

FACT SHEET

Barwon Regional Partnership

Listening - Following consultation with our communities, we have identified the following priorities:

Enabling our children and young people through education and training – leading to higher educational aspirations, engagement & achievement rates, particularly in disadvantaged communities;

Transforming our industries and jobs for the future – leading to scaled up enterprises attracting entrepreneurial businesses and decentralised service sectors in the region;

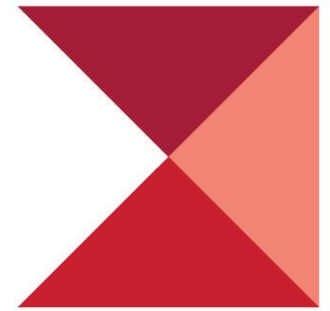
Ensuring an inclusive, safe, healthy and resilient community for us all – where people, disadvantaged by birth or place, can break the cycle, including best practice early interventions and place-based approaches;

Making our city and town centres places people want to live and visit – including revitalising central Geelong;

Improving the transport network across the region with effective and efficient transfer of goods – focus on rail and creating an integrated, accessible, sustainable private, public transport network;

Building the visitor economy throughout the region – support and facilitate transformative visitor economy projects for the region, particularly the Great Ocean Road;

Protecting our region's natural assets and reducing the impacts of climate change – including advance new technologies and innovation in the generation of renewable energy and energy storage.



And delivering - Budget 2018/19 outcomes:

Partnership priorities supported in the Victorian Government Budget include:

- **\$1.3 million** for **Project Runway**, a collaborative pilot entrepreneurial ecosystem project led by **Runway Geelong** to grow industry and jobs and support scale-ups, innovation and research
- **\$1.6 million** for **Skilling the Bay** to raise educational attainment levels and improve pathways to employment in the Geelong area
- Funding to expand the **Geelong Project** to four more government secondary schools to address student wellbeing, homelessness and disengagement.
- **\$153.2 million** for the **Geelong City Deal**, including funding towards implementation of the Shipwreck Coast Master Plan Stage 2, development of the Geelong Convention and Exhibition Centre and the revitalisation of central Geelong
- A share of **\$25 million** for continuation of the **Community Crime Prevention Program** to fund local crime prevention initiatives, develop positive promotion of local communities and promote positive results of local crime prevention projects
- **\$4.8 million** to **prepare the Barwon region for climate change** with a focus on emergency management, maintenance and renewal of coastal infrastructure on public land, and landscape scale adaptation
- A share of **\$11 million** for the **Victorian Mobile Project Round 4**, building on the Government's existing commitment to remove mobile black spots in regional Victoria



Key investments in the 2018/19 Budget relevant to all Regional Partnership regions

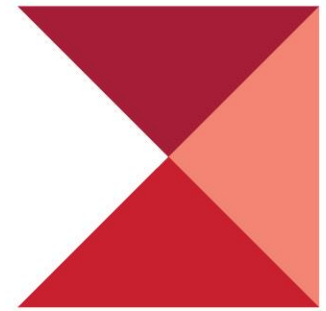
The Barwon region will share in a range of significant state-wide investments including:

- **More than \$941 million for better regional roads across the state, including:**
 - \$333 million for regional road restoration
 - \$261 million for road upgrades in regional Victoria
 - \$229 million for Continuing Towards Zero, providing safety upgrades to our regional road network
 - \$100 million for grants to rural councils to undertake local road remediation projects
 - \$17.4 million to establish Regional Roads Victoria
- **\$303.8 million to create over 30,000 additional training places**
- **\$188.7 million for regional rail infrastructure and new regional trains**
- **\$180.8 million to build or upgrade 60 regional schools**
- **\$171.9 million for TAFE free** for priority courses from 1 January 2019. Priority courses include those related to construction, the NDIS, agriculture, infrastructure and specific regional priorities
- **\$70.6 million for the health of our parks** and to grow their economic benefits for regional Victorians
- **\$60 million** to extend the **Community Sport Infrastructure Fund** to improve access and participation in community sports
- **\$51.1 million** to grow **Victoria's visitor economy** through funding for international, interstate and intrastate marketing campaigns and expansion of the Regional Events Fund and Major Events Fund
- **\$50 million** for a boost to the **Regional Health Infrastructure Fund** to enable rural and regional health services to maintain assets and respond to population changes and the changing health needs of local communities
- **\$33.9 million** to **build, expand and improve early years infrastructure** across Victoria
- **\$26.2 million** for **regional rail sustainability** to enable V/Line to retain service levels and standards in connecting regional Victoria
- **\$22.7 million** for **pedestrian and cycling paths** across Victoria
- **\$22.2 million** for **additional regional bus services** and improvements to the regional traveller journey experience
- **\$20 million** for **rural council transformation**, a grants program to help rural councils across Victoria improve their financial viability
- **\$16.1 million** to grow **Victoria's agricultural exports, farms and tourism**
- **\$3 million** for **recontracting of regional bus services.**



Other significant 2018/19 Budget investments in the Barwon region

- **\$689.5 million** to expand the **Lara Prison Precinct** with construction of a 700-bed maximum security facility for men.
- **\$50 million** for detailed planning and technical investigations for the **Geelong fast rail and airport rail** projects
- **\$40 million** to upgrade **Princes Highway West** between Colac and the South Australian border
- **\$35.6 million** to **build and upgrade schools**, comprising:
 - \$20.2 million for construction of the new Armstrong Creek West Primary School to open in 2020
 - \$3.9 million for the design and early works of the new Armstrong Creek Secondary School
 - \$2.1 million for Barwon Valley School to refurbish classrooms and facilities in poor condition
 - \$1.9 million for Torquay P-6 College to upgrade and modernise facilities
 - \$1.6 million for Highton Primary School to upgrade and modernise facilities
 - \$1.5 million for Northern Bay P-12 College Wexford Campus to upgrade facilities
 - \$1.2 million for Oberon South Primary School to upgrade and modernise facilities
 - \$1.3 million for Surfside Primary School to upgrade and modernise facilities
 - \$0.6 million for Ceres Primary School to deliver the next stage works of their master plan
 - \$0.6 million for Moolap Primary School to upgrade and modernise facilities
 - \$0.4 million for Wallington Primary School to upgrade and modernise facilities
 - \$0.3 million for Teesdale Primary to upgrade and modernise facilities
- **\$11 million** to **protect the Surf Coast, Bellarine and the Bass Coast**, including implementing the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes protections and upgrades to significant parks, wetlands and waterways in the area
- **\$9.9 million** to upgrade the **Hamilton Highway** between Geelong and Cressy
- **\$9.8 million** to upgrade **Forrest-Apollo Bay Road**
- **\$0.6 million** to plan an upgrade to **Grubb Road, Ocean Grove**
- Funding for **Geelong Performing Arts Centre** operations
- Funding for the **Geelong Tech School**
- Funding to upgrade the main pavilion, change rooms, oval amenities and netball amenities at the **St Mary's Football and Netball Club**
- Funding for upgrades to facilities and courts at **Ocean Grove Tennis Club**
- Funding for an **Industry Capability Network** representative in Barwon to help local businesses win work on government projects
- Funding to plan upgrades for the **Portarlington-Queenscliff Road**
- Funding for **South Barwon Football and Netball Club** to upgrade change rooms and spectator facilities
- Funding for a 30-bed **alcohol and other drug residential rehabilitation service** in Barwon.



New initiatives in 2018/19 to empower local communities

- **Pick My Project** is a **\$30 million** initiative that will enable local residents to nominate and decide on funding priorities in their region. Projects between \$20,000 and \$200,000 will be eligible, with funding spread between the nine Regional Partnership Regions and six Metropolitan Partnership Regions.
- **My Victoria** will provide Victorian communities and businesses with unprecedented access to the information they need to facilitate economic growth and create new jobs for Victorians. My Victoria will display Government infrastructure combined with location intelligence such as demographics and market analysis in a map-based format. The government has created My Victoria to make information more accessible, consumable and relevant for all Victorians.

Our achievements over the past two years

The Barwon Regional Partnership is about transforming the way the region's diverse communities work with governments, and together, to make our vision for the region a reality.

The Partnership has been effective over the past two years in bringing: different levels of government together, getting people talking, finding solutions together and addressing issues that matter to our communities. Our advocacy has contributed to a number of outcomes, including:

- **Major investment in digital upgrades for schools** across Geelong, the Surf Coast and the Bellarine Peninsula so they have faster internet speeds and virtual conferencing systems;
- **Digital planning** for the Barwon region is underway. A priority for all Partnerships in 2016, the Government responded by investing \$45 million in regional digital connectivity. The Partnership has been working with Government, and the community, to develop a digital plan tailored to our region's needs; the Government is also investing in **free public WiFi in Geelong**;
- The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is contributing towards a **Barwon Housing and Homelessness Strategy**, due for completion in mid-2018;
- **\$11.7 million to revitalise central Geelong**, as part of initiatives to make our city and town centres places people want to live and visit;
- The establishment of the **Great Ocean Road Taskforce** to improve governance of the Great Ocean Road;
- **Improved mobile coverage for passengers on the Geelong line.**

For more information on the Barwon Regional Partnership, go to <http://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/regional-partnerships/barwon>