

Community Matters

Spring 2022



INSIDE:

- ✓ Free Kinder
- ✓ Tackling Climate Change
- ✓ \$250 Power Saving Bonus
- ✓ Investing in Health
- ✓ Building the Education State

Helping with the cost of living in Narre Warren South

The rising cost of living affects our community

The State Government understands that the cost of living is going up and is taking direct action to help negate the recent spike in prices.

The Andrews Labor Government has committed \$9 billion to expand kindergarten programs across the state.

From 2023, free kindergarten programs will be available for all Victorian three and four-year-old children at participating services – a saving of up to \$2,500 per child, every year.

Over the next decade, Four-Year-Old Kindergarten will transition to 'Pre-Prep' – increasing to a universal 30-hour a week program of play-based learning for every four-year-old child in Victoria.

The Victorian Government's free TAFE initiative continues to cover more than 60 free courses across growing industries, supporting thousands of students in our community.

Additionally, all households are now eligible for the \$250 Power Saving Bonus to help with energy bills and cut costs.

The Sick Pay Guarantee is ensuring that casual and insecure workers can claim up to 5 days of paid sick leave a year, because no one should choose between their health and a pay cheque.

The State Government is also tackling climate change and investing in a greener future with solar panel grants for eligible consumers.

Gary Maas MP

Claim your \$250 Power Saving Bonus!



All Victorian households can now claim the \$250 Power Saving Bonus.

Over 1.2 million households have had their applications approved, providing \$259 million in immediate cost of living support.

The Power Saving Bonus is restricted to one payment per household which may be claimed until 30 June 2023.

The quickest way to apply is through the Victorian Energy Compare website at compare.energy.vic.gov.au.

If you require assistance with your application please contact my office on 8783 6959.

GARY MAAS MP
Narre Warren South

Delivering for our community





UPGRADING OUR SCHOOLS

Investing in Education

Investing in the education and wellbeing of our children

Hampton Park Secondary College

I recently joined the Premier at Hampton Park Secondary College to officially open the Doctors in Schools clinic. The State Government has also provided over \$14 million towards the school's extensive upgrade which will improve learning outcomes.

Hampton Park Primary School

Works are now complete on Hampton Park Primary School's new community hub space. The Andrews Labor Government provided \$264,625 from the Minor Capital Works Fund for the new community hub space which is assisting students with a new enhanced learning environment.

Kambrya Secondary College

Over \$18.9 million is being invested in Kambrya College to upgrade and modernise the school, including adding an additional 400 spaces in permanent facilities to meet growing demand.

Strathaird Primary School

The Victorian Government has provided \$10 million for Strathaird Primary School's upgrade and modernisation, including a new state-of-the-art eco cubby, which is a multipurpose facility including learning spaces and a kitchen for students, parent program sessions and for whole of school events. Works are well under way.

Casey Early Parenting Centre

The State Government is providing greater access to early parenting support with a new multi-million-dollar facility to be constructed at 655 Matterhorn Drive, Clyde North, which will provide local Narre Warren South parents and carers with the tailored advice they need, including support with sleep and settling, feeding and extra care for babies and toddlers.



Sick Pay Guarantee for Insecure Workers

**SICK PAY
GUARANTEE
\$245.6 M**

Supporting workers in Narre Warren South

Victorians who work in casual or other insecure jobs will no longer be forced to choose between a day's pay and looking after their health, thanks to the Andrews Labor Government's Victorian Sick Pay Guarantee.

An Australian-first, eligible casual and contract workers can claim up to 5 days in sick or carers pay. The \$245.6 million scheme will transform casual and contract work in Victoria by providing vulnerable workers the safety net they need to take time off when they're sick or need to care for loved ones.

So far 45,000 eligible workers have registered for the Sick Pay Guarantee since it launched and eligible workers can now claim for an absence on the same day that they register. The payment has been increased from 1 July 2022 to reflect the minimum wage increase.

More information and sign up at vic.gov.au/sick-pay-guarantee



HALVING EMISSIONS BY 2030!

Investing in a Greener Future

Reaching our emission targets for a greener future

Victoria's Climate Change Strategy is an almost \$2 billion roadmap towards net-zero emissions and building a climate resilient Victoria by 2050.

The initiatives in the Climate Change Strategy will support communities and businesses to make the changes we need to reduce the impacts of climate change and continue to support our economy to grow.

To achieve these emissions reduction targets the State Government is taking steps to transition our state to a clean energy future that will create jobs, cut costs

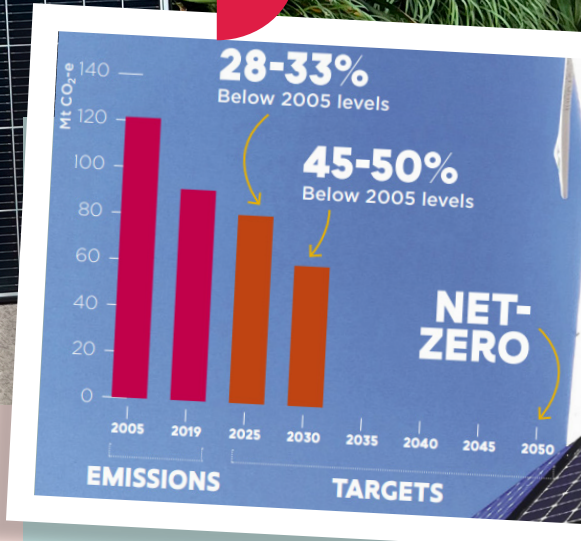
for households and businesses and strengthen our energy system.

The Andrews Labor Government will continue to invest in innovative technologies, such as zero emissions vehicles and hydrogen, and partner with businesses and communities to set Victoria up for their adoption.

Continued support will ensure we can thrive in a net-zero emissions future. Victoria is decarbonising at the most rapid rate of any major jurisdiction in Australia.

More information is available at climatechange.vic.gov.au

SOLAR HOMES PROGRAM
\$1.3 B



Solar Home Grants

The \$1.3 billion Solar Homes Program will be expanded to allow households to claim rebates for both solar panels and solar hot water or heat pumps. Previously, households could only claim one rebate.

Solar hot water or an efficient heat pump compliments roof top solar perfectly.

By offering rebates for both, households can maximise their solar and save up to \$1,490 per year on their energy bills.

Businesses with up to 50 employees can now access a rebate up to \$3,500 to install solar panels.

Check your eligibility and more information at www.solar.vic.gov.au.



PANDEMIC REPAIR PLAN
\$12 BILLION

Casey Hospital Expansion and Mental Health Funding

Investing in our local health sector

The Victorian Government is investing over \$12 billion to put patients first, with a Pandemic Repair Plan for more staff, better hospitals, and first-class care. While \$333 million will add nearly 400 new staff to increase triple zero call taking and dispatch capacity.

This year's Budget announced the rebuilding and expansion of the Emergency Department at Casey Hospital with planning also underway for a children's Emergency Department.

The Andrews Labor Government will invest \$200 million to expand the successful Mental Health in Primary Schools program to every single government and low-fee non-government primary school in Victoria - 1,800 school campuses.

**INVESTING IN
OUR LOCAL
SPORTS
CLUBS**

Community Update

Sporting Clubs

Hampton Park Bowls Club

Planning is underway for an improved pavilion at Hampton Park Bowls Club. The \$530,000 investment includes scope for an extension of the social area and servery, construction of a new kitchen, office and meeting space, equipment storage areas and two canopies. This will improve the experience for players, families, and spectators.

Strathaird Reserve

The Andrews Labor Government has provided \$1.5 million in funding towards the upgrade of facilities at Strathaird Reserve for a new pavilion. This will support Narre South Cricket, Football, Netball and Junior Football clubs.

Robert Booth Reserve

The State Government is investing \$3 million in Robert Booth Reserve to upgrade the pavilion to get more locals active while supporting the groups that use the space. With the tender process completed, works have begun.

In Parliament

I've continued to speak on the many important issues within our community. I am grateful to represent our community in Parliament and on various committees, helping inform future policy and legislation.



My team and I are here to assist you with any State Government or community matter.

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**Community
Security
Opportunity**



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