

Media Release

The Hon Michaela Settle MP
Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Agriculture



Tuesday, 23 June 2026

BUILDING HOMES, CAREERS AND COMMUNITY IN OUR REGIONS

Labor is helping more Victorians live and work in the regions with more affordable housing in north-west Victoria.

Minister Settle announced that construction was underway on the 13 home project in Swan Hill, one of a dozen developments in the Mallee and Wimmera through the Regional Worker Accommodation Fund.

Collectively, more than 240 bedrooms are being delivered in these regions for professionals in industries such as healthcare, education, childcare and law enforcement.

In Swan Hill, two and three-bedroom homes will help Montessori Beginnings childcare secure staff for its business.

New accommodation will help new jobs and provide much-needed childcare spots for local families.

In Irymple, a five-home project for Montessori Beginnings is underway, helping support local childcare workers and meet growing community demand.

Another 10 house development was completed in the town during December that is already occupied by professionals in law enforcement and healthcare.

The Regional Worker Accommodation Fund is unlocking around \$370 million in housing investment for thousands of regional workers.

In the Mallee and Wimmera this also includes projects in Robinvale, Kerang, the Buloke Shire, Ararat, Nhill, Beaufort, Hopetoun, Murtoa, Minyip and Apsley.

Another 30 projects are currently supported by the fund across other Victorian regions.

Regional Victorians deserve access to the facilities and infrastructure they need to live, work and study in their communities, which is why we've invested more than \$50 billion across regional Victoria over the past decade.

The Liberals and Nationals will cut the services regional communities rely on, putting jobs, healthcare and local economies at risk.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Regional Development Michaela Settle

"We know regional families rely on access to childcare, which is why we're backing accommodation that help services attract and retain the workers they need."

"More housing means more job opportunities and more support for the businesses and services that help our regional communities thrive."

Quotes attributable to Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes

"This investment is helping remove barriers for workers in the regions, ensuring more families can access the services they need close to home."

"Only Labor is backing regional Victoria with the investment needed to deliver more homes, strengthen essential services and ensure communities like Swan Hill continue to grow and thrive."

Media contact: Pam Kiriakidis 0472 725 548 | pam.kiriakidis@minstaff.vic.gov.au