

Victorian Budget 18/19

GETTING THINGS DONE

Overview



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Budget Paper No. 1 – Treasurer's Speech
Budget Paper No. 2 – Strategy and Outlook
Budget Paper No. 3 – Service Delivery
Budget Paper No. 4 – State Capital Program
Budget Paper No. 5 – Statement of Finances (incorporating Quarterly Financial Report No. 3)

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TREASURER'S MESSAGE

Getting things done



For the past three years, we've been getting things done.

Dangerous and congested level crossings have been removed across Melbourne.

Roads are being upgraded and widened to get people home sooner.

New rail lines are being built to connect our suburbs and towns.

More doctors and nurses are treating more patients in better hospitals.

Dozens of new schools are giving kids the education they need to set them up for the future.

Thousands of new police officers are being recruited to keep people safe.

And we're taking significant action to curb family violence.

These are the things we said we would do. And we are getting them done.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* continues this momentum.

This Budget will train the next generation of Victorians to keep building our state.

More than ever, the skills needed to build our state are learned at TAFE.

Skilled workers are in demand, and with good quality training, our kids will be first in line for these good jobs.

The cost of TAFE should never stop kids from getting a trade - that's why we're making 30 priority TAFE courses free.

And to help them get their skills sooner - we'll let students start their apprenticeship at school, and graduate more ready for work after Year 12.

We'll help get people out of traffic and home sooner, upgrading suburban roads across Melbourne, fixing regional roads, and building the North East Link - the missing link in our network.

Because all families need good schools close to home, we'll build 12 new schools, and upgrade more than 130 existing schools.

To grow jobs in every corner of the state, the Budget will slash the payroll tax rate in regional Victoria to the lowest rate in Australia, to help businesses develop and employ more Victorians. For regional based employers, this will mean a 50 per cent reduction in payroll tax over the last two budgets.

And the Budget includes the biggest investment in mental health services in Victoria's history, with more beds and specialist emergency departments to give every patient the treatment they need.

This is a Labor Budget that invests in the projects our state needs and the people we need to deliver them.

It is a Budget that continues the job of delivering our plan for the future today.

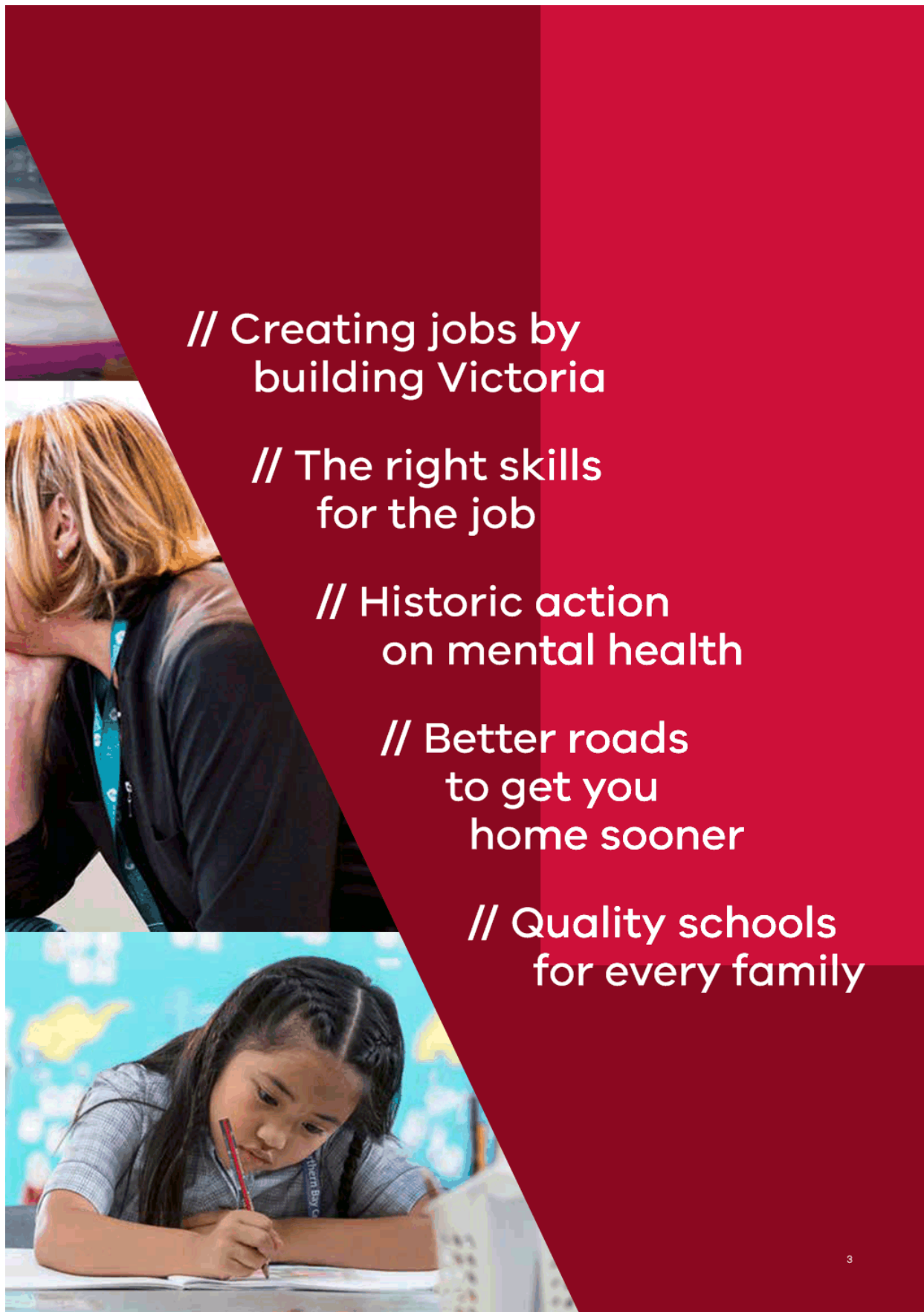
This Budget will deliver new skills, good jobs, more schools and better public transport and roads.

It's a Budget that gets things done.



Tim Pallas
Treasurer of Victoria





// Creating jobs by
building Victoria

// The right skills
for the job

// Historic action
on mental health

// Better roads
to get you
home sooner

// Quality schools
for every family

3

CREATING JOBS AND A STRONG ECONOMY

The Andrews Labor Government is building a state where every Victorian can get a great education and secure a good job.

That begins with a strong economy.

Growing Victoria

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* builds on our state's success, including the fastest rate of economic growth of any state in Australia.

Victoria's economy grew by 3.3 per cent in 2016/17, well above national economic growth of 2.0 per cent.

These numbers matter because a strong economy means more jobs for Victorians.

More than 117 000 new jobs were created in 2016/17, the highest of any state and equivalent to more than 70 per cent of new jobs created across Australia.

Employment in regional Victoria rose by a year average of 3.1 per cent in 2017, the second highest rate in the nation, and since the Andrews Labor Government came to office three and a half years ago, more than 40 000 jobs have been created across regional Victoria.

Employment across Victoria has grown by 11.4 per cent since the Andrews Labor Government came to office. That's 333 900 people who now have the security of a job, with almost 200 000 of these full-time.

Over the same period, 919 200 jobs were created across Australia, which means more than a third of our nation's jobs growth was here in Victoria.

More people also want to live in Victoria. Our population grew by 2.3 per cent last financial year – making Victoria the fastest growing state in the nation.

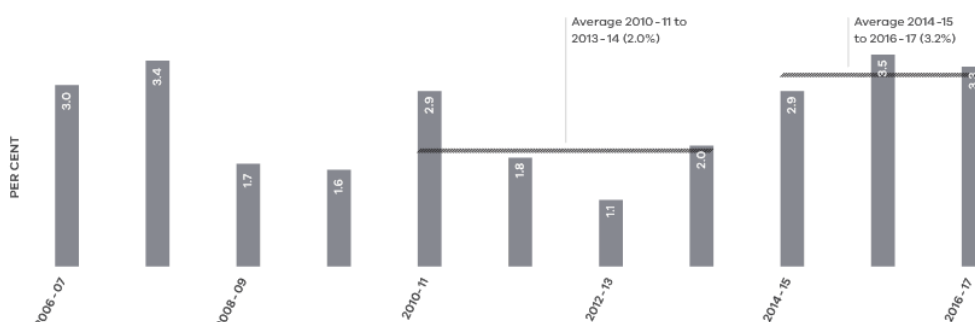
With this growth comes demand for services and pressure on our infrastructure.

That's why we're building the projects both big and small that our state needs – and using local workers and products as we build.

Total infrastructure investment committed by this Government is expected to support the creation of over 75 000 new jobs.

Overall, government infrastructure investment is forecast to average \$10.1 billion per year over the next four years, more than double the average of \$4.9 billion per year from 2005/06 to 2014/15. It will reach a record high of \$13.7 billion in 2018/19.

VICTORIAN REAL GROSS STATE PRODUCT GROWTH

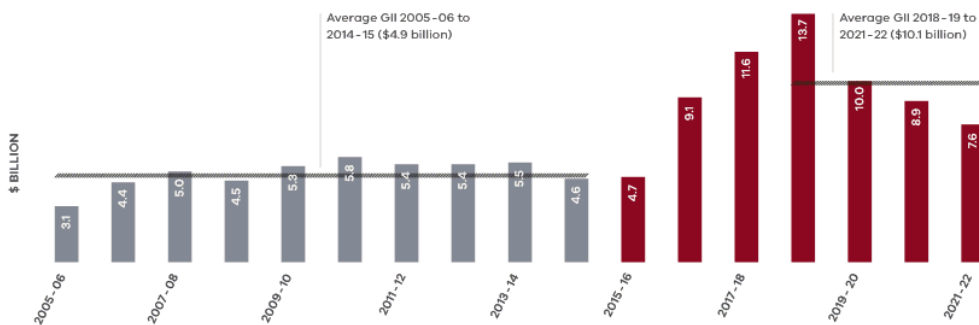


Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics



Total infrastructure investment committed by this Government is expected to support the creation of over 75 000 new jobs

GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT



Source: Department of Treasury and Finance

VICTORIAN ECONOMIC FORECASTS (PER CENT)	2016/17 actual	2017/18 forecast	2018/19 forecast	2019/20 forecast	2020/21 projection	2021/22 projection
Real gross state product	3.3	3.00	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75
Employment	3.9	2.75	2.00	1.75	1.75	1.75
Unemployment	5.9	5.75	5.75	5.50	5.50	5.50
Consumer price index	1.9	2.00	2.25	2.50	2.50	2.50
Wage price index	2.0	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	3.25
Population	2.3	2.30	2.20	2.10	2.00	2.00

Sources: Department of Treasury and Finance; Australian Bureau of Statistics

GENERAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL AGGREGATES	Unit of measure	2016/17 actual	2017/18 revised	2018/19 budget	2019/20 estimate	2020/21 estimate	2021/22 estimate
Net result from transactions	\$ billion	2.7	2.0	1.4	2.0	2.7	2.9
Government infrastructure investment	\$ billion	9.1	11.6	13.7	10.0	8.9	7.6
Net debt	\$ billion	15.8	19.6	24.3	28.0	29.8	31.4
Net debt to GSP	per cent	3.9	4.6	5.4	5.9	6.0	6.0

Sources: Department of Treasury and Finance

Strong financial management

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* maintains the Government's investment in the services and infrastructure our state needs, while prudently managing our finances.

The 2018/19 operating surplus is estimated to be \$1.4 billion, with surpluses averaging \$2.5 billion over the forward estimates. The Government has maintained this strong financial position by ensuring average revenue growth over the next four years remains higher than average expense growth.

As with all the budgets delivered by the Andrews Labor Government, net debt as a proportion of the economy is projected to be lower than the level in the previous government's final year in office.

The Government's strong financial management, coupled with Victoria's surging economy, is consistent with maintaining our triple-A credit rating.

But most importantly, this Budget is getting things done for Victorians.

Strong fiscal and economic management

Victoria's economic growth is the strongest of all the states. Over the past three years, growth has averaged 3.2 per cent a year. This represents a return to the rates of growth last experienced before the global financial crisis.

The clearest measure of the strength of the Victorian economy is the number of jobs that have been created – more than 333 900 since the Andrews Labor Government came to office, with employment growing at an above-trend rate for four years.

Victoria's finances are also in a very strong position. As a result of the Andrews Labor Government's clear and responsible fiscal framework, Victoria remains one of only 10 sub-sovereign governments in the world to receive a triple-A credit rating from both S&P and Moody's.

Investment of Snowy Hydro Limited proceeds

Following the success of the \$9.7 billion lease of the operations of the Port of Melbourne, the Government recently agreed to terms for the sale of Victoria's share of Snowy Hydro Limited to the Commonwealth for \$2.1 billion. The Government has invested more than half the proceeds of this sale in various regional infrastructure initiatives including roads, public transport, and hospitals, to enhance the productive capacity of the state.

Table 1: Infrastructure projects funded from Snowy Hydro Limited proceeds

Projects	Expenditure/ Capital funding (\$ million)
Regional Victoria	
Road restoration blitz	
Fixing country roads ^(a)	100
Regional road restoration and maintenance ^(b)	168
Public transport	
Shepparton Line Upgrade – Stage 2	313
Regional health services	
Ballarat Base Hospital expansion and redevelopment	462
Wonthaggi Hospital expansion	115
Total regional specific investment	1158
School capital investment	
Land acquisition	155
New schools construction	273
Planning for schools	17
School upgrades	483
Total school capital investment	929
Grand Total	2 086
Snowy Hydro Limited proceeds	2 077

Notes:

(a) Output funding in 2018/19 and 2019/20.

(b) Asset component.

GETTING THINGS DONE

Over the past three budgets, the Andrews Labor Government has invested in the things that matter to Victorians – new schools for our kids, hospitals for our loved ones, better roads and rail services to get people home faster, and historic action to curb family violence.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* continues this momentum, making sure Victorians can get good secure jobs, while also making our state a better place to live.

With cranes in the sky and help for those who need it most, it means hundreds of thousands of new jobs are being created.

The right skills for the job

More than ever, the skills needed to build our state are learned at TAFE.

We will keep building Victoria, and make sure Victorians are first in line for these jobs.

A strong public TAFE system will give Victorians accredited, quality skills that lead to good jobs.

But the cost of a quality TAFE course should never stop kids from getting their trade so this Budget will transform our state's skills and training sector by:

- // Creating thousands of new TAFE and training places so more Victorians can access training
- // Making training at TAFE free for 30 priority courses
- // Overhauling career education in secondary schools so students can get the right advice to help them make the right career choices
- // Improving vocational education by introducing *Head Start Apprenticeships and Traineeships* to give secondary school students the opportunity to learn their trade at school and get a job sooner
- // Modernising apprenticeships with new training materials, independent final assessments and bring back trade papers to recognise qualifications

Creating jobs and working with business

Every Victorian deserves the opportunity to get a good secure job, regardless of where they live or their background. This Budget helps support and create jobs by:

- // Supporting regional jobs by slashing the payroll tax rate for regional businesses from 3.65 per cent to 2.425 per cent – making it the lowest in Australia. This means that over the last two budgets regional payroll tax has been halved
- // Providing \$55 million to boost the Investment Attraction Assistance Program
- // Investing a further \$10 million to boost the Premier's Jobs and Investment Fund to develop practical ideas that strengthen Victoria's economy and grow Victorian jobs
- // Enabling a competitive and connected Small and Medium Enterprise sector, with funding of \$13.5 million
- // Helping more long-term unemployed Victorians, including young people, women and Aboriginal and migrant Victorians, to get jobs on Victoria's major projects and find work with \$21.9 million in specialised support programs
- // Growing our agricultural industries, exports and associated tourism with funding of \$16.1 million
- // Providing \$11 million to boost our digital economy with enhanced mobile coverage in regional Victoria
- // Investing \$51.1 million for tourism marketing, attracting business events and expanding the Major Events Fund
- // Helping commercialise Victoria's biomedical research into local jobs and industry with \$4.6 million in funding
- // Investing in the hydrogen energy supply chain pilot project, with funding of \$103 million, including a \$50 million Commonwealth contribution
- // Investing \$5 million in government procurement activities to help local businesses secure work supplying and building government projects



Continuing our big build

Victoria is in a period of record growth. Our population is growing and our cities, towns and suburbs are expanding.

That's why in our past three budgets, we've committed over \$40 billion to the road and rail projects we need to connect communities and get people out of traffic and home sooner. The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* keeps building, with:

- // \$3.3 billion to upgrade and widen some of our busiest suburban roads, including \$110 million to fast-track planning and design on Victoria's missing road link - the North East Link
- // \$1 billion for metropolitan public transport upgrades, with more services, station carparking and rail line upgrades
- // \$941 million to fix our regional roads
- // \$704 million to upgrade regional public transport and better connect rural and regional communities to each other and to Melbourne

The things that matter

As well as building the big road and rail projects we need to connect our state, we're also making things fairer with better schools and hospitals, more paramedics and new ambulances.

This Budget includes \$5.7 billion to continue to make sure every Victorian gets the support they need, including:

- // \$2.1 billion to meet the demands on our health system, delivering 90 more paramedics and 12 new ambulance vehicles, as well as an extra 86 000 hospital admissions, 49 000 emergency treatments, and more elective surgeries
- // \$1.2 billion to build and expand hospitals across our state, including Australia's first dedicated Heart Hospital

This Budget is also providing \$483 million to upgrade more than 130 schools across our state, \$353 million to build and plan 28 new schools, and \$272 million to purchase land for new schools in our growing suburbs and regional communities.

Shining a light on mental illness and addiction

Over the past three years, we've made a record investment in our state's hospitals.

It means more patients are being treated than ever before, ambulances are arriving sooner and more Victorians have access to quality care, closer to home.

At the same time, across Australia, mental illness and addiction are hurting communities and leaving families heartbroken.

That's why this Budget includes the biggest new funding boost – \$705 million – to address mental illness and addiction. This includes:

- // Responding to people facing mental illness and addiction with six new emergency department crisis hubs, with ambulatory services and short-stay units to be built at Monash Medical Centre, St Vincent's, Geelong, Royal Melbourne, Sunshine and Frankston Hospital emergency departments
- // Providing community-based mental health services for approximately 12 800 additional Victorians, and supporting 89 new acute inpatient beds

- // Improving community-based mental health services for people with a severe mental illness
- // Improving treatment outcomes for regional clients with three new residential drug rehabilitation treatment facilities, each with 30 beds, to be built in the Barwon, Gippsland and Hume regions
- // Expanding the Hospital Outreach Post – suicidal Engagement initiative to a further six hospitals, supporting an extra 3 000 people per year
- // Providing more treatment options and improve clinical care in six Prevention and Recovery Care (PARC) units and developing a 20-bed PARC facility for young people across Melbourne

We are responding to people facing mental illness and addiction with six new emergency department crisis hubs



THE RIGHT SKILLS FOR THE JOB

In Victoria, skilled workers are in demand.

We need skilled workers to remove level crossings, and build the big new roads and rail lines to get people home sooner. There are new jobs building schools and upgrading hospitals, as well as helping those who need it most – nurses for our hospitals and carers for an ageing population.

More than ever, the skills we need to build our state are learned at TAFE – and with good quality training, young Victorians will be first in line for these new jobs.

That's why we're transforming skills and training in Victoria.

A strong public TAFE system will give Victorians accredited, quality skills that lead to good jobs.

We've spent three years investing in the projects and services our state needs. This Budget invests in the people to deliver them.

Skills through TAFE

Cost should never stop someone from learning new skills. To break down that barrier and make sure every Victorian has the opportunity to train and get a good job, this Budget includes \$172 million to make TAFE free for 30 priority courses.

These quality courses will focus on the skills we need – building infrastructure projects, responding to family violence, and caring for older Victorians or people living with disability.

We'll also help more students access this training, with \$304 million to train more Victorians.

The Budget also includes:

- // \$120 million to upgrade and modernise three TAFE facilities in regional Victoria
- // \$44 million to modernise apprenticeships, including the introduction of independent assessments, updated learning materials and the reintroduction of trade papers



Get your skills at school

To help young people get the skills they need for good jobs sooner, this Budget includes:

- // \$49.8 million for *Head Start Apprenticeships and Traineeships* to give secondary school students the opportunity to learn their trade at school and get a job sooner
- // \$25.9 million to improve the quality of secondary vocational pathways, giving every young Victorian the choices they deserve

Better careers education

This Budget also transforms careers education in schools by investing \$109 million to make sure students get the right career advice so they can make the right choices early on.

ROADS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The Andrews Labor Government is building better, wider roads and improving rail and bus services to get Victorians out of traffic and home to their families sooner. The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* includes almost \$4.3 billion for better roads around the state and \$1.9 billion to continue our unprecedented overhaul of Victoria's public transport network.

Upgrading our suburban roads

Our suburbs are growing rapidly, and our road network is feeling the pinch. That's why this Budget invests almost \$2.2 billion in the Suburban Roads Upgrade in Melbourne's northern and south-eastern suburbs, building on the Western Roads Upgrade funded in last year's budget. This will upgrade and improve the local roads that drivers in Melbourne's outer suburbs use every day.

The Suburban Roads Upgrade includes duplication and upgrade works to northern arterial roads including:

- // Childs Road, from Beaumont Crescent to Prince of Wales Avenue, Mill Park
- // Craigieburn Road, from Mickleham Road to Hume Highway, Craigieburn
- // Epping Road, from Craigieburn Road to Memorial Avenue, Epping
- // Fitzsimons Lane, Templestowe
- // Sunbury Road, from Bulla-Diggers Rest Road to Powlett Street, Sunbury
- // Yan Yean Road from Kurrak Road Yarrambat to Bridge Inn Road Doreen, and Bridge Inn Road, from Plenty Road to Yan Yean Road Doreen

Together, these suburban roads upgrades will connect communities, grow local economies, and protect liveability.

The Suburban Roads Upgrade will include duplication and upgrade works to south-eastern arterial roads including:

- // Golf Links Road, from Peninsula Link to Baxter-Tooradin Road, and Grant Road, from Baxter-Tooradin Road to Frankston-Flinders Road, Langwarrin South
- // Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road, from Princes Freeway to Manks Road, Pakenham
- // Hallam North Road, from Heatherton Road to James Cook Drive, Endeavour Hills
- // Lathams Road, from Oliphant Way to Frankston-Dandenong Road, Carrum Downs
- // Narre Warren-Cranbourne Road, from Thompsons Road to South Gippsland Highway, Cranbourne
- // Pound Road West, new bridge over Cranbourne rail line to connect Pound Road West and Remington Drive, Dandenong South
- // Thompsons Road, including signalised intersection upgrades at Dandenong-Frankston Road and Narre Warren-Cranbourne Road

The Budget also provides:

- // \$116 million to repair roads across metropolitan Melbourne to improve safety on our road network
- // \$22.7 million for projects that encourage more Victorians to walk or ride
- // \$21.1 million to strengthen bridges across Victoria, including bridges on key freight routes, the St Kilda Junction tram bridge and other related bridge upgrades



The big projects our state needs

The Andrews Labor Government is getting on with the big road projects Victorians need.

In the past three budgets, the Government has invested in upgrades to the M80 Ring Road, Monash, Tullamarine and West Gate freeways.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* continues our record investment in our freeways.

This includes \$110 million to fast track the completion of detailed design and planning for the North East Link – the missing link in Melbourne’s freeway network – which will be the biggest transport project in Victoria’s history.

It will create 10 000 jobs and return local roads to local residents, taking 15 000 trucks and 9 000 cars off busy local roads each day. This year’s investment will go towards fast-tracking the completion of design and procurement work so the Government can seek expressions of interest in 2018/19.

The Government is also investing a further \$75 million in the Mordialloc Bypass to build a four-lane freeway connection between the

Mornington Peninsula Freeway at Springvale Road and the Dingley Bypass, bringing the total investment to \$375 million. For local drivers, it will mean they can get from Frankston to Clayton without having to stop at a single traffic light.

The Budget also invests \$712 million in the second stage of the Andrews Labor Government’s upgrade to the Monash Freeway, to widen the Monash from Chadstone to Pakenham.

Better, more reliable public transport

When the Andrews Labor Government took office, the public transport network had been left to ruin.

In the past three budgets, the Government has undertaken the biggest public transport overhaul in our state’s history. That includes building the Metro Tunnel to untangle the entire train network, extending the South Morang line to Mernda, removing 50 dangerous and congested level crossings, and building hundreds of new metro and regional train carriages here in Victoria.

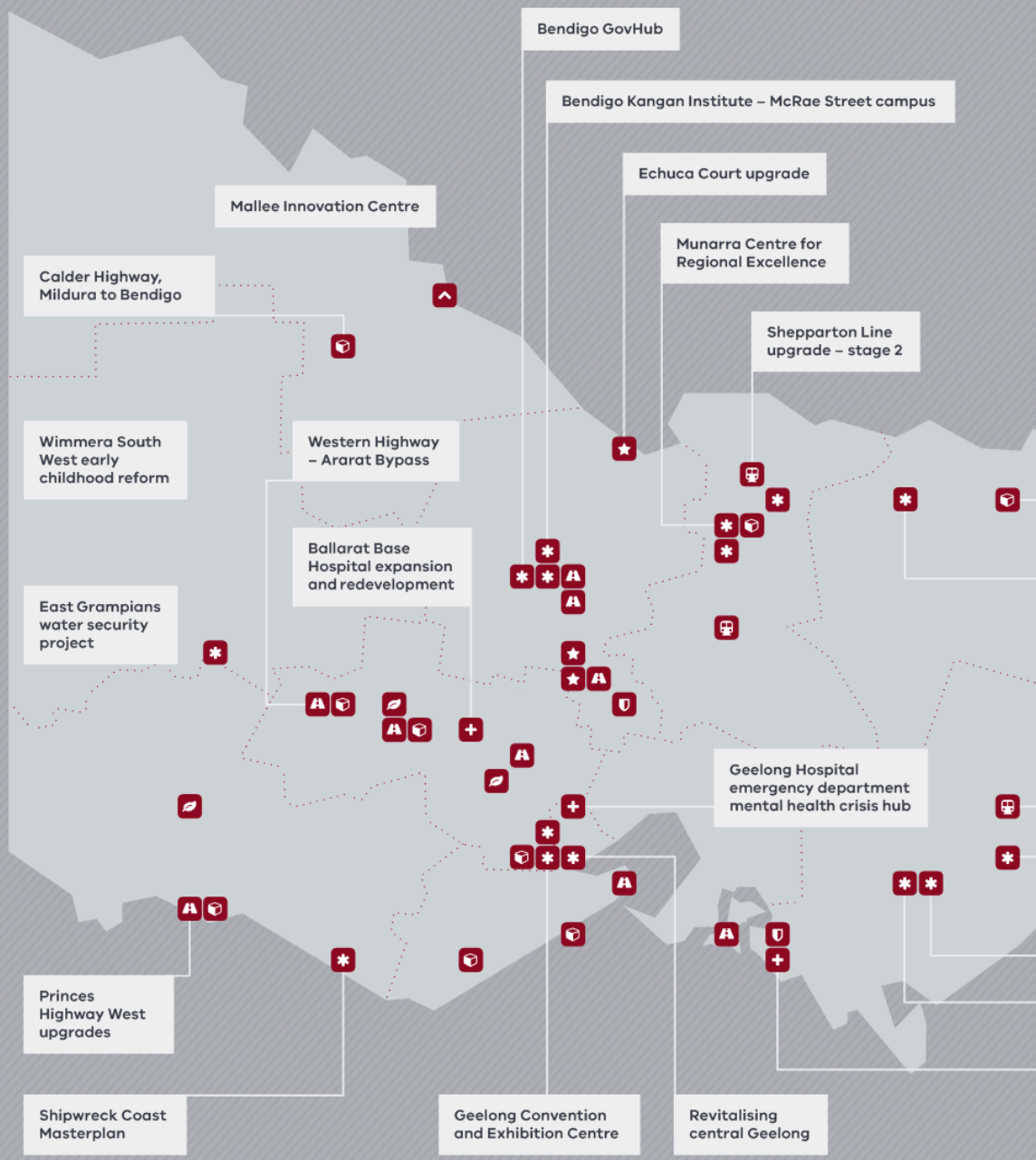


These projects will give Victorians a quality public transport system they can rely on.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* builds on our record investment, with \$1.9 billion for public transport, including:

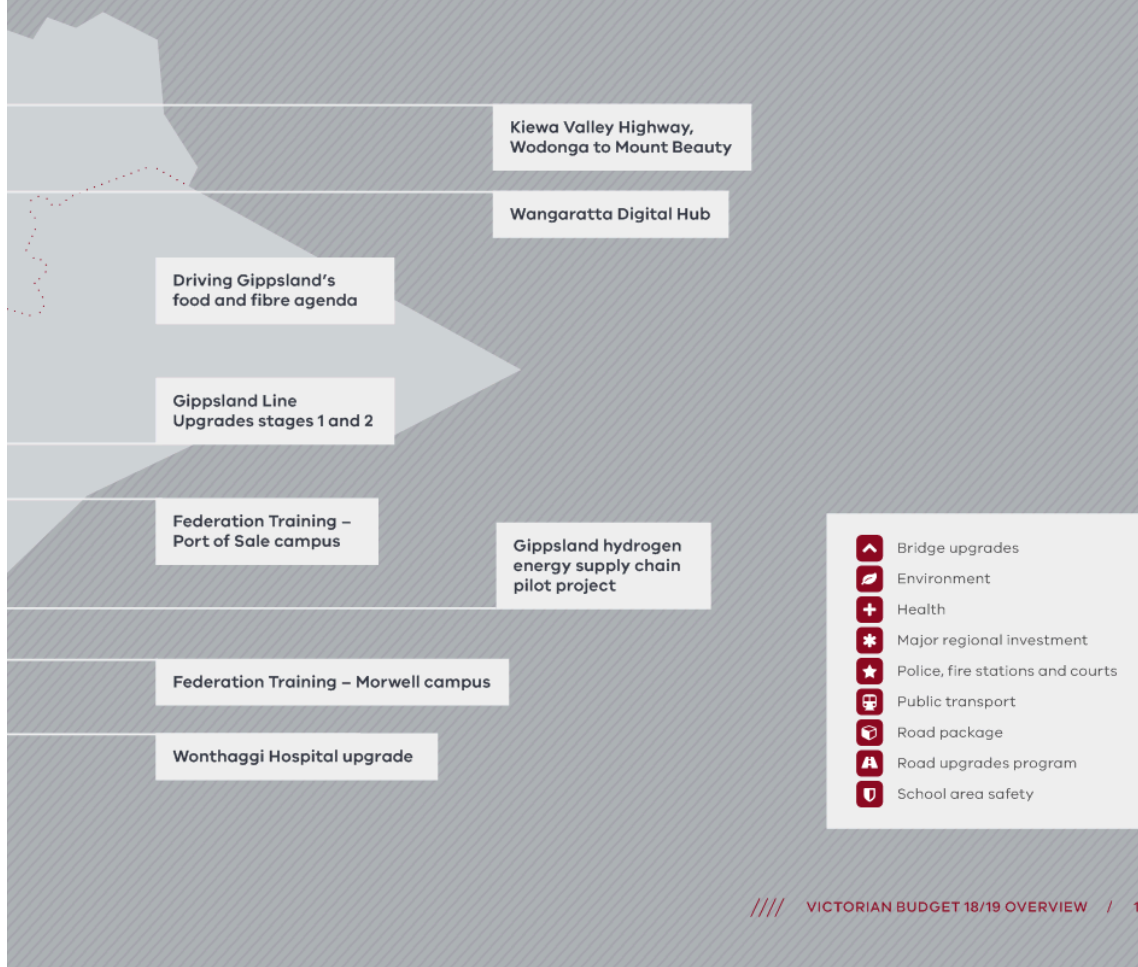
- // \$704 million to give Victorians in regional areas more efficient and reliable public transport, including \$313 million to upgrade the Shepparton line
- // \$572 million to enable and plan for the duplication of the Cranbourne line, deliver power and signalling upgrades from the city to Cranbourne and Pakenham and undertake detailed design work to enable new high capacity metro trains to run to Sunbury
- // \$104 million for five additional X'tropolis trains
- // \$89.4 million to extend and add more services on the South Morang line to Mernda, and additional services on the Hurstbridge and Dandenong lines following completion of the Hurstbridge line upgrade and level crossing removals between Caulfield and Dandenong
- // \$60 million to build more than 2000 extra car parking spaces at metropolitan stations
- // \$55.7 million for improvements to metropolitan bus services, adding new routes and more services across the bus network
- // \$50 million for detailed planning of a fast train to Geelong integrated with an Airport Rail Link in Melbourne's west
- // \$26.2 million for V/Line services to ensure the sustainability of regional rail
- // \$16.9 million for safety and security initiatives across the Victorian public transport network, including safer bus stops and new CCTV
- // \$16.3 million to make tram stops and train stations more accessible for people living with disability at Watergardens and Essendon stations
- // \$3 million for light rail connection between Caulfield and Rowville that will link Caulfield Station to Monash University's Clayton campus via Chadstone Shopping Centre
- // \$1 million to develop a business case for active transport and tram connections between Fishermans Bend and the CBD

INVESTING IN EVERY CORNER OF THE STATE



STATEWIDE

- // \$705 million for mental health services and alcohol and drug rehabilitation across Victoria
- // \$304 million to support thousands of new students to access training
- // \$43.8 million to modernise apprenticeships to meet the needs of a modern economy
- // \$288 million to help students living with disability
- // \$27.2 million for more kindergarten places
- // \$1.6 billion for an additional 86 000 hospital admissions and 49 000 emergency treatments
- // \$362 million to improve access to elective surgery
- // \$160 million for youth justice centres, and more services to tackle youth offending
- // \$82 million to encourage participation of women and girls in sport
- // \$36.1 million for the Camps, Schools and Excursions Fund so all kids can access these activities
- // \$9.7 million to improve gender equality in Victorian communities
- // \$266 million for initiatives that support our environment including \$65 million for water projects
- // \$16.3 million to improve public transport accessibility for people with disability
- // \$55 million to boost jobs through the Investment Attraction Assistance Program
- // \$21.1 million to strengthen bridges across Victoria
- // \$31.6 million to continue the Triple Zero call-taking and dispatch service
- // \$32.9 million to improve student outcomes in science and maths



GETTING THINGS DONE IN REGIONAL VICTORIA

// Regional Victoria

Every corner of Victoria should share in our state's success.

That means good schools and hospitals, and reliable roads and public transport, wherever you live.

It's why the Andrews Labor Government has invested more than \$8.5 billion in regional Victoria since coming to office in 2014.

This commitment has ensured regional communities are benefiting from Victoria's strong growth.

The Andrews Labor Government is getting things done for regional Victoria.

This Budget secures the jobs, services and support local communities need.

Better skills and training for regional Victorians

The Andrews Labor Government is helping people in regional communities to get the skills they need to find secure, well-paid jobs, while also making sure they have access to the same training and education opportunities as people in Melbourne.

Regional Victorians will benefit from this Budget's investment in skills statewide, including:

- // \$304 million to create thousands of new TAFE and training places so more Victorians can access training
- // \$172 million to make training at TAFE free for 30 priority courses
- // \$120 million to upgrade and modernise three TAFE campuses at Bendigo, Morwell and Port of Sale
- // \$49.8 million for *Head Start Apprenticeships and Traineeships* to give secondary school students the opportunity to learn their trade at school and get a job sooner

Creating jobs for regional Victorians

This Budget will create new jobs by reducing the payroll tax rate for regional businesses from 3.65 per cent to 2.425 per cent.

Building on last year's reduction, this additional cut means the regional payroll tax rate is now the lowest in the nation.

An estimated 4 000 businesses across regional Victoria are expected to take advantage of this reduction in the payroll tax rate.

This new cut to the payroll tax rate gives regional economies another boost, allowing businesses to expand their operations and create more jobs in regional Victoria.

These cuts are on top of the increase to the payroll tax threshold from 1 July 2018 to \$650 000 – a change which will benefit around 38 000 businesses across the state.

Investing in regional communities

The Andrews Labor Government is building the projects that matter to local communities.

That includes – for the first time – a new community building fund, which will see Victorians nominate and decide on their own funding priorities.

The new fund, *Pick My Project*, will be backed by \$30 million from the *Victorian Budget 2018/19* for grants available and will be spread across the state, ensuring regional communities get the chance to benefit.



The Budget also includes the new \$20 million Rural Council Transformation program, which will provide grants to help rural councils across Victoria set up collaborative procurement and improve their financial management strategies.

Additionally, working with our Regional Partnerships, this Budget includes funds for the projects that local communities have told us are the most important.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* provides almost \$760 million of additional funding that can be directly attributed to key Regional Partnership priorities. These include:

- // Rail infrastructure
- // Business and innovation programs
- // Tourism and healthy living projects
- // Improving schools and TAFEs
- // Agricultural market planning
- // Additional support for family violence and homelessness

Better regional roads

The problem in regional Victoria isn't that we don't have enough roads. It's that the roads we do have aren't in good enough condition.

Decades of underinvestment and inattention mean our country roads need an overhaul.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* delivers \$941 million for this work, including:

- // \$433 million for regional road restoration, including \$100 million for the Fixing Country Roads Fund to restore both our state and local country roads to good condition
- // \$261 million for road upgrades in regional Victoria
- // \$229 million for safety upgrades to our regional road network
- // \$17.4 million to establish Regional Roads Victoria

Led by the Chief Regional Roads Officer, Regional Roads Victoria will be a division of VicRoads, based in Ballarat, with a presence in regional centres across the state – giving regional Victorians roads they can rely on.

// Regional Victoria

Improving public transport

Public transport is vital for connecting communities and getting regional passengers from A to B.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* includes \$704 million to give Victorians in regional areas more efficient and reliable public transport, including:

- // \$313 million for Stage 2 of the Shepparton Line Upgrade. Funding will deliver a business case for nine return services a day, with funding also provided to deliver a range of infrastructure upgrades ahead of the scope and costs of Stage 3 being finalised to enable increased services. Funded works will allow modern VLocity trains to operate to and from Shepparton for the first time, offer faster journey times and improve reliability of services
- // \$189 million to provide additional stabling and train maintenance facilities to support the state's growing VLocity fleet
- // \$130 million for regional rail infrastructure upgrades from Maryborough and Ararat to Ballarat
- // \$26.2 million for V/Line services to ensure the sustainability of regional rail, and improve reliability and punctuality
- // \$22.2 million for extra regional bus services and infrastructure works across the regional bus network
- // \$10.8 million for additional regional rail services, including additional inter-peak and shoulder peak services to and from our regional cities

These investments build on and complement the \$1.7 billion for the Regional Rail Revival program in last year's Budget. This project will create more than 1000 jobs across regional Victoria and upgrade every regional passenger line in the state. The Government has also ordered 87 VLocity carriages since 2015, with its rollout starting in 2017, and the last carriage of the current order to arrive in early 2020.



A great education, wherever you live

Every child deserves every chance to get a great education.

It's why, since 2014, the Andrews Labor Government has invested \$775 million to improve Victoria's regional schools.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* builds on this work, by committing \$181 million to build, plan and upgrade 60 regional schools. This includes \$46.3 million to plan and build five new schools and a further \$135 million to plan and upgrade 55 existing primary and secondary schools in regional and rural Victoria.

Other statewide initiatives include:

- // \$288 million to help students living with disability and learning difficulties get the support they need
- // \$109 million to deliver better careers education in local secondary schools



- // \$49.8 million for *Head Start Apprenticeships and Traineeships* to give secondary school students the opportunity to learn their trade at school and get a job sooner
- // \$43.8 million for intensive outreach to help young people stay in school or training
- // \$32.9 million to improve student outcomes in science and maths
- // \$115 million to expand the Wonthaggi Hospital Emergency Department, delivering better care for the broader Gippsland region. This includes more inpatient beds, new operating theatres and more space to treat people in emergency
- // An extra \$50 million for the Regional Health Infrastructure Fund to upgrade local hospitals and ensure regional Victorians can get the best healthcare, in the best facilities, wherever they live

Healthy communities

No matter where they live, every Victorian deserves quality healthcare, close to home.

That's why this Budget invests in the health of our regional communities, from newborn babies right through to aged care.

Regional healthcare investments include:

- // \$462 million to redevelop and expand the Ballarat Base Hospital. This includes expanding the operating theatre complex, inpatient units, intensive care unit and clinical support, as well as providing a new emergency department, day treatment centre and acute mental health facility

// Regional Victoria

Protecting our water and our environment

In regional Victoria, protecting the environment means protecting livelihoods. It's why we banned fracking, and why we've invested in drought mitigation and better waterways.

As we deal with the impact of climate change and population growth, this Budget makes critical investments to manage Victoria's water supply and protect our natural environment.

The Government is investing in our environment, by providing \$266 million, including:

- // \$70.6 million for the health of our regional parks and to grow the economic benefits for regional Victoria
- // \$42.2 million for the East Grampians Water Supply and Mitiama and District Reticulated Water projects, to provide secure water supplies and improve irrigation efficiency
- // \$35.9 million to modernise regional forestry agreements and improve the surveying of forestry land, helping to better protect the environment and give industry certainty

- // \$8 million for Victoria's contribution to the Murray-Darling Basin Authority to make sure local communities can use and enjoy the Basin into the future

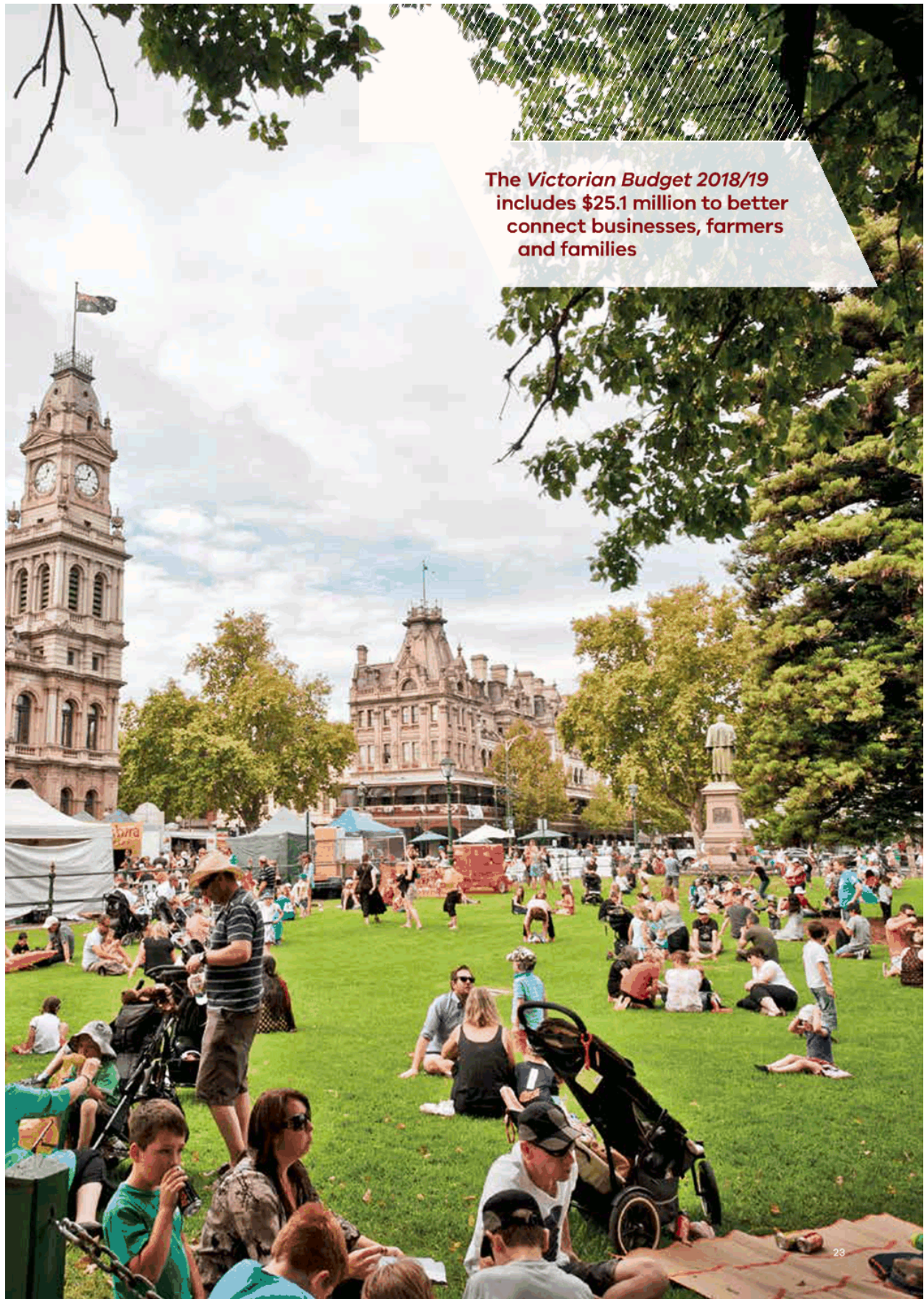
- // \$7.9 million to clean up contaminated public land including sites across regional Victoria

Better technology to connect communities

Victorians living in rural and regional Victoria continue to face a digital divide. It's why the *Victorian Budget 2018/19* includes \$25.1 million to better connect businesses, farmers and families, with:

- // \$13.5 million to support Victorian small businesses statewide, including digital economy roadshows in regional Victoria
- // \$11 million for a further round of the Victorian Mobile Project, to build extra telecommunications infrastructure and improve mobile coverage in blackspot areas across regional Victoria
- // \$300 000 to develop a business case to establish state-of-the-art IT facilities for education providers in Ovens Murray
- // \$250 000 to establish the Wodonga Business Innovation cluster





EDUCATION

Every Victorian deserves access to a good education and the opportunity for a better life.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* will continue building Victoria as the Education State.

More schools where they're needed

Victoria is experiencing a population boom, with 90 000 extra students expected to enter Victorian schools all over the state in the next five years.

Every Victorian family, wherever they live, deserves a good quality school.

That's why the Andrews Labor Government has invested an unprecedented \$6 billion in Victoria's schools since coming to office in November 2014.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* continues our commitment to the Education State, with nearly \$2.8 billion invested in schools, including \$272 million to purchase land for new school sites.

This Budget includes \$353 million for new and planned school projects and \$483 million to upgrade existing schools – to give every family, in every community, a good school close to home.

It means across our state, 28 new schools will be built and planned, accommodating more than 15 000 students, with more than 130 existing schools upgraded.

A further \$126 million for the relocatable classrooms program, school pride and sport fund, and asbestos removal program, will further improve our schools.

Giving every child the chance to succeed

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* provides more support to keep kids in school and learning the skills they need for the future, including:

- // \$43.8 million to cut the number of students dropping out of school with the statewide rollout of the Navigator program
- // \$32.9 million to fund 200 additional Primary Maths and Science Specialists
- // \$22.1 million for workshops and teaching tools to improve literacy and numeracy teaching
- // \$11.3 million continuing to fund the Young Leaders to China Program
- // \$9.8 million to contribute to the cost of swimming and water safety education programs
- // \$4.4 million to ensure schools have the very best principals, through a new program to prepare and assess those aspiring to be principals
- // \$1 million for schools to purchase musical instruments and music professional development



Making our schools more inclusive

This Budget sets Victoria on a path to become a national leader in inclusive education for students with disability or additional learning needs, because every child deserves every chance for a quality education.

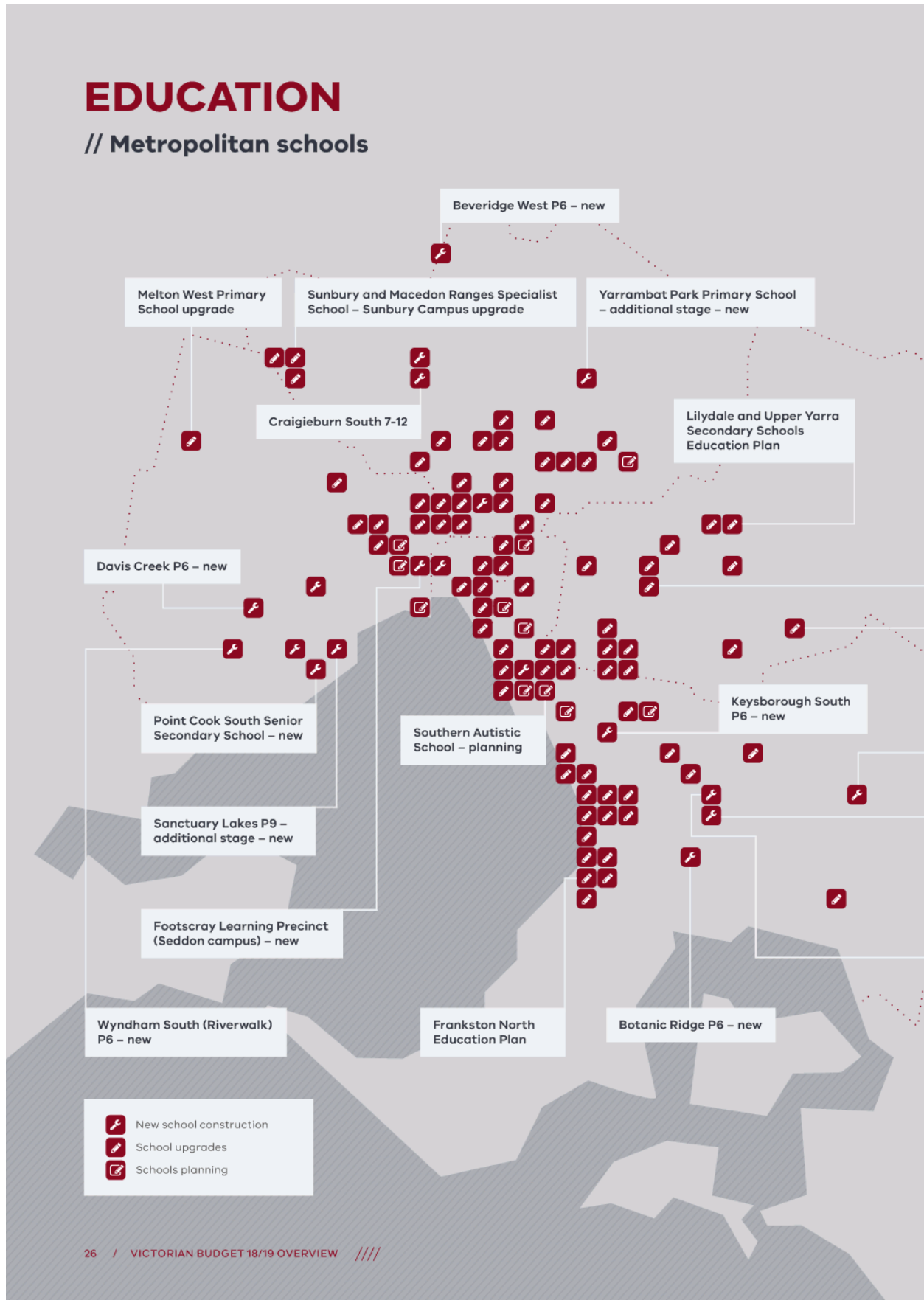
This Budget provides \$288 million to support the education of students with disability, including \$65.5 million for student health and wellbeing reforms, and \$55.6 million to plan and upgrade 15 special schools across Victoria.

Investing in the early years

Every child deserves the best start in life.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* delivers quality early childhood education to help all Victorian kids to learn, play and grow, including:

- // \$33.9 million to increase access to early childhood facilities, including the construction and upgrade of buildings, playgrounds and equipment
- // \$27.2 million for more kindergarten places as our population grows
- // \$17.9 million for language programs for children in state-funded kindergartens, to introduce ten new bilingual programs in kindergartens
- // \$8.9 million to maintain universal access to four-year-old kindergarten
- // \$8 million to support the early childhood education workforce
- // \$4 million for early start kindergarten for vulnerable children



STATEWIDE EDUCATION PROJECTS

- // Funding more enrolments \$690 million
- // Supporting students with disability \$288 million
- // Head Start Apprenticeships and Traineeships \$49.8 million
- // Tech schools \$28.6 million
- // Providing doctors in secondary schools \$26.3 million
- // Vocational pathways for secondary school students \$25.9 million
- // Encouraging interschool sport \$1.1 million

Hampton Park Secondary College upgrade

Monbulk College upgrade

Pakenham North East Primary School – new

Clyde North East P6 – new

Casey Fields (Five Ways) P6 – new

METRO SCHOOL UPGRADES

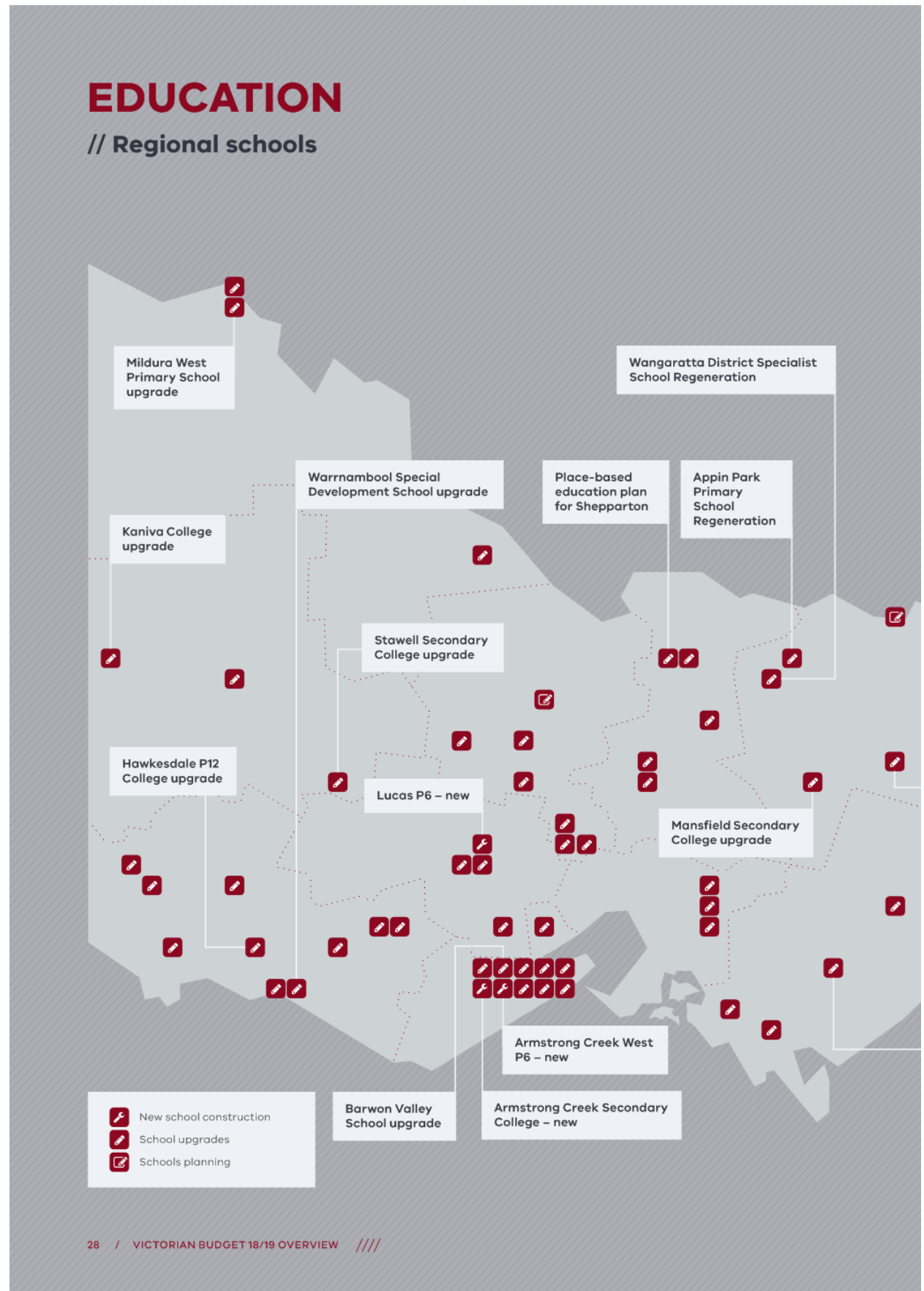
- // Abbotsford Primary School
- // Aberfeldie Primary School
- // Albert Park Primary School
- // Albion Primary School
- // Ballam Park Primary School
- // Banyule Primary School
- // Belvedere Park Primary School
- // Bentleigh West Primary School
- // Berwick Secondary College
- // Bonbeach Primary School
- // Box Hill High School
- // Brunswick South West Primary School
- // Bundoora Primary School
- // Carrum Primary School
- // Centre for Higher Education Studies
- // Charles La Trobe P-12 College
- // Chelsea Heights Primary School
- // Copperfield College
- // Dandenong West Primary School
- // Diamond Valley College
- // Dinjerra Primary School
- // East Bentleigh Primary School
- // Edithvale Primary School
- // Elwood College
- // Epping Secondary College
- // Frankston North Education Plan
- // Frankston Special Developmental School
- // Gladstone Park Primary School
- // Glenallen School
- // Greenhills Primary School
- // Hampton Park Secondary College
- // Heathmont College
- // Huntingdale Primary School
- // Ivanhoe Primary School
- // Karingal Primary School
- // Kingsley Park Primary School
- // Koo Wee Rup Secondary College
- // Lalor Gardens Primary School
- // Lilydale and Upper Yarra Secondary Schools Education Plan
- // Lyndale Secondary College
- // Melba College
- // Melton West Primary School
- // Monash Special Developmental School
- // Monbulk College
- // Montrose Primary School
- // Mooroolbark College
- // Moreland Primary School
- // Mount Erin Secondary College
- // Mulgrave Primary School
- // Narre Warren South P-12 College
- // Nepean Special School
- // Northern College of the Arts and Technology
- // Northern School For Autism
- // Oakleigh Primary School
- // Ormond Primary School
- // Pascoe Vale Girls Secondary College
- // Pascoe Vale Primary School
- // Patterson Lakes Primary School
- // Reservoir East Primary School
- // Richmond Primary School
- // Richmond West Primary School
- // Ringwood Secondary College
- // Rowell Park Primary School
- // Roxburgh College
- // Sandringham East Primary School
- // Seaford Primary School
- // Spensley Street Primary School
- // Springvale Rise Primary School
- // St Helena Secondary College
- // St Kilda Primary School
- // Strathmore Secondary College
- // Sunbury and Macedon Ranges Specialist School – Sunbury Campus
- // Sunbury Heights Primary School
- // Sunbury Primary School
- // Sunshine North Primary School
- // Upwey High School
- // Waverley Meadows Primary School
- // Westall Schools Regeneration
- // Western Autistic School – Niddrie Campus
- // Yarrabah School

METRO NEW SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

- // Aitken Primary School – additional stage
- // Beveridge West P6
- // Botanic Ridge P6
- // Burnside Primary School – additional stage
- // Casey Fields (Five Ways) P6
- // Clyde North East P6
- // Craigieburn South 7-12
- // Davis Creek P6
- // Docklands Primary School – stage one early works
- // Footscray Learning Precinct (Seddon campus)
- // Keysborough South P6
- // McKinnon Secondary College (additional campus)
- // Pakenham North East Primary School – additional stage
- // Point Cook South Senior Secondary School
- // Preston High School – additional stage
- // Sanctuary Lakes P9 – additional stage
- // Truganina East P9 – additional stage
- // Wyndham South (Riverwalk) P6
- // Yarrambat Park Primary School – additional stage

METRO NEW SCHOOL PLANNING

- // Fishermans Bend Secondary School – new school planning
- // Fitzroy Gasworks (new senior campus) – new school planning
- // North Melbourne Hill – new school planning
- // Southern Autistic School (including Endeavour Hills Special School new school planning)



STATEWIDE EDUCATION PROJECTS

- // Funding more enrolments \$690 million
- // Supporting students with disability \$288 million
- // Head Start Apprenticeships and Traineeships \$49.8 million
- // Tech schools \$28.6 million
- // Providing doctors in secondary schools \$26.3 million
- // Vocational pathways for secondary school students \$25.9 million
- // Encouraging interschool sport \$1.1 million

REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS PROJECTS

- // \$11.8 million to upgrade and modernise Castlemaine Secondary College
- // Business case for IT facilities for education providers in Ovens Murray \$300 000

REGIONAL NEW SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

- // Armstrong Creek Secondary College – early works
- // Armstrong Creek West P6
- // Lucas P6
- // Miners Rest Primary School

REGIONAL SCHOOL UPGRADES

- // Ardmona Primary School
- // Ballarat High School
- // Barwon Valley School
- // Baisdale Consolidated School
- // Cardross Primary School
- // Casterton Primary School
- // Castlemaine Secondary College
- // Ceres Primary School
- // Derrinallum P-12 College
- // Dimboola Memorial Secondary College
- // Don Valley Primary School
- // Dunolly Primary School
- // Euroa Secondary College
- // George Street Primary School – Hamilton
- // Gisborne Primary School
- // Hawkesdale P12 College
- // Heywood District Secondary College
- // Highton Primary School
- // Hoddles Creek Primary School
- // Kaniva College
- // Kerang Primary School
- // Kongwak Primary School
- // Launching Place Primary School
- // Lismore Primary School
- // Mansfield Secondary College
- // Merino Consolidated School
- // Mildura West Primary School
- // Moolap Primary School
- // Moriac Primary School
- // Mortlake P-12 College
- // Mount Clear College
- // Northern Bay P-12 College
- // Oberon South Primary School
- // Orbst North Primary School
- // Orbst Secondary College
- // Riddells Creek Primary School
- // Romsey Regeneration
- // Seymour College
- // Shepparton Education Plan
- // Spring Gully Primary School
- // Stawell Secondary College
- // Sunbury and Macedon Ranges Specialist School – Bullengarook Senior Campus
- // Surfside Primary School
- // Tallarook Primary School
- // Tarwin Valley Primary School
- // Teesdale Primary School
- // The Alpine School – Don Valley Campus
- // Torquay P-6 College
- // Traralgon Secondary and Special School Regeneration
- // Wallington Primary School
- // Wangaratta District Specialist School and Appin Park Primary School Regeneration
- // Warrnambool Special Developmental School
- // Warrnambool West Primary School
- // Winton Primary School

REGIONAL SCHOOL PLANNING

- // Leneva (Frederic Street) Proposed P6 (Wodonga East) – new school planning
- // White Hills Primary School

The Alpine School – Don Valley Campus upgrade

Orbst Secondary School upgrade

Traralgon Secondary and Special School Regeneration

//// VICTORIAN BUDGET 18/19 OVERVIEW / 29

HEALTH

Our hospitals are at the heart of our communities. And at every stage of our lives, our doctors and nurses are there to provide the care and support Victorian patients need.

It's why, over the past three years, we've made record investments in our state's hospitals.

This year's Budget builds on this work, with \$4.2 billion to make sure Victorians get the best care, from the best professionals, in the best facilities.

Better hospitals for better health

To make sure that every Victorian patient gets the quality care they need when they need it, this year's Budget includes another \$1.2 billion to build and expand hospitals across our state.

This Budget provides \$619 million in major metropolitan hospital upgrades and a new hospital, including:

- // \$396 million to fully fund Australia's first standalone heart hospital, to provide the very best cardiac care for patients with heart disease, bringing the total investment to \$543 million
- // \$124 million to implement a modern electronic medical records system for the Parkville Precinct
- // \$69.5 million for infrastructure renewal at the Alfred Hospital to upgrade the main block and five wards, and ensure the building continues to meet contemporary fire risk management standards
- // \$29.6 million to expand and reconfigure the Sunshine Hospital emergency department



A further \$627 million will be invested in improving our regional hospitals, including:

- // \$462 million for the expansion and redevelopment of the Ballarat Base Hospital, which will include a new emergency department and intensive care unit
- // \$115 million to expand the Wonthaggi Hospital Emergency Department, adding new patient beds and operating theatres
- // A \$50 million boost for the Regional Health Infrastructure Fund to continue the upgrade of rural and regional health facilities



Strengthening access to healthcare services

As our state continues to grow, we need to make sure our dedicated nurses and doctors have everything they need to keep up with demand.

And over the past three years, we've made a record investment in our state's healthcare services.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* will provide a further \$2.1 billion to support the 1.96 million patients expected to be admitted to our hospitals, and the 1.84 million patients to be seen in our emergency departments this year. More than 207 000 Victorians will get the surgery they need sooner, with a \$218 million elective surgery blitz to cut waiting times and lists. This is equivalent to nearly 14 370 hip replacements or more than 76 000 eye surgeries.

This Budget builds on that foundation, providing:

- // \$25 million for the Better Care Victoria Innovation Fund to enhance access to services and improve health service quality and performance
- // \$2.1 million for a Centre of Research Excellence for bone marrow biology to help accelerate the work of *Maddie Riewaldt's Vision* in finding a cure for bone marrow failure syndromes

These projects will continue to deliver first-class healthcare for all Victorians.

Responding to an emergency

Last year, our state faced a horror flu season, one of the worst on record. To make sure hospitals have the support they need to fight the flu this winter, this Budget includes \$50 million to open more beds, hire more doctors and nurses, and treat more patients.

More ambulances and more paramedics

Four years ago, our ambulance service was in crisis.

Paramedics were under attack, while patients were left waiting for emergency care when they needed it the most.

We ended the war on paramedics, and since then our record investment has helped turn the system around, with more paramedics, more stations and more vehicles achieving the fastest response times in almost a decade.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* builds on this work, providing \$58.5 million to meet growing demand for ambulance services and to improve response times with an extra 90 paramedics and 12 ambulance vehicles. A further 39 paramedics and nurses will continue to support Ambulance Victoria's secondary triage service.

In addition, \$2.1 million will strengthen the Victorian Patient Transport Assistance Scheme, which subsidises travel and accommodation costs for rural and regional Victorians who need to travel long distances for specialist healthcare.

Historic action on mental illness

Right now, across Australia mental illness and addiction are hurting communities and leaving families heart broken.

To make sure Victorians facing mental illness and addiction get the treatment they need, this Budget includes a record \$705 million investment. This includes:

- // \$232 million to support growing demand, giving 12,800 more Victorians the support they need and funding 89 acute inpatient beds
- // \$154 million to provide intensive service packages to current high-need community mental health clients

- // \$101 million to establish six new emergency department crisis hubs, including one at Geelong Hospital, taking those who are dealing with mental health or addiction issues out of regular emergency departments, and ensuring they get the specialist treatment they need

- // \$58.9 million to increase the number of high-care packages for complex clients and establish a compulsory treatment scheme for adults with complex needs who pose an unacceptable risk to the safety of others, and a new treatment facility

- // \$40.6 million for three new regional residential drug rehabilitation treatment facilities in the Barwon, Gippsland and Hume regions

- // \$32.5 million to strengthen the mental health workforce and reduce the risk of occupational violence

- // \$28.6 million to provide more treatment options and improve clinical care in six Prevention and Recovery Care units

- // \$18.7 million to expand the Hospital Outreach Post-suicidal Engagement initiative to a further six hospitals, supporting an extra 3,000 people per year

- // \$11.9 million to develop a new 20-bed Prevention and Recovery Care facility for young people across Melbourne

- // \$10 million for infrastructure and capital works in selected state-owned mental health and alcohol and other drugs facilities

- // \$6.7 million for the new residential rehabilitation facility in the Grampians

- // \$4 million for Aboriginal mental health and wellbeing initiatives



To make sure Victorians with mental illness and addiction get the treatment they need, this Budget includes a record \$705 million investment

KEEPING OUR STATE SAFE

Over the previous three budgets, we've made record investments in recruiting police, addressing family violence and strengthening our emergency services.

That's because there's nothing more important than the safety of Victorians.

This year's Budget continues our investment in the police, protection and prevention Victorians deserve.

The biggest ever investment in Victoria Police

The Andrews Labor Government is making the biggest ever investment in law and order in our state's history, recruiting and deploying an extra 3135 new police.

In this year's Budget, we are increasing our investment by making sure our police have everything they need – the training, the tools and the technology – to tackle crime.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* provides further resources for Victoria Police including:

- \$41.4 million for relocating East Melbourne Police Station to a new fit for purpose building and acquiring land for a new police station at Point Cook
- \$25 million for local crime prevention initiatives, including youth crime prevention projects, the Public Safety Infrastructure and Community Safety funds, and crime prevention agencies such as Crime Stoppers and Neighbourhood Watch
- \$25 million to provide Victoria Police with additional long-arm firearms to keep Victorians safe
- \$24.2 million to strengthen Victoria Police's response to serious and organised technology-enabled crime, including increasing their capacity to tackle online child exploitation
- \$9.4 million for mobile policing units to respond to crime when and where it happens

A strong justice system

At the same time as we're investing in Victoria's police, we're also making sure our state has a strong justice system. Victoria's courts and correctional services play a critical role in responding to the needs of victims and ensuring offenders are held to account.

Building on our reforms to strengthen sentencing and overhaul the bail and parole system, this year's Budget will provide:

- \$689 million to expand the Lara prison precinct for the construction of a new 700 bed maximum security facility for men
- \$160 million to increase the number of secure custodial beds at the Malmsbury and Parkville youth justice centres, as well as additional investments to tackle the causes of youth offending
- \$129 million to introduce a new Bail and Remand Court to deliver on the recommendations of the Coghlan Bail Review, and 18 additional magistrates, two new County Court judges and a Supreme Court judge to meet increasing demand in the court system
- \$119 million for more police prosecutors and to equip the Office of Public Prosecutions to prosecute serious crimes and hold offenders to account
- \$91 million to strengthen infrastructure and enhance security across the Victorian prison system
- \$37.3 million for Victoria Legal Aid to provide more duty lawyers and grants of legal assistance
- \$21 million to implement the recommendations of the Expert Panel on Terrorism and Violent Extremism Prevention and Response Powers
- \$20 million to acquire land for the redevelopment of Werribee and Bendigo justice precincts
- \$10.1 million to better support victims of crime, including extending the intermediary scheme which assists children and vulnerable people who are victims of crime to provide evidence



Addressing family violence

Family violence is our nation's number one law and order issue. That's why we committed to launching Australia's first ever Royal Commission into Family Violence.

In response, the Andrews Labor Government is implementing every single one of the Commission's 227 recommendations, including an unprecedented systemic overhaul of Victoria's family violence response.

Last year's Budget included \$1.9 billion to begin this work.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* builds on these foundations by providing:

- // \$49.9 million to ensure victim survivors have access to the support they need to recover, including the provision of flexible support packages
- // \$27.7 million to improve refuge responses for the victims of family violence
- // \$24 million for campaigns to change behaviour and prevent family violence before it begins
- // \$5 million provided for initiatives under the *Industry Plan for Family Violence Protection and Response*

The Victorian Budget 2018/19 provides \$49.9 million to ensure victim survivors have access to the support they need to recover

In this Budget, the Andrews Labor Government is also investing in the safety of children and families, providing:

- // \$226 million to expand the child protection workforce, and continuing after-hours emergency services and specialist intervention
- // \$214 million for out-of-home care placements to manage increased demand and provide increased support to carers through the continuation of the Carer Kafé program
- // \$141 million to provide therapeutic approaches for children in care with complex needs
- // \$91.9 million to continue early intervention family services and intensive support programs such as Cradle to Kinder, Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies and Right@Home
- // \$33.6 million to trial a new model of kinship care which identifies kinship networks early, strengthen reunification where appropriate, and ensures children and young people get the care and support they need
- // \$10.4 million for universal services partnerships funding to embed child and family services practitioners in universal services, for example providing early help to families as soon as parenting problems arise or more support is needed
- // \$9.8 million to expand and continue five program trials to prevent the abuse and neglect of children, including by providing intensive weekly support to parents with children up to 5 years old
- // \$7.1 million to continue the Outcomes, Practice and Evidence Network, which brings together service providers and other stakeholders to drive innovation across the service delivery system

The Victorian Budget 2018/19 provides \$226 million to expand the child protection workforce, and continuing after-hours emergency services and specialist intervention



Strong emergency services for our state

Across Victoria's emergency services staff and volunteers put themselves on the line to keep our state safe.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* makes sure those who serve our state have the support they need.

This Budget includes:

- // \$31.6 million for the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority to continue delivering of the triple zero call taking and dispatch service
- // \$28.4 million to provide infrastructure upgrades and facilities for the Country Fire Authority, Victoria State Emergency Service and Life Saving Victoria
- // \$10 million to fund training and development grants for volunteer emergency services organisations
- // \$8.3 million for additional lifeguard services, school swimming and water safety programs, and public swimming pool safety strategies to improve the safety of Victorians in the water, and provide emergency response at our beaches
- // \$2.2 million for a mental health and wellbeing app for emergency service workers and volunteers
- // \$1.9 million for the ongoing maintenance of community bushfire shelters in the Yarra Ranges, Moorabool and Colac Otway
- // A continued freeze on the Fire Services Property Levy



A STRONG, FAIR VICTORIA

Victoria is renowned as Australia's artistic, sporting and multicultural capital.

This year's Budget builds on this reputation, while also making sure Victoria continues to be proudly progressive, inclusive and fair.

Our creative state

Our state is known around the world for its creativity and culture.

This year's Budget invests in the industries and individuals who underpin our state's success, with \$82.7 million to support our galleries, museums and creative sector, including:

- // \$36.6 million to redevelop ACMI
- // \$34.8 million to improve the sustainability of operations and maintain collections for public enjoyment at key cultural institutions, including Museum Victoria
- // \$2.9 million to host the Australian Performing Arts Market in Victoria for six years

Australia's sporting capital

Victorians love sport. And from the biggest stadiums to the smallest community clubs, the *Victorian Budget 2018/19* invests in our state's proud sporting success.

This includes \$231 million to redevelop some of Victoria's most loved sporting venues, including a major redevelopment of Etihad Stadium, updating the National Sports Museum at the MCG and planning for further upgrades to Whitten Oval and Eureka Stadium.

Local clubs across Victoria will benefit from the biggest boost to community sport in the State's history. This Budget will provide \$242 million to upgrade facilities at suburban grounds, local clubs and high performance centres across the State. This includes:

- // \$82 million to encourage women and girls to participate in sport at all levels by making sure venues meet the needs of female players and officials, including developing and upgrading the Melbourne Victory Football Academy and Rugby League State Centre of Excellence



- // \$64.6 million to redevelop the State Netball and Hockey Centre, including six new indoor netball courts and an indoor hockey court
- // \$60 million for the Community Sports Infrastructure Fund to provide grants to community sports organisations, and \$5 million for Community Sports Infrastructure Loans, which will unlock up to \$100 million to upgrade local facilities
- // \$17.7 million for the Significant Sporting Events Program to expand our calendar of national and international sporting events
- // \$13.7 million for the State Sport Centres Trust, which is responsible for governing the Melbourne Sports Hub's four venues: Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre (MSAC), Lakeside Stadium, State Netball Hockey Centre, the MSAC Institute of Training, and the Victorian Institute of Sport

The Andrews Labor Government is also making it easier for kids to get involved in sport, including:

- // \$36.1 million to continue the Camps Schools and Excursions Fund, assisting families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities
- // \$1.1 million in grants to increase student participation in interschool sports



A fairer future for Victorians living with disability

Victorians living with disability deserve the same opportunities as every other Victorian.

In this year's Budget, we're ensuring that Victorians living with disability get the support they deserve. This includes:

- // \$288 million to help make sure students living with disability and learning difficulties get the support they need
- // \$9.2 million for continued delivery of the *State Disability Plan 2017-20* to boost access, inclusion and participation. This funding also includes a feasibility study to make Geelong a more accessible city, extending the reach of disability advocacy organisations, and expanding the Changing Places program to create 11 new, fully accessible public toilet and changing facilities
- // \$4.5 million to deliver the National Disability Insurance Scheme, giving people with disability more choice and control

Proudly multicultural

One of our state's biggest strengths is our diversity. Regardless of where you were born, or the language you first spoke, here in Victoria you can belong.

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* provides:

- // \$171 million for community infrastructure, such as cultural precincts, community centres, and aged care facilities, through an expansion to the Community Infrastructure and Cultural Precinct program
- // \$1.4 million to grow our calendar of multicultural events and festivals
- // \$300 000 for Multicultural Safety Ambassadors to help promote safety in our multicultural communities



Advancing self-determination

Better outcomes for Aboriginal people must be led by Aboriginal people. It's why when we came to office, the Andrews Labor Government committed to listening to Aboriginal Victorians. Since then we've made significant investments. This year's Budget will continue this work with \$116 million for self-determination and stronger communities.

This includes \$9 million to advance a treaty with Aboriginal Victorians and establish an Aboriginal Representative Body.

Economic inclusion for Aboriginal Victorians

Our investments will make sure more Aboriginal people are sharing in the benefits of our state's success. This year's Budget includes:

- // \$23 million to construct the Munarra Centre for Regional Excellence – a purpose built educational, sporting, cultural and community centre to provide pathways to employment and further education for Aboriginal Victorians in the Goulburn Murray region
- // \$1 million for the *Victorian First Peoples Creative Plan* to create opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Victorians in the creative sector
- // \$400 000 to develop a Barmah masterplan for a visitor precinct centred around the Dharnya Centre and Barmah Lakes, to support the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owners in developing business opportunities

Funding will also go to developing a strategy to increase employment and business opportunities for Aboriginal people in the field of natural resource management across relevant government organisations, including Parks Victoria.



The Andrews Labor Government has listened to Aboriginal Victorians, and made record investments of more than \$116 million in this Budget for self-determination and stronger communities



**Fairer, more inclusive,
more equal**

Here in Victoria, equality is not negotiable. And over the past three years, the Andrews Labor Government has made important investments and improvements to make our state more fair and more inclusive.

The Government is supporting equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI) Victorians including:

- // \$3.4 million to address current gaps in support for LGBTI Victorians within our health care system
- // \$2 million to establish a Pride Events and Festivals Fund to deliver core LGBTI events in Victoria. As well as providing an opportunity for Victoria’s LGBTI community to come together and celebrate, these events are integral to promoting inclusion and fighting discrimination



Protecting our environment

From Mildura to Mallacoota, our state's environment underpins our health and prosperity. In this Budget, the Andrews Labor Government will continue to protect our environment and natural resources, investing a further \$266 million in a range of initiatives. This includes:

- \$70.6 million for Parks Victoria to manage and improve our parks
- \$35.9 million to modernise regional forestry agreements and improve surveying of forestry land
- \$19.9 million to strengthen the Environmental Protection Authority and ensure it's working to help protect our state's environment
- \$14.5 million to provide funding to councils and the recycling industry to ensure the continuing kerbside collection of household recyclable wastes
- \$13 million for the Shrine to Sea project to link Domain Gardens and the Shrine of Remembrance with Port Phillip Bay through better pedestrian and cycling links
- \$9.1 million to continue funding the EPA's illegal dumping strikeforce, to address illegal dumping of industrial waste in Victoria

- \$8.3 million to protect and improve our marine and coastal environments around Port Phillip Bay
- \$7.9 million to clean up contaminated public land, including sites across regional Victoria
- \$3 million to protect our faunal emblems
- \$2.1 million to transform the former Olinda Golf Course into public parklands
- \$1.3 million to tackle weeds and pests

The Government is also providing \$65 million to secure and protect our waterways, future proof our dams and regional irrigation network and increase the efficiency of water use. Projects include:

- \$32 million for the East Grampians Water Supply Project, to construct approximately 1 600 km of stock and domestic pipeline, providing a secure water supply to up to 530 000 ha of unserved land in the Grampians region
- \$10.2 million to secure our water supply in the Mitiamo district to construct a reticulated water supply for the 75 000 ha area surrounding the town of Mitiamo in north central Victoria
- \$8 million for Victoria's contribution to the Murray-Darling Basin Authority

Building strong communities

The *Victorian Budget 2018/19* also provides additional funds to help build the projects that matter to local communities including:

- // An additional \$50 million for the Growing Suburbs Fund, building on the \$150 million already provided, to fund local community infrastructure in Melbourne's fast-growing suburbs
- // \$30 million in grants available under *Pick My Project*, a new community building fund



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