

# Media Release

**Ingrid Stitt MP**

Minister for Mental Health

Minister for Ageing

Minister for Multicultural Affairs



Tuesday, 30 April 2024

## FRANKSTON YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE REACHES MILESTONE

The Allan Labor Government is giving young Victorians access to the mental health support they need and deserve, with an upgraded Frankston Youth Prevention and Recovery Care (YPARC) centre one step closer.

Minister for Mental Health Ingrid Stitt today announced the first stage of the multi-million-dollar project is now complete, delivering three refurbished bedrooms, a new bedroom pod and better outdoor areas to the existing service – ensuring a safer and more comfortable facility for both consumers and staff.

A key recommendation from the *Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System*, YPARC services provide 24/7 clinical care for young people aged 16-25 experiencing mental health challenges – reducing pressure on hospitals by offering early intervention care as an alternative to acute hospital admission.

Delivered by the Victorian Health Building Authority (VHBA) in partnership with Peninsula Health and builder, Bowden Corporation, construction on the second stage of the upgrade is now underway with the project on track to be completed later this year.

The second stage of the Frankston YPARC centre upgrade will deliver important improvements to the centre's kitchen facilities, activity rooms and interview rooms.

The Frankston YPARC centre will remain operational while the upgrade takes place, with works planned and managed to minimise impact to consumers, staff and families.

The upgrade is part of a \$141 million investment by the Labor Government that will more than double the capacity of Victoria's current YPARC network with five new, 10-bed YPARC centres to be built across the state and upgrades to three existing YPARC centres.

The new centres will be located in Ballarat, Geelong, Shepparton, Heidelberg and Traralgon, with two other existing centres in Bendigo and Dandenong also being refurbished.

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Mental Health Ingrid Stitt

*"We're giving young Victorians confidence that when they need mental health support, there are local services and facilities that will give them the tailored mental healthcare they need, close to home."*

*"We remain focused on implementing every one of the recommendations of Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System including YPARC so all young Victorians can get the mental health support they need."*

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

*"Across the state we are improving access to mental health support through world-class health infrastructure, because we know our young Victorians can achieve better outcomes when they get treatment and care close to home."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Frankston Paul Edbrooke

*"I'm delighted to see this important upgrade at the YPARC in Frankston one step closer – this service is already helping young people across Frankston get the support they need."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Hastings Paul Mercurio

**Media contact:** Isobel Loschiavo 0431 963 479 | [isobel.loschiavo@minstaff.vic.gov.au](mailto:isobel.loschiavo@minstaff.vic.gov.au)

*“The right support and care can make all the difference to young Victorians affected by mental health challenges and this centre is already making a difference.”*

**Quote attributable to Member for Carrum Sonya Kilkenny**

*“We won’t stop investing in the mental health of young Victorians – setting them up with the support they need early in life by providing dedicated services in communities across our state.”*