



# THE PALLAS POST

## Tim Pallas MP

State Labor Member for Werribee District



Autumn 2020 Newsletter

## BUILDING BIG FOR THE WERRIBEE COMMUNITY

The Andrews Government is continuing to deliver for our community, as major infrastructure projects progress in the Werribee District.

Here's an update on works at some of these local projects over **Autumn**:

### A New School For Wyndham

Families across Wyndham Vale are a step closer to having access to a great new local school, as construction continues on the new **Wollahra Primary School** (interim name).

The school is set to open in 2021!



### Upgrading The Duncans Road Interchange

Works are progressing well at the **Duncans Road Interchange**, as part of the Andrews Government's **\$1.8 billion** Western Roads Upgrade.

All bridge beams are now lifted onto the new Duncans Road bridge, and the Major Road Projects Victoria (MRPV) team are continuing to build the lanes to the new bridge and works at the Duncans Road and K Road intersection.



### Removing Our Dangerous Level Crossings

The Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP) team is making progress at **Cherry Street** in Werribee, as they continue to prepare the area for the new road bridge to connect Tarneit Road to Princes Highway.

A new road bridge and pedestrian overpass will be constructed to remove the **Old Geelong Road** level crossing in Hoppers Crossing, and construction is also set to begin in the coming months on the railbridge at the **Werribee Street** level crossing removal project.

To stay up-to-date, visit [your.levelcrossings.vic.gov.au](http://your.levelcrossings.vic.gov.au).



### Building The Werribee Police Complex

Construction is progressing at the new **Werribee Police Complex**, with the building superstructure on schedule.

Project funding was allocated under the Metropolitan Facilities Development Program as part of the Community Safety Statement announced in December 2016.

The new **\$45 million** station will be one of the largest police complexes outside the Melbourne CBD and will form part of the Wyndham Justice Precinct — providing integrated service delivery to the Wyndham community.



Top to bottom: Construction site at Wollahra Primary School, Duncans Road Interchange works, Cherry Street Level Crossing removal, new Werribee Police Complex.

# Workplace Reforms

## Making Wage Theft a Crime

Reforms under the Andrews Government's **Wage Theft Bill 2020** introduces new criminal offences targeting employers who deliberately withhold wages and other employee entitlements.

These tough new criminal laws with a dedicated enforcement body will send a strong message that business needs to take this issue seriously – making it clear that wage theft is a crime, just like theft and fraud.

## Workplace Manslaughter

We've **made workplace manslaughter a criminal offence** under tough new laws, because no one deserves to die at work.

As many as 30 people are killed in workplaces across the state every year. Under the new laws, employers who negligently cause a workplace death will face fines of up to \$16.5 million and individuals will face up to 20 years in jail.

The offence will apply to employers, self-employed people and 'officers' of the company or organisation. It will also apply when an employer's negligent conduct causes the death of a non-employee — ensuring that all Victorians are safe in, and around, our workplaces.



# Health Reforms

## Mandatory Vaccinations

The Andrews Government is **making vaccinations compulsory** for frontline doctors and nurses in our hospitals and paramedics caring for Victoria's most vulnerable patients.

These new laws mean healthcare workers, in private and public hospitals, with direct patient contact, will be required to be vaccinated – protecting healthcare workers from preventable diseases, while also reducing the risk of transmission to the most vulnerable.

## IVF Reform

Victorians will no longer be required to undergo police and child protection order checks before accessing treatment for assisted reproductive technology, under new reforms from the Andrews Government.

**Removing police and child protection checks** is another part of the Andrews Government's reforms to make assisted reproductive treatment fairer, more affordable and easier to access for all Victorians.

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# Environmental Reforms

## Recycling Victoria

**Recycling Victoria** is a 10-year action plan to fundamentally transform our recycling sector, reduce waste, create thousands of jobs and set Victoria up for a more sustainable future.

The more than \$300 million package brings together a suite of landmark reforms including:

- A statewide four-bin recycling system to separate recyclables, glass, food and organics, and waste
- A container deposit scheme to be developed in consultation with councils and industry and begin by 2023
- Nearly \$100 million to support businesses, drive innovation and create local jobs.

For more information, visit [vic.gov.au/transforming-recycling-victoria](https://vic.gov.au/transforming-recycling-victoria).

## Solar Homes

The Andrews Government's **Solar Homes** program is driving a clean energy revolution across Victoria – and Wyndham residents are amongst thousands of Victorians with successful applications for rebated solar panels, solar batteries and solar hot water systems.

**Werribee and Wyndham Vale** are amongst Melbourne's ten most popular Solar Home suburbs!

The program is reducing energy bills for families who need it most, with 69 per cent of solar rebates going to households with incomes of less than \$105,000, and at least 10 per cent to those earning less than \$16,000 a year.

When completed, Solar Homes will have created 5,500 jobs and reduced the State's carbon emissions by almost 4 million tonnes – the equivalent of taking one million cars off the road.



## Making Housing Fairer For Victorians

### HomesVic

First home buyers struggling to enter the property market are getting a helping hand, with more than 250 properties purchased since the launch of the **HomesVic shared equity scheme**.

The scheme helps participants to purchase homes with a smaller deposit of at least five per cent. It is targeted at first home buyers on a low to moderate income and allows the Government to support the purchase by contributing up to 25 per cent of the purchase price.

HomesVic is part of the Andrews Government's Homes for Victorians package. Since the package's launch in 2017, **more than 12,000 first home buyers have benefitted** from significant stamp duty cuts.



Me and my fur buddy Max

### Pets in Rental Homes

Victorians will no longer be forced to choose between the pet they love and a place to live, thanks to the Andrews Government's historic new laws that allow renters to keep a pet in their rental property with written consent from their rental provider.

The Victorian Government is committed to making renting fair and accessible. For more information on the rental reforms package, visit [vic.gov.au/rentfair-rental-reforms-victorians](https://vic.gov.au/rentfair-rental-reforms-victorians).

# Delivering for the Werribee Community

## TRANSFORMING OUR WATER TOWER

We're funding many local projects in the Wyndham area, including a large-scale artwork revitalisation of the historical Water Tower on Tower Road Werribee.

The transformation is now underway and expected to be completed in June!

When complete, it will contribute to the image of Wyndham as a great place to live, work and visit.



## SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUBS PROGRAM

Wyndham Vale Primary School, Werribee Secondary College, and Little River Primary School in Wyndham are three of 250 schools that have been invited to participate in the School Breakfast Clubs Expansion Program from Term 3, 2020.

The Andrews Government is making sure students living in Wyndham have the support they need to thrive at school, by investing in providing healthy breakfasts, lunches and school holiday supplies to children who need them.

The program is part of the Government's commitment to ensuring children from disadvantaged families can fully participate in their learning at school, and build happy and healthy lives. More than **8.8 million breakfasts** have been delivered to Victorian students since the program started in 2016.

## SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY GROUPS

The Andrews Government is delivering for Wyndham every day – in grants to our community groups, multicultural organisations, mental health networks, disability support groups and sporting clubs, including:

- Australian Karen Organisation
- Werribee Bears Rugby League Sports Club
- Werribee Bowls Club Inc
- Manorvale Primary School
- Wyndham Interfaith Network
- Wyndham Community and Education Centre Inc
- Wyndham Basketball Association
- Werribee Districts Football Club Inc
- Manor Lakes Football Club
- Werribee Hockey Club
- Werribee Centrals Sports & Youth Club Inc
- Iramoo Primary School
- Wyndham Ambassadors of Multicultural Youth
- And many more!

## Building for Wyndham during Coronavirus



The Andrews Government is getting to work on hundreds of new projects that will create thousands of jobs across the state, meaning shovels in the ground within a matter of weeks and months.

Here in Werribee, that means the Werribee Open Range Zoo will benefit from a **\$2 million investment** in the Werribee Recycled Water Expansion Project; supporting the zoo's expansion and improving the health of the Werribee River.

A further **\$2.57 million** will be used to improve the Werribee Court Specialist Family Violence waiting area, providing greater support and a safe environment for survivors of family violence.

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