

Media Release

Ingrid Stitt MP

Minister for Mental Health

Minister for Ageing

Minister for Multicultural Affairs



Monday, 30 September 2024

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH UPGRADE ON THE PENINSULA

The Allan Labor Government continues to modernise Victoria's mental health services, with an important infrastructure upgrade at Peninsula Health now complete.

Minister for Mental Health Ingrid Stitt today announced the completion of a more than \$1 million refurbishment and upgrade of nine community mental health residential units at Peninsula Health, to support consumer wellbeing and staff safety.

Funded through the *Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drugs Facilities Renewal Fund* in 2020-21, the investment has delivered a significant facelift to the 30-year-old community mental health residential units to ensure Peninsula Health continues to deliver for Victorians seeking treatment for mental health concerns and substance use challenges.

The investment also includes essential upgrades to plumbing, electrical, roofing, and interior spaces, refreshing key facilities like the nursing office, recreational room, and doctor's office to provide a therapeutic and safe working environment for staff and consumers on their recovery journey.

Projects eligible for funding include renewal, reconfigurations and refurbishments that improve staff, consumer, and carer safety, increase quality and efficiency of services and enhance patient experience, while supporting Victorians on their mental health recovery journey.

To date, the *Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drugs Facilities Renewal Fund*, now the *Mental Health Capital Renewal Fund* has funded more than 200 infrastructure and improvement projects at mental health and alcohol and other drug care facilities across Victoria.

Thanks to a \$10 million boost from the *Victorian Budget 2024/25*, the *Mental Health Capital Renewal Fund* is now worth \$60 million with additional rounds to be announced ensuring vital funding to mental health facilities across Victoria.

The fund is just one part of the Labor Government's response to the *Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System* recommendations to reform, modernise, build service capacity and provide better models of care to give all Victorians the care, treatment and support they deserve.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Mental Health Ingrid Stitt

"By modernising our public mental health and alcohol and other drug infrastructure, we're making sure Victorians experiencing mental health and substance use challenges can receive care in modern, safe and comfortable environments."

"Refurbished and upgraded community mental health units at Peninsula Health will ensure that locals can access the best possible residential facilities to support them on their recovery journey."

Quote attributable to Member for Frankston Paul Edbrooke

"Frankston locals with mental health challenges deserve the best possible care, and this investment for Peninsula Health will deliver just that."

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Quote attributable to Member for Carrum Sonya Kilkenny

“Our health care workforce deserves the very best facilities so they can continue their life-saving work and help more Victorians who are living with a mental ill-health. That’s what we’re delivering.”

Quote attributable to Member for Hastings Paul Mercurio

“We’re investing more than ever to improve access to mental health and wellbeing care, because we know just how important it is that people get the support they need, as soon as they need it.”