

Media Release

Ingrid Stitt MP
Minister for Mental Health
Minister for Ageing
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DELIVERING BETTER AGED CARE FACILITIES IN THE HIGH COUNTRY

The Allan Labor Government is ensuring older Victorians receive the high-quality care they need and deserve, closer to home – with designs revealed and a builder appointed for the new \$62.8 million aged care facility in Mansfield.

The new 30-bed facility is set to replace the ageing Buckland House Aged Care facility and will be located next to the existing 42-bed Bindaree Retirement Centre which will also be refurbished to deliver a modern and spacious facility for residents.

Designs for the new facility showcase 30 modern single rooms and private ensuite bathrooms, a dedicated kitchen, dining, lounge and break-out sitting areas for residents to stay connected with each other as well as loved ones.

To make the most of the surrounding natural environment, the designs also ensure residents have open area views and an abundance of natural light, acknowledging the positive impact of green spaces and fresh air for residents' physical and mental wellbeing, as well as increasing social interaction.

The new facility will also provide a dementia friendly environment that is better suited to supporting the mental health and complex care needs of older Victorians.

The dementia friendly design focus means residents can 'age in place' which is particularly important in regional areas like Mansfield – giving residents the opportunity to remain close to their support networks and maintain family and community connections as their care needs increase.

Delivered by the Victorian Health Building Authority in partnership with Mansfield District Hospital and A W Nicholson, the new facility is expected to be completed in late 2027.

In a boost to the local economy, the project is also expected to create and sustain more than 180 construction industry jobs, in addition to job opportunities generated by the new facility once operational.

The project forms part of the \$108.2 million *Rural and Regional PSRAC Revitalisation Stage 1* to expand and refurbish public sector residential aged care facilities in Mansfield and Orbost.

Quote attributable to Minister for Ageing Ingrid Stitt

"We're ensuring residents in Mansfield and surrounds receive state-of-the-art care in a home-like environment – with private bedrooms, bathrooms and an abundance of access to green spaces."

Quote attributable to Minister for Health Infrastructure Mary-Anne Thomas

"We're building and upgrading infrastructure at our public residential aged care services right across Victoria, giving older Victorians safe, tailored facilities to suit their needs."

Quote attributable to Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes

"With a builder appointed and designs for this state-of-the-art facility now revealed, communities across Victoria's High Country can look forward to seeing shovels in the ground on this project in coming months."

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