

Media Release

Ingrid Stitt MP

Minister for Mental Health

Minister for Ageing

Minister for Multicultural Affairs



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FRANKSTON YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE UPGRADE COMPLETE

The Allan Labor Government is giving young Victorians access to the mental health support they need and deserve, with a multimillion-dollar upgrade to a critical mental health service in Melbourne's South East now complete.

Minister for Mental Health Ingrid Stitt, Member for Frankston Paul Edbrooke and Member for Hasting Paul Mercurio today visited the Frankston Youth Prevention and Recovery Care (YPARC) to celebrate the milestone which has delivered refurbished bedrooms and bedroom pod, a new shared kitchen, living and activity spaces and more outdoor spaces.

A key recommendation from the *Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System*, the YPARC network across the state provides 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.

YPARC services are focused on short-term care in a quiet and supportive environment – where young people can participate in group activities, alongside tailored individual one-to-one support based on their needs and goals.

Designs for the new and upgraded Frankston YPARC service draws on the insights and experiences of clinicians, carers and young people with lived experience of mental health challenges and psychological distress – ensuring the facility is fit for purpose and safe.

The Frankston YPARC upgrade was delivered by the Victorian Health Building Authority in partnership with Peninsula Health and builder, Bowden Corporation.

The upgrade is part of a \$141 million investment by the Labor Government to more than double the capacity of Victoria's current YPARC network, including five new, 10-bed YPARC services now under construction across the state in Ballarat, Geelong, Shepparton, Heidelberg and Traralgon; and upgrades to three existing YPARC services in Bendigo, Dandenong and Frankston.

For more information, please visit vhba.vic.gov.au/mental-health/youth-services/youth-prevention-and-recovery-care-centre-expansion-program.

Quote attributable to Minister for Mental Health Ingrid Stitt

"We're giving young Victorians confidence that when they need mental health support, there are excellent local services like the Frankston YPARC to help them with tailored mental health care, close to home."

Quote attributable to Minister for Health Infrastructure Melissa Horne

"We're expanding access to mental health support across Victoria with modern, safe health infrastructure, because young Victorians achieve better outcomes when they receive 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 complete – this service is already helping young people across Frankston get the support they need."

Quote attributable to Member for Carrum Sonya Kilkenny

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“We won’t stop investing in the mental health of young Victorians, including those in Melbourne’s South East – setting them up with the support they need to recover and live a long and happy life.”

Quote attributable to Member for Hastings Paul Mercurio

“Mental health matters – and the now refurbished Frankston YPARC will make a real and lasting difference to young people in Melbourne’s south-east.”