

June 2023

Community Update

2023 State Budget

In my inaugural speech I announced that my work would be guided by my commitment to making a positive difference and to see the Bellarine continue to thrive and I am proud to say that all of our election commitments for the Bellarine are being delivered through this year's state budget.

We are investing in a world class accessible, indoor aquatic centre for families on the Bellarine to come together and swim and train under one roof and provide vital swim lessons for young children. The \$20 million investment will add to Labor's Federal Government investment and deliver an indoor aquatic centre next to the stage 1 outdoor 50m Pool in Drysdale. This will deliver a new facility that the whole community can use and be proud of.

Through this budget we are ensuring the safety of families near the water by re-building the St Leonards Pier and upgrading the St Leonards boat ramp, delivering better boating and fishing infrastructure for our community, and ensuring the much-loved location can be enjoyed for generations to come

We've listened to the community and have committed to providing a better learning environment at Wallington Primary School by upgrading their main school building.

An initial \$1 billion investment to bring back the SEC will also help deliver 4.5 gigawatts of power, through renewable energy projects. Bringing back the SEC won't just mean more renewable energy, lower power bills, and reduced carbon emissions – it'll also help create 59,000 jobs. We will also be investing in apprenticeships and traineeships for the new workforce while providing opportunities for VCE students to get work experience with the SEC.

We're following through on our promises to listen to the community and ensure the Bellarine continues to thrive. I look forward to working with the community and seeing these projects evolve.

