

Media Release

The Hon Nick Staikos MP
Minister for Consumer Affairs
Minister for Local Government



Monday, 16 June 2025

NEW CHAPTER ARRIVES FOR LIBRARIES ACROSS VICTORIA

The Allan Labor Government is supporting lifelong learning across the state with Victorian libraries to share in more than \$4 million for upgrades to community facilities as part of the 2024-25 Living Libraries Infrastructure Program.

Minister for Local Government Nick Staikos today visited Croydon Library to announce funding for the delivery of new or upgraded library infrastructure projects at 19 libraries across the state.

Croydon Library will receive \$1 million towards a new build of a landmark facility that will include a black box theatre, multipurpose rooms and a community services co-working space.

Other projects to receive funding include:

- major upgrades of libraries at Dandenong, Gisborne, Bulleen, Bayswater, Corryong and Thomastown
- upgrades to community facilities in libraries in Bendigo, Morwell and Watsonia
- outreach lockers and library kiosks in Ballarat and Birregurra
- technology upgrades at Wodonga and Wellington libraries
- improvements to libraries in Ararat, Mornington Peninsula and Nagambie to improve functionality and service delivery
- modifications to support after-hours access at Horsham and West Wimmera libraries at their Goroke, Harrow, Kaniva and Edenhope branches.

The Living Libraries Infrastructure Program provides financial support for library facilities across Victoria by providing free access to information and technology, and creating spaces that foster community engagement.

The Victorian Government has invested more than \$53.3 million over the last ten years into 158 library infrastructure projects, supporting libraries in metropolitan, regional and rural Victoria, and enriching local communities.

The next funding round will open later this year.

For more information on the Living Libraries Infrastructure Program and application process, visit <https://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/grants/living-libraries-infrastructure-program>

Quotes attributable to Minister for Local Government Nick Staikos

"This funding ensures that libraries will continue to play an important role in fostering lifelong learning, facilitating access to information and providing a safe and supportive community space for local people."

"We know that libraries are the heart of the communities they serve which is why we're pleased to support these nineteen community spaces to build lasting change."

Quote attributable to Member for North-eastern Metropolitan Region Sonja Terpstra

"Croydon Library offers a safe and inclusive space for everyone in our community and this landmark facility will provide a fantastic new space for lifelong learning and community engagement."