

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Carers and Volunteers



Wednesday, 22 November 2023

NEW NORTHCOTE AQUATIC CENTRE MAKES A SPLASH

The Northcote community can look forward to a new fitness facility with the redevelopment of the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre now complete, thanks to the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence today joined Minister for Children and Disability Lizzie Blandthorn, Member for Northcote Kat Theophanous and Darebin City Council Mayor Cr Julie Williams to officially open the upgraded centre ready for the Darebin community to enjoy this summer.

The centre has three new indoor pools and one outdoor heated pool, an 800 square metre gym, group fitness rooms, outdoor fitness training area, café, creche, consulting rooms and lots of parking for bikes, scooters and cars – including electric vehicle charging stations.

Accessible toilets and a Changing Places facility will ensure everyone in the community can enjoy the new centre and activities like swim classes, therapy, yoga and pilates.

Since 2018, the Labor Government's *Community Sports Infrastructure Loan Scheme* has backed 27 organisations to make almost \$480 million worth of community sport and recreation infrastructure upgrades across the state. The project was supported with \$10 million through the scheme.

The Government has invested more than \$1.9 billion in community sport and recreation infrastructure since 2014.

Darebin City Council also contributed to deliver the project.

For more information about the program and successful projects go to sport.vic.gov.au.

Quote attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"From lap swimming to gentle yoga, centres like the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre are integral to the health and wellbeing of our local communities."

Quote attributable to Minister for Children and Disability Lizzie Blandthorn

"We're proud to invest in making much-loved venues like this one even more accessible so everyone can experience the benefits of an active lifestyle."

Quote attributable to Member for Northcote Kat Theophanous

"The Victorian Government is giving communities the facilities they need so more locals can boost their health and participate in the activities they love."