

THE HON JAALA PULFORD MP

MINISTER FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1 June 2017



Economic Development,
Jobs, Transport
and Resources

REGIONAL VICTORIA – VITAL TO OUR ECONOMIC STRENGTH AND WAY OF LIFE

- **\$71.6 billion** annual economy
- **Home to one in four Victorians**
- Some **700,000 workers**
- A **third of Victoria's** \$36 billion **export trade**
- Some 30% of State's **small businesses**
- **Growing at a faster rate** than any other regional area in Australia
- Contributes \$11.5 billion and 114,400 jobs annually through **regional tourism** (one out of six total regional jobs).

We are creating a **stronger regional Victoria** through **job creation, better infrastructure** and **new investment**



GOVHUBS BOOSTING JOBS IN REGIONAL VICTORIA

Regional GovHubs are revitalizing regional cities, improving delivery of existing government services and creating local jobs

- **Ballarat GovHub**
 - Home to 1000 government employees across a number of departments and agencies
 - Revitalise the Ballarat CBD with redevelopment of the Civic Hall site
 - Creating up to 500 construction jobs
- **Latrobe GovHub**
 - New government office for 150 public service jobs
 - Delivering a \$15 million boost for the local economy and creating up to 170 construction jobs
- **Bendigo GovHub**
 - Combining several public sector agencies into a single site

REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS – LISTENING TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES

- **\$29 million** to meet **priorities identified by Regional Partnerships**, including projects in health, education, transport, housing and digital connectivity
- **\$45 million for the Connecting Regional Communities Program** to deliver better digital infrastructure:
 - **\$11 million for Mobile Black Spots Program**
 - **\$12 million** to help **farmers** in north-west Victoria, the Macalister Irrigation District, the Murray-Darling Basin and the Serpentine region **adopt internet-enabled on-farm technologies**
 - **\$7 million for enhanced broadband projects** in **Morwell, North Geelong, and Horsham**
 - **\$7 million** for digital initiatives to **support increased competitiveness of regional industries**
 - **\$7 million** for **free public Wi-Fi in Shepparton and Geelong**
 - **\$1 million** to **improve regional services** through access to government communications infrastructure

DRIVING JOBS, NEW INVESTMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE ACROSS REGIONAL VICTORIA.

- **\$500m Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund**
 - Attracting \$1.17 billion in investment
 - 322 projects approved and 328 projects in pipeline
 - Supporting all Victorian regional Local Government Areas
 - Generating \$123 million in exports
 - To-date, 4600 jobs created and retained
 - Every \$1 of State project investment driving additional \$4.23 investment



SUPPORTING VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

- **Supporting communities recovering from emergencies**
 - Wye River–Jamieson Track bushfire recovery
 - Drought Support Fund
 - Mildura storm response
- **Supporting communities affected by company closures or downsizing**
 - outplacement and transition support to workers in Stawell impacted local business closure
 - support for creation of new industrial land estate in Hamilton
 - **\$500,000 in 2017-18 State Budget** to upskill people in the **Glenelg region** to support the growth of key sectors in the region



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