

Media Release

The Hon Jenny Mikakos MLC
Minister for Health
Minister for Ambulance Services



**DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

Monday, 4 March 2019

LOCALS TO HELP SHAPE FLAGSHIP COMMUNITY HOSPITALS

Ten new community hospitals for Victoria are a step closer, with local families set to help decide the services they will provide.

Minister for Health Jenny Mikakos today announced who will chair the community consultation committees, which will give local communities a say over the future of their hospital.

The Andrews Labor Government is investing \$675 million to build or upgrade 10 new community hospitals close to major growth areas in Craigieburn, Cranbourne, Pakenham, Phillip Island, Sunbury, Torquay, the City of Whittlesea, the Eltham area, Point Cook and Fishermans Bend.

Community Consultation Committees are being established so carers, patients, families and volunteers can work with health service providers to ensure each hospital meets the particular needs of locals.

Community hospitals will allow communities to access a range of public services including allied health such as physiotherapy and speech pathology, after-hours health care with access to pathology and imaging, women's health including family planning, community mental health and alcohol and drug assessment.

They will also provide services like day surgery, renal dialysis, chemotherapy, chronic disease management and public dental. Construction is expected to start by 2022 and finish by 2024.

Community Consultation Committees will be chaired by the following members of parliament:

- **Whittlesea** - Danielle Green
- **Cranbourne** - Pauline Richards
- **Eltham** - Vicki Ward
- **Torquay** - Darren Cheeseman
- **Point Cook** - Ingrid Stitt and Jill Hennessy
- **Sunbury** - Josh Bull
- **Fishermans Bend** - Nina Taylor
- **Philip Island** - Jordan Crugnale
- **Craigieburn** - Ros Spence
- **Pakenham** - Jordan Crugnale

Each Committee will include approximately 15 representatives from the local community and from key organisations such as local councils and health service providers.

The EOI process to sit on Community Consultation Committees will open in the coming weeks. For more information visit www.vhhsba.vic.gov.au/health-infrastructure/community-hospitals-program.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Health Jenny Mikakos

"We're delivering billions of dollars in funding to ensure our hospitals can treat more patients than ever in the world-class new facilities that doctors and nurses need."

"These hospitals will reduce unnecessary travel and wait times at larger hospitals, while helping people get the care they need in their own community."

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