Regional Development Victoria

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

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# Chief Executive foreword

#### RDV has delivered significant outcomes for rural and regional communities under difficult circumstances caused by natural disasters and the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Despite the significant challenges, the regional Victorian economy has remained strong. Our regions generated $80.5 billion, 18 per cent of Victoria’s economic output. Regional Victoria was responsible for a third of the state’s total exports. This has been a year of significant government investment in rural and regional Victoria, from the $2.6 billion ‘Delivering for Regional and Rural Victoria’ program, to regional stimulus projects as part of the state-wide $2.7 billion Building Works Package, as well as bushfire recovery programs and other stimulus and economic recovery initiatives.

RDV’s connection to local communities, businesses and industries has never been more important. We are part of the communities we work with – we understand their diverse needs, opportunities and challenges. This year we have supported communities struggling with the compounding challenges of bushfires, drought, economic transition and coronavirus. We have been working hand in hand to understand their unique issues and opportunities, making sure regional insights and ideas are brought to the centre of government.

We have provided valued support to businesses and community organisations – regardless of their size or location, from those struggling to keep afloat through the pandemic to those pivoting and looking to expand – because every business and every community is important for Victoria’s prosperity. We’ve worked hard to bring all levels of government together, direct investment where it is needed most, and build genuine partnerships that will drive growth.

RDV’s expertise and leadership in community-led recovery has been a lifeline for many communities this year. It’s at the core of what we do. Our support to the Abalone Co-op in Mallacoota after the devastating summer bushfires saw RDV working across government to ensure the town’s major employer could continue operating through its busiest time of year. We have worked with communities and supported vulnerable businesses impacted by drought, bushfires and coronavirus so that our regions not only survive the emergency but emerge stronger.

We have worked in partnership to deliver numerous infrastructure and community projects this year, to help position rural and regional Victoria to take a leading role in the state’s recovery. Across the state, from the Benalla Splash Park to Lake Tyrell, the Mildura Riverfront to Ballarat Station Precinct or Cape Bridgewater, and the new GovHubs in Ballarat, and the Latrobe Valley currently under construction, infrastructure investments delivered with local partners are making rural and regional Victoria an even better place to live, work and invest.

RDV has continued its focus on major initiatives that have the potential to transform rural and regional communities and/or to shift the dial on previously intractable issues. Important progress was made on the 10-year, $370 million Geelong City Deal this year, with the release of the Geelong City Deal Implementation Plan. The Plan sets out the steps and timelines for all three levels of government as we work together to revitalise Geelong and unlock the potential of the Great Ocean Road.

Regional Partnerships have also played a critical role this year, working on identifying priorities and addressing challenges. Prior to the introduction of coronavirus pandemic restrictions, targeted events tackled game changing issues, such as digital connectivity and youth unemployment, and brought together ministers, government, community and business leaders in new and innovative ways. In response to the pandemic, the Regional Partnerships convened roundtables with business and community leaders to help government understand the impacts of coronavirus and identify key opportunities for economic recovery.

RDV has continued to transform, bringing a stronger evidence base to the work we do, strengthening our whole-of-government role, working more closely with disadvantaged communities, and piloting new ways of working so that regional development is inclusive and strategic. An important focus in the coming year will be the development of Regional Economic Development Strategies (REDS) to scope future-focused growth opportunities and drive high impact investment.

No doubt, the coming year will be challenging as we recover from the pandemic, but we know our regions are keen to take advantage of strategic opportunities to drive a regional renaissance. RDV looks forward to continuing to support regional economies, harness the skills and innovation of communities, and work in partnership to build more a prosperous, diverse and inclusive rural and regional Victoria. Our rural and regional towns are known for overcoming challenges through ingenuity and partnership. RDV is proud to be part of these communities, and to remain a trusted partner into the future.

Beth Jones
Deputy Secretary Rural and Regional Victoria
Chief Executive Regional Development Victoria

# RDV Executive team

Beth Jones
Deputy Secretary Rural and Regional Victoria

Chief Executive Regional Development Victoria

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# Regional Victoria – a vital part of our state

Rural and regional Victoria is home to one in four Victorians and accounts for 730,000 jobs and 25 per cent of the state’s small businesses.\* It generates a regional economy of over $80.5 billion that contributes more than 18 per cent to the Victorian economy.

\*defined as employing between 1-19 staff

# Regional Development Victoria

RDV is the Victorian Government’s lead agency for developing rural and regional Victoria. A statutory authority operating within the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR), RDV facilitates economic and community development in rural and regional Victoria.

#### Purpose

RDV partners with local communities and businesses to build stronger, more diverse and resilient regions. It focuses on the unique strengths in each region to ensure government investment is targeted and impactful and is working to shift the dial on some of the more persistent challenges so that rural and regional Victoria remains a great place to live, work and invest.

RDV plays an important role joining up government in rural and regional Victoria. It works closely with different departments across all levels of government and local communities to understand the issues that are most important to rural and regional Victorians, and to bring their insights, ideas and experience to the centre of government. Another core role for RDV is supporting rural and regional communities and businesses through natural disasters, emergencies and unplanned events - providing advice, facilitating solutions, convening recovery committees and driving longer term, sustainable recovery.

# Organisational structure

RDV sits within the Rural and Regional Victoria (RRV) group of DJPR. The RRV group consists of regional teams and enabling functions, which support RDV teams to achieve their objectives. These include:

* Office of the Deputy Secretary
* Commercial
* Strategy and Policy
* Transformation and Performance

RDV delivers Victorian Government facilitation, investment and support throughout rural and regional areas across five regions:

* Barwon South West
* Gippsland
* Grampians
* Hume
* Loddon Mallee

# Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund

Since July 2015, the Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund (RJIF) has been the Victorian Government's primary mechanism for driving economic and community development in regions.

It invests to grow jobs, build infrastructure and strengthen communities throughout rural and regional Victoria. The RDV-managed fund has three main components:

* Regional Infrastructure Fund
* Regional Jobs Fund
* Stronger Regional Communities Program

Throughout 2019-20, RDV continued to work with proponents to progress commitments from the initial $500 million RJIF investment.

In 2019-20, an additional $30 million in new funding was made available for RJIF as part of the Victorian Government’s $2.6 billion Delivering for Regional and Rural Victoria Program.



### Regional Jobs Fund

The Regional Jobs Fund (RJF) provides Victorian Government financial assistance primarily to businesses seeking to develop and expand operations in regional Victoria.

The aim of the RJF is to attract new investment, create new jobs and retain existing jobs in rural and regional Victoria and to support businesses to improve their productivity and competitiveness.

In addition, Food Source Victoria (a targeted grants program under the RJF) builds supply-chain alliances across the agrifood sector to increase exports, industry capabilities, resilience and value generation. Food Source Victoria funding closed on 30 June 2019, but program implementation continues.

### Regional Infrastructure Fund

The Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) seeks to assist the growth of Victoria by providing grants for infrastructure projects that have the potential to stimulate economic activity in rural and regional Victoria.

The objectives of the RIF are:

* To increase economic and social benefits through improved community access and usability of precincts.
* To increase economic and social benefits through investment in strategic infrastructure.

### Stronger Regional Communities Program

The Stronger Regional Communities Program (SRCP) helps rural and regional towns attract families and young people to live and work in regional Victoria. It does so by investing in community-led initiatives and partnerships that create or enhance conditions for economic growth, and build resilient, diversified and sustainable economies.

Strong communities are characterised by high levels of social and economic participation.

They demonstrate effective decision-making and strong networks and are attractive to people considering moving to regional Victoria.

SRCP objectives are to:

* Improve the liveability of rural and regional towns in order to attract and retain families and young people.
* Increase community capability and provide increased opportunities to collaborate, innovate and drive change.
* Increase community resilience to social, economic and environmental shocks.

RDV invests in community-led initiatives and partnerships that create or enhance the conditions for economic growth and build resilient, diversified and sustainable economies.

### Regional Partnerships

This year, Victoria’s nine Regional Partnerships have been instrumental in ensuring the voices of rural and regional communities are heard by government.

The year commenced with three successful Deep Dive engagement events in Loddon Campaspe, Wimmera Southern Mallee and Great South Coast. Each event explored a specific issue and was well attended with community members and business leaders given the opportunity to work directly with Ministers and senior government representatives.

Deep Dives planned for the remaining Partnerships were put on hold due to the coronavirus pandemic. As a consequence, the Partnerships focussed on a series of online Regional Roundtables to map local impacts and visions for recovery. These sessions enabled the government to hear directly from community and business leaders across rural and regional Victoria to better understand the impacts of coronavirus on rural and regional communities.

In addition to these more formal events, each Partnership continued meeting virtually with stakeholders and community members to refine thinking on regional priorities and develop related projects.

Digital connectivity, access and equity were priorities in 2019-20, with each Partnership developing and launching its own Regional Digital Plan. The plans contain comprehensive and up-to-date information on digital infrastructure requirements, service gaps and skills needs across the regions, and recommendations on how these gaps can be addressed.

Critical research developed by the Partnerships highlighted the most important social issues for the regions. The Central Highlands Regional Partnership launched its Homelessness in the Central Highlands report that identified the need for more long-term public housing options in the region. The Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership launched its Active Living Census as part of the Healthy Heart of Victoria project to analyse the activity levels of locals and explore options to improve their health.

The Loddon Campaspe Partnership also hosted a Deep Dive to focus on helping young people transition from education to employment. Funding announcements for key projects were welcomed throughout the year. Highlights included $20 million to complete the Warracknabeal Education Precinct (Wimmera Southern Mallee and Great South Coast), $1.6 million for the Great Ocean Road Action Plan, $3 million towards Coastcare Victoria (Barwon) and $570,000 to establish the Hub for Premium Produce in the Central Highlands.

The Regional Partnerships look forward to playing a key role as their regions continue to navigate and recover from the impact of coronavirus, which for many regions, is in addition to long periods of drought and the devastating bushfires in the months preceding the pandemic.



# Reporting on Regional Partnerships

All nine Regional Partnerships involve local community and business leaders working alongside representatives from state and local government, and Regional Development Australia (RDA). The Partnerships ensure that local views are presented directly to government.

## Barwon

This year the Barwon Regional Partnership focused on local place-based initiatives with a social, economic and environmental emphasis.

Highlights for the Barwon Regional Partnership included the following initiatives and funding towards the Partnership's priorities:

* $100 million for the Western Rail Plan to reduce crowding, support population growth and enable fast rail on the Geelong line, and $2 million for design and scoping work to duplicate the track between South Geelong and Waurn Ponds stations.
* $13.5 million from the Building Better TAFEs Fund to upgrade the Gordon Culinary School at Gordon TAFE’s city campus and deliver state-of-the-art training facilities for cookery and hospitality students in Geelong.
* Creating supported, fair and nurturing Barwon communities by developing the Barwon Blueprint, a framework to address persistent intergenerational disadvantage of vulnerable young people, children and families.
* Completing the Barwon Regional Digital Plan to address issues of ability, accessibility and affordability.
* The dedicated Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority was established after advocacy and extensive consultation led by an independent taskforce.
* Completing the $1.3 million Project Runway to help create new programs to assist small and medium scale businesses.
* Advocating for priority projects as part of the $370 million Geelong City Deal.
* Completing the Geelong Project to extend outcomes in the seven most disadvantaged schools in the region, with early intervention to prevent homelessness by keeping young people at home, in school and linked to the community.

##### Long-term outcomes presented in the Barwon Partnership Outcomes Roadmap

* Transport connectivity – an integrated, accessible and progressive transport network.
* Liveability – vibrant, liveable cities and towns.
* Climate change – protected environments and prepared, resilient communities.
* Business and innovation – a flourishing culture of entrepreneurship, innovation and growth.
* Equity and wellbeing – supported, fair and nurturing Barwon communities.
* Education – strong education futures for our young people.
* Tourism – a thriving and sustainable Barwon tourism economy.

## Great South Coast

In 2019-20, the Great South Coast Regional Partnership continued to collaborate with a range of local stakeholders, including local government, education and community organisations. Initiatives included:

* Launching the Great South Coast Regional Digital Plan as part of the deep dive in Warnambool in March to improve digital connectivity as an enabler of regional economic diversification.
* Completing a feasibility study with South West TAFE to explore the possibility of establishing community education hubs in Warrnambool, Hamilton and Portland to support local tertiary students studying remotely.
* Working with Deakin University, the private sector and local government to understand high-value investment opportunities in agriculture, new energy and tourism.
* Finalising a Regional Disability Sector Workforce Needs Analysis and Action Plan to ensure the sector attracts and retains a skilled workforce.
* Advocating for investment to upgrade the Princes Highway in the Great South Coast and the region’s principal road network to support economic productivity and community connectedness.
* Developing the Great South Coast Creative Industry Strategy, partnering with Regional Arts Victoria, Creative Victoria, local government, Aboriginal and creative communities.

##### Long-term outcomes presented in the Great South Coast Partnership Outcomes Roadmap

* A strong and diverse Great South Coast economy with more local jobs and a growing workforce.
* Accessible, quality education and career pathways that give people of all ages an opportunity to realise their potential.
* A thriving arts and culture industry, and a sustainable environment with a celebrated natural beauty.
* A healthy, safe and resilient Great South Coast community.
* Roads, transport and infrastructure that drive prosperity, safety and liveability across the Great South Coast.

## Wimmera Southern Mallee

The Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Partnership continued to support a broad range of local stakeholders across the region.

Initiatives and funding provided towards Partnership priorities included:

* $20 million to complete the Warracknabeal Education Precinct, which will build shared facilities for the town’s primary, secondary and special schools and generate work for local building contractors.
* $2.5 million for new equipment for Longerenong College’s AgTIDE (Agriculture Technology Innovation, Development and Extension) DATA (Demonstration of Agricultural Technology Applications) Farm to encourage uptake of technology among young people in agriculture.
* $2 million for Longerenong College to refurbish an agri-business centre that will benefit local students and attract others from across southeast Australia.
* $300,000 funding announced for mental health outreach support across the region.
* Ongoing support for the Wimmera Mallee Tourism Destination Management Plan implementation via the Unearth Amazing campaign.
* The BYFIVE project initiated by the Partnership (with involvement from various government departments, the Murdoch Children’s Research Institute and local government) won a Victorian Early Years Award for Continuity of Early Learning.
* BYFIVE’s Special Paediatric Support Partnership moved to telehealth during the coronavirus pandemic to make paediatric support more accessible for families, and maternal and child health nurses.
* Commenced the Regional Innovation Project, a comprehensive review of cross-sector strategic planning practices, to help develop a recommended model to resolve complex regional economic and social issues.

##### Long-term outcomes presented in the Wimmera Southern Mallee Partnership Outcomes Roadmap

* Economic diversification – a vibrant economy with a thriving, innovative agriculture industry and emerging tourism opportunities.
* Telecommunications – high quality, reliable digital connectivity and services.
* Connectivity – public transport and roads; safe, accessible and connected roads and rail.
* Strong local government – sustainable, connected and change-ready local government.
* Energy – affordable, sustainable and renewable energy.
* Rural and remote funding – focused funding that drives infrastructure investment and business growth into rural areas.
* Early years – equity of access to early years education and care.
* Family violence – Wimmera Southern Mallee families are safe and supported.
* Workforce – a high performing, valued and empowered workforce.
* Health and education – quality health and education for all.
* Youth disadvantage – young people in Wimmera Southern Mallee reach their full potential.

## Central Highlands

The Central Highlands Regional Partnership maintained its focus on priority areas for the region. These included:

* The Central Highlands was Australia’s first region to comprehensively map its digital connectivity, published in the Partnership-driven Central Highlands Digital Plan (September 2019). Partnership advocacy also secured funding to address 19 mobile blackspots, and $390,000 to establish digital hubs.
* The Central Highlands Prevention Lab worked with business and community leaders to develop new models to address obesity rates in the region.
* The Partnership worked with the service sector and Victorian Government departments to deliver a regional-specific evidence base for homelessness
that was published in the Homelessness in the Central Highlands Summary Report.
* The Partnership was a founding member of the Grampians New Energy Taskforce (GNet) that released its Roadmap to Zero Emissions in May 2020.
* In support of the region’s profile as a centre of outstanding agriculture, the Partnership helped secure $570,000 from the Victorian Government to establish the Hub for Premium Produce.

##### Long-term outcomes of the Central Highlands Regional Partnership

* Agriculture – productive, diverse and resilient food and agriculture industry.
* Workforce planning – long-term work opportunities and a skilled labour force that meets the needs of the market today and in the future.
* Regional Land-use Planning – cohesive land-use planning that brings broad regional benefit through current, shared strategic direction and targets.
* Homelessness – less people experience homelessness as affordable housing is broadly available and support services are accessible.
* A carbon-neutral region – zero net greenhouse gas emissions in the Central Highlands by 2050.
* Better health – a healthy community that embraces physical activity and healthy eating, reducing preventable disease.
* Transport connectivity – integrated and accessible transport across the Central Highlands, enhancing our economic vibrancy and social cohesion.
* Digital connectivity – digital access for all, unlocking vital improvements in productivity, education, employment, health and lifestyle.
* Visitor economy – a vibrant, growing visitor economy.
* Advanced manufacturing – an innovative, collaborative manufacturing industry.
* Shared services – transformational rural and regional council service delivery.

The Partnership continued to play a central role in economic recovery planning, drawing on the advice from communities in the region.

## Ovens Murray

The Ovens Murray Regional Partnership ended 2019-20 by focusing on action to prepare for challenging times ahead, and support recovery from the bushfires and coronavirus.

Partnership highlights included:

* Launching the Ovens Murray Digital Plan, and implementing digital initiatives in partnership with businesses, communities, government, telco providers and stakeholders in the tourism, education and health sectors.
* Helping vulnerable young people share their stories about mental health experiences and needs through the Deep Dive newspaper, developed ‘by young people for young people’ as part of the Wodonga Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing Deep Dive Engagement Project.
* Implementing Buy from North East Victoria, a place-based online store and product delivery network that helps communities buy local and promotes digital inclusion for businesses via a simple no-cost e-commerce platform.
* Funding for initiatives identified by the Partnership as regional priorities, including:

­ $2.6 million for Wodonga Logistics Precinct Gas Gate

­ $1.9 million for Ride High Country - Private Sector Activation

­ $1.5 million for Mount Buffalo Activation - Wilderness Eco Pods.

##### Long-term outcomes presented in the Ovens Murray Regional Partnership Outcomes Roadmap

* Transport – communities and industries connected to each other and major service centres.
* Health and wellbeing – healthy and engaged communities: a great place to grow up and grow old.
* Economic development – prosperous and innovative economy growing our key and emerging sectors.
* Education and skills – 21st century education for future generations and lifelong learning for all.
* Digital future – leading the way in digital inclusion, innovation and entrepreneurship.
* Climate change and renewable energy – renewable energy future protecting our natural environment and delivering community benefits.

## Goulburn

This year the Goulburn Regional Partnership progressed a number of strategic initiatives aligned with the long-term priorities in its Outcomes Roadmap. These included:

* Finalising the business case for revitalising Seymour, which involves identifying urban infrastructure and social projects that address disadvantage, economic stimulation, and targeted investment in public open spaces, community infrastructure and education services.
* Completing a masterplan for Activation of Lake Eildon that involves developing business cases for projects to support tourism development.
* Developing the community-led Goulburn Murray Irrigation District Resilience Strategy to increase resilience in areas such as research and development, circular economy, land-use planning and agricultural futures.
* Finalising the Goulburn Regional Digital Plan by identifying recommendations that will increase access to and uptake of digital technologies in the region.

Other Partnership activities included:

* Increasing the uptake of renewable energy by identifying opportunities in pumped hydro energy storage and bio-waste.
* Creating pathways to employment for Aboriginal people in natural resource management (NRM) by establishing a support model and formalising collaboration between NRM agencies and employers in the region.

##### Long-term outcomes presented in the Goulburn Partnership Outcomes Roadmap

* Population wellbeing – people of the Goulburn region are fit, healthy and engaged across all ages and abilities, regardless of location.
* Education and employment – people of the Goulburn region have the skills to be lifelong learners and to engage in the local workforce at a level that suits them.
* Reducing disadvantage – people of the Goulburn region enjoy equal opportunity to lead healthy and prosperous lives.
* Growth corridor – Goulburn’s urban environments are viable and thriving.
* Economy – Goulburn is home to a diversified and thriving economy that provides opportunities for workers of all ages.

## Mallee

The Mallee Regional Partnership continued to support diverse local stakeholders throughout the region. Initiatives undertaken during the year included:

* Initiating a $60,000 pilot for the Small Town Big Difference Fund to support community projects that improve the amenity, skills, access to services and appeal of small towns (local government and Community Banks will also contribute to provide overall funding of $120,000)
* Conducting a series of workshops to better understand how to address entrenched disadvantage in the region.
* Completing the Mallee Economic Growth Strategy and beginning implementation through projects including a Food Industry Supply Chain Analysis, a Hydrogen Economy Roadmap and refreshing the Mallee Skills Demand Profile.
* Supported the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) to complete the Mallee Digital Plan and develop the New Energy Roadmap.
* Identifying alternative ways to provide primary health care to address issues caused by shortage of GP's in the Mallee region.
* Finalising the industry-supporting program of research developed by the Mallee Regional Innovation Centre during its first year of operation.
* Progressing work on the Robinvale Community Hub (within Robinvale College), visitor facilities at Lake Tyrrell, and plans for the Murray River Adventure Trail and expanding the Silo Art Trail.
* Completing the Robinvale Housing Strategy and confirming funding for two worker housing projects.

##### Long-term outcomes presented in the Mallee Partnership Outcomes Roadmap

* Increased growth in the agriculture and food manufacturing sectors.
* A more diverse economy.
* A skilled workforce meeting current and future industry needs.
* Connected communities with equitable access to services.
* Resilient small Mallee townships and settlements.
* Health and wellbeing for all.
* Addressing entrenched disadvantage.

## Loddon Campaspe

The Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership progressed its priorities through strong consultation and evidence-based investigations during the year. These are highlighted in the Regional Economic Growth Strategy.

The Partnership hosted a Deep Dive to focus on supporting local youth to transition from education to employment. The session explored data that shows Loddon Campaspe has one of the highest youth unemployment rates in the state, and that one in five young people in the region does not complete Year 12 (compared with one in ten across Victoria).

Half of the young people in the region don't continue with training or further education after Year 12, even though many jobs require higher qualifications. During the Deep Dive, young people shared their stories about what stops them staying in school to Year 12, why so many choose not to go on to higher education and what is needed to help them enter the workforce. Attendees then discussed solutions and pledged to take these forward.

Priority projects and initiatives included:

* Keep In Touch (KiT); a co-designed, youth focused outreach resource that supports positive youth mental health messaging and promotes help-seeking behaviours. The KiT van and app launched in October 2019 and services the entire region.
* Healthy Heart of Victoria initiative; designed to improve health and wellbeing outcomes throughout the region, the initiative helped improve public open spaces and recreation facilities and removed barriers to participation in physical activity. The initiative was informed by the Active Living Census that was completed this year.
* Walking together – Balak Kalik Manya; a four-year project to increase community connection with nature at two sites within Dja Dja Wurrung Country; Kalimna Park in Castlemaine and Wildflower Drive in Bendigo.

##### Long-term priorities presented in the Loddon Campaspe Partnership Outcomes Roadmap

* A growing economy – a strong, diverse economy that enables people to actively contribute to their community.
* Healthy Heart of Victoria – active communities, healthy settings and productive lives at all stages.
* Create the best start for every child – families and communities that give children the best start in life.
* Youth our critical asset – safe, supported and engaged young people.
* A great environment to live – our culture, heritage and environment is protected and enjoyed.
* A connected region – all people in the Loddon Campaspe region benefit from economic activity and access to services.

The Healthy Heart of Victoria initiative helped improve public open spaces and recreation facilities and remove barriers to participation in physical activity.

## Gippsland

The Gippsland Regional Partnership continued to advocate and drive regional priorities with local stakeholders, including the Gippsland Local Government Network, Committee for Gippsland, Regional Development Australia Gippsland and the community.

Partnership priority projects and initiatives included:

* Working to support local communities affected by the 2019-20 bushfires in East Gippsland and coronavirus.
* Establishing a refreshed Skills and Education Working Group comprised of regional leaders in the education sector.
* Continuing to focus on the food and fibre sector, including working with Food and Fibre Gippsland to develop a Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Export Hub project.
* Releasing the Gippsland Destination Management Plan Tourism 2030 in September 2019, in consultation with government, industry and the community.
* Launching the Gippsland Regional Digital Plan in November 2019 to help improve digital connectivity.

##### Long-term priorities presented in the Gippsland Regional Partnership Outcomes Roadmap

* Skills and education – Gippslanders have increased aspiration and improved infrastructure to participate and succeed in educations at all levels.
* Family and community wellbeing – Gippslanders are healthy and well and live in safe, stimulating and supportive environments.
* Connectivity – Gippsland’s transport network and digital technologies are current and well-functioning.
* New jobs and industry – Gippsland have a strong economy with diverse local job opportunities.
* Food and fibre – Gippsland’s food and fibre sector is a global leader in production, innovation and technology. The sector is open for new investment.
* Energy and resources – Gippsland have sustainable, secure and affordable energy and resources and considers new energy technologies.
* Visitor economy and tourism – Gippsland’s tourism industry is vibrant, thriving and delivers outstanding visitor experiences.

# Regional Development Australia

Regional Development Australia (RDA) is a partnership between the federal, state and territory, and local governments to support the growth and development of Australia's regions.

A national network of 52 RDA committees provides a strategic framework for economic growth in each region.

Each committee comprises local leaders with diverse skills and experience, as well as demonstrated networks within their region. Each committee member understands the challenges, opportunities and priorities within their local community and over the last year RDV has supported RDA Committees to increase their collaboration and alignment with Regional Partnerships.

The RDA committees work to:

* Identify areas of collaboration and opportunity between the State and Commonwealth Governments for regional Victoria, including opportunities to address cross-jurisdictional barriers faced by regional Victorians.
* Support informed regional planning.
* Consult and engage with the community on economic, social and environmental issues, solutions and priorities.
* Liaise with governments and local communities about government programs, services, grants and initiatives for regional development.
* Contribute to business growth plans and investment strategies, environmental solutions and social inclusion strategies in their region.
* Promote increased awareness of Australian Government programs in their RDA region.

There are six RDA committees in Victoria covering all parts of the state:

* Barwon South West
* Gippsland
* Grampians
* Hume
* Loddon Mallee
* Melbourne.

#### Case study: Double Triple Report sets agenda for regional recovery and growth

A collaboration between all regional RDA committees in Victoria, the Double Triple Report establishes a strategic agenda for the committees to support future growth and prosperity for rural and regional communities around the state.

The report is based on forecasting that regional Victoria’s population will double and its economic output will triple by 2040. Central to the ‘double triple’ agenda is improving the equity of service for regional communities and overall liveability throughout rural and regional Victoria.

The report identifies critical issues facing regional Victoria and proposes appropriate responses that involve key interventions from all levels of government. These interventions relate to digital connectivity, population management, workforce skills, new energy, place-based developments (including investment in affordable housing), and business competitiveness. The impact of coronavirus highlighted additional opportunities in these areas to support regional economic recovery.

# GovHubs

The Victorian Government is revitalising regional cities by creating new GovHubs in Ballarat, Bendigo and the Latrobe Valley.

GovHubs are part of a Victorian Government initiative to decentralise key operations to strengthen and grow regional communities and economies.

Once complete, they will encourage greater collaboration and innovation between government at state and local levels. Each GovHub will integrate a range of complementary government functions according to the characteristics of its location. Wherever possible, local employment and materials are being used in each build.

### Ballarat

The Victorian Government provided $47.8 million to help develop the Ballarat GovHub. Expected to be complete by 2021, the Ballarat GovHub will be home to up to 1000 Victorian Government employees, including up to 600 public sector positions relocated from Melbourne.

The facility will help revitalise the Ballarat CBD, generate long-term jobs growth, increase business confidence and encourage further private sector investment. The project will also create up to 500 jobs during construction.

The Ballarat GovHub is located on Crown land at the ‘Civic Hall Site’ in Ballarat’s CBD. Development Victoria leads the construction development in partnership with RDV, the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) and the City of Ballarat.

The project will complete a community, government and commercial precinct in the Ballarat CBD.

Complementary government activities and functions integrated into the GovHub include key tenants such as the State Revenue Office, VicRoads, Consumer Affairs Victoria, Service Victoria, the Department of Justice and Community Safety (DJCS), the Department of Education and Training (DET) and DJPR (including RDV).

RDV is working closely with all tenants to ensure a smooth transition to Ballarat in early 2021.

### Bendigo

The $90 million Bendigo GovHub will centralise the delivery of a range of government services and accommodate up to 1000 Victorian and local government workers to create a ‘one-stop-shop’ for customers at the same time as building a stronger and collaborative public sector presence in Bendigo.

The City of Greater Bendigo and various Victorian Government departments and agencies will be co-located in the new building. The Bendigo GovHub is designed to stimulate economic growth over the next decade, help revitalise the CBD and overcome a forecasted shortage of commercial office space. Investing in a purpose-built development on a key site in the city centre will help stimulate economic and job growth in the northern end of the city, and boost employment into the next decade.

Planning continues and completion is scheduled for mid-2022.

### Latrobe Valley

The Latrobe Valley GovHub will bring an additional 300 jobs to the Morwell CBD, as a part of the Victorian Government’s response to transitioning the Latrobe Valley following the closure of the Hazelwood Power Station.

Once complete, the three-storey, purpose-built facility will support economic growth, create jobs and enable industries of the future.

The building is being constructed by Castlerock Property as the lead contractor, with construction scheduled for completion late 2020 and tenancy forecast for early 2021.

Once complete, the $100 million Ballarat GovHub will be the third largest commercial timber structure in Australia and transform the Civic Hall site into a huge shared community space in the heart of Ballarat.

# Cross Border Commissioner

Luke Wilson continued as Victoria’s Cross Border Commissioner in 2019-20. While based in Wodonga, the role took the Cross Border Commissioner to every local government area along the 2500km border that Victoria shares with New South Wales (NSW) and South Australia. He met border residents, businesses, community groups, Regional Partnerships, local, state and federal government leaders and staff, and many border Members of Parliament and elected council officials.

During the year, the Cross Border Commissioner worked on a broad range of issues affecting border communities, including:

* Fire and fire recovery – helping border communities in northeast Victoria and Gippsland bring border issues to Victorian and New South Wales’ emergency management and recovery agencies.
* Worked with border communities in relation to border issues associated with coronavirus and coronavirus restrictions.
* Collaboration with state counterparts in New South Wales and South Australia to limit border closure impacts on businesses and the community, including permit systems for workers, and access to education and essential services.
* Supporting regional communities by managing hundreds of coronavirus enquiries from around Australia about Victoria’s border status.
* Addressing varied approaches and rules between states, such as those for L and P plate drivers, or multiple licensing for tradespeople.
* Discussing requirements for better cross border collaboration on shared issues, such as tourism marketing.
* Raising issues created due to different state rules and practices around TAFE access.
* Generating changes to Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) accreditation to make it easier for RSA holders to seek accreditation across states.

In addressing these issues, the Cross Border Commissioner worked with departments, regulators and other agencies in Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia. Some issues also involve Tasmania, such as L and P plate rules.

Work also continued with the NSW Cross Border Commissioner to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding, confirming the commitment of Victoria and New South Wales to work together on priority border issues. This agreement will help Cross Border Commissioners generate positive change.

# 2020 Victorian bushfires

Victoria’s bushfires in December 2019 and January 2020 resulted in catastrophic impacts to rural and regional communities around the state. Towns in North East Victoria and East Gippsland suffered significant loss. More than 1.4 million hectares were burnt, affecting all aspects of life including business and tourism, and causing flow-on effects for communities elsewhere in Victoria.

RDV leveraged its considerable disaster recovery experience, working with other government agencies and local government to support affected businesses and communities. Staff collaborated with local businesses and communities to gather intelligence to better understand economic impacts, including those associated with damaged produce, timber supplies, infrastructure, and reduced tourism.

RDV continues to work closely with Bushfire Recovery Victoria in supporting bushfire affected communities. Work will continue throughout 2020 and beyond to help impacted communities and businesses re-establish
and recover.

### Case study:

#### Rebuilding Mallacoota’s abalone plant

When the abalone processing plant burnt down in the bushfires that hit Mallacoota on New Year’s Eve, it hit the local community hard. The plant was the largest employer in town and had a long history processing and exporting prized single-shell molluscs.

RDV worked with the co-op to identify the necessary planning, fisheries and export approvals to refit its single remaining shed to be suitable to receive and handle abalone so it could continue operating during the busy winter season.

#### High Country Comeback event

The High Country Comeback farmers market at Port Melbourne in February enabled regional businesses to embark on the road to recovery after the summer’s bushfires. Backed by the Victorian Government, almost 6000 people attended and spent about $500,000 with over 95 businesses involved.

The event was a way for Melburnians to shop directly with businesses affected by the bushfires and promote travel back to the High Country.

# Supporting regional communities during coronavirus

The Victorian Government continues to provide economic support to help Victorian businesses, workers and communities to manage the impacts of coronavirus. A range of initiatives were put in place to keep regional Victorians connected, and showcase the value rural and regional Victoria brings to the state.

### Coronavirus support summary

* RDV supported the administration of the Business Support Fund and fast-track direct financial support of up to $10,000 to help businesses impacted by coronavirus restrictions to make it through restricted trading.
* RDV implemented the Regional Jobs Fund to facilitate the manufacturing of personal protective equipment (PPE). For example, RDV contributed funding to Med-Con, an Australian company that specialises in manufacturing of PPE. Med-Con is scheduled to produce 59 million masks by the end of 2020.
* RDV worked with regional communities and businesses to identify projects for the government’s consideration in developing a stimulus package. The stimulus package is delivering funding for 30 regional development and tourism infrastructure projects that were supporting our state's economy and creating local jobs during the coronavirus pandemic.
* RDV supported the nine Regional Partnerships across the state to conduct coronavirus recovery roundtables to identify impacts and opportunities. The roundtables provided a platform for developing locally owned response and recovery plans to support the regional economy and regional communities.

### Regional initiatives to support recovery from coronavirus

#### Barwon South West region

In response to the impact of coronavirus on our communities, the RDA Barwon South West Committee worked with the Barwon Regional Partnership and the Great South Coast Regional Partnership to provide insights and recommendations for an accelerated and diversified economic recovery. The region’s early recovery recommendations were developed through a series of regional stakeholder working groups and regional roundtables that will feed into ongoing recovery planning to ensure the action taken now will set up the regional economy and community for success into the future.

RDV and Agriculture Victoria worked together to help protect and support the state’s food supply chain. Integral to that support was the $50 million Agriculture Workforce Plan, which provides targeted support to agriculture, food processing and supply chain businesses in rural, regional and outer metropolitan areas to manage the impacts of coronavirus. The program is part of the Victorian Government’s $500 million Working for Victoria initiative that helps Victorians, including people who have lost their jobs as a result of coronavirus, find paid work that support the community.

Almost 4400 business impacted by coronavirus restrictions in the Barwon South West region, received up to $10,000 in direct financial support through the Business Support Fund.

#### Gippsland region

On 15 May 2020 Gippsland community and industry leaders and government came together for the Gippsland Regional Roundtable to discuss the impact of coronavirus. The session provided an opportunity for the Victorian Government to hear directly from regional leaders to better understand the impacts of coronavirus on rural and regional communities and start to identify the challenges and opportunities to reboot the local economy.

Local information obtained during the roundtable was valuable in conversations with State and Commonwealth Governments. Regional Partnership Chair, Maree McPherson, and RDA Chair, Richard Elkington, provided local insights and key messages directly to Government Ministers to inform recovery initiatives and policy making.

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In 2019-20, all departments and agencies, including RDV, worked with communities and businesses to manage the impact of coronavirus.

#### Grampians region

RDV Grampians supported businesses affected by coronavirus through Victorian Government initiatives including the Business Support Fund, Agriculture Workforce Plan and Tourism Recovery Support.

RDV also engaged directly with industry to better understand the economic effects of travel and other coronavirus restrictions and provide support wherever possible.

#### Hume region

Coronavirus created major challenges in the region and RDV Hume provided a range of measures to support local communities and businesses. These included accelerating investment proposals to boost local jobs and economic activity, helping PPE manufacturers, like Med Con in Shepparton to increase production, supporting recovery through approaches developed at regional stakeholder roundtables, and developing a list of shovel-ready projects to stimulate the regional economy.

RDV Hume also allocated a key member of our investment and trade team to help manage local delivery of the Business Support Fund and International Student Emergency Relief Fund, with numerous applications currently being addressed and processed. Ongoing support will include the Working for Victoria initiative that helps Victorian’s who have lost their jobs as a result of coronavirus to find paid work that support the community, as well as continuous business health check calls.

#### Loddon Mallee region

RDV supported the development of 15 projects within the Building Works Package worth $35.9 million across all 10 Loddon Mallee local government areas and two not-for-profit organisations. All projects are designed to create jobs, attract visitors and kickstart local economies impacted by this summer’s bushfires and coronavirus. RDV Loddon Mallee also facilitated six council investments through the Regional Infrastructure Fund and nine community investments through the Stronger Regional Communities Program.

In late May and early June, two regional roundtables were conducted to identify the impacts of coronavirus on the region’s businesses and communities. Hosted by the Regional Partnerships and the Loddon Mallee RDA Committee, the roundtables showed how travel and other coronavirus restrictions had affected various sectors. The need for improved digital connectivity came through as one of the strongest themes.

There was also a desire to capture some of the opportunities from coronavirus restrictions, particularly building on the successful growth of e-health services and the increasing realisation among people in Melbourne of the lifestyle advantages of regional living.

##### Case studies

###### The Victorian Country Market

The Victorian Country Market is an e-commerce platform supported by the Victorian Government to assist Victoria’s regional producers, makers and entertainers expand their customer base, reducing the impacts of bushfires and helping them through the coronavirus pandemic. It was launched in May 2020 during the Recharge 2020 Festival (rechargevic.com.au) and on Victoria Together – the Victorian Government’s online hub helping people stay connected during the pandemic.

More than 150 regional businesses and producers from around Victoria came on board and the market continued its online presence into the second half of 2020.

###### Let’s Stay Connected fund

The Let’s Stay Connected fund was established to reduce the potential impacts of loneliness and social isolation from physical distancing measures to control the spread of coronavirus, particularly for vulnerable and at-risk people including older people and people with pre-existing health conditions.

# Regional report

## Barwon South West

### Regional Director's report

Barwon South West is an economic region in the southwest of Victoria that extends from the tip of the Bellarine Peninsula at Queenscliff to the border with South Australia. It incorporates Victoria’s largest regional city, Geelong.

In 2019, the region had approximately 412,000 residents (the most populous in the State) and is located along the two major interstate transport corridors – the Princes Highway corridor and the Western Highway corridor.

Barwon South West has two distinct sub-regions; Barwon and the Great South Coast, each with equivalent strengths in tourism, and a commitment to workforce development and population growth.

The region features culturally significant Aboriginal sites including the UNESCO-listed Budj Bim, Tower Hill and the You Yangs. RDV invested funds into each of these sites to ensure the cultural heritage of these sites is preserved and celebrated. RDV Barwon South West is strongly committed to working closely with Traditional Owners to ensure these projects provide economic opportunities for Aboriginal people.

In 2019-20, RDV worked with a range of industries in the region to create nearly 700 jobs, exports valued at almost $100 million, and leveraged investments of over $200 million.

RDV is leading the implementation of the Geelong City Deal, which includes 33 major infrastructure projects. Investment from the State, Commonwealth and local governments as well as private sector investment, this is supporting projects valued at more than $382.5 million and the creation of up to 1000 jobs.

The Geelong City Deal Implementation Plan was released in October 2019 through the combined effort of RDV, DPC, the Commonwealth Government, local government and key stakeholders, including the G21 Geelong Region Alliance and the Regional Partnerships.

The Geelong City Deal will be a major boost to regional growth and enhance the visitor experience along the Great Ocean Road and in Geelong. Of particular significance is the commitment to the Geelong Convention and Exhibition Centre. This project will further position Geelong as a key destination for Victoria.

RDV is equally committed to delivering the next stage of the Shipwreck Coast Master Plan with the 12 Apostles Master Plan work now underway.

In 2019-20 RDV also undertook a diverse range of projects designed to strengthen the regional economy and improve social wellbeing including the Samaritan House and Formflow Housing Project, an innovative collaboration between Samaritan House Geelong, Deakin University, The Gordon TAFE and Geelong-based manufacturer FormFlow. The $500,000 project will provide architectural independent living for homeless men in the Geelong region, and strengthen advanced manufacturing capability in the region. RDV looks forward to continuing our work with local businesses and communities in the new financial year.

Paul Roth
Regional Director, Barwon South West



### Investment and trade

#### Food and fibre

##### Emerald Springs Pastoral Company

Emerald Springs Pastoral Company is the lead entity in a value chain alliance of approximately 14 livestock service providers in South West Victoria. RDV supported the expansion of the cattle backgrounding and quarantine facility in Mumbannar, near Portland. The expansion will create 10 new jobs and generate an estimated $182 million a year in export revenue across the supply chain.

##### Farm Foods Ltd

RDV supported Farm Foods Ltd and its alliance of meat, horticultural and ingredient suppliers from around regional Victoria to install specialist processing equipment and expand its Breakwater facilities. The investment will enable Farm Foods to deliver more plant-based food options for consumers around the world, as well as creating 12 new jobs and generating significant annual export value.

##### The Grange Farm Food

RDV helped The Grange Farm Food expand its on-farm garlic processing facility in Croxton East, near Hamilton to create processed garlic products (to replace imported dehydrated garlic) and generate six new local jobs.

##### Boost Your Business Vouchers – Round 4

Boost Your Business Vouchers were allocated to Australian Dairy Farms Group, Bellarine TechBio Pty Ltd and Yumbah Narrawong Pty Ltd to take new and innovative products to market and increase export and market development capabilities. Vouchers were also allocated to FE Technologies Pty Ltd, IXL Home Pty Ltd, FLAIM Systems Pty Ltd and Knuckeys Winchelsea Pty Ltd to enable these companies to access specialist business advice and assistance.

##### Think Fencing Pty Ltd

RDV supported Think Fencing Pty Ltd to invest $330,000 in new manufacturing plant and equipment for the company’s recycled PVC decking innovation project in Portarlington. The project will enable complex materials such as store loyalty cards and other poly vinyl chloride (PVC) products to be recycled and create nine new full-time jobs.

##### Boral Cement

RDV helped enable Boral’s new $130 million cement manufacturing and importing facility at Geelong Port. The operations created 16 new regional jobs and are designed to handle up to 1.3 million tonnes of cement products a year. The new facility will allow Boral to expand its product range and increase capacity to meet future demands from the Victorian construction industry.

##### Wine Growth Fund – Round 3

RDV helped Baie Wines, Mount Duneed Estate, Oakdene Wines Pty Ltd and Wine Geelong increase sales in domestic and international markets, improve wine tourism and support initiatives within the wine industry.

##### Industry collaboration

RDV worked closely with local industry peak bodies to encourage industry collaboration and facilitate innovation and economic growth. In addition to working with economic development teams in local government and AusIndustry, RDV collaborated with Advanced Fibre Cluster Geelong, Australian Graphene Industry Association, Cleantech Innovations Geelong, the Committee for Geelong, Engineering Network Geelong, G21 - Region Alliance, Geelong Agri-business Collective, Geelong Chamber of Commerce, Geelong Manufacturing Council, Tourism Greater Geelong and the Bellarine,
and Wine Geelong.

Key collaborations included:

* With the Office of the Lead Scientist and Deakin University, RDV facilitated an industry engagement briefing on space opportunities by Airbus Global for 29 local stakeholders as part of its national roadshow.
* Industry 4.0 represents an exciting new opportunity that local manufacturers were able to explore with hands-on workshops in Geelong and Warrnambool, organised by RDV in collaboration with the Advanced Manufacturing Industry 4.0 Hub at Swinburne University.
* The inaugural Regional Innovation for a Circular Economy (RICE) conference in Geelong was organised by RDV, in association with AusIndustry, Barwon South West Waste and Resource Recovery Group, City of Greater Geelong, Deakin University’s Institute for Frontier Materials, Geelong Manufacturing Council and Sustainability Victoria.
* Industry experts shared the key principles of a circular economy from a state and national perspective and provided regional examples of circular economics in action, as well as a masterclass in circular economy design thinking. The event attracted 120 attendees.
* RDV supported the Geelong Small Business Festival in partnership with the City of Greater Geelong which delivered more than 40 events during August to help thousands of people grow and improve their businesses in the Barwon region.
* In partnership with Warrnambool City Council, Moyne Shire and Corangamite Shire, RDV supported the Great South Coast Speaker Series which brought a collection of inspiring Australian speakers to the Great South Coast region. Speakers included Grand Slam tennis champion, Paralympian and media personality, Dylan Alcott, 2018 Victorian of the Year, Susan Alberti AC, business expert Martin Ginnane, food writer, Richard Cornish, and Brae owner/chef, Dan Hunter.

### Regional highlights

* Helped facilitate investment in key regional industries to create almost 700 jobs, support exports worth almost $100 million, and encourage investments of more than $200 million.
* Supported the delivery of Victorian Government financial assistance and support to businesses and communities recovering from the impacts of bushfire and coronavirus.
* Supported the release of the Geelong City Deal Implementation Plan in October 2019 that sets out commitments and delivery arrangements for all projects.
* Supported the Budj Bim landscape which was added to the UNESCO World Heritage list in July 2019.

RDV worked closely with local industry peak bodies to encourage industry collaboration and facilitate innovation and economic growth.

### Economic development

#### Great Ocean Road Taskforce, Action Plan and Great Ocean Road Authority

The Great Ocean Road Action Plan outlines major reform including a commitment to prepare legislation that will establish a new land management authority for the Great Ocean Road area.

RDV collaborated with DELWP to advance actions including the Great Ocean Road and Environs Protection Bill 2019 passed on 20 February 2020. The legislation will reform the management of the Great Ocean Road and enable the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority to deliver a more coordinated and sustainable approach to land and visitor management.

#### Tower Hill Infrastructure Upgrade

Funding of $11.3 million announced in May 2020 will support an upgrade to key elements of the Tower Hill State Game Reserve which will enhance the visitor experience, realise Traditional Owner aspirations for the site and boost the regional visitor economy.

#### Connecting Torquay’s Town Centre

A project to improve the integration of Torquay’s town centre was supported with $500,000 from the Victorian Government. The project will make shopping easier and more appealing for visitors and residents by creating a walkable town centre that is connected to Taylor Park and the foreshore. Works will include pedestrian improvements, formalised parking and a series of cycling stations.

#### Timboon Town Centre Activation

Funding of $300,000 from the Regional Infrastructure Fund was announced in March 2020 to support Corangamite Shire’s project to provide a new and improved town centre. The project will improve traffic flow, functionality and accessibility for Timboon.

#### Samaritan House and Formflow Housing Project

A Victorian Government $500,000 investment is helping provide seven, one-bedroom dwellings to accommodate homeless men in the Geelong region. When complete, Samaritan House will provide clients with the ability to live independently, moving into the new homes for between six and 12 months to help them to transition to longer term social housing. The project is a collaboration between Samaritan House Geelong, Deakin University, The Gordon TAFE and Geelong-based manufacturer, FormFlow.

#### Great Ocean Road Workforce Development Strategy

The Great Ocean Road’s increasing popularity with visitors is creating equivalent workforce challenges. These are heightened by the seasonal nature of the destination and low population in some areas, as well as a lack of affordable accommodation and limited public transport options. Funding from the Regional Skills Fund supported the development of a strategy to identify workforce-related issues so the Great Ocean Road can provide a quality offering that continues to meet increasing visitation demands.

#### Bellarine Railway Strategic Infrastructure Project, Stage 1

Stage 1 of this project will allow Bellarine Railway to develop the Turntable Paddock at Drysdale Railway Station to enhance the site, improve community access, and provide a base for the principal Bellarine Railway service, the Q Train. Supported by $300,000 from the Victorian Government, the project will help develop Drysdale station as a gateway to the Bellarine Railway.

#### Barwon Heads Arts and Community Hub

The Victorian Government provided $1 million to support the development of a new arts and community Hub in Barwon Heads.

The proposed design includes refurbishing the existing building and outdoor space, and upgrading parking facilities. The project will also help nurture regional talent, improve access to the arts, strengthen local creative industries and bring the community closer together.

#### Budj Bim Master Plan Stage 1 and 2

In the 2019-20 Victorian Government budget, a further $5 million of funding was announced to support the roll out of the full scope of the Budj Bim Master Plan. In July 2019, the Budj Bim landscape was successfully added to the UNESCO World Heritage list, following which, interest in visitation to the site grew significantly with Budj Bim rangers reporting a ten-fold increase in daily tour inquiries and bookings.

#### Geelong City Deal

The Geelong City Deal is a 10 year, $370 million investment between the Federal Government, Victorian Government and the City of Greater Geelong to revitalise Geelong and unlock the potential of the Great Ocean Road economy. The City Deal is a collaboration between the three levels of government working with industry, community and the university sector to achieve its purpose.

The first step in the agreement was to develop detailed project plans that outline how individual projects will be delivered, governed and reported. Many of these plans are now complete.

In light of coronavirus restrictions, City Deal partners are investing in opportunities to fast track projects to help create jobs in Geelong and the surrounding region. At this stage, it is estimated implementation of the projects will create up to 1000 local jobs.

#### Key achievements in 2019-20

##### Strengthening collaboration

* Geelong City Deal Implementation Committee driving progress.
* Establishing the Twelve Apostles Precinct Project Steering Committee and completing the masterplan.

##### Gheringhap Street Drain

* Construction completed in December 2019, through funding of $7.28 million provided by the City of Greater Geelong.

##### Geelong Waterfront Safe Harbour

* Installing the wave attenuator is almost completed.
* Remaining three platforms are currently being manufactured, final commissioning due late December 2020.

##### Deakin University Future Economy Precinct

* Stage 1 Construction is complete on the western extensions of both Nicol Drive North and Nicol Drive South. Pigdons Rd Entrance 1 and 2 Intersection upgrades were also completed. Currently tendering for works for Epworth Drive.
* $2.66 million Federal Government funding and $1.6 million from the Victorian Government provided to date from a total of $7.2 million in grants.

##### Great Ocean Road Infrastructure

* Project Director appointed by Colac Otway Shire to develop detailed project plans for three key commitments for the Apollo Bay Harbour redevelopment, Skenes Creek to Apollo Bay trail and Kennett River infrastructure.
* Project Plan approved for feasibility study for the Great Ocean Walk (Stage 2) – Skenes Creek to Cumberland River.

##### Redeveloping the Queenscliff Ferry Terminal

* Essential maintenance work completed on support piles on the terminal pier.
* Great Ocean Road Visiting Drivers Safety
* Project Plan approved to undertake a Great Ocean Road Visiting Drivers Safety Education Campaign.

#### Smart Cities

* Smart parking initiative introduced including vehicle number plate recognition and use of an Easy Park mobile app.

#### Geelong Convention and Exhibition Centre

* Business Case addendum completed. The development of the Geelong Convention and Exhibition Centre and surrounding public realm improvements is in the pre-planning phase. A project plan is due by September 2020. City Deal partners are currently working together to progress towards the commencement of building and construction activities.

Revitalising Central Geelong

* Department of Transport (DoT) appointed an internal Project Manager who is progressing the development of a Project Plan and finalising a project delivery strategy for Blocks 1 and 3 of the Green Spine.
* DELWP acquired the land for the Laneways project at 28 Malop St Geelong and are currently refining the detailed design.
* DoT is finalising the project plan for the Geelong Station upgrade.

### Regional planning and coordination

#### Great South Coast Designated Area Migration Agreement

The RDA Barwon South West Committee helped establish Victoria’s first Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA) in the Great South Coast region. The Committee identified that a declining and ageing population was creating critical labour shortages in the region. Through research and private sector consultation, it demonstrated a projected shortfall of up to 7000 workers in Victoria’s south west by 2023. Covering the Glenelg, Moyne, Southern Grampians, Warrnambool, Corangamite and Colac-Otway municipalities, the DAMA began operating in January 2020 and has helped 18 businesses attract 68 workers to the region.

#### An Australian first, catalyst project for the Colac Waste to Energy Biogrid

The Committee supported planning for the construction of the Colac Waste to Energy (WEB) Biogrid. The Colac WEB will use industrial organic wastes from Bulla Foods and Australian Lamb Company (ALC) to enable Barwon Water’s Colac Water Reclamation Plant to become a net exporter of energy and provide dispatchable renewable energy in the form of electricity to the grid, as well as hot water to ALC. The Colac WEB will secure waste and energy costs for industry and improve employment outcomes in the Colac community.

## Gippsland

### Regional Director’s report

The Gippsland region covers a large part of eastern Victoria, extending from its western end that adjoins Melbourne’s southeast, to Cape Howe the most easterly point of Victoria. The region is comprised of six local government areas and has a wide range of strategic assets that are important to both the region and Victoria, contributing to a gross regional product of approximately $15.9 billion.

In the last 12 months, Gippsland faced unprecedented challenges including the effects of prolonged drought, bushfires and coronavirus.

The East Gippsland fires started on 21 November 2019 and burnt more than 1.1 million hectares. Impacts were extensive, with profound direct and indirect effects on property, livestock and the natural environment. RDV engaged significantly to support the East Gippsland community with a focus on facilitating economic recovery activity across local government, business and the community.

RDV Gippsland continued to support the delivery of the Victorian Forestry Plan, helping industry and businesses prepare and plan their response to transition.

Our focus remains on supporting growth, diversification and recovery across our regional priority sectors, including food and fibre, tourism and transport and logistics, advanced manufacturing, and health and community services.

Significant progress was made to advance priority projects across the region including the Innovation Centre at Gippsland Hi Tech Precinct, Latrobe GovHub and Latrobe Creative Precinct.

The Gippsland Regional Partnership continued its program of successful advocacy, collaborating with business and community stakeholders in partnership with the Committee for Gippsland, RDA Gippsland and the Gippsland Local Government Network. Focus remained on building community aspiration and wellbeing and supporting industry transition. This resulted in further investment to redevelop and expand the Latrobe Regional Hospital, more free TAFE courses, greater access to early childhood education and $1.4 million for the Gippsland residential rehabilitation facility, which opened earlier this year.

Throughout 2019-20, RDV Gippsland worked closely with industry to help create 180 new full time equivalent jobs and $38 million in new investment.

**Tim McAuliffe**
Acting Regional Director, Gippsland



### Investment and trade

#### Safetech Pty Ltd – Moe

Safetech was supported by the Regional Jobs Fund in delivering its $1.8 million project to expand its advanced manufacturing facility in Moe. Safetech designs, manufactures and sells customised materials, handling equipment, such as dock equipment, scissor lifts, vehicle lifts, hoists, cranes and lifting devices. The project will create 20 new full time equivalent jobs.

#### Invest Gippsland

In November 2019, Invest Gippsland partnered with RDV, the Gippsland Regional Partnership and RDA to launch the Invest Gippsland website. The redeveloped website highlights investment opportunities across key industry sectors including food and fibre, advanced manufacturing, new energy, health and aviation.

#### Latrobe Valley Supply Chain Transition Program

The Victorian Government’s Latrobe Valley Supply Chain Transition Program concluded in June 2020. The program supported 57 Latrobe Valley based businesses affected by the closure of the Hazelwood Power Station and Carter Holt Harvey Timber Mill in Morwell. RDV Gippsland worked with local businesses to develop transition plans. As a result, the businesses involved have generated $2.8 million in investment for the Latrobe Valley through initiatives identified in the transition plans.

### Economic development

#### Gippsland Hi-Tech Precinct

The Victorian Government provided $17 million to help develop an Innovation Centre within the Gippsland Hi-Tech Precinct site in Morwell. Construction is expected to be complete by late August 2020, despite the impact of coronavirus.

The precinct will incorporate the Innovation Centre, the Gippsland Tech School (opened April 2018), TAFE Gippsland and Latrobe City Council’s conference facility. The precinct will bring together industry, education and research to co-create, innovate and transform industries through new product development, start-up support, hosting tech-based jobs, business incubation and research. Federation University Australia will manage
the Innovation Centre.

#### Latrobe Valley GovHub

Construction of the Latrobe Valley GovHub is well underway, with completion expected to be ahead of schedule in late 2020. The $30 million project includes the construction of a three-storey regional employment hub to support economic growth, create jobs and drive industries of the future. The investment is part of the government’s response to transitioning the Latrobe Valley after the closure of Hazelwood Power Station.

The Latrobe Valley GovHub is expected to bring an additional 300 jobs to the Morwell CBD and is employing up to 100 people during construction. More than 40 local contractors have been engaged, accounting for more than 70 per cent of the project workforce. Discussions with Traditional Owners, GLaWAC, were held regarding the installation of art by local Aboriginal artists and Aboriginal students.

#### Latrobe Creative Precinct

Construction on the $38.5 million Latrobe Creative Precinct continues, with works and fit out of the 750-seat performing arts centre due for completion by mid-2021. Several local contractors are involved in construction and the design features local materials to showcase Gippsland’s ingenuity and resources. Once operational, the complex will give the community access to leading performances and provide local opportunities for training in the performing arts.

#### Regional Carpark Fund

The Victorian Government’s plan to provide 2000 new car parks in regional Victoria included up to 900 in Moe, Morwell and Traralgon. Following public consultation, Latrobe City Council endorsed eight sites in early 2020 and approved an early works package.

### East Gippsland – recovery projects

RDV took a lead role in developing the East Gippsland Bushfire Economic Recovery Sub-Plan for the East Gippsland and Wellington Shires. RDV delivered a number of recovery projects under the plan.

In February 2020, the Victorian Government announced funding for the Paynesville Foreshore Masterplan under the Bushfire Tourism and Business Fund, and in May 2020, funding was announced for the Paynesville Foreshore Stage 1 works under the Victorian Government's Building Works Package. The projects include a concept plan, preliminary designs and costings for the development of Slip Rd ‘Squatters Row’, plus implementation of the plan to improve the boating and visitor infrastructure that connects the Slip Road precinct to the CBD – including a seawall and boardwalk.

Funding announced through the Building Works Package for Bullock Island and Lakes Entrance, will see an investment of $8.4 million to create a masterplan, with infrastructure upgrades including construction of public facilities, vehicle and pedestrian access and pathways, a fishing platform and landscaping and aesthetic improvements. Additionally, $1.5 million was announced for the Bullock Island On Water Café received $1.5 million to build an On-Water café at the Lakes Entrance Fisherman’s Limited site.

The Bushfire Tourism and Business Fund allocated $2 million to restore and rejuvenate the Buchan Caves Reserve, which was badly damaged in the bushfires. In partnership with Traditional Owners, the project will develop a new masterplan to implement upgrades that include rebuilding the campground and installing a new camp kitchen.

The Victorian Government provided $250,000 to re-establish the Nowa Nowa Boggy Creek Walking Trail. Work includes rebuilding the walking track, seating, interpretive signage and landscaping.

The Community Resilience and Recovery Fund allocated $200,000 to East Gippsland Shire and $50,000 to Wellington Shire to facilitate community events, and funding for the Committee for Gippsland to establish a Community Leadership Program that will support locally led programs to help fire-affected East Gippsland communities.

#### Leveraging the Regional Skills Fund

The Regional Skills Fund contributed towards a project developed by Food and Fibre Gippsland, relating to employment and career pathways for youth in the agri-food sector. The project is developing six mechanisms to attract young people to Gippsland and support the agri-food industry.

Also supported by the Regional Skills Fund is a project to bring undergraduate level allied health training to Gippsland to help address a chronic shortage of allied health professionals. The project enabled Federation University Australia to start two new courses at its Churchill campus – Occupational Therapy (commenced in March 2020) and Physiotherapy (to start in 2021).

#### Stronger Regional Communities Program

Funding from the Stronger Regional Communities Program supported infrastructure improvements at the Lake Tyers Community Hall, a ‘Visit Mallacoota Campaign’ that will be developed by the Mallacoota and District Business and Tourism Association and East Gippsland Marketing. Crashendo, Bairnsdale also received funding to expand its existing music therapy programs.

### Regional planning and coordination

#### RDA Gippsland

The RDA Gippsland Committee was formally appointed earlier this year. Since then, the Committee's members have been collaborating on disaster response and recovery.

The Committee provided advice to the Federal Government resulting in a boost of $4.8 million funding for the Rural Financial Counselling Service after advocating for business support, and access to Tourism Australia data and a dedicated data hotline.

##### Gippsland Regional Plan refresh

The refreshed Gippsland Regional Plan will provide the strategic framework for Gippsland’s advocacy and planning for the next five years. Aerium, a local consultant delivered a refresh of the Gippsland Regional Plan, working closely with RDV, Gippsland Regional Partnership and RDA Gippsland to develop the themes and priorities within the Regional Plan. Gippsland’s communities and industries were engaged in the process through online surveys and workshops. The Regional Plan will provide a valuable reference point and advocacy tool for Gippsland’s leaders, community and industry.

##### Drought assistance

In October 2019, East Gippsland and Wellington Shires each received $500,000 to support community events and small infrastructure projects that bring communities together, build resilience and raise awareness of drought support services.

RDV Gippsland worked closely with both councils to explore a number of projects that will strengthen the resilience of drought-affected communities. Community events included barbecues, fire shed meetings, community forums, field days, local agriculture shows, workshops and family getaways. Small infrastructure projects improved energy efficiency in community halls.

##### Bushfire recovery

RDV is working closely with community members, local councils and other Victorian Government agencies to understand how to best manage bushfire recovery, alongside drought and the impact of coronavirus. RDV coordinated the Bushfire Recovery Workshop Group, which developed the Economic Recovery Sub-Plan.

Through RDV, the Victorian Government invested almost $20 million to leverage $80 million of project value, through infrastructure projects to help local businesses recover from the impacts of bushfire. This will enable a range of projects to help regenerate key industries, such as the visitor economy, agriculture, aquaculture and the construction sector.

## Grampians

### Regional Director’s report

This year, the Grampians region continued to realise the potential of its unique economic and community strengths, with emerging new businesses and resilient communities driving growth and innovation to activate regional opportunities and address unique place-based challenges.

RDV Grampians supported and facilitated investment of more than $95 million during the year.

Our Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Partnership continued to deliver its award-winning approach to early years’ service design in rural communities, and the Central Highlands Regional Partnership investigated ways to tackle the issue of homelessness in the region.

RDV Grampians continued to support the development of the $100 million Ballarat GovHub, with construction well underway. RDV is working closely with Development Victoria, the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF), and other stakeholders, to help transition government tenants (including 600 new and relocated positions) into the Ballarat GovHub in 2021. Already we are seeing early signs of the Ballarat GovHub influencing new development and transformation surrounding the precinct.

RDV Grampians helped secure $5 million from the Regional Infrastructure Fund - Enabling Infrastructure program towards the $10 million development of Stawell Underground Physics Laboratory – the first underground physics lab in the southern hemisphere. It will be delivered by University of Melbourne on behalf of an Australian and international group of tertiary stakeholders and generate up to 79 ongoing jobs in the region.

The $50 million Ballarat Station redevelopment is taking shape and, along with Ballarat GovHub, is helping transform the Ballarat CBD. Work on the 77 room Quest Apartment Hotel progressed well. The superstructure is complete, and fit-out and exterior works are almost complete. Further work includes replacing the Good Shed roof and interior conservation.
RDV Grampians led a localised regional response to adapt to coronavirus restrictions. Support included stimulus funding through the Building Works Package for the Ararat Hills Mountain Bike Project ($2.7 million), Parwan Employment Precinct ($2.7 million) and the Warracknabeal Education Precinct ($19.8 million).

Additional support was provided for smaller regional communities, such as the Clunes Town Hall redevelopment and generating new jobs at the Ballarat Technology Park. RDV Grampians undertook an impact assessment of the top 100 business in the region, conducted over 450 meetings with key stakeholders and local government, and helped businesses mitigate the impact of coronavirus.

Anthony SchinckRegional Director, Grampians



### Investment and trade

#### Plinius Engineering

With support through the Regional Jobs Fund, RDV helped Plinius Engineering facilitate a $1 million expansion of its Ballarat facilities, supplying new equipment and improved production processes. This will enable the company to increase its manufacturing capacity and capability.

#### AME Systems

AME Systems will invest $595,000 in specialised equipment for its Ararat manufacturing facility to cater for additional defence and aerospace work. The project was supported through the Regional Jobs Fund and enabled by RDV Grampians.

#### Ballarat West Employment Zone

Ballarat West Employment Zone (BWEZ) is a 400-hectare industrial precinct near Ballarat Airport. A freight hub is planned on site, along with access for high productivity freight vehicles. RDV Grampians supported the development and expansion of key regional businesses at the precinct.

### Economic development

#### Regional Infrastructure Fund

Through RDV Grampians facilitation, the Victorian Government invested $4 million from the Regional Infrastructure Fund into the Grampians region, supporting $9.4 million of infrastructure projects across nine local government areas in rural and regional towns.

Ballarat City Council, Ararat Rural City Council, Moorabool Shire Council, Golden Plains Shire Council, Hepburn Shire Council, Horsham Rural City Council, Northern Grampians Shire Council, West Wimmera Shire Council and Yarriambiack Shire Council all received funding to implement priority infrastructure projects within their communities to improve liveability and the connectivity of residents.

The projects will be delivered and completed within two years, delivering immediate construction jobs to regional Victoria and meeting the needs of community.

#### Stronger Regional Communities Program

The Stronger Regional Communities Program aims to support rural and regional towns in attracting families and young people to live and work in regional Victoria. It will do so by investing in community-led initiatives and partnerships that create or enhance the conditions for economic growth and build resilient, diversified and sustainable economies.

RDV Grampians helped facilitate $282,000 for five projects under the Stronger Regional Communities Program:

* Grampians Online Cellar Door delivered by Ararat Rural City Council.
* Koorie Heritage Trail Upgrade delivered by Ballarat and District Aboriginal Co-Operative.
* Re-branding African Identity delivered by the Ballarat African Association Inc.
* Women's Business Incubator delivered by Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council.
* Your Local Box by Eat Drink West delivered by Plate and Glass.

### Regional highlights

* Ballarat West Employment Zone continued to drive economic growth in Ballarat for the Grampians region. RDV Grampians supported the development and expansion of key regional businesses in the precinct, including Luv-a-Duck, Cervus and Findlay Engineering, resulting in over 130 jobs.
* RDV Grampians helped secure more than $1 million through the Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund to enable new housing development projects in Ararat and Stawell that will help overcome a chronic shortage of new housing for workers and continued working with Development Victoria to facilitate innovative housing solutions across the region.
* Trail work was completed for the Grampians Peaks Trail, with minor work still to be undertaken on steps and bridges. The construction of hiker camps has commenced.

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### Regional planning and coordination

#### Workforce opportunities in the Grampians region

The RDA Grampians Committee focused on identifying opportunities to improve workforce outcomes in the region. This included undertaking key investigations on the workforce system and key interventions to improve regional productivity.

The For Want of a Worker project is designed to develop a clearer understanding of how to attract and retain the kind of workforce the region needs for long term growth. The first stage of a literature review was completed, including analysis of initial impacts and opportunities presented by coronavirus.

The Double Triple Vision report focuses on the doubling of regional Victoria’s population and tripling of its economic output by 2040. The report identified key interventions all tiers of government can take to achieve this vision. In light of coronavirus, these interventions include digital connectivity, population management, workforce skills, new energy, placed-based developments, health and social outcomes, and business competitiveness.

## Hume

### Regional Director’s report

The Hume region covers the north east of Victoria. Comprising 12 local government areas and five Alpine resorts, the region is critical to Victoria’s economy when it comes to manufacturing, food production and the visitor economy.

Due to its strategic location and vibrant communities, the region’s growing population includes an increasing number of people coming to live, work and invest. Victorian Government support through the Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund is an important catalyst that helps maintain the momentum of Hume’s growth and prosperity.

During the year the Regional Jobs Fund leveraged the region’s competitive advantages and helped enable 217 new jobs in the food and fibre, manufacturing, logistics and tourism sectors.

Implementation of the Ride High Country initiative continued and is strengthening the region’s reputation as the preeminent area in Victoria for cycling tourism. As part of the implementation process, progress was made on the Beechworth to Yackandanda Rail trail and Tourism North East delivered a compelling first year marketing campaign. Applications were received for the private sector activation component and we look forward to making exciting announcements about this next year.

Wodonga was chosen as the second location for a Regional Deal program in Victoria and represents Australia’s first cross-border regional deal. The project has the potential to stimulate population and economic growth for Albury/Wodonga and surrounding areas.

Major masterplan and business case work was completed for Lake Eildon and Seymour, which aims to encourage greater development and activity in these areas. The Goulburn Murray Irrigation District Resilience Strategy was developed to help this area’s irrigation dependent economy adapt to changing natural and economic pressures – and thrive as a result.

Unfortunately, this year presented significant challenges for the region. The north east bushfires combined with the coronavirus pandemic tested the resilience of many communities and businesses. Our staff live and work in regional Victoria and were also heavily affected by these events.

I am incredibly proud of the RDV Hume team who worked so quickly and closely with stakeholders throughout this challenging time. In any crisis RDV is recognised as a trusted government broker that works directly with businesses and communities in understand impacts and how to provide the right assistance to generate the positive outcomes.

Matt Nelson
Regional Director, Hume



### Investment and trade

RDV Hume continued to engage across industry in the food and fibre, manufacturing, tourism, transport, distribution and logistics sectors. Through this work the team helped generate 217 jobs and $132.2 million in capital investment. The facilitation process also helped deliver projects by fostering key relationships, mediating discussions and connecting critical service providers.

#### Overcoming challenges for business

The second half of the financial year saw major challenges across the Hume Region. The devastation of the 2019-20 bushfires had a major effect on tourism and business in general, particularly in the Towong and Alpine shires. Before fire recovery could commence the region’s economy was impacted by coronavirus which caused significant revenue losses and some redundancies.

#### Food and fibre

Supported by the Investment Attraction Program and the Regional Jobs Fund, food and fibre sector projects included:

* Geoffrey Thompsons’ $50 million investment in Mooropna to establish a fruit packing and processing facility, creating 44 new jobs.
* Goulburn Valley Walnuts’ $400,000 investment in Toolamba to construct a new walnut processing facility, creating 13 new jobs.
* Meatworks’ $20 million investment in Gilleston to establish an abattoir facility, creating 100 new jobs.
* Aussie Pride’s $3.6 million investment in Tallygaroopna for a glasshouse development, creating 10 new jobs.
* F&K Goegan’s $1.8 million investment in a glasshouse development in Cobram, creating 30 new jobs.

#### Manufacturing

The manufacturing sector continued to present capital expenditure and job growth investment opportunities across the region. These included:

* A $1.95 million investment by Northstar Engineering at Strathmerton to transition its workforce to a new site, increasing its manufacturing capability and creating 19 new jobs.
* A $700,000 investment by EDP Australia at Mooroopna to modernise a manufacturing facility specialising in custom-designed fruit and vegetable industry equipment, creating 10 new jobs.
* A $2.95 million investment by Butko Engineering in Wodonga to establish a new manufacturing facility and create 16 new jobs.

#### Tourism and wine

The summer's bushfires followed closely by the coronavirus pandemic, had major impacts on the tourism and wine sectors throughout the Hume region. Bushfires severely impacted vineyards just before vintage, smoke tainting grapes right across the Alpine and King Valleys and in other north east wine regions.

The bushfires hit the region during one of its busiest visitation periods. Tourism businesses had little time to recover before travel and other coronavirus restrictions impacted regional hospitality and accommodation businesses.

The Ride High Country Program continued despite these challenges, with the announcement of successful applicants expected in the first half of 2020-21.

The initial expression of interest process yielded 42 proposals worth $31 million. Following assessment, 16 applications valued at $4.5 million were invited to submit applications. Recommendations were made and financial risk assessments are being undertaken before grants are offered.

#### Transport distribution and logistics

The Hume region maintained its competitive advantage in the transport, distribution and logistics sector due to its location on the Melbourne to Sydney transport corridor, and RDV facilitated a range of projects with business, local government, Transport for Victoria and Regional Roads Victoria.

Projects included the Logic Intermodal Terminal, an $18 million investment by national transport and logistics company, SCT, to help local companies capitalise on domestic and international transport opportunities.

### Additional projects, program support and engagement

#### Agriculture Workforce Plan

The Investment and Trade team managed the Agriculture Workforce Plan for the Hume region, helping several businesses adapt and comply with coronavirus restrictions.

#### Manufacturing clusters

Twenty businesses across the region participated in two formal cluster programs that completed an internal SWOT analysis of their operations, plus training and education in the use of lean manufacturing processes. Participation in the program resulted in productivity gains and facilitated workflow processes for a broad cross section of industry.

#### Defence

RDV Hume supported the Regional Development Australia Committee in a defence roundtable and maintained engagement with Pentarch in Wangaratta that secured a five-year contract with the Federal Government to refurbish munitions boxes. RDV also engaged with NIOA (Munitions), whose Benalla development will provide future opportunities and investment given planned growth and job outcomes

### Economic development

RDV partnered with key stakeholders, including the region’s 12 local governments, Victoria’s alpine resorts, and Regional Tourism Boards.

RDV maintained its focus on delivering community and economic development outcomes, with a focus on jobs and economic growth by enabling new infrastructure and community development projects, and enhancing tourism product development, promotion and marketing, events and capacity building.

These priorities were largely supported and delivered through targeted government programs and relied on strong local and regional engagement by RDV relationship managers. Local communities benefited from this work that was primarily directed at the transport and logistics, manufacturing, agriculture and tourism sectors.

The following projects were highlights for the year.

#### Mount Buller Water Storage

The Victorian Government invested $7.5 million into Mount Buller and Mount Stirling Resort Management Board’s $11.3 million project to develop a 100ML water storage facility. The project was recently completed against a challenging backdrop, including bushfires, unseasonal snow and uncertainty brought by the coronavirus pandemic’s impact on the construction industry.

The new reservoir is part of Mt Buller’s climate adaptation strategy and provides water for snowmaking, drinking water and firefighting as well as an innovative watering system to maintain the health of important alpine bogs on the mountain. The project will deliver increased visitation to regional Victoria, boost private sector investment, and support jobs growth across the region. This was one of the more complex projects delivered over the period and required close oversight by the regional team.

#### Wangaratta Gateway Precinct

The Victorian Government allocated $2.5 million to the $5 million Wangaratta Gateway Precinct project. This project will revitalise the experience at the main transport hub in Wangaratta, and includes activating the railway precinct, connecting the central business area and encouraging private sector investment. The project is an example of how partnering with local government to invest in regional infrastructure can support regional and community development.

#### Ride High Country – Beechworth to Yackandandah Rail Trail Extension

The Beechworth to Yackandandah Rail Trail Extension is one of the key projects identified in the North East Victoria Cycling Optimisation Masterplan (Ride High Country). Infrastructure works began in 2018-19 with significant progress made towards project delivery since the commencement. This project is being delivered through partnership with local government and required significant collaboration to resolve complexities, including obtaining a range of regulatory approvals. Once completed, the trail extension will connect two significant tourism growth towns, extend the existing Murray to Mountains Rail Trail by approximately 31km and attract an estimated 7000 additional visitors annually to the region.

#### Shepparton, Growing Regional Opportunities for Work (GROW)

GROW Shepparton is a $750,000 program with key objectives including supporting the growth of jobs and the regional economy, while targeting employment outcomes for identified communities facing barriers to employment. Through a collaborative approach focused on local procurement and capacity building, the program has delivered place-based job opportunities and has established the innovative development of a Work Ready Program - an initiative between GROW Shepparton and GOTAFE to support skills, capacity building and sustainable employment opportunities in the local community.

#### Activating Lake Eildon

With a grant of $150,000 toward a $255,000 project, the key objectives of the project were to establish a shared vision for the activation of Lake Eildon, identifying priority tourism and recreation developments with an environmentally sustainable framework to optimise economic outcomes for the region. This project was recently completed and has delivered a masterplan and business cases for several prioritised investment options that will enhance the tourism offering across the region and increase visitation. The project was well supported by RDV who provided guidance and advice.

#### Responding to the Upper Murray Bushfires

The Upper Murray Bushfires were disastrous for the region. While flames affected communities and businesses directly in the Towing and Alpine Shires, major impacts were also experienced in the municipalities of Indigo, Wangaratta, Mansfield and Wodonga, and the region’s the Alpine Resorts.

The summer school holiday period is critical for the visitor economy sector, but businesses suffered major losses of trade from January that continued through 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

A number of projects were financially supported by the Victorian Government in response to the fires, including:

* $2.6 million for a gas gate at Logic in Wodonga
* $1.9 million to support private sector investment of Ride High Country
* $500,000 to implement the Colac Colac Caravan Park Masterplan in Towong Shire
* $500,000 to generate economic activity at Dinner Plain in the Alpine Shire.

The Victorian Government also provided additional support for the Upper Murray Events Centre in Corryong. Financial support provided for the project before the bushfires was contingent on a community contribution of $200,000 to be raised through livestock sales. This was unachievable because so many cattle were lost during the fires. The Victorian Government agreed to cover the contribution so the facility could be finished for major visitor-attracting events like the Man from Snowy River Festival.

RDV supported Towong and Alpine Shire councils to develop municipal recovery plans with key recovery initiatives being delivered by regional groups such as Tourism North East.

### Regional highlights

* Albury Wodonga Regional Deal Statement of Intent.
* Bushfire recovery projects.
* Coronavirus stimulus infrastructure projects.
* Implemented the Ride High Country project through trail development, marketing and private sector activation.
* Facilitated an alliance to enable the defence sector in Hume to increase its national presence, regional employment and economic activity.
* Supported 43 projects with funding of $17 million to leverage $164 million in investment value.

### Investment and trade

RDV Hume continued to engage across industry in the food and fibre, manufacturing, tourism, transport, distribution and logistics sectors. Through this work the team helped generate 217 jobs and $132.2 million in capital investment. The facilitation process also helped deliver projects by fostering key relationships, mediating discussions and connecting critical service providers.

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RDV maintained its focus on delivering community and economic development outcomes.

## Loddon Mallee

### Regional Director’s report

Loddon Mallee encompasses 59,000 square kilometres from central Victoria to the Murray River across to the north-west.

In 2019-20, the region delivered a range of pivotal projects to strengthen rural and regional economies and improve the social wellbeing of our culturally and linguistically diverse communities while responding to the impact of coronavirus.

The release of the Loddon Campaspe and Mallee Economic Growth Strategies will ensure the supply of skilled workers, a growing food and agricultural sector, support for the new energy sector and improved tourism assets.

A key focus was improving the journey of school leavers from education to employment and addressing ways to reduce the prevalence of people living with entrenched disadvantage.

Vital work continued in response to the effects of coronavirus, with regional roundtables held to identify impacts and opportunities to improve digital connectivity. Digital connectivity was discussed during the roundtables as an issue requiring immediate action to support recovery.

Supporting rural and regional investment and trade has included grants for the expansion of a medicinal cannabis cultivation and processing facility near Mildura, funding for jobs in the table grape, apple, tomato and wine sectors and supporting the renewable energy sector.

The Maldon Streetscape Revitalisation Project has helped rejuvenate one of the Goldfield's premier historic townships, while several communities were boosted with funding. These included community hubs in Donald and Charlton, an All Abilities Play Facility in Koondrook, worker housing in Robinvale and work on the Mildura Riverfront Development project.

Leading the planning of the $90 million Bendigo GovHub, RDV engaged across government and communities to deliver more coordinated government services and build a stronger and collaborative public sector to better serve the needs of Bendigo and surrounding communities.

Rachel Lee
Regional Director, Loddon Mallee



### Investment and trade

#### Cann Group

Cann Group was awarded a grant under the Victorian Government's Regional Jobs Fund to support a $95 million staged expansion of a medicinal cannabis cultivation and processing facility near Mildura. The project will include electricity upgrades at the planned facility which is expected to generate around 150 new permanent jobs.

#### Grape Co

Grape Co was awarded a grant under the Food Source Victoria program to undertake an investment of $1.24 million for the purchase and installation of new table grape punnet packing equipment near Mildura. The project will create 33 new full-time equivalent jobs at Merbein South, an additional $6.3 million in export revenue and benefit an alliance of 35 table grape producers supplying the facility from the Sunraysia region.

#### White Gum Apples

White Gum Apples received a grant under the Food Source Victoria Program to help expand and modernise its manufacturing and warehousing facilities at Barkers Creek, near Harcourt. The project will create seven new full-time equivalent jobs.

#### Kirkland Lake Gold

RDV and Earth Resources assisted Kirkland Lake Gold to establish an on-site cement plant and mine water treatment plant.

A grant under the Victorian Government’s TARGET (Round 2) Minerals Exploration Initiative helped the company undertake further exploration at its Fosterville mine. Kirkland is investing $51.8 million to establish the plant that will be important to discover additional mineral reserves at the Fosterville site. The project will create 30 new jobs in Foserville.

#### Wine Growth Fund - Round 3

RDV worked with vineyards and wineries in the region, as well as the Bendigo Winegrowers Association and Macedon Ranges Vignerons, to help boost production and tourism for the local wine industry. The third round of the Wine Growth Fund enabled 19 projects in the region, including a glamping project at Lake Cooper Estate that will create seven new jobs.

#### Premier Fruits Lancaster

Premier Fruits Lancaster, as part of the La Manna Premier Group, received funding towards a Stage 2 $10 million investment in a five-hectare greenhouse investment for tomato and other produce growing in Lancaster that will create a further 41 full-time equivalent jobs.

#### Energy assistance

RDV provided broad sector energy reviews and extensive facilitation across energy intensive industries through initiatives such as the Industry Energy Support Scheme. This supported manufacturing business, KR Castlemaine, with boiler replacement and power factor correction upgrades.

RDV also collaborated on renewable energy sector development, including working with DELWP on renewable energy initiatives including support for Enel Green Power Australia's $29 million investment near Cohuna.

### Economic development

#### Donald Community Hub

Donald’s $2.85 million sports stadium and function centre were completed. The project has transformed the stadium into a vibrant multipurpose facility to serve the community for generations.

#### Charlton Park Community Hub

The Charlton Park Community Hub, which received $1.45 million from the Victorian Government towards the $4.2 million multi-purpose sport, racing and recreation centre, was opened to much anticipation. The community-driven project consolidated existing buildings to create a modern multi-purpose facility with shared resources and a better layout.

#### Koondrook All Abilities Play Facility

The Victorian Government provided $390,000 to support this $520,000 project that will deliver an all abilities play facility in the heart of Koondrook. The project will involve installing play equipment and other accessible features, particularly for children with a disability. The completed project will enhance social and health outcomes across the region by encouraging more physical activity and catering for young people with a disability.

#### Working Housing and Accommodation for the Mallee

The Victorian Government committed $500,000 towards a $1.7 million project supporting the Swan Hill Rural City Council’s innovative Robinvale Worker Housing initiative. Addressing a shortage of housing suitable for professional staff in Robinvale which is limiting the town's economic development and population growth, the project will deliver a subdivision of eight lots and construction of four houses for on selling to help stimulate the market in Robinvale.

The Victorian Government also committed $800,000 to support the Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council Inc deliver their Ramsay Court Mildura Worker Accommodation Phase 2 project. The project will refurbish 25 rooms and purpose-built worker accommodation for migrant and seasonal workers.

#### Mildura Riverfront Development – Stage 2

RDV continued to lead the further development of the Mildura Riverfront that included completing a Mildura Riverfront Stage 2 Master plan and feasibility assessment. This initiative provides a framework for further community infrastructure investment to support tourism and commercial opportunities on the riverfront escarpment. Work progressed with the Victorian Planning Authority, VicTrack and Mildura Rural City Council to help address planning matters to support future project delivery.

#### Mildura Chocolate Company

The Victorian Government provided a $38,000 grant to the Mildura Chocolate Company that employs people with a disability in the Mallee region. It is run by the not-for-profit disability support organisation, the Christie Centre, which provides support services and employment opportunities to people with a disability and is committed to greater equality and inclusion in the Mallee region.

This enabled the Mildura Chocolate Company to purchase a conveyor belt, combined hopper and packing machine. The new equipment helped increase production of premium quality chocolate and employ a more diverse range of people with a disability.

#### The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion

The Victorian Government continued to support the delivery of the $5 million infrastructure project near Bendigo that involves completing the structure of the Great Stupa and visitor facilities in the precinct. This year the Great Stupa structure (phase 1) was completed and the hand-crafted gold finial at the top of the monument was unveiled in January 2020. Since then, significant progress has been made on the provision of visitor services infrastructure (phase 2).

#### Victorian Goldfields Railway

In 2019, the Victorian Government provided $500,000 to support delivery of the Victorian Goldfields Railway’s $750,000 Service Reorientation (Stage 2) project. Locomotive servicing facilities in the Castlemaine Station Precinct, a carriage shed extension and volunteer facilities are nearly complete. The project is the first stage of a major infrastructure development.

Stage 2 will help the railway double the annual number of visitors (from 20,000 to 40,000) it carries from Castlemaine to the historic township of Maldon in five years.

#### Creative Industries Hub

In 2019, the Victorian Government provided $500,000 towards the $992,452 Creative Industries Hub that will be constructed inside the existing Castlemaine goods shed building. Following the development of the Creative Industries Hub in June 2020, the Castlemaine State Festival secured funding for the Creative Industries Hub, now called Goods Sheds Arts, through the delivery of Digital Goods, a Goods Shed Arts Digital Media Program. Digital Goods will provide part-time employment for up to 10 local creative practitioners working in the field of digital media to design and deliver the programs.

#### Small Towns Streetscape

The Victorian Government provided $500,000 towards the Small Towns Streetscape Stage 2 Project that will enable street beautification and other improvements in Campbells Creek, Taradale and Elphinstone. Construction will involve street beautification and supporting infrastructure for local businesses to improve economic activity and community connections in town centres.

#### Central Goldfields Art Gallery

The Victorian Government provided $500,000 towards Central Goldfields Art Gallery Revitalisation Phase 1 project. The project will redevelop the building by restoring existing infrastructure and 19th century features, deliver environmental improvements, improve accessibility and redesign the internal space to create an open, contemporary reception, gallery space and retail area.

Phase 1 will increase the range of works exhibited, community engagement in cultural and educational activities visitation, attract more touring exhibitions.

#### Maldon Streetscape Revitalisation Project

The Victorian Government committed $4.5 million to support delivery of a $5.5 million project to rejuvenate the historic Maldon streetscape. The project aims to increase economic activity, business development and visitation to one of the Goldfield's premier historic townships. The project will deliver general improvements to the public space and pedestrian access, traffic calming measures, new street furniture, lighting and signage, undergrounding of overhead power cables, and a shopfront restoration program.

### Regional planning and coordination

#### Implementing economic growth strategies

In November the Mallee and Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnerships and Loddon Mallee RDA published Economic Growth Strategies for the Mallee and Loddon Campaspe regions.

The strategies highlight the most significant opportunities and barriers to economic growth in the region, and what can be done to realise this growth. Both strategies were developed with regional stakeholders including local government.

Implementation of the strategies commenced, with a focus on ensuring the supply of skilled workers, strengthening the food and agricultural sector, supporting the emerging new energy sector and improving tourism assets.

#### Supporting school leavers towards employment

The first Deep Dive engagement within the State was hosted by the Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership. Focused on the journey of school leavers from education to employment, organisers ensured that the voice of the region’s young were well heard on the night.

Participants in the Deep Dive included representatives of all the institutions that could help transition young people from school to work or further study. This included school principals, leaders from the Local Learning and Employment Networks, Bendigo Kangan Institute, La Trobe University, the Victorian Government and Members of Parliament.

#### Addressing entrenched disadvantage

The Mallee Regional Partnership addressed the high rates of entrenched disadvantage in the region by working with regional stakeholders. While coronavirus prevented the Deep Dive event, engagement across the region continued online.

#### Mallee Regional Innovation Centre

After a year of operation, the Mallee Regional Innovation Centre is successfully helping innovate irrigated industries in the Mallee. Already the centre has research projects focused on automated pruning, using big data to improve decision making and increasing ecological knowledge to support environmental watering.

The centre also represented the interests of the region by supporting growth in the renewable energy sector and advocating to establish a ‘One Basin’ Cooperative Research Centre (CRC), with a hub based in Mildura. The CRC will focus on a sustainable future for the Murray Darling Basin.

#### Strengthening food and agriculture

Work undertaken to map food industry supply chains identified over 30 new business opportunities in the region that could arise from expanding, modernising or diversifying current businesses, collaboration between businesses with similar interests, replacing imports into the region, or developing new products. Work continued on developing business cases for several of these opportunities.

#### A green and connected future

Both the northern and southern parts of the region benefitted from digital plans produced in 2019-20. These plans map the digital connectivity issues facing business and community and prioritise necessary work.

The Loddon Mallee region also developed a New Energy Roadmap, which provides insight into the opportunities and challenges the region faces as it moves from a centralised to a more decentralised renewable energy system. It creates a picture of how our energy system currently works, and the possibilities this transition will provide.

### Regional highlights

* Publishing the Mallee and Loddon Campaspe Economic Growth Strategies which provide a blueprint for growing the region’s economy.
* Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership Deep Dive focused on improving the journey of school leavers from education to employment.
* Mallee Regional Partnership addressed ways to reduce the prevalence of people living with entrenched disadvantage.
* Supporting the Girgarre Development Group to progress their vision for a Regional Botanic Gardens by investing in the Gargarro Regional Botanic Garden - Stage 1 – Detailed Design Project.
* Facilitating support and progressing construction of the new tourism infrastructure at Lake Tyrrell.
* Investing in the Mildura Riverfront Stage 1a –Village Square project.
* Investing in the Koondrook All Abilities Playground.
* Facilitating support and progressing construction of the new Robinvale Community Hub.
* Supporting the re-commencement of regular passenger flights by Qantas Link out of Bendigo.
* Progressing the Murray River Adventure Trail –Stage 1 Business Case and Design Project.
* Delivering a Silo Art Extension Project, which will inform future investments and opportunities in the Mallee and Wimmera Southern Mallee Partnership Regions.
* Investing in the Maldon Streetscape Revitalisation Project.
* Launching the Keep in Touch (KiT) Van and App, a co-designed youth-focused outreach resource that promotes help seeking behaviours.
* Completing the Active Living Census by 25,000 residents from the Loddon Campaspe region. The survey is one of three key initiatives of the Healthy Heart of Victoria initiative.
* Establishing the Walking Together or Balak Kalik Manya project that involves the Dja Dja Wurrung leading the planning and on-ground management of two popular parks adjacent to Bendigo and Castlemaine.
* Supporting nine community investments through the Stronger Regional Communities Program.
* Supporting 15 Building Works package projects designed to create jobs, attract visitors and kickstart local economies impacted by this summer’s bushfires and coronavirus.

### Investment and trade

#### Cann Group

Cann Group was awarded a grant under the Victorian Government's Regional Jobs Fund to support a $95 million staged expansion of a medicinal cannabis cultivation and processing facility near Mildura. The project will include electricity upgrades at the planned facility which is expected to generate around 150 new permanent jobs.

#### Grape Co

Grape Co was awarded a grant under the Food Source Victoria program to undertake an investment of $1.24 million for the purchase and installation of new table grape punnet packing equipment near Mildura. The project will create 33 new full-time equivalent jobs at Merbein South, an additional $6.3 million in export revenue and benefit an alliance of 35 table grape producers supplying the facility from the Sunraysia region.

#### White Gum Apples

White Gum Apples received a grant under the Food Source Victoria Program to help expand and modernise its manufacturing and warehousing facilities at Barkers Creek, near Harcourt. The project will create seven new full-time equivalent jobs.

#### Kirkland Lake Gold

RDV and Earth Resources assisted Kirkland Lake Gold to establish an on-site cement plant and mine water treatment plant.

A grant under the Victorian Government’s TARGET (Round 2) Minerals Exploration Initiative helped the company undertake further exploration at its Fosterville mine. Kirkland is investing $51.8 million to establish the plant that will be important to discover additional mineral reserves at the Fosterville site. The project will create 30 new jobs in Foserville.

#### Wine Growth Fund - Round 3

RDV worked with vineyards and wineries in the region, as well as the Bendigo Winegrowers Association and Macedon Ranges Vignerons, to help boost production and tourism for the local wine industry. The third round of the Wine Growth Fund enabled 19 projects in the region, including a glamping project at Lake Cooper Estate that will create seven new jobs.

#### Premier Fruits Lancaster

Premier Fruits Lancaster, as part of the La Manna Premier Group, received funding towards a Stage 2 $10 million investment in a five-hectare greenhouse investment for tomato and other produce growing in Lancaster that will create a further 41 full-time equivalent jobs.

#### Energy assistance

RDV provided broad sector energy reviews and extensive facilitation across energy intensive industries through initiatives such as the Industry Energy Support Scheme. This supported manufacturing business, KR Castlemaine, with boiler replacement and power factor correction upgrades.

RDV also collaborated on renewable energy sector development, including working with DELWP on renewable energy initiatives including support for Enel Green Power Australia's $29 million investment near Cohuna.

### Economic development

#### Donald Community Hub

Donald’s $2.85 million sports stadium and function centre were completed. The project has transformed the stadium into a vibrant multipurpose facility to serve the community for generations.

#### Charlton Park Community Hub

The Charlton Park Community Hub, which received $1.45 million from the Victorian Government towards the $4.2 million multi-purpose sport, racing and recreation centre, was opened to much anticipation. The community-driven project consolidated existing buildings to create a modern multi-purpose facility with shared resources and a better layout.

#### Koondrook All Abilities Play Facility

The Victorian Government provided $390,000 to support this $520,000 project that will deliver an all abilities play facility in the heart of Koondrook. The project will involve installing play equipment and other accessible features, particularly for children with a disability. The completed project will enhance social and health outcomes across the region by encouraging more physical activity and catering for young people with a disability.

#### Working Housing and Accommodation for the Mallee

The Victorian Government committed $500,000 towards a $1.7 million project supporting the Swan Hill Rural City Council’s innovative Robinvale Worker Housing initiative. Addressing a shortage of housing suitable for professional staff in Robinvale which is limiting the town's economic development and population growth, the project will deliver a subdivision of eight lots and construction of four houses for on selling to help stimulate the market in Robinvale.

The Victorian Government also committed $800,000 to support the Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council Inc deliver their Ramsay Court Mildura Worker Accommodation Phase 2 project. The project will refurbish 25 rooms and purpose-built worker accommodation for migrant and seasonal workers.

#### Mildura Riverfront Development – Stage 2

RDV continued to lead the further development of the Mildura Riverfront that included completing a Mildura Riverfront Stage 2 Master plan and feasibility assessment. This initiative provides a framework for further community infrastructure investment to support tourism and commercial opportunities on the riverfront escarpment. Work progressed with the Victorian Planning Authority, VicTrack and Mildura Rural City Council to help address planning matters to support future project delivery.

#### Mildura Chocolate Company

The Victorian Government provided a $38,000 grant to the Mildura Chocolate Company that employs people with a disability in the Mallee region. It is run by the not-for-profit disability support organisation, the Christie Centre, which provides support services and employment opportunities to people with a disability and is committed to greater equality and inclusion in the Mallee region.

This enabled the Mildura Chocolate Company to purchase a conveyor belt, combined hopper and packing machine. The new equipment helped increase production of premium quality chocolate and employ a more diverse range of people with a disability.

#### The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion

The Victorian Government continued to support the delivery of the $5 million infrastructure project near Bendigo that involves completing the structure of the Great Stupa and visitor facilities in the precinct. This year the Great Stupa structure (phase 1) was completed and the hand-crafted gold finial at the top of the monument was unveiled in January 2020. Since then, significant progress has been made on the provision of visitor services infrastructure (phase 2).

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# Financials 2019-20

### Grant payments

In 2019-20, the following payments were made:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Organisation Project Payment $ | Organisation Project Payment $ | Organisation Project Payment $ |
| **2014 Bushfires Economic Recovery Fund** |
| Latrobe City Council | Future Morwell - Communication and Branding project | 16,909 |
| Latrobe City Council | Future Morwell - Morwell City Entrances project | 200,000 |
| Latrobe City Council | Future Morwell - Urban Design and Beautification Project | 100,000 |
| Ballarat GovHub |
| City of Ballarat | Ballarat GovHub - Implementation of CBD Parking Action Plan | 250,000 |
| Department of Justice and Community Safety (Victoria) | Ballarat GovHub Staging Post | Commercial in confidence |
| **Bushfire Recovery Fund 2015-16** |
| Colac Otway Shire | Wye River Half Marathon Trail Run event | 10,000 |
| Community Bushfire Recovery 2020 |
| Alpine Shire Council | High Country Comeback Event | 26,000 |
| **Community Regional Industry Skills Program** |
| K R Castlemaine Foods Pty Ltd | KRC - Building Capability Project (CRISP) | Commercial in confidence |
| Economic Infrastructure Program |
| Multinet Gas (Db No 1) Pty Ltd & MultinetGas (Db No 2) Pty Ltd | Supply of Natural Gas to Warburton | 78,852 |
| Queenscliff Harbour Pty Ltd as the Trustee for the Classic Reproductions Unit Trust and Real Harbour Company Pty Ltd and The Trustee for Peninsula Harbour Unit Trust | Queenscliff Fisherman's Wharf Precinct Rejuvenation Project | 750,000 |
| Food Source Victoria |
| Backyard Beekeeping Ballarat Pty Ltd | Food Source Victoria – Scholarship – Amanda Collins | 2455 |
| Ballarat Regional Tourism | The Grampians Pyrenees Wine Region Marketing Masterplan Implementation | 10,000 |
| Campbells Wines | Interactive Visitor Journey to Discover Muscat of Rutherglen | 3800 |
| Carboor Farms Pty Ltd | Carboor Farms Manufacturing, Innovation and Export Expansion | Commercial in confidence |
| City of Greater Geelong | Implementation of the Sustainable Agribusiness Strategy | 25,000 |
| Emerald Springs Pastoral Company | Expansion of the Cattle Backgrounding and Quarantine Facility | 34,000 |
| Farm Foods Pty Ltd | Farm Foods Value Chain USA Export Project | Commercial inconfidence |
| Fruit Innovation Processing Pty Ltd | FSV – Fruit Innovation Processing – Pilot Plant | 96,750 |
| Geoffrey Thompson Holdings Limited | Establishment of an Export Standard Fruit Packing and Grading Facility at Mooroopna | Commercial in confidence |
| Gippsland Natural Meats | FSV - Gippsland Natural Meats – Retail Ready Export Project | 25,000 |
| Goulburn Valley Walnuts Pty Ltd | Goulburn Valley Walnuts Business Relocation and Expansion | 100,000 |
| Grape Co Australia Pty Ltd | Table Grape Punnet Packing Equipment | 100,000 |
| Koallah Farm | Koallah Farm Export Accreditation upgrade | 40,000 |
| Mantzaris Fisheries Pty Ltd | FSV – Value Adding Australian Prawns | Commercial in confidence |
| Mount Moriac Olives | FSV – Geelong Region Olives Collaborative Enterprise | 20,000 |
| Mt Alexander Fruit Gardens | FSV – Creating the land of milk and honey in rural Australia | 33,775 |
| Nillumbik Tourism and Business Inc | The Artisan Hills Wineries regional awareness project | 4000 |
| Organic Dairy Farmers of Australia Limited | Australian Organic Milk Value-Adding Facility | Commercial in confidence |
| Otway Harvest Trail | Growing our Harvest: Enhancing the Otway's produce alliance and product experience | 30,000 |
| South Gippsland Shire Council | South Gippsland Specialty Food Logistics | 5000 |
| Southern Ocean Mariculture | Pilot scale production trial of an extract from abalone processing waste | 14,431 |
| Symons Organic Dairy | Mortlake Organic Dairy Hub | 50,000 |
| The Australian Walnut Company Pty Ltd | Establishment of a Walnut Growers' Co-operative and Processing Facility Feasibility | 10,000 |
| The Australian Walnut Company Pty Ltd | Establishment of a Walnut Growers' Co-operative and Processing Facility Feasibility | 10,000 |
| The Food Purveyor | FSV – Market and Logistics Platform for Small Producers | 24,500 |
| The Grange Farm Food | The Grange Farm Food Garlic Processing Facility Expansion | 75,000 |
| Victorian Farmers' Markets Association | FSV – VFMA - Growing regional economies through accredited farmers, markets | 25,000 |
| W F Montague Pty Ltd | Export Distribution Centre | Commercial in confidence |
| White Gum Apples P/L | Manufacturing expansion for new products and market growth | 60,000 |
| Wine Victoria | FSV - Innovation support in the Victorian Wine Industry | 24,000 |
| Worn Gundidj | Worn Gundidj Enterprises Bush Food Project | 10,000 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Organisation Project Payment $ | Organisation Project Payment $ | Organisation Project Payment $ |
| Geelong City Deal |
| Colac Otway Shire | Apollo Bay Harbour - Geelong City Deal | 600,000 |
| Colac Otway Shire | Great Ocean Walk Stage 1 – Geelong City Deal | 200,000 |
| Colac Otway Shire | Tourism Infrastructure at Kennett River - Geelong City Deal | 300,000 |
| Deakin University HQ - Office of the Vice Chancellor | Geelong Future Economy Precinct Infrastructure | 1,300,000 |
| Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning | Feasibility for Great Ocean Walk Stage 2 – Geelong City Deal | 50,000 |
| Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning | Revitalising Central Geelong Partnership – Geelong City Deal | 1,680,000 |
| Royal Geelong Yacht Club Inc | Geelong Waterfront Safe Harbour Precinct | 2,000,000 |
| Searoad Ferries | Queenscliff Ferry Terminal Upgrade - Geelong City Deal | 570,000 |
| Goulburn Valley Industry and Infrastructure Fund |
| W. Ryan Abattoirs Pty Ltd | Ryan Export Upgrade Project | Commercial in confidence |
| Latrobe Valley Economic Facilitation Fund |
| CRRC Times Electric Company (CRRC TEC) | Facility for traction assembly/electrical testing of HCMT components | Commercial in confidence |
| Federation University Australia – Gippsland | Brown Coal Innovation Australia - Regional Carbon Innovation Centre (RCIC) Feasibility | Commercial in confidence |
| Federation University Australia – Gippsland | Federation University Feasibility Study Gippsland Additive Manufacturing Centre | Commercial in confidence |
| GBG Concrete & Construction Pty Ltd | Pre-Fabrication Facility Expansion | Commercial in confidence |
| Gibsons Groundspread Pty Ltd | Gibsons Logistics Expansion Project | Commercial in confidence |
| Gippsland CNC Cutting | Gippsland CNC Cutting – Workshop Relocation and Upgrade | Commercial in confidence |
| Gippsland Greenhouse Produce Pty Ltd | Construction of a high-tech glasshouse for the production of high-quality glasshouse produce | Commercial in confidence |
| JH Cuthbertson Pty Ltd | Quarry Crushing and Screening Plant Upgrade | Commercial in confidence |
| Latrobe City Council | Latrobe City Aerospace Precinct – Feasibility Study | Commercial in confidence |
| Latrobe Valley Enterprises | Latrobe Valley Enterprises Expansion and Increased Productivity Project | Commercial in confidence |
| Latrobe Valley Glass | Latrobe Valley Glass Residential Window Factory | Commercial in confidence |
| Quality Motorcycle Training | Quality Motorcycle Training Moe Relocation Project | Commercial in confidence |
| Serco Citizen Services | Newborough Contact Centre | Commercial in confidence |
| Signature Care | LVEFF – Signature Care - Moe Aged Care Home | Commercial in confidence |
| Strzelecki Engineering Pty Ltd | Manufacturing Capacity Expansion Project | Commercial in confidence |
| Top Welding & Construction Pty Ltd | Top No.5 Workshop | Commercial in confidence |
| Valley Court Laundrette | Valley Court Laundrette Pty Ltd New Flatwork Linen Processing Facility | Commercial in confidence |
| Victoria Valley Meat Exports Pty Ltd | Stage 2 Export Market Growth Project | Commercial in confidence |
| Vincent Painting Contractors | Vincent Painting Pty Ltd - Fluid Flow Repair Facility | Commercial in confidence |
| Latrobe Valley Growth and Innovation Program |
| Federation University Australia – Ballarat | Gippsland Hi-Tech – Innovation Centre –- Main Construction Works | 9,300,000 |
| Latrobe Valley Supply Chain Transition Program |
| Allform Industries | HSCTP Program – Business Transition Services Plan - Allform Industries | 16,658 |
| ANC Forestry Pty Ltd | LVSCTP Business Transition Services - ANC Forestry | 16,500 |
| Ausvic Pty Ltd | HSCTP Program – Business Transition Services Plan - Ausvic Pty Ltd | 16,500 |
| Automation, Control & Engineering Services (ACES) | HSCTP Program – Business Transition Services Plan - Automotion, Control & Engineering Services Pty Ltd | 44,000 |
| BJ Bearings | LVSCTP Business Transition Services – BJ Bearings | 16,500 |
| Dasma Services Pty Ltd | LVSCTP Business Transition Services Plan – Dasma | 16,500 |
| DataCommand Pty Ltd ATF DataCommand Unit Trust | LVSCTP Business Transition Services – DataCommand | 44,000 |
| Dave's Panel Worx | LVSCTP Business Transition Service Plan – Dave's Panel Worx | 16,500 |
| Dennis Jones Engineering Pty Ltd | HSCTP Business Transition Services – Dennis Jones Engineering | 16,500 |
| Farnham Court Motel | LVSCTP Business Transition Services – Farnham Court | 16,500 |
| Gippsland Automotive Services Manzo Family Trust | LVSCTP Business Transition Services – Gippsland Automotive | 16,175 |
| Gippsland Bearing Supplies Pty Ltd | LVSCTP Business Transition Services – Gippsland Bearing Supplies | 16,500 |
| Gippsland CNC Cutting | LVSCTP Business Transition Service Plan – Gippsland CNC Cutting | 16,500 |
| Gippsland CNC Cutting | LVSCTP Business Transition Services Plan (2019 extension program) – Gippsland CNC Cutting | 44,000 |
| Gippsland Lifts and Cranes | Gippsland Lifts and Cranes – HSCTP Business Transition Services Plan | 16,500 |
| Gippsland NDT | HSCTP Business Transition Service – Gippsland NDT | 16,500 |
| GQS | HSCTP Program - Business Transition Services Plan – STR Inspection Services Pty Ltd | 16,500 |
| Henderson Business Services Pty Ltd | LVSCTP Business Transition - Henderson Business Services Pty Ltd T/A Workforce XS | 16,000 |
| Henderson Business Services Pty Ltd | LVSCTP Business Transition Services – Henderson Business Services Pty Ltd T/A Workforce XS | 22,227 |
| Hydeng Pty Ltd | LVSCTP Business Transition Services – Hydeng Pty Ltd | 44,000 |
| Hydraulic & Pneumatic Pty Ltd | LVSCTP Business Transition Services – Hydraulic & Pneumatic Pty Ltd | 16,500 |
| KND Services | LVSCTP Business Transition Services – KND Services | 16,500 |
| Latrobe Valley Machining Pty Ltd | HSCTP Business Transition Services – LV Machining | 16,500 |
| Mairin OHS & E Consulting Pty Ltd | HSCTP Business Transition Service Plan – Mairin OHS & E | 16,500 |
| Manatoka Pty Ltd | LVSCTP Business Transition Services – Manatoka | 16,500 |
| O&M Pty Ltd | LVSCTP Business Transition Services – O&M Pty Ltd | 16,500 |
| Shop Drawings & Projects (Formerly Gippsland Precision Engineering) | HSCTP Program - Business Transition Services Plan – Direct QC (Formerly Gippsland Engineering) | 16,500 |
| Taylor Miller Pty Ltd | HSCTP Business Transition Services – Taylor Miller | 16,500 |
| Tradeweld Pty Ltd | LVSCTP Business Transition Service Plan – Tradeweld Pty Ltd | 42,242 |
| Traralgon Industries Pty Ltd | HSCTP Program - Business Transition Services Plan – Traralgon Industries Pty Ltd | 16,500 |
| Valley Court Laundrette | HSCTP Program - Business Transition Services Plan – Valley Court Laundrette Pty Ltd | 16,500 |
| Vincent Painting Contractors | HSCTP Business Transition Services Plan – Vincent Painting | 16,500 |
| Willaton Transport | LVSCTP Business Transition Extension Program – Willaton Transport | 16,000 |
| Willaton Transport | LVSCTP Business Transition Service Plan – Willaton Transport Pty Ltd | 55,000 |
| Latrobe Valley Worker Transition Program |
| Gippsland Employment Skills Training | GEST Worker Transition Services | 53,580 |
| Gippsland Trades & Labour Council | Latrobe Valley Worker Transition Services | 45,000 |
| Workways Australia Limited | Workways Worker Transition Service | 15,000 |
| Living Regions Living Suburbs |
| Albury Wodonga Regional FoodShare | Support for Albury Wodonga Regional FoodShare Operations and Sustainability | 50,000 |
| Bendigo FoodShare | Support for FoodShare Operations and Sustainability - Bendigo FoodShare | 50,000 |
| Brookes Beer Pty Ltd | Central Victorian Brewers Alliance Collaboration Program | 60,000 |
| City of Greater Bendigo | Strengthening Victoria's FoodShare Operations | 200,000 |
| Federation University Australia - Ballarat | LRLS - FUAB – New Concentrix Call Centre for Westpac Destressed Customers | 350,000 |
| Greater Shepparton City Council | 2030 Greater Victorian Commonwealth Games Bid Pre-Feasibility Study | 10,000 |
| Greater Shepparton City Council | Increasing Export Opportunities for Dairy – White Tide Project Phase 1 | 50,000 |
| Greater Shepparton City Council | Museum of Vehicle Evolution (MOVE) Shepparton | 900,000 |
| Hepburn Shire Council | LRLS – HSC - Clunes Town Hall and Police Courthouse Remedial Works | 317,000 |
| Mount Alexander Shire Council | Victory Park Accessible Pathways and Ray Bradfield Room Kitchen Upgrade | 50,000 |
| Parks Victoria | Nowa Nowa Boggy Creek Trail Upgrade | 250,000 |
| Romsey Mechanics Institute | Romsey Mechanic's Institute Toilet Refurbishment and Renovation | 35,000 |
| Rural City of Wangaratta | Sam Miranda – Tour of the King Valley | 10,000 |
| Samaritan House Geelong | Samaritan House and FormFlow Housing Project | 500,000 |
| Shepparton FoodShare Inc | Support for Shepparton FoodShare Operations and Sustainability | 50,000 |
| Southern Grampians Shire Council | Hamilton Industrial Land Estate Subdivision Stage 2 | 150,000 |
| St John of God Hospital Ballarat | LRLS - St JoGH - Ballarat Innovation and Research Collaboration for Health (BIRCH) – Operational Extension | 150,000 |
| The Country Womens Association of Victoria Inc | 2019 Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) Triennial Conference | 10,000 |
| Tomorrow Today Education Foundation Ltd | Sustainability for the Tomorrow Today Education Foundation | 60,000 |
| Walhalla Goldfields Railway Inc | Walhalla Goldfields Railway Rail Motor project (LRLS) | 151,000 |
| Warrnambool and District Foodshare | Support for Foodshare Operations and Sustainability | 50,000 |
| Wellington Shire Council | Gippsland Comeback Event 2020 | 70,000 |
| Youth Live4Life | Connecting Communities in COVID-19 | 10,000 |
| Local Industry Fund for Transition |
| AKS Industries Australia Pty Ltd | LIFT – AKS Industries – Business Expansion and Productivity Project | Commercial in confidence |
| Australian Lamb (Colac) Pty Ltd | LIFT – Australian Lamb – Colac Capacity Expansion Project - Stage Two B | Commercial in confidence |
| Bates Pipes Geelong Pty Ltd | LIFT – Bates Pipes and Products – Concrete Pipe Production Facility Modernisation and Expansion Project | Commercial in confidence |
| Chemring Australia Pty Ltd - Lara | LIFT - Chemring Australia – Lara Facility Expansion –Countermeasures for USA Market | Commercial in confidence |
| Routleys (Vic) Pty Ltd | LIFT – Routleys (Vic) – Routleys Expansion Project | Commercial in confidence |
| Flat Glass Industries Pty Ltd | LIFT – Flat Glass – Creating world best practice architectural glass manufacturing facility in Geelong | Commercial in confidence |
| Murray-Darling Basin Regional Economic Diversification Program (VIC) |
| Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning | Plan2Farm | 540,000 |
| Shire of Campaspe | Echuca Riverfront Development | 3,600,000 |
| Putting Locals First Program |
| Moorabool Shire Council | Ballan Industrial Estate – Ballan Activation (Part A) – Construction & Development | 135,000 |
| Seaview Public Hall Reserve Committee | Seaview Heritage School Project | 1400 |
| Regional Connectivity Program  |
| Optus Mobile Pty Ltd | VMP2 – Optus | 489,107 |
| Optus Mobile Pty Ltd | VMP2.1 – Optus | 361,648 |
| Regional Development Australia - Regional |
| Benalla Rural City Council | Benalla Future Workforce Analysis | 4500 |
| Commerce Ballarat Limited | Sponsorship of 2020 Ballarat Business Awards | 22,000 |
| Latrobe City Council | Invest Gippsland – Gippsland Beef Event | 9000 |
| Mansfield Shire Council | Mansfield Producers Inc – Paddock to Plate Agritourism Alliance – Marketing and Implementation Plan | 10,000 |
| Runway Geelong Limited | Runway, Deakin and Gordon Start-up-Corporate Hybrid Internship – Research and Consultation seed project | Commercial in confidence |
| Towong Shire Council | Building economic development capacity in Hume local government | 8000 |
| Regional Development Priorities 2019-2020  |
| Benalla Rural City Council | Making a Splash in Benalla – Construction Project | 500,000 |
| City of Greater Geelong | Barwon Heads Arts and Community Hub | 50,000 |
| Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc | Support the Country Women's Association: Annual funding | 100,000 |
| Macedon Ranges Shire Council | Romsey Ecotherapy Park – Stage 2 | 240,000 |
| Victorian Planning Authority | Sebastopol Revitalisation | 250,193 |
| Regional Development Victoria Special Purpose Projects |
| Be.Bendigo | Growing Regional Opportunities for Work (GROW) Bendigo | 250,000 |
| City of Ballarat | CSF – Lake Wendouree Community Outdoor Gym Facilities | 72,000 |
| Committee for Greater Shepparton | Shepparton, Growing Regional Opportunities for Work (GROW) | 187,500 |
| East Gippsland Shire Council | East Gippsland Shire Council – Community Priorities Fund | 500,000 |
| Give Where You Live | Geelong, Growing Regional Opportunities for Work (GROW) Expansion | 100,000 |
| Highlands LLEN | Ballarat, Growing Regional Opportunities for Work (GROW) | 220,000 |
| Leopold Hall Inc | Leopold Hall Extension | 75,400 |
| Marysville and Triangle Community Foundation Limited | Review and Refresh Marysville and Triangle's Economic Strategy | 10,000 |
| Marysville Triangle Business and Tourism Inc | Marysville Tourism and Arts Centre | 40,000 |
| Murrindindi Shire Council | Doing Business Better – Stage 1 | 24,840 |
| Murrindindi Shire Council | Doing Business Better – Stage 2 | 78,750 |
| Runway Geelong Limited | Ballarat Innovation Lab and Digital Space (BILDS) project | 858,000 |
| Southern Grampians Shire Council | Southern Grampians – Flood Recovery Community Infrastructure Fund 2017 | 164,960 |
| Strathbogie Shire Council | Friendly Societies Oval to Memorial Reserve Euroa Town Link | 180,000 |
| Latrobe Valley Authority | Latrobe Valley, Growing Regional Opportunities for Work (GROW) | 675,000 |
| Regional Infrastructure Fund |
| Bass Coast Shire Council | Revitalisation of the Cowes Precinct – Delivering on the Phillip Island Vision for the Future | 420,000 |
| Baw Baw Shire Council | West Gippsland Arts Centre, Warragul: Redevelopment and Seating Capacity Expansion Project | 1,500,000 |
| Borough of Queenscliffe | Queenscliffe Hub | 290,000 |
| Buloke Shire Council | Charlton Park 2020 Multi-Purpose Facility Development | 400,000 |
| Buloke Shire Council | Donald Multipurpose Community Facility Redevelopment | 300,000 |
| City of Ballarat | Eureka Stadium and Sports Infrastructure – Relocation of Ballarat Showgrounds | 2,650,000 |
| Glenelg Shire Council | Henty Employment Precinct Infrastructure Upgrade | 875,000 |
| Greater Shepparton City Council | Shepparton Art Museum | 2,500,000 |
| Latrobe City Council | Latrobe Creative Precinct | 3,500,000 |
| Northern Grampians Shire Council | Halls Gap Activation - Stage 1 | 400,000 |
| Northern Grampians Shire Council | Stawell CBD Revitalisation | 110,000 |
| Royal Geelong Yacht Club Inc | Geelong Waterfront Safe Harbour Precinct Public Access and Infrastructure Development | 2,920,000 |
| Rural City of Wangaratta | Wangaratta Gateway Precinct Project | 2,000,000 |
| The Trustee for PGPD Trust No. 2 | Ballarat Station Precinct Redevelopment | 10,337,000 |
| Towong Shire Council | Corryong Airport Precinct Development | 132,399 |
| University of Melbourne | Stawell Underground Physics Lab (SUPL) | 2,000,000 |
| Victorian Rail Track | Bendigo Tramways Development | 3,500,000 |
| Warrnambool City Council | Warrnambool City Centre Renewal | 1,000,000 |
| Wildlife Wonders Ltd | Wildlife Wonders: Ecotourism for economic development and environmental conservation | 1,200,000 |
| Wodonga City Council | Wodonga Library and Gallery Redevelopment project | 200,000 |
| Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund 2019-20 |
| Ararat Rural City Council | RIF 2019-20 – ARCC – Ararat East Development Zone Road Realignment Integrated Planning Strategy | 100,000 |
| Aussie Pride Produce Pty Ltd | Aussie Pride Produce Expansion | Commercial in confidence |
| EDP Australia Pty Ltd | Mooroopna Expansion | Commercial in confidence |
| Golden Plains Shire Council | RIF 2019-20 – GPS – Three Trails Project | 50,000 |
| Hepburn Shire Council | RIF 2019-20 – HSC – Daylesford Aquatic and Civic Plaza Precinct | 100,000 |
| Horsham Rural City Council | RIF 2019-20 – HRCC - City to River Transformation Stage 1 – Wimmera Riverfront Activation | 100,000 |
| Moorabool Shire Council | RIF 2019-20 - MSC - The Bacchus Marsh 1000 | 50,000 |
| North Star Industries Pty Ltd | Site Consolidation / Expansion in Strathmerton (Project Evolution) | Commercial in confidence |
| Northern Grampians Shire Council | RIF 2019-20 – NGSC - Stawell Housing Development | 100,000 |
| Safetech Pty Ltd | Moe Manufacturing Expansion | Commercial in confidence |
| West Wimmera Shire Council | RIF 2019-20 – WWSC – Activating the Edenhope Community Centre – Aspirations for Paradise (Hopes for Eden) | 100,000 |
| Yarriambiack Shire Council | RIF 2019-20 – YSC – Home Is Where the Hall Is | 100,000 |
| Regional Jobs Fund |
| Arlo Vintners | Cellar Door and Storage Development | 12,500 |
| Austins Wines Pty Ltd | Austin's Wine Bar - Cellar Door Expansion | 15,000 |
| Austins Wines Pty Ltd | Moorabool Valley Wine Club | 2000 |
| Australian Eatwell Pty Ltd | Meat Analogue Development Project | 60,000 |
| Avalon No. 1 Pty Ltd | Construction of New International Terminal & Extension of Existing Domestic Terminal at Avalon Airport | Commercial in confidence |
| Avalon No. 1 Pty Ltd | Industrial Precinct Development (Avalon Airport Industrial Precinct) | Commercial in confidence |
| Baie Wines | Collaborative undervine straw spreading initiative | 5000 |
| Ballarat Regional Industries Inc | Food Packaging Expansion | 2075 |
| Beechworth Vignerons Association | E-commerce Platform and Marketing | 5000 |
| Billy Button Wines | Winery Facilities and Equipment Upgrade | 75,000 |
| Blue Pyrenees Estate Pty Ltd | Blue Pyrenees Estate Wine Education Centre | 12,000 |
| Blue Pyrenees Estate Pty Ltd | Regional Cross Flow Technology | 50,000 |
| Brandmere Nominees Pty Ltd | Sustainable Viticulture Project | 1900 |
| Buller Wines Pty Ltd and TFB Wine Investments Pty Ltd | Installation of Crossflow Filter | 35,000 |
| Cadopen Pty Ltd (Tallangatta Meats) | TMP Processing Expansion | Commercial in confidence |
| Captains Creek Organic Wines | Enhancing the Cellar Door Food and Wine Experience | 6000 |
| Chalmers Wines Australia Pty Ltd | Chalmers Winery Upgrade | 30,000 |
| Cheerpack Asia Pacific Pty Ltd | Construction of a New Packaging Manufacturing Facility in Shepparton | 56,000 |
| Cobaw Ridge | Loft Accommodation | 10,000 |
| CT4 Pty Ltd | CT4 Virtual Security Operations Centre | Commercial in confidence |
| De Bortoli Wines Pty Ltd | Rutherglen Estates Upgrade of Irrigation & Associated Systems | 4000 |
| Delatite Wines Pty Ltd | Cellar Door Expansion and Eco Tourism Experience | 25,000 |
| Denfood Pty Ltd | Manufacturing Expansion Project | Commercial in confidence |
| Domaine Asmara Pty Ltd | Automated Bottling Line | 75,000 |
| Eastern Peake Vineyard | Clemens double side undervine weeder | 15,000 |
| Fallen Giants | Cellar door expansion | 5000 |
| Feathertop Winery – Boyntons Australia Pty Ltd | Wine Production Tank | 10,000 |
| Formula Forage Australia | Formula Forage Wodonga Relocation | 50,000 |
| Fowles Wine Pty Ltd | Expansion of Fowles Wine's Cellar Door and Cafe at Avenel | 50,000 |
| Garden Gully Grampians Wine | Grampians Estate Cellar Door Redevelopment Project | 30,000 |
| Geelong Manufacturing Council | Cleantech Innovations Geelong 2018-2021 | 110,000 |
| Gilmac (WA) Pty Ltd | Gilmac – St. Arnaud Hay Processing Facility | Commercial in confidence |
| Give Where You Live | G21 Region Opportunities for Work (GROW) Project | 200,000 |
| Glenelg Shire Council | Continuation of RPT Aviation Services | 25,000 |
| Global City Connect | Wine product development for the Chinese Hot Pot market | 5000 |
| Grampians Winemakers | Grampians Winemakers Stands at Visitor Information Centres | 10,000 |
| Greenham Gippsland Pty Ltd | Greenham Gippsland – Facility Upgrade | Commercial in confidence |
| Harcourt Produce & General Store | Vertically integrated offering of Harcourt Valley wines | 10,000 |
| Harrybilt Engineering & Welding Services | Harrybilt Engineering Market Growth Strategy | 30,000 |
| Heathcote Tourism & Development Inc | Promotion of Heathcote wineries, cellar door and point of difference in the region | 5000 |
| Hofmann Engineering Pty. Ltd. (Bendigo) | Hofmann FLEXPRO – Flexible Production Line (Bendigo) | Commercial in confidence |
| Hop Products Australia | Buffalo River Expansion | Commercial in confidence |
| Indigo Wine Company Limited | Barrell Experience | 10,000 |
| J.C. Butko Engineering Pty Ltd | Manufacturing Facility Expansion | 80,000 |
| James Stockfeed & Fertilizer Pty Ltd | James Stockfeed Expansion | 50,000 |
| Jasper Hill | Heathcote Weather Station Project | 5500 |
| Jones Winery & Vineyard | Frost Fan to Protect Vineyard | 20,000 |
| JV Orchards Pty Ltd | JV Orchards cold storage expansion | 75,000 |
| Lake Cooper Estate | 'Glamping' Project at Lake Cooper Estate | 20,000 |
| Lethbridge Wines | Cellar Door Improvement Project | 4000 |
| Lyons Will Estate | Winery Expansion | 20,000 |
| M Antonello | Water Security – Market Demand | 40,000 |
| Mac Forbes Wines | Phylloxera Research project | 5000 |
| Melbourne Food and Wine Events Ltd | Food and Wine Victoria – Wine Month Feasibility Study | 5000 |
| Mitchell Harris Investment Trust | Urban Winemaking and Education Facility | 7981 |
| Mount Camel Winery and Vineyard Pty Ltd | Rebuild of website | 4500 |
| Mount Langi Ghiran Winery | Premium Wine Processing Line | 19,900 |
| Mountainside Wines | Cellar door kitchen creation | 2500 |
| Oakdene Wines Pty Ltd | Oakdene eCommerce project  | 2500 |
| Pfeiffer Wines | Processing and Winery Modernisation | 20,000 |
| Port Phillip and Western Port Catchment Management Authority | Composting to improve wine outcomes | 5000 |
| Quartz Hill Wines | Straw Bale Cellar Door | 15,000 |
| Ronald B & Sheila W Phelan | Establishment of a Wine Production Facility | 30,000 |
| Sandy Farm Winery | Walking tracks | 3500 |
| Scion Vineyard & Winery | Redevelopment of Cellar Door and Winery Experience | 6000 |
| SEM Fire and Rescue Pty Ltd | Building capacity to capture Defence contract | 60,000 |
| Shadowfax Winery Pty Ltd | Composter and closed loop system | 10,000 |
| Shadowfax Winery Pty Ltd | Shadowfax Wines Exports Plan | 7000 |
| Shaws Road Winery | Expansion of capacity | 15,000 |
| South Gippsland Wine Company | South Gippsland Wine Company Solar Robotic Vineyard Project | 20,000 |
| Southern Phone Company Limited | Setup of New Telecommunication and Data Facility in Bendigo | Commercial in confidence |
| Southern Spreaders Pty Ltd | Hansa business expansion | 30,000 |
| SubRosa Wines | Subrosa wine e-commerce and digital marketing training project | 2000 |
| Talbot Provedore and Eatery | Central Victorian Online Wine Store | 5000 |
| Tambo Wine | Tambo Wine – Function Centre Establishment | 8000 |
| Tellurian Heathcote | Cellar door expansion | 50,000 |
| The Trustee for Atkins & Davis Trust | Winery and Cellar Door Expansion | 30,000 |
| The Trustee for Southern Riverlands Property Trust | Establishment of a Large-Scale Broiler Production Enterprise | Commercial in confidence |
| Tourism North East | Wine Enthusiast Campaign | 20,000 |
| V Cordoma Properties Pty Ltd | New Warehouse and Cold Storage Facility | Commercial in confidence |
| Vinea Marson | Expansion of the Vinea Marson Cellar Door | 6500 |
| Wellington Shire Council | West Sale Airfield Infrastructure Upgrades – AIR5428 | 1,000,000 |
| Welshmans Reef Vineyard | Automated Bottling Line | 15,000 |
| Willem Kurt Wines & DB Winemaking | Production Facilities and Cellar Door Construction | 15,000 |
| XLAM Australia Pty Ltd | XLAM Establishment of Australian HQ | Commercial in confidence |
| Ashton Pty Ltd | Expansion of Swan Hill Abattoir | Commercial in confidence |
| Carbon Revolution Ltd | Establishment and Operation of a Commercial Scale Carbon Fibre Wheel Manufacturing Facility | Commercial in confidence |
| Regional Partnerships |
| Agribusiness Gippsland Inc | Gippsland Agrifood Growth Aspiration Analysis | 5000 |
| Ballarat Community Health | Central Highlands Prevention Lab | 37,500 |
| Barwon South West Waste & Resource Recovery Group | Optimal Regional Waste Management Infrastructure Model | 25,000 |
| Baw Baw Latrobe Local Learning and Employment Network Inc | STEM Sisters 2019 | 47,500 |
| Beyond the Bell Great South Coast Ltd | Beyond the Bell 2017-2020 | 250,000 |
| Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning | Great Ocean Road Region Planning Context Analysis | 74,420 |
| Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning | Great Ocean Road Touring Route Supporting Infrastructure Strategy | 114,800 |
| Destination Gippsland | Gippsland Tourism Destination Management Plan | 40,000 |
| Federation University Australia - Gippsland | Gippsland Centre for Innovation & Research – Business Case | 12,936 |
| Food & Fibre Gippsland Inc | Formation of a Peak Gippsland Agribusiness Industry Group | 10,000 |
| Food & Fibre Gippsland Inc | SME Export Hub | 62,000 |
| Gippsland East Local Learning and Employment Network Inc | Higher Education in Gippsland: how we are faring | 2605 |
| Hepburn Shire Council | Hepburn Local Transport Benchmarking Strategy | 5000 |
| Horsham Rural City Council | Regional Innovation Project | 120,000 |
| Indigo Shire Council | Beechworth to Yackandandah Rail Trail Extension – NEVCO Infrastructure Project | 1,910,000 |
| Latrobe City Council | Invest Gippsland Website Redevelopment – Stage Two | 10,000 |
| Melbourne School of Engineering, University of Melbourne | Mallee Regional Innovation Centre | 500,000 |
| Murrindindi Shire Council | Road Trauma Research | 30,000 |
| NE Tracks Local Learning And Employment Network Inc | Wangaratta Digital Hub | 120,000 |
| Northern Grampians Shire Council | Cycle West – Implementation Priorities from Grampians RDV Region Cycling and Trails 10 Year Master Plan | 200,000 |
| Northern Grampians Shire Council | OPAN – Opportunities Pyrenees, Ararat and Northern Grampians | 200,000 |
| Parks Victoria | Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing Business Case Project | 100,000 |
| Parks Victoria | Twelve Apostles Peak Season Visitor and Traffic Management 2019-20 and 2020-21 | 159,138 |
| Pyrenees Shire Council | Evaluating Transport Connections in the Pyrenees Shire | 5000 |
| Runway Geelong Limited | Runway Ecosystem Accelerator – Scale Up support initiative | Commercial in confidence |
| Swan Hill Rural City Council | Activating the Swan Hill Riverfront Precinct | 300,000 |
| Swan Hill Rural City Council | Robinvale Housing Strategy (RP) | 15,000 |
| Tourism North East | Optimising Victorian Alpine Resorts economic growth | 40,000 |
| Tourism North East | Ride High Country 4-Year NEVCO Marketing Program | 1,095,000 |
| Victorian Multicultural Commission | Food Next Door Community Demonstration Farm Implementation | 200,000 |
| Warrnambool City Council | Great South Coast Economic Futures: Regional Stakeholders driving Regional Benefits | 16,250 |
| Warrnambool City Council | Great South Coast Food & Fibre Council | 200,000 |
| Wimmera Development Association Inc | Wimmera Southern Mallee Tourism Collaboration and Destination Management Plan. | 125,000 |
| Wodonga City Council | Inland Port for Logic Wodonga | 5000 |
| Wodonga City Council | Wodonga Business Innovation Hub Feasibility Study | 180,000 |
| Regional Skills Fund |
| Australian Federation of Disability Organisations | Improving the accessibility of Greater Geelong and the Bellarine | 30,099 |
| Ballarat Regional Tourism | Ballarat and Grampians Tourism Skills Audit, Gap Analysis and Strategy | 25,000 |
| Birchip Cropping Group Inc | AgTIDE Education and Training | 125,000 |
| Central Grampians LLEN Inc | Jobs and Training Connect (formerly known as Central Grampians Learning and Jobs Hub) | 50,000 |
| City of Ballarat | Intercultural Employment Pathways (IEP) Program | 100,000 |
| Federation University Australia - Gippsland | Allied Health Workforce Attraction - Development of Education Programs | 400,000 |
| Food and Fibre Gippsland Inc | GIPPY Ag - Gippsland Industry Projects and Pathways for Youth in the Agrifood Sector | 45,000 |
| Geelong Ethnic Communities Council | The BASE Hospitality Co. | 194,000 |
| Goldfields Track Incorporated | Upskilling of Ride/Walk Tourism Operators | 10,000 |
| Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism Limited | GOR Workforce Development Plan | 44,000 |
| Hancock Victorian Plantations (Churchill) | Forest harvesting optimisation skills training | 100,142 |
| Hop Temple Pty Ltd | Australian Centre Craft Beer Excellence - Education Project | Commercial in confidence |
| K R Castlemaine Foods Pty Ltd | KRC - Building Capability Project (RSF) | Commercial in confidence |
| Leadership Great South Coast | Great South Coast Economic Migration Pilot | 37,120 |
| Murray Dairy Limited | GMID Rural Skills Connect | 211,350 |
| Murray Dairy Limited | New Generation Skills for the Dairy Industry | 160,000 |
| Murray Mallee LLEN Swan Hill | Connect U | 120,000 |
| NELLEN | Ovens Murray Workforce Development Project | 200,000 |
| Nhill Neighbourhood House Learning Centre | Wimmera CALD Workforce Industry Partnership | 120,000 |
| Shaping Futures | Innovative Workforce Cluster (IWC) - Sunraysia Employment Program | 75,000 |
| St John of God Hospital Ballarat | Ballarat Innovation and Research Collaborative for Health (BIRCH) - Stage 1 | 50,300 |
| Surf Coast Shire | Skills & Emerging Industries Audit | 150,000 |
| The Gordon Institute of TAFE | Growing the Health and Community Services Workforce | 84,000 |
| The Gordon Institute of TAFE | Northern Futures | 160,900 |
| Tourism North East | High Country Tourism Sector Digital Upskilling Program | 150,000 |
| Warrnambool City Council | Ni Hao! Welcoming the Chinese Tourist Market to Warrnambool & Region (China Host Program) | 30,000 |
| Wodonga Institute of TAFE | Agriculture and Engineering Regional Victorian Skills Partnership | 10,000 |
| Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund |
| Alpine Shire Council | Mount Buffalo Business Assessment Project | 60,000 |
| Borough of Queenscliffe | Development of Fort Queenscliff Business Case | 118,000 |
| Buloke Shire Council | Lake Tyrrell Tourism Infrastructure Development Project | 200,000 |
| City of Greater Bendigo | Dai Gum Loong – A New Dragon for Bendigo and Preservation of Imperial Dragon Sun Loong | 70,000 |
| Creswick Woollen Mills Pty Ltd | Creswick Woollen Mills Enhancement Project | Commercial in confidence |
| East Gippsland Shire Council | Omeo Mountain Bike Park Destination Project | 100,000 |
| Gannawarra Shire Council | Koondrook Nature Based Tourism Hub | 640,000 |
| Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism Limited | Aboriginal Tourism Development Planning Project | 112,500 |
| Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation | Budj Bim Master Plan Stages 1 & 2 | 1,050,000 |
| Hepburn Shire Council | Creswick Trails Project | 400,000 |
| Holgate Group Pty Ltd | Holgate Group Historic Hotel and Brewery Discovery Centre Expansion | Commercial in confidence |
| Hop Temple Pty Ltd | Australian Craft Beer Centre of Excellence | Commercial in confidence |
| Mount Buller & Mount Stirling Alpine Resort Management Board | Mt Buller Water Storage Project | 6,000,000 |
| Shire of Campaspe | Echuca Entertainment Precinct Redevelopment Business Case and Design | 100,000 |
| The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion | Completion of Stupa Structure and Provision of Services to the Great Stupa – Phases 1 & 2 | 2,009,500 |
| Tourism North East | Activating Lake Eildon to Grow the Regional Economy Business Case | 150,000 |
| Victorian Goldfields Railway | VGR Service Reorientation – Stage 2 | 400,000 |
| Winton Wetlands Committee of Management Incorporated | Winton Wetlands and Surrounds Indigenous Trail | 400,000 |
| Rural Development |
| Ararat Rural City Council | Ararat On the Move – Alexandra Oval Redevelopment – Event & Visitor Space | 400,000 |
| Castlemaine State Festival Ltd | Castlemaine Goods Shed: Creative Industries Hub | 225,000 |
| Golden Plains Shire Council | Bannockburn Civic Heart Precinct – Stage 1 | 150,000 |
| Hepburn Shire Council | East Street Heavy Vehicle Access Improvements | 80,000 |
| Indigo Shire Council | Chiltern Town Centre and Connectivity | 40,000 |
| Loddon Shire Council | Bridgewater-on-Loddon River Precinct Upgrade | 30,000 |
| Macedon Ranges Shire Council | Romsey Streetscape and Access Project | 40,000 |
| Mitchell Shire Council | Improving Liveability – Better Parks for Seymour | 200,000 |
| Mitchell Shire Council | Stage 2 Feasibility Study for the Expansion of the State Motor Sports Complex at Broadford | 12,500 |
| Moira Shire Council | Cobram Revitalisation and Liveability | 300,000 |
| Moyne Shire Council | Hawkesdale/Wangoom Halls Cluster Upgrade | 77,500 |
| Moyne Shire Council | Reardon Theatre Upgrade | 58,446 |
| Murrindindi Shire Council | Releasing the Floating City – Expanding the Houseboat Manufacturing Industry at Eildon | 200,000 |
| Northern Grampians Shire Council | St Arnaud Civic Precinct Revitalisation – Stage 2 | 25,000 |
| Pyrenees Shire Council | Activate Avoca – Stage 1 | 500,000 |
| Towong Shire Council | The Great River Road | 70,000 |
| Towong Shire Council | Upper Murray Events Centre | 600,000 |
| Yarriambiack Shire Council | Rupanyup Community Retail Hub | 400,000 |
| Stronger Regional Communities Plan |
| Alpine Shire Council | Resilient Myrtleford | 6000 |
| Ararat Rural City Council | ARCC-Grampians New Resident & Workforce Attraction Strategy & Action Plan | 45,000 |
| Ballarat Regional Tourism | Plate Up Ballarat – Post Event Extension | 12,750 |
| Ballarat Regional Trades & Labour Council | Ballarat Trades Hall Planning for Restoration | 5000 |
| Bass Coast Adult Learning Inc | BCAL Renewal | 15,000 |
| Bass Coast Shire Council | Growing Community & Business Events Workshops | 1500 |
| Benalla Rural City Council | Making a Splash in Benalla Planning Project | 48,000 |
| Buloke Shire Council | Buloke Industry, Product and Service Gap Analysis | 37,500 |
| Buloke Shire Council | Sea Lake Community Capacity Building Program | 10,000 |
| Central Goldfields Shire Council | Central Goldfields Economic Development and Tourism Strategy - Community and Industry Engagement | 50,000 |
| Central Goldfields Shire Council | Go Goldfields 2018-2020 | 500,000 |
| Centre for Participation Inc | Harmony Van – Building Jobs and Community | 3590 |
| Christie Centre Inc | Mildura Chocolate Company Expansion | 8000 |
| City of Greater Bendigo | Bendigo Showgrounds Master Plan | 22,500 |
| CMG Cooperative Limited | Feasibility Study – Establishment of a Chicken Meat Processing Plant | 4000 |
| Committee for Ballarat | Leadership Ballarat and Western Region | 200,000 |
| Committee for Geelong Limited | Leaders for Geelong – Community Leadership Program | 200,000 |
| Committee for Gippsland Inc | Gippsland Community Leadership Program | 178,572 |
| Community Southwest Incorporated | Regional disability sector workforce needs analysis and action plan | 80,000 |
| Corangamite Shire Council | Camperdown Theatre Redevelopment | 12,500 |
| Deans Marsh Community Cottage Inc | Deans Marsh and District Community Action Plan | 20,000 |
| Department of Health and Human Services (Victoria) | Stawell Gift 2016-19 | 100,000 |
| East Gippsland Marketing Inc | Live Like a Local | 5000 |
| East Gippsland Rail Trail Committee of Management Inc | East Gippsland Rail Trail Signage Implementation | 5000 |
| East Gippsland Shire Council | East Gippsland Rail Trail Strategic Business Case | 3750 |
| East Gippsland Shire Council | Growing the East Gippsland Visitor Economy – New Market Opportunities in Recreational Fishing | 8750 |
| Erica Caravan Park | Erica Community Training Hub | 15,000 |
| Friends of East Gippsland Rail Trail | Snowy River Floodplain Rail Bridge Restoration - Business Case | 2100 |
| Girgarre Development Group Inc | Gargarro Regional Botanic Garden – Stage 1 – Detailed Design | 50,000 |
| GoFish Nagambie | GoFish Nagambie Outdoor Lifestyle Festival | 10,000 |
| Goldfields Local Learning & Employment Network (GLLEN) | Passions and Pathways 2019-2023 | 300,000 |
| Goulburn Murray Community Leadership Program Inc | Goulburn Murray Community Leadership | 178,572 |
| Grampians Tourism | GT-Grampians New Resident & Workforce Attraction Strategy & Action Plan | 45,000 |
| Horsham Rural City Council | HRCC-Grampians New Resident & Workforce Attraction Strategy & Action Plan | 45,000 |
| Lead Loddon Murray | Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program | 200,000 |
| Lead Loddon Murray | Strengthening Community Leadership in Central Goldfields | 50,000 |
| Loddon Shire Council | Boort Scar Trees Masterplan and Product Development | 40,000 |
| Loddon Shire Council | Pyramid Hill Community Centre Planning | 30,000 |
| Macedon Ranges Shire Council | Lauriston Community Hall Revitalisation Works | 10,000 |
| Macedon Ranges Shire Council | Redevelopment of the Woodend Community Centre - Business Case and Master Plan | 25,000 |
| MADEC Australia | Northern Mallee Leadership Program | 178,572 |
| Mansfield Shire Council | Horse Power in the High Country | 2400 |
| Mitchell Shire Council | A Tourism Partnership - Mitchell, Murrindindi and Strathbogie | 40,000 |
| Mitchell Shire Council | Connecting Seymour to the Great Victorian Rail Trail Feasibility Study | 45,000 |
| Mitchell Shire Council | Kilmore Community Hub Masterplan | 5000 |
| Mitchell Shire Council | Seymour Revitalisation Initiative - Development of a Branding and Marketing Strategy | 10,000 |
| Mount Alexander Shire Council | Castlemaine – Etty Street Precinct – Master Plan | 40,000 |
| Mount Alexander Shire Council | Maldon Town Centre and Shopfront Improvement Business Case | 30,000 |
| Moyne Shire Council | Leadership Great South Coast Program | 178,572 |
| Murrindindi Shire Council | Lake Eildon Boating and Fishing Show | 50,000 |
| Nagambie Lakes Tourism & Commerce Inc | Destination Nagambie | 12,500 |
| North East Agcare Incorporation | Alpine Valleys Community Leadership Program | 178,572 |
| Northern Grampians Shire Council | NGSC-Grampians New Resident & Workforce Attraction Strategy & Action Plan | 45,000 |
| Queenscliff Harbour Pty Ltd as the Trustee for the Classic Reproductions Unit Trust & Real Harbour Company Pty Ltd & The Trustee for Peninsula Harbour Unit Trust | Winter Wonderland – Queenscliff | 5000 |
| RMIT University - School of Vocational Engineering Health and Sciences | SWIFT App Development training | 5200 |
| Rural Councils Victoria | Stronger Rural Councils 2016-19 | 925,149 |
| Shire of Campaspe | Kyabram Fauna Park Strategic Development Plan | 40,000 |
| South Gippsland Shire Council | South Gippsland Business Associations Good Governance Toolkit | 4500 |
| South West Institute of TAFE | Student Hub Feasibility Study - GSC | 12,500 |
| Southern Grampians Shire Council | SGSC-Grampians New Resident & Workforce Attraction Strategy & Action Plan (5/5) | 45,000 |
| Swan Hill Rural City Council | Swan Hill – Live Better | 12,500 |
| Swan Hill Rural City Council | Swan Hill Regional Arts, Indigenous and Cultural Precinct | 100,000 |
| The Funding Network | Pitch Coaching for Impact | 1170 |
| This Farm Needs A Farmer | Shadow Farming | 10,000 |
| Tourism Greater Geelong and the Bellarine | From Asia via Avalon: International Students Visiting Friends & Relatives Market | 15,000 |
| Tourism Greater Geelong and the Bellarine | Queenscliff Branding and Traders Retail Vision | 12,500 |
| Upper Murray Health & Community Services | Building a Resilient Future | 12,500 |
| Victorian Regional Community Leadership Programs Secretariat Inc | Victorian Regional Community Leadership Program Secretariat (VRCLPS) | 17,857 |
| Victorian Regional Community Leadership Programs Secretariat Inc | Victorian Regional Community Leadership Program Secretariat (VRCLPS) 2019-2021 | 180,000 |
| Violet Town Action Group Incorporated | Southern Aurora Disaster - 50th Anniversary Commemoration Weekend | 5000 |
| Warrnambool City Council | Warrnambool – A City for Living | 3000 |
| Wathaurong Glass | Wathaurong Glass Social Enterprise Business Plan | 70,000 |
| West Wimmera Shire Council | West Wimmera Indigenous Trail | 45,000 |
| Wimmera Development Association Inc | Leadership Wimmera | 178,572 |
| WiFi Victoria |
| iiNet Limited | Public Wifi | 54,999 |
| Working for Victoria - Agriculture Workforce Plan |
| Sunraysia Institute of TAFE | Horticulture Farm Worker Induction Program - SuniTAFE - AWP | 20,000 |
| Regional Blueprint - Industries for Today and Tomorrow |
| CHS Broadbent Pty Ltd | Ballarat West Employment Zone (BWEZ) expansion | Commercial in confidence |
| Silo Art Study  |
| Creative Victoria | RP Initiatives 2018/19 - Silo Art Study  | 231,000 |
| Community Revitalisation |
| Good Shepherd Microfinance | Microenterprise program - Good Shepherd | 300,000 |
| Horticulture Innovation Fund |
| Agriculture Victoria  | Horticulture Innovation Fund | 500,000 |
| Arts Initiatives |
| Regional Arts Victoria | Regional Arts Victoria | 700,000 |
| **Grand Total** |  | **118,586,661** |

### 2019–20 output targets and performance against Budget Paper 3 measures

In 2019-20 the following payments were made:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Performance measures | Unit of measure | 2019-20actual | 2019-20target | Performance variation (%) | Result |
| Quantity |
| Actual export sales generated for regional businesses as a result of participation in government programs. | $ million | 56 | 55 | 1.8 | ü |
| Economic development and service delivery projects supported. | number | 148 | 60 | 146.7 | ü |
| Jobs in regional Victoria resulting from government investment facilitationservices and assistance. | number | 1215 | 1200 | 1.3 | ü |
| New investment in regional Victoria resulting from government facilitation services and assistance. | $ million | 840 | 700 | 20 | ü |
| Quality |
| Participant satisfaction with implementation of RDV programs. | per cent | 100 | 90 | 11.1 | ü |

### Revenue and expenses

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Controlled income and expenses for the financial year ended 30 June | 2020 (FY) | 2019 (FY) |
| Income from transactions |
| Output appropriations | 112,212  | 37,129  |
| Special appropriations |  -  |  -  |
| Regional Growth Fund appropriations | 24,579  | 125,000  |
| Grants | 32,269  | 18,373  |
| Sale of services |  -  |  -  |
| Interest income | 2,395  | 3,301  |
| Fair value of assets & services received free of charge |  -  |  -  |
| Other income |  -  | 0  |
| Total income from transactions | 171,455  | 183,803  |
| Expenses from transactions |
| Grants and other transfers | (166,916) | (107,808) |
| Employee expenses | (24,383) | (21,522) |
| Capital asset charge | (1,889) | (1,296) |
| Depreciation and amortisation  |  -  | (534) |
| Interest expense | (15) | (7) |
| Other operating expenses | (10,809) | (7,211) |
| Total expenses from transactions | (204,012) | (138,377) |
| Net result from transactions (net operating balance) | (32,558) | 45,426  |

# Contact information

### Regional Development Victoria regional offices

##### Ballarat

111 Armstrong Street North, Ballarat 3350. Tel: (03) 5327 2800 Fax: (03) 5327 2830

##### Bendigo

Level 1, 56-60 King Street, Bendigo 3550. Tel: (03) 4433 8000 Fax: (03) 4433 8099

##### Geelong

Level 2, Harrison Place, 237 Ryrie Street, Geelong 3220. Tel: (03) 5215 6000 Fax: (03) 5215 6099

##### Horsham

The Grains Innovation Park, 110 Natimuk Park, Horsham 3400. Tel: (03) 5362 2111

##### Mildura

131 Langtree Avenue, Mildura 3500. Tel: (03) 5051 2000 Fax: (03) 5051 2020

##### Shepparton

79 Wyndham Street, Shepparton 3632. Tel: (03) 5895 4100 Fax: (03) 5822 2554

##### Traralgon

33 Breed Street, Traralgon 3844. Tel: (03) 5116 7300 Fax: (03) 5175 0324

##### Wangaratta

1st Floor, 62 Ovens Street, Wangaratta 3676. Tel: (03) 5722 7101 Fax: (03) 5722 7109

##### Warrnambool

703-709 Raglan Parade, Warrnambool 3280. Tel: 5561 4135 Fax: 5561 3851

##### Wodonga

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