

Media Release

The Hon Mary-Anne Thomas MP

Leader of the House

Minister for Health

Minister for Health Infrastructure

Minister for Ambulance Services



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FUNDING BOOST FOR LOCAL PORTLAND HEALTH SERVICE

The Allan Labor Government is helping deliver vital upgrades to the Dhauwurd Wurrung Elderly and Community Health Service, with a \$1.1 million grant set to ensure safer and more efficient healthcare for the local First Nations community.

Minister for Health Mary-Anne Thomas today visited Portland to announce the service is one of the latest recipients of the Regional Health Infrastructure Fund (RHIF), that is providing a total of more than \$79 million in the latest round of funding for vital hospital and health services upgrades across 39 rural and regional health services.

The RHIF project at the Dhauwurd Wurrung Elderly and Community Health Service will help increase its number of consulting rooms, expand the waiting and reception areas and improve the quality of treatment rooms and support spaces for local patients.

Victoria-wide, the latest round of RHIF grants will support rural and regional hospitals, community health services and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations to ensure they can continue to provide safe and efficient care to local communities.

With 45 projects across 39 rural and regional health services in Victoria, the program is ensuring communities continue to be able to access high quality care, no matter where they live. Work delivering these projects will also support the creation of hundreds of jobs across the state.

The RHIF – now worth \$790 million – provides funding to rural and regional health services and agencies across Victoria so these services can continue to provide safe and efficient care to local communities.

Since establishing the RHIF in 2016, the Labor Government has funded more than 675 projects for regional health services – the largest investment ever dedicated to our rural and regional health services.

More information on RHIF can be found at vhba.vic.gov.au/health/regional-facilities/regional-health-infrastructure-fund.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Health Mary-Anne Thomas

“This grant will support the hardworking team at Dhauwurd Wurrung Elderly and Community Health Service to continue delivering the high-quality care the local First Nations community deserve.”

“Victorians should get the care they need, no matter where they live – that is why we’re continuing to invest in health services right across regional and rural Victoria.”

Quote attributable to Member for Western Victoria Jacinta Ermacora

“These upgrades will mean our local Gunditjmara people can continue to receive the best localised care in a more modern and comfortable setting.”