

Media Release

The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP
Minister for Veterans
Minister for Small Business
Minister for Youth



Thursday, 29 February 2024

YOUTH HUB PILOT TAKING SHAPE IN GEELONG

The Allan Labor Government is improving the lives and wellbeing of young people in and around Geelong with a new Youth Hub providing tailored services and community connections.

Minister for Youth Natalie Suleyman and Member for Geelong Chris Couzens today visited the old Busport site on the Corner of Gheringhap Street and Transit Place, where the new Youth Hub will be based. The Youth Hub will initially be a two-year pilot, designed by young people, for young people.

The Youth Hub will support young people aged 12 to 25 with counselling and mental health support, employment, and general youth support services and programs. Construction is expected to start mid-year with some services available ahead of the opening in 2025.

The City of Greater Geelong is undertaking an extensive consultation process to ensure the future Youth Hub is a safe, welcoming, and multipurpose space, tailored to local needs.

A co-design workshop will be held on 13 March providing an opportunity for young people to work together to design the hub in a fun and interactive way.

The project is supported through the Labor Government's five-year Youth Strategy 'Our promise, Your future,' and backed by a \$1 million investment in upgrading and developing place-based youth hubs in outer metropolitan Melbourne and across Victoria.

To register for the information session or co-design workshops visit, yoursay.geelongaustralia.com.au/YouthHub.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Youth Natalie Suleyman

"Youth hubs are a one stop shop for health and wellbeing, supports and services, which is why the Allan Labor Government is proud is proud of this partnership with City of Greater Geelong."

"It is fantastic to see the next steps for this exciting project in Geelong, which will play a key part in engaging young people and keeping them connected to education and work opportunities."

Quote attributable to Member for Geelong Chris Couzens

"This is a youth hub for young people, by young people – putting a youth voice front and centre will ensure the pilot Youth Hub is a safe, fun and interactive place for all."