

Media Release

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



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NEW FUNDING FOR LIBRARIES ACROSS VICTORIA

The Allan Labor Government's Living Libraries Infrastructure Program is transforming public libraries across the state – with the next round of funding now open for applications.

Minister for Local Government Nick Staikos and Victorian Public Library Ambassador Andrea Rowe today opened the new round of grants at the recently upgraded Emerald Library, to coincide with Children's Book Week celebrations.

Successful applicants are set to receive between \$10,000 and \$1 million to upgrade libraries across Victoria.

The program provides councils with grant funding to improve their libraries, provide free access to information and technology, create safe community spaces, and provide opportunities for social connection.

Funding can be used to support a range of library upgrades and services, including refurbishments, expansion of children's areas, installation of technology hubs, and improvements to access and engagement for local communities.

The Labor Government is delivering more than 150 library infrastructure projects across the state, supporting libraries across metropolitan, regional and rural Victoria and enriching their communities. These projects have a combined total project cost of almost \$400 million.

Grant applications for the 2025–26 Living Libraries Infrastructure Program are now open and will close on 19 September 2025.

For more information on the Living Libraries Infrastructure Program and application process, visit localgovernment.vic.gov.au/grants.

Quote attributable to Minister for Local Government Nick Staikos

"Libraries are vital community hubs which is why we're upgrading libraries right across Victoria."

Quote attributable to Member for Monbulk Daniela De Martino

"Our local libraries are about so much more than books. They contribute to the connections that strengthen and enrich Victorian communities and support a culture that values reading, learning and social connection."

Quote attributable to Victorian Public Library Ambassador Andrea Rowe

"There's no better time than Children's Book Week to work towards creating inspiring spaces to produce the next generation of authors."