

Eastern Metropolitan Partnership

REPORT BACK 2019



Eastern Metropolitan Partnership Report Back 2019

The Victorian Government proudly acknowledges Victoria's Aboriginal community and their rich culture and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

We acknowledge Aboriginal people as Australia's first peoples and as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land and water on which we rely.

We recognise and value the ongoing contribution of Aboriginal people and communities to Victorian life and how this enriches us.

We embrace the spirit of reconciliation, working towards the equality of outcomes and ensuring an equal voice.

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Maintaining liveability across our suburbs

MINISTER'S FOREWORD

The East is a wonderfully diverse region stretching from the established suburbs of Glen Waverley, Burwood and Doncaster, all the way to the magnificent Yarra Ranges. The communities of the east love its beautiful leafy spaces and unique natural assets, such as the magnificent Dandenong Ranges National Park. The Eastern Region is also known for world-class universities, cultural icons, like the Heide Museum of Modern Art, and well serviced suburban centres.

The Eastern Metropolitan region is renowned as a great place to live, work, and raise a family. The challenge is making sure that it stays that way. Getting the community involved in developing future priorities is a great place to start. Communities understand better than anyone the essence of their areas and the unique challenges of planning ahead for each one.

That is why the Government has established the Metropolitan Partnerships, to ensure our suburbs remain great places to live as we continue to grow.

Each year the Partnership submits its independent advice to government on what it sees as the top priorities for jobs, services and infrastructure across the region. Before submitting the advice, the Partnership engages with the community to understand what is most important to the people who live, work, study and visit the region.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Eastern Partnership and the community for their hard work in developing this advice. I am looking forward to working with the Eastern Metropolitan Partnership on a range of issues, including how we can combat social isolation and loneliness in our community.



A stylized, handwritten signature in dark blue ink.

The Hon Marlene Kairouz MP

Minister for
Suburban Development
Minister for Consumer Affairs,
Gaming and Liquor Regulation

Delivering for the Eastern Region

The Victorian Budget 2019–20 is delivering key funding outcomes across the Eastern Region, with metropolitan and state-wide investments.



Education

\$1.4 billion

Keep building, upgrading and modernising schools across Victoria.

\$231 million

Training and skills to keep transforming the sector by strengthening training quality, building more world-class facilities, growing Victoria's pool of skills workers, and expanding Free TAFE for Priority Courses.



Environment

\$154 million

6,500+ hectares of parkland with new walking and bike trails right across our suburbs, providing a place for local families to relax and switch off.

\$545 million

Expand Solar Homes and put the power back in the hands of Victorians, as part of a \$1.3 billion investment state-wide.



Sport

\$175 million

Local Sports Grants across Victoria to support local communities to develop sport and active recreation infrastructure.



Road and rail

\$6.6 billion

Remove another 25 of Melbourne's most dangerous and congested level crossings, bringing our total commitment to 75 level crossings gone for good by 2025.

\$15.8 billion

Fully fund the North East Link – finally making the missing link in our network a reality.

\$3.4 billion

Transform the suburban train network, delivering a massive upgrade to the Sunbury Line, Stage Two of the Hurstbridge Line and duplicating the Cranbourne Line.

\$300 million

Commence planning and consultation for the Suburban Rail Loop.



Health

\$3.8 billion

A \$3.8 billion plan to build modern hospitals across the state.

\$321.9 million

Begin the roll-out of free dental for students at our government schools, state-wide.

\$214 million

Ensure new parents have the support they need, with nine new parenting centres, extended sleep assistance and new baby bundles.

\$173 million

Make sure Victorians are getting the mental health help that they need.

\$64.4 million

Support stronger patient ratios and deliver an extra 542 nurses and midwives in our hospitals.

Introduction

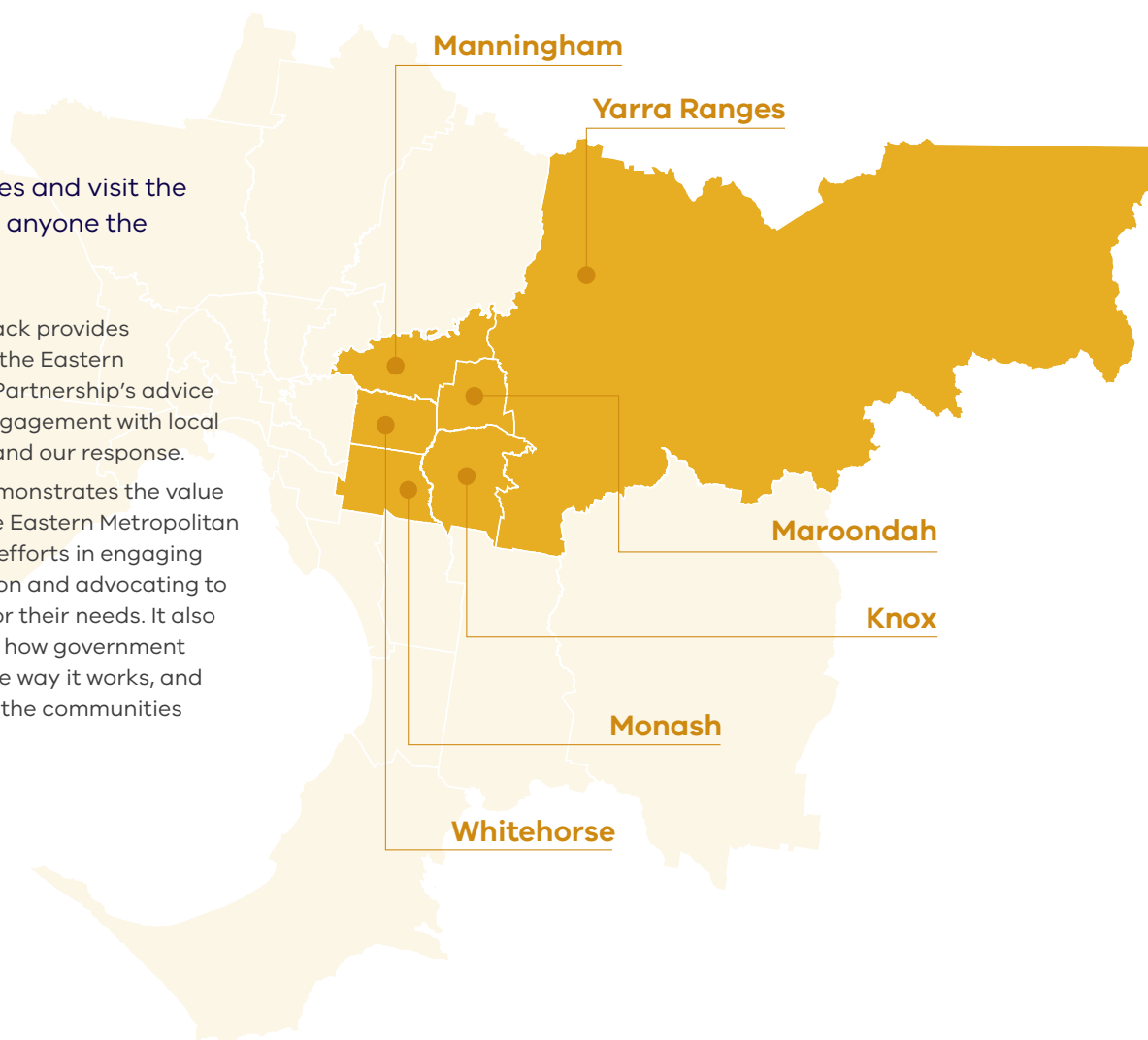
The people who live, work, study, own businesses and visit the Eastern Metropolitan Region know better than anyone the opportunities and challenges for the region.

The Government established the Metropolitan Partnerships to ensure our suburbs remain great places as Melbourne continues to grow. The new regional partnership approach places community at the centre of decision-making.

The Metropolitan Partnerships were established across Melbourne's six sub-regions to provide government with independent advice on priorities to address growth and maintain our city's renowned liveability. The Partnerships provide a way for communities to engage directly with state and local government, advising government of the top community priorities and opportunities for jobs, services and infrastructure.

This Report Back provides a snapshot of the Eastern Metropolitan Partnership's advice for 2018, its engagement with local communities and our response.

The report demonstrates the value created by the Eastern Metropolitan Partnership's efforts in engaging with their region and advocating to government for their needs. It also demonstrates how government is changing the way it works, and engages, with the communities it serves.



Metropolitan Partnerships – communities at the centre

The Metropolitan Partnerships model was established to create opportunities for the community to influence decisions and shape the future of their own communities. The Partnerships facilitate annual planning and community engagement activities each year, before submitting formal advice to the Government through the Minister for Suburban Development.

Phase 1

Metropolitan Partnership meetings and engagement

Throughout the year Metropolitan Partnership work with their communities to identify opportunities for driving improved social, economic and environmental outcomes. They liaise with regional stakeholders, government departments and agencies, regional leadership groups and engage directly with communities.

Phase 2

Metropolitan Partnership annual community engagement

Each year, each Metropolitan Partnership engages with the community to explore, test and refine priorities for the region. This engagement informs the Partnership's annual advice to government. In 2018, each Metropolitan Partnership heard from the community through an Assembly held in the region and attended by government representatives.

Phase 3

Metropolitan Partnership advice to government

In October/November, Metropolitan Partnerships submit their annual advice to government on regional outcomes and priority initiatives for the coming year.

Phase 4

Government's coordinated response

The Minister for Suburban Development works with portfolio Ministers to respond to the Metropolitan Partnership advice. This can include responding via:

- existing programs and services
- supporting further investigation of issues using Metropolitan Partnerships Development Funds
- new initiatives funded as part of the annual State Budget process.

The Eastern Metropolitan Partnership

The Eastern Metropolitan Partnership is half-way through its four-year term facilitating community engagement and shaping advice to the Victorian Government about the issues that matter to you – the people who live, work, study, visit and run businesses in the region. The Partnership members include up to nine community and business representatives, the CEOs of each local council in the region and a senior executive representing the Victorian Government. **SEE APPENDIX 1.**

The Partnership's 2018 engagements included contributing to the metropolitan-wide Youth Forum on 7 May to bring youth voices from the East to the table, and hosting an annual assembly bringing together 68 community members, councillors, mayors and government ministers on 13 June.

To deepen engagement with the business community, the Partnership also conducted a business forum on 27 June attended by 30 employers in sectors including transport, social housing, environment, business, community health, youth and sport.

The Partnership's 2018 engagement highlighted a range of priorities to better manage the region's growth and address critical regional issues – identifying environmental sustainability as a missing priority. Messages that came through consistently from participants at the 2018 Youth Forum, Business Forum and Assembly concerned the need to improve the public transport network and for young people to build practical job-ready skills.

The Business Forum drew out the following perspectives on priorities:

- Improved transport connections, especially rail connections, as well as improvements to the road and freight network are required to support the regional economy.

- We need to support our young people with better skills and training, with a focus on soft/enterprise skills, to ensure they are better prepared for joining the regional workforce.
- Affordable housing and improved public transport services will assist with workforce retention.

The Eastern Metropolitan Partnership's vision is for:

'A region with strong connections between people, places, services and jobs, that addresses disadvantage'.

Top three priorities chosen by participants at the Assembly

- 1 Environmental sustainability
- 2 Affordable and social housing
- 3 Social inclusion.

Priorities chosen by students and young people who attended the Youth Forum

1 Education

Including life skills in school curriculum and connecting schools with higher education

2 Environmental sustainability

Protection and education, promotion of renewable energy

3 Mental health

Improving services and increasing awareness in schools and the broader community

4 Public safety

Improving security, especially for women, in areas such as transport hubs



The Eastern Metropolitan Partnership's advice

The Eastern Metropolitan Partnership's advice to the Government focused on:

1 Regional connectivity

Making it easier to travel around and across the region, especially using public transport and passive modes such as walking and cycling.

2 Integrated health and social services

Ensuring the region's most vulnerable people have easy access to the full range of health and social services they need.

3 Social inclusion

Ensuring that all people in the region feel connected and able to participate in community life regardless of age, gender, physical ability, or multicultural background. Focus on community sport as a vehicle for driving inclusion and social change.

4 Affordable social housing

Increasing the supply of social housing in the region by 11,420 dwelling over the next two decades.

5 Jobs for youth

Improving the transition for young people from secondary school to meaningful training and employment.

We received the Partnership's advice in September 2018 and we're responding in various ways, notably through:

- existing programs and services
- support for further investigation of issues using Metropolitan Partnerships Development Funds
- new initiatives funded in the Victorian Budget 2019–20.

This Report Back provides an overview of the Partnership's advice on regional priorities and key issues raised by your communities, our response and other actions we're taking.

Eastern Metropolitan Partnership



Regional connectivity

The Eastern Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is for improved transport connections to make it easier to get around the region and improved access to the region's natural assets



What you said

“Traffic congestion ... is a cost to business.” BUSINESS FORUM

“Improve public transport connectivity to the city with more frequent buses, trams and trains.” YOUTH FORUM

“... it can be particularly challenging to travel north-south by public transport, but as the population continues to grow and traffic congestion gets worse, we know we need to reduce our dependence on car travel”. PHIL MURTON, DEPUTY CHAIR, ASSEMBLY

“Students from the inner part of the region love how easy it is to get around on public transport. But for students from the outer east, public transport is a source of great frustration”.

LANI WOLFGGRAMM, 2018 SCHOOL CAPTAIN, BORONIA K-12 COLLEGE, REPORTING BACK ON HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YOUTH FORUM

“Small changes in timetabling for people relying on buses would have a big influence – instead of the 3.57pm, move the time to 4.15pm, and increase the services.” BUSINESS FORUM

“We are playing ‘catch-up’ with traffic on major roads.” BUSINESS FORUM

What we’ve heard

The Partnership’s advice to government focuses on active transport and improving access to the region’s jobs, services and natural assets and improving the bus service network.

The community is concerned about increasing traffic congestion pressure on public transport and the need for improved public transport services in the outer East. This has knock-on effects to access to jobs and services for the young, and access to services for the elderly.

An efficient, reliable integrated transport network requires a combination of road, rail, bus, walking and cycling networks all working together. Such a network can provide some of the glue that keeps communities together and contributes to health and prosperity.


The population in the East is ageing faster than most other Melbourne regions. Safe and reliable bus services can help ease the social isolation experienced by the elderly enabling their participation in community life. Participants at the Assembly identified transport connectivity as impacting heavily on the wellbeing of the elderly, creating challenges for them to access specialist and other health services beyond their immediate neighbourhoods. CONTINUES



What we've heard CONTINUED

Participants at the Business Forum expressed concern about traffic congestion and the cost to business. Assembly and Youth Forum participants pointed to the need for improvements in bus services across the region, particularly in the outer East. They identified the need for work-friendly timetables for shift workers based at hospitals and industrial estates, more frequent services, as well as extending bus routes to outer areas where communities are more isolated, unemployment is higher, and fewer households have access to a car.

Under the theme of active transport – encouraging walking and cycling – the Eastern Regional Trails Strategy remains a high priority for the Partnership. Poor cycling infrastructure was identified as an issue at the Youth Forum and environmental sustainability was identified as a missing priority by communities in the East. The Partnership has promised to take up this issue in 2019.

How we're responding

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>Investment in an integrated network of active transport infrastructure which is well-connected to public transport:</p> <p>Yarra Valley Trail – Lilydale to Yarra Glen (\$1.5 million)</p> <p>Warburton Mountain Bike Destination Stage 2 (\$3 million)</p> <p>Main Yarra Trail connection to Warrandyte (\$650,000)</p> <p>Shared-use Path along Healesville Freeway Reserve (\$2 million)</p> <p>Melbourne Water Pipe Track Path from Syndal to Mitcham (\$1.55 million)</p> <p>Shared path between Ferny Creek Trail and the Corhanwarrabul Trail (\$2 million)</p>	<p>The Government is committed to providing better walking and cycling infrastructure by expanding and linking up the existing bike path network across metropolitan Melbourne.</p> <p>Over the last two years, the Government has provided \$11.5 million towards the implementation of the Eastern Regional Trails Strategy contributing to the construction of the Yarra Valley Trail, the Ridgewalk trail, the Burwood Highway shared-use path, and Stage 1 of the Warburton Mountain Bike Trail.</p> <p>The Victorian Budget 2019–20 is providing \$154 million to deliver 6,500 hectares of parkland – including new walking and bike trails across Melbourne – through the Suburban Parks Program, which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the establishment of up to 16 off-leash dog parks across Melbourne, including parks within the municipalities of Whitehorse, Knox and Maroondah, and an extra 25 pocket parks across Melbourne will be developed, including in the suburbs of Bentleigh and Oakleigh, plus a commitment for Wattle Park upgrades. <p>This is in addition to the 2018-19 Victorian Budget contribution to the Yarra Valley Trail.</p>	<p>1–4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, LAND, WATER AND PLANNING</p>

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>Extend and increase bus services across the Eastern Metropolitan Region</p>	<p>In the Victorian Budget 2019–20, the Government committed \$50.3 million for improved bus services across Melbourne.</p> <p>The Department of Transport is considering the Partnership’s initiatives as part of any future network planning review. When reviewing existing bus routes or planning for new ones, the Department of Transport considers factors including: the likely number of users, suitability of the road network for bus operations, development of a direct and easily understood network, and connectivity with other public transport services.</p> <p>Services to small communities provide a necessary and vital link, even though these services may be infrequent. The Department is investigating alternative service delivery models, such as demand responsive services.</p> <p>The Department of Transport will continue to develop options to improve bus services and accessibility. All upgrades that the Government makes to bus stops and interchanges will meet accessibility standards. More than 80 per cent of Melbourne’s bus services are wheelchair accessible, and 65 per cent of metropolitan bus stops are compliant with accessibility standards.</p>	<p>1–4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT</p>
 <p>ADVOCACY PTV to investigate how data can be used to assist in better service planning by revealing more information about pattern of travel, passenger origins and destinations, points of mode shifting etc</p>	<p>The Department of Transport currently collects a range of survey and administrative data to understand public transport usage, patterns and trends.</p> <p>This work is part of the Department’s Analytics Strategy to improve the maturity of analytics in the transport sector. Information on transport usage, patterns and trends has been identified as a priority area for attention in the strategy.</p> <p>New sources of information and data collection methodologies will be explored to complement current data collections and form part of advanced data analytics models that can better inform service planning and operations, while also improving information available to users to help them optimise their travel.</p>	<p>12 MONTHS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT</p>



Integrated health and social services

The Eastern Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is for the region's most vulnerable people to have local access to the full range of health and social services that they need

What you said

“The issue is ... lack of transport options for people who do not live near hospitals or have mobility issues.” ASSEMBLY

“Improve health care, especially mental health.” YOUTH FORUM

“Young people do not know how, or fear accessing mental health and suicide prevention services.” ASSEMBLY

“Involve young people in designing services so they are relevant to them and draw on their knowledge and experience.” ASSEMBLY

“More health services in community spaces.” ASSEMBLY

“Maintain and improve community connectedness, especially for the elderly who lack networks.” ASSEMBLY

What we've heard

The focus of the Partnership's advice is linking people to the services that will keep them well and out of hospital in the outer eastern region, particularly in Yarra Ranges.

The Partnership is concerned that vulnerable people are still slipping through the gaps in the health and services system. Communities in the outer East, especially the Shire of Yarra Ranges, experience the poorest health and wellbeing outcomes.

The current funding model pays service providers per service delivered. The Partnership believes this does not provide an incentive for coordination with other providers.

Through their 2018 engagement activities, the Partnership heard that the health and service systems are difficult for the community to access and navigate. Consumers lacked a single-entry point for accessing health and social services. Community health service providers told the Partnership that new and innovative approaches to integrating services for the vulnerable were needed.

At the Assembly and the Youth Forum, participants identified social isolation exacerbated by poor transport connections as a factor in service access. The young community leaders and students from the East who attended the Youth Forum identified mental health as an issue young people were most concerned about.

How we're responding

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL



Innovative Health and Social Service delivery model pilot – preparatory work for the development of a trial in the outer Eastern region

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

The Department of Health and Human Services and the Eastern Metropolitan Partnership have engaged Eastern Health to deliver the project using \$85,000 in seed funding from the Metropolitan Partnerships Development Fund.

The first stage of work engaged a consultant who undertook detailed demographic analysis and project scoping. This process identified high need and limited access to youth mental health services in the Shire of Yarra Ranges.

The departmental representative is working with the Partnership providing input into project design and potential service models for an integrated youth mental health response.

An options workshop with partner representatives is scheduled for mid-September 2019 to further consider the proposed options.

A final paper on this work is due early October 2019 which will provide recommendations on testing/piloting timeframes.

The project responds to community feedback about the lack of integration between health and community services.

TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT

1-4 YEARS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Social inclusion

The Eastern Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is for all people in the region, regardless of age, gender, cultural background or physical ability to feel a sense of connectedness and have opportunities to participate in community life



What you said

“We need to create environments where all people feel welcome.” ASSEMBLY

“Ensure that key people in the neighbourhood, such as GPs and hairdressers, are equipped to notice the needs of those suffering from isolation or domestic violence.” ASSEMBLY

“Provide more opportunities for face-to-face socialising – we spend too much time on social media.” YOUTH ASSEMBLY

What we’ve heard

The Partnership’s immediate focus is driving social inclusion through opportunities to participate in recreational pursuits, specifically inclusion of women in club sport.

Cohesive communities are a foundation of society. Some of the indicators used to measure community cohesiveness include acceptance of multiculturalism, participation in community events and levels of social isolation. One of the drivers of social exclusion is fear of difference. Breaking this down is more likely to occur in settings where people are exposed to diversity.

The Partnership is of the strong view that sport is a vehicle for social change. Community sport can bring together people from all walks of life in a positive setting with opportunities to build diversity in participation and improve social inclusion outcomes. Gender inequity in sport and active recreation – participation and access to resources – is still entrenched.

Addressing social isolation was a high priority for Assembly and Youth Forum participants with concerns expressed about the links between social isolation and mental health. The 2018 engagement also identified social isolation as an issue for the elderly and people living with disabilities.

The Partnership will tackle the challenge of the broader social inclusion issues in the years to come and is looking at how the 2019–20 Metropolitan Partnerships Development Fund can be used to address issues related to social isolation and inclusion.

How we’re responding

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL



Gender Equality and Unconscious Bias in sporting clubs training module trial at a selection of sporting clubs across the Eastern Region, co-funded with LGAs

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

The Government is committed to increasing the number of women and girls participating in sport and active recreation. The Government has implemented a range of initiatives that support gender equity in sport, including recently funded programs in the Eastern region including Manningham (Inclusive Clubs), Monash (CLUBS project), and Maroondah (Working Together project).

TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT

1–4 YEARS

DEPARTMENT
OF JOBS,
PRECINCTS
AND REGIONS

Affordable and social housing

The Eastern Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is for all people in the region to have a safe and affordable place to live



What you said

“I’m worried I’ll never be able to afford a home of my own.” YOUTH FORUM

“Many alternate and affordable housing options, such as boarding houses or second dwellings, are not currently viable.” ASSEMBLY

“Look at a wider range of options to suit different housing needs.” ASSEMBLY

“There are opportunities – land auditing of unused or underused land, and improving boarding house regulation to make it a viable housing option.” ASSEMBLY

“Affordable housing enables lower wage earners to live where they work.” BUSINESS FORUM

What we’ve heard

The Partnership’s advice is focused on affordable and social housing for vulnerable people and for people living with disabilities.

In the East, there is a growing number of vulnerable people at increasing risk of homelessness. This includes a rising number of middle-aged single women often fleeing family violence, as well as older people, young people, people from culturally diverse backgrounds, and people who are underemployed.

With the gradual roll-out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme, there will be an influx of people with disability attempting to enter the rental market for the first time seeking appropriately designed and priced accommodation.

As part of its targeted consultation, the Partnership consulted the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance. This group, which includes local councils in the region, prepared projections estimating a social housing shortfall of more than 11,420 dwellings over the next 20 years.

The young community leaders and students who represented the region at the Youth Forum placed a high priority on affordable housing expressing their fear of never being able to afford a home. Employers who attended the Business Forum expressed concern about the lack of affordable housing and its impact on workforce retention rates. At the community Assembly, participants discussed opportunities to allow dual occupancy through second dwellings and smaller-scale homes.

How we're responding

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>ADVOCACY Policy and Regulatory changes to the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> to introduce mandatory inclusionary zoning at rate of minimum 10 per cent on surplus government land and other strategic sites</p> <p>ADVOCACY New social housing developments to deliver a minimum of 11,420 social housing dwellings in the Eastern region by 2036, including 910 dwellings for people with disability</p> <p>ADVOCACY Tools and support to identify potential sites for new development projects in the Eastern region and for brokering with developers and housing providers</p>	<p>The Victorian Budget 2019–20 allocated \$209 million to deliver 1,000 new public housing dwellings across Victoria, including in the City of Stonnington.</p> <p>This investment builds on major investment announced as part of Homes for Victorians (2017), which is the Government's strategy to improve the housing choices for all Victorians. Homes for Victorians:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides more than \$2 billion in support for new social and affordable housing • shifts support from investors to first home buyers through tax changes and grants • improves housing outcomes for Victorians with \$770 million in funding. <p>Homes for Victorians sets out the Victorian Government's approach for working in partnership with the Commonwealth Government and local councils, the community housing sector, and the development and construction industries. As part of the Social Housing Growth Fund, the New Rental Development Program will provide around 700 affordable rental properties across Victoria.</p>	<p>1–4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</p>



Jobs for youth

The Eastern Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is for an improvement in the transition from secondary school to meaningful training or employment for young people in the region

What you said

“We know that about four per cent of school leavers in our region are not making the transition from secondary school to training or meaningful employment and these are the kids we want to focus on.” PHIL MURTON, DEPUTY CHAIR EASTERN PARTNERSHIP, ASSEMBLY

“We see many young people who are degree-qualified but have very limited practical skills.” BUSINESS FORUM

“Prepare young people for transition to work.” ASSEMBLY

“We are asking for enhancements to the Victorian curriculum to build in the teaching of basic life skills.” YOUTH FORUM

What we've heard

The Partnership's advice focuses on the poor transition for many young people in the region from school to training or employment.



The Partnership is interested in identifying duplication and gaps in employment and training services; opportunities in the local labour market; the standard of career advice and knowledge of industry skills and pathways; the decline in apprenticeships; and the need for soft skills for young people.

The Partnership has told us that many young people lack an understanding of the current and future workplace and service providers are 'siloed'. We've heard that there is a disconnect between formal providers in education and employment, accommodation, financial support and counselling, and informal providers of accommodation and social support. A youth-friendly central online jobs database does not exist.

In the East there are significant pockets of high youth unemployment, particularly in Knox, Maroondah and Yarra Ranges. The attrition rate from universities in the first year is 30 per cent. There is a mismatch of skills and employer needs. Commencements in the trades have fallen.

Employer feedback at the Business Forum identified a lack of knowledge of current, new and emerging industries. Recruits lack transferable soft/enterprise skills, and the level of language and numeracy skills required for the jobs. The young community leaders and students who attended the Youth Forum highlighted the need for life skills in the curriculum to better equip them for work. They also expressed a desire to have a voice in decision-making processes.

How we're responding

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>Research to better understand the overlap, duplication and gaps in the direct employment and training services offered in the region</p>	<p>The Department of Education and Training is collaborating with the Partnership and the Outer Eastern Local Learning and Employment Network to deliver a Metropolitan Partnerships Development Fund (MPDF) project that develops an evidence base to quantify the overlap, duplication and gaps of existing training and employment services. This will inform a regional response to key challenges and opportunities and support the improvement of training and employment services available for young people in the eastern region.</p> <p>This project has received \$80,000 in seed funding from the MPDF. This project responds to existing data and feedback from community members (including local employers) about the lack of coordination and service proficiency of existing regional youth training and employment services.</p>	<p>1-4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING</p>
 <p>Region-wide response to the training and employment needs of young people including a regional strategy developed between Education, Training and Skills and Industry and Employment</p>	<p>The Government's Free TAFE initiative is designed to ensure all Victorians can access the training they need to get a good job.</p> <p>Specifically, in the Eastern Metropolitan Region the Victorian Budget 2019-20 invests \$10.2 million for an Integrated Centre for Sustainable Construction Technologies at Box Hill Institute's Lilydale campus. This will focus on the core trades of carpentry, plumbing and electrical. This is part of the Government's commitment to build better TAFEs across the state.</p> <p>The Government suggests that the Eastern Metropolitan Partnership consider developing a jobs and skills framework for the Eastern region. This work could use the Metropolitan Partnerships Development Fund and be jointly delivered by the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions and the Department of Education and Training. The Western region has already developed a draft Jobs and Skills Framework in collaboration with local government authorities, the Partnership and Victoria University. This model could inform the development of a similar plan in the East.</p>	<p>1-4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING DEPARTMENT OF JOBS, PRECINCTS AND REGIONS.</p>

Pick My Project

Another way we have encouraged participatory decision-making in the East is through Pick My Project



Pick My Project is a democratic grassroots program supporting local communities throughout the state to develop and deliver initiatives that strengthen their local areas and neighbourhoods. Through this program, communities in the East have nominated local priorities, identified local projects and have been able to get them delivered. Pick My Project has provided \$34.8 million for local, community-led projects across Victoria. Pick My Project backs ideas to improve local communities, such as new or improved sport and recreation activities, or programs supporting health and wellbeing, innovation, and arts and culture.

How it works

Residents nominated local community-building projects and identified an eligible local organisation to sponsor their idea, such as a community group, school or local council before submitting their proposal to an online community vote.

During voting, applicants worked with their networks and encouraged their community to vote for their project.

In the East, the funding allocation was \$2.93 million for 25 projects. They covered three of the priority outcomes identified by the Eastern Metropolitan Partnership: social inclusion, integrated health and social services, and jobs for youth.

Successful projects include:

- Riding for the Disabled Centre
- Umbrella Dementia Cafés
- Teen Mums Wellness Social Enterprise Program
- Basketball Toilet and Changeroom Upgrade
- Autism ID and Lanyard Project
- Autism Carers Connect Events with Spectrum Journeys
- Mooroolbark Street Art.



Riding for the Disabled Centre

The Eastern Metropolitan Partnership's advice prioritised the driving of social inclusion by improving opportunities for all people in the region to participate in sport and recreational pursuits.

The community's support for this priority translated into enough votes in the Pick My Project process in 2018, for the development of a Riding for the Disabled Centre in Knox.

Pick My Project provided \$197,500 to establish an equestrian program specially designed for people with a variety of disabilities. Riders and volunteers experience the exhilaration of riding a horse, while developing balance and coordination, enjoying all the benefits of exercise in an outdoor natural setting, while finding an opportunity to socialise and make friends.

Appendix 1

Eastern Metropolitan Partnership members

Robin Whyte

CHAIR
CEO, Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network

Robin has extensive experience in health policy and strategy, service system reform and health care improvement.

Kristian Dauncey

CEO, Knoxbrooke Inc.

Knoxbrooke Inc. is a leading disability service in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne. Kristian has a commercial background, working in Australia and overseas.

Fiona Purcell

CEO, Outer Eastern Local Learning and Employment Network

Fiona has had extensive experience working with local schools, TAFE, business and industry and community groups.

David Plunkett

CEO, Eastern Health

David has extensive executive and senior management experience in the public and private sectors. He has a clinical background as a registered nurse and holds an MBA.

Dr Susan Maastricht

Community member

Susan is a former academic administrator and registered veterinarian. She has diverse clinical, operational and senior management experience in university, research institute and education settings.

Simon O'Callaghan

CEO, Yarra Ranges Tourism

Simon was a member of the Melbourne East Regional Development Australia Committee and held the positions of Chair and director of the Yarra Ranges Enterprise Centres.

Andrew Day

CEO, City of Manningham

Andrew Day commenced as CEO in September 2018. He was previously Director Corporate, Business and Finance at the City of Yarra, and has held executive and senior management positions in local government over the past 13 years, and management roles in the not-for-profit and health sectors.

Andi Diamond

CEO, City of Monash

Prior to her current role she served as CEO of Yarra Council for four years. She holds a BA Social Work, MBA and a Doctorate of Business and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Tony Doyle

CEO, City of Knox

Before joining local government, Tony had a successful career in the financial services sector, holding senior leadership positions with one of Australia's largest banks. He has worked in Australia and the United Kingdom and led large and diverse teams across a number of environments.

Steve Kozlowski

CEO, Maroondah City Council

Steve has more than 25 years of senior local government management experience across Melbourne and served for 10 years as local government CEO in Gippsland.

Thank you to the following outgoing members of the Eastern Metropolitan Partnership who helped develop the 2018 advice:

Phil Murton

Former CEO, Eastern Football league

Phil held a range of management roles in the Eastern Football League before taking up the position of CEO in 2013. Phil was Deputy Chair of the Partnership until taking up an executive role in recreation services at the Shire of Yarra Ranges in November 2018.

Noelene Duff

Former CEO City of Whitehorse

Prior to joining the City of Whitehorse in 2000, Noelene was Director of Customer Services at the City of Monash and has held management roles in state and local government and the not-for-profit sector, including Senior Policy Advisor at Department of the Premier and Cabinet and the Health Department of Victoria.

Welcome to new members who recently joined the Eastern Metropolitan Partnership:

Steven Wojtkiw

**DEPUTY CHAIR
Executive Policy and Chief Economist, Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

Steven is Executive Manager, Policy and Chief Economist with the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry. His key area of interest is on strategic and evidence – based policy leadership to foster Victorian business growth.

Eksath Bhareti

Co-Chair, Victorian Youth Congress

Eksath brings the voice of young people to the Partnership. He is currently a student completing his studies at Monash University.

Danielle Storey

CEO, Eastern Innovation Business Centre

Danielle co-owns a business in Knox and has a wide range of connections and strong networks in the business community, and education and training sectors.

Tammi Rose

CEO, Yarra Ranges Council

Tammi commenced as CEO in February 2019. Her previous role was Director Corporate Services at the City of Hobsons Bay. She has held senior roles in both inner metropolitan and rural councils and has more than 18 years' experience leading teams and driving innovation.

Megan Bourke-O'Neil

Victorian State Government Representative, Deputy Secretary, Department of Transport

Megan Bourke-O'Neil joined the Department of Transport in August 2019 as Deputy Secretary Policy and Innovation. Prior to joining the Department, she worked in the private sector leading a strategic advisory consultancy firm.







Find out more and get involved

How can I find out more?

Visit our website

www.suburbandevelopment.vic.gov.au/partnerships/metropolitan-partnerships

Email your question

eastern.partnership@djpr.vic.gov.au

Visit MyVictoria

www.myvictoria.vic.gov.au

Visit Pick My Project

www.pickmyproject.vic.gov.au

How can I get involved?

Share your thoughts or register to attend a community forum on Engage Victoria

engage.vic.gov.au/eastern-metropolitan-partnership

