

# Media Release

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



Monday, 14 April 2025

## PROGRESSING INNOVATIVE PLANS FOR MURRINDINDI'S FUTURE

The Allan Labor Government is investing in the future of the Alexandra, Taggerty, Buxton and Marysville communities through the Forestry Transition Program's Community Development Fund.

Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence today announced \$320,000 in funding for Murrindindi Shire Council, to deliver on new projects that will help boost the local economy.

The \$200,000 of the funding will progress four 'innovation areas' identified through the Shaping Murrindindi's Future Local Development Strategy project. This includes farm forestry, renewable energy and the circular economy, health, aged care and social assistance, and tourism.

The project will use \$120,000 of the funding to deliver a health and aged care workforce strategy that explores the challenges for the region to meet health and aged care needs including skills and employment attraction, as well as patient transport.

The Shaping Murrindindi's Future project has previously received a \$300,000 Community Development Fund grant to provide capacity building and upskilling for locals to develop the skills needed to deliver their projects.

This work is underway through the support of a Community Capacity Building Officer who is coordinating activities such as workshops, events and short courses for local community members supporting the project.

The Forestry Transition Program has provided almost \$3 million in the Murrindindi region to support native timber businesses to transition their operations and other local businesses to expand their operations – creating and retaining 40 jobs.

For more information visit [deeca.vic.gov.au/forestry](https://deeca.vic.gov.au/forestry).

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

*"This funding will give Murrindindi Shire Council the support it needs to continue progressing new ideas that will help boost employment in the region."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes**

*"There are a lot of positive things coming out of Murrindindi thanks to all the investment in the local community and businesses. I'm looking forward to seeing what the Shaping Murrindindi's Future project does next."*

### **Quote attributable to Murrindindi Shire Council Mayor Cr Damien Gallagher**

*"The collaboration and dedication of our community and Council has been commendable and exemplifies the spirit of Murrindindi Shire. I extend my appreciation to everyone who has participated in Shaping Murrindindi's Future. This additional funding will help us continue to innovate and strengthen the economic foundations of our region."*