them, that’s why we’re investing in new facilities like this to ensure they can all have access to the care and support they deserve.”*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Ripon Martha Haylett**

*“This is one of the biggest improvements to animal welfare services for the region and will deliver better care for our beloved pets and rescue animals.”*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Wendouree Juliana Addison**

*“I welcome the appointment of an architect for the Regional Animal Facility. This new facility will improve animal welfare as well as providing support for the pets of families in crisis.”*

### **Quote attributable to member for Eureka Michaela Settle**

*“Our animal care staff are incredibly dedicated and skilled at what they do and soon they will have a modern fit for purpose facility that will make their job easier.”*

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