

Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> of May, 2025

## **FOCUSED ON WHAT MATTERS MOST TO FAMILIES IN MONBULK**

The Allan Labor Government is focused on what matters most to families in the District of Monbulk, delivering real help with the cost of living and more investment in frontline services.

We've helped households across Monbulk slash thousands off their power bills by switching to solar and making their homes more energy efficient. This Budget delivers more rebates for energy efficient heat pumps and solar hot water systems, so that more households can save up to \$400 a year on their energy bills.

We're also providing energy bill relief to those doing it tough. This Budget delivers a \$100 Power Saving Bonus to eligible Victorian households with a concession card, in time for their August winter bills.

Costs can add up – especially for seniors. It's why with this Budget, we're making statewide public transport free for Victorians aged 60 and over on weekends.

From 1 January 2026, this change will help Victorians with a Seniors Card visit the grandkids or experience even more of our state – without the extra expense.

Playing sport keeps children across Monbulk active and healthy. But the cost of uniforms, equipment, memberships and more means some young Victorians are forced to sit on the sidelines.

That's why with this Budget, we're delivering more than 65,000 extra Get Active Kids vouchers for families who need it most. These vouchers, worth up to \$200, help with the cost of sport and recreation memberships, registration fees and essential equipment and uniforms.

With more vouchers, we'll help remove the financial barrier for families, and make sure children across Monbulk get the chance to play the sport they love.

For parents across Monbulk, every dollar counts. It's why we're making public transport free for Victorians under 18.

It'll mean savings of up to \$755 a year – per child. With free public transport for under 18s, we're ensuring cheaper school runs, more affordable weekends – and one less thing for families to worry about.

It'll make Victoria the first state to introduce free public transport for children and teens, with the investment beginning 1 January 2026.

When wild weather and disaster strikes across the Monbulk District, SES and CFA volunteers are there to keep communities safe. This Budget invests \$150,000 to make local brigades stronger, with funding for satellite phones, generators, and more. It'll support communities across Monbulk to stay connected and safe when it matters most.

The Monbulk Rangers Soccer Club is one of our state's biggest, catering for players of all ages and ability levels.

This Budget invests up to \$200,000 in upgrading the lights at Monbulk Rangers Soccer Ground to make sure they can keep kicking goals.

And we are continuing to improve community spaces by investing in safety and accessibility, with lighting upgrades at The Basin Triangle Park.

This Budget also invests in making sure our schools keep up with our growing community. This includes funding to kick-start planning on brand new facilities at Sherbrooke Community School.

Free Kinder is saving families across Monbulk up to \$2,600 per child on fees, and making sure young Victorians get all the benefits of two years of play-based learning.

This year alone, Free Kinder is helping over 150,000 families. This Budget continues that support, with an additional \$2 billion investment.

The Labor Government introduced Australia's toughest bail laws to protect people in the community from the risk of serious crime – and now, more serious and repeat alleged offenders are going to jail, not getting bail.

That's why the Victorian Budget 2025/26 will invest \$727 million to ramp up capacity in Victoria's prisons and youth justice centres, bringing more prison beds online to deal with the increasing number of alleged offenders being denied bail.

Getting in to see a GP is hard – especially one who bulk bills. That means too many families put off looking after their health.

This Budget invests a further \$18 million to enable pharmacists to treat even more Victorians with even more conditions – without a trip to the doctor for a prescription. Previously trialled as the Community Pharmacy Pilot, this investment locks it in for good – and makes it even bigger.

That means pharmacies will be able to treat more conditions with medicines usually only available with a GP script – including allergies, nausea, high blood pressure and minor wound care, with more conditions added progressively over the next two years.

We're also covering the cost of the consult – ensuring Victorians can access care for free.

This is a Budget – and a Government – focused on what matters most to Victorians.

#### **Quotes attributable to Member for Monbulk, Daniela De Martino**

“This Budget is about supporting our community and the services we rely on – from health to education to emergency services. This is a Budget that's focused on what matters most to the people across the District of Monbulk.”