

# Media Release

**The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP**  
Minister for Veterans  
Minister for Small Business  
Minister for Youth



Friday, 31 May 2024

## **NILLUMBIK YOUTH HUB MOVES FROM BLUEPRINT TO REALITY**

Shovels are officially in the ground at the highly anticipated Nillumbik Youth Hub in Diamond Creek thanks to support from the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Youth Natalie Suleyman today visited the site of the new Nillumbik Youth Hub to mark the beginning of works, which will see renovations to an existing Council building to create a vibrant new space for young people right across Nillumbik Shire Council.

The Labor Government, in partnership with the Council, has provided funding to upgrade the existing kitchen, create private consultation spaces and build a covered outdoor space for youth social sports.

The Nillumbik Youth Hub will provide specialist support for young people to help tackle important issues including mental health and wellbeing, education, financial wellbeing, employment and training and social connection.

The design of the new Youth Hub is informed by extensive co-design with local young people, who will continue to consult on and oversee the Hub's operation and services.

Youth Hubs across the state offer drop-in programs, activities and events for young people aged 12-25 years, and provide a soft entry point for information and referrals to a range of support services, while building networks and connections between young people.

The Labor Government supported Nillumbik Shire Council with \$300,000 for the project through the Youth Hubs Grant Program to redevelop an existing building into a dedicated youth hub.

The Youth Hub Grant Program is a \$1 million investment supporting the development of place-based youth hubs in Geelong and across outer Melbourne.

### **Quotes attributable to Minister for Youth Natalie Suleyman**

*"We're continuing to support Youth Hubs across Victoria – so that young people have spaces to create networks, engage with their communities, and access practical resources for education and employment."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Eltham Vicki Ward**

*"A new Youth Hub in Diamond Creek is great news for our community, particularly for young people who will be able to access services and supports, in addition to having a safe and inclusive place to hang out."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Yan Yean Lauren Kathage**

*"Young people are a vital part of our communities. The Nillumbik Youth Hub will improve their access to services and programs."*

### **Quote attributable to Mayor of Nillumbik Shire Council Cr Ben Ramcharan**

*"This is a fantastic opportunity for young local people to continue to lead this project and help shape the future of their communities."*

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