

Media Release

Jaclyn Symes MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Treasurer

Minister for Industrial Relations

Minister for Regional Development



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MORE ACCOMMODATION MEANS MORE WORKERS FOR LATROBE

The Allan Labor Government is helping the Latrobe Valley attract the key workers it needs to enable greater community access to essential health and aged care services, with new worker housing in Newborough completed.

Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing represented Minister for Regional Development Jaclyn Symes during week's official opening of Latrobe Valley Village's new worker accommodation, delivered through the *Regional Worker Accommodation Fund*.

Latrobe Valley Village is a vital, trusted residential and aged care facility in Newborough and Moe that supports elderly Victorians and their carers to achieve positive health and wellbeing outcomes.

Works delivered at the Newborough site have transformed a disused wing of the company's existing aged care facility into seven new self-contained units for workers and their families. Now known as 'Cedar Workstay', the wing features a new communal kitchen and laundry facilities for staff.

Cedar Workstay will attract skilled workers able to provide much-needed services for the Latrobe Valley community, which has an ageing population that had previously outpaced skilled worker availability.

Construction supported multiple jobs across a range of industries, with 45 workers and 15 businesses directly benefiting in addition to the seven professional aged care workers who now call Newborough's newest units home.

Across the region healthcare providers are leveraging the *Regional Worker Accommodation Fund* to attract workers, including Bairnsdale District Health, Omeo District Health and Bayside Health.

The Government is also investing \$5 million from our *Council Support Package* to help deliver a range of activities across the Latrobe Valley, such as sporting and streetscape upgrades, new community and volunteer programs, improved internet access and support for Aboriginal-owned businesses.

This support is part of the Victorian Government's record more than \$47 billion investment in just over a decade to help make rural and regional Victoria an even better place to live, work, stay and play.

Quote attributable to Minister for Regional Development Jaclyn Symes

"I'm excited to see that this project is already helping attract the skilled support to provide the vital services that older people at the Latrobe Valley Village need."

Quote attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing

"We're proud to support the delivery of these crucial new homes, which will also support local placement and training of health and aged care workers, further strengthening the local sector and the community that uses it."

Quote attributable to Latrobe Valley Village Chief Executive Officer Alison Skeldon

"This project has strengthened our entire community – By creating quality accommodation for our workforce, we've ensured continuity of care and deepened the connections that make our village special."

Media contact: Marcus Tainsh 0427 713 891 | marcus.tainsh@minstaff.vic.gov.au