

June 2026

Community Update

20% Off Rego

From Monday 1 June to Friday 31 July 2026, you can apply for a 20% rebate on your vehicle registration payments. This will save up to \$186 per vehicle on the 2025-26 vehicle registrations, and the rebate will be available for up to 2 light vehicles per person.

Applications will open from Monday 1 June via the Service Vic app or website. Throughout June and July, there will be a series of mobile offices across the Bellarine to receive assistance in applying for your rebate. Find out more about where the mobile offices will be located via my website www.alisonmarchantmp.com.au

Cross Bellarine Bus Service

I am proud to share that we will be introducing a cross Bellarine bus service from Drysdale to Ocean Grove!

I am so pleased to have been able to secure funding in the 2026/27 State Budget for this service. It has been a journey – from petitions to meetings with community groups, to inviting the Minister to the Bellarine to see our bus routes firsthand and finally securing a Bus Review to hear exactly from the community what they are after, this announcement has been years in the making.

The introduction of a cross Bellarine service is just one outcome of the review, and there will be more information to come, but for now this is a great win for our community following years of advocacy.

2026/27 State Budget

We have recently announced exciting upgrades to Drysdale Primary School and Surfside Primary School in the 2026/27 State Budget. Drysdale Primary School are receiving funding to upgrade their bathrooms, and Surfside Primary School are receiving funding to upgrade their school facilities, including building a brand-new indoor gymnasium.

Recently, the Minister for Children came to the Bellarine to announce a new Kinder is being built this year at the Bellarine Secondary College Ocean Grove campus, as well as an Early Learning Centre in St Leonards.

All of these projects have been advocated for by the community, and I am so excited and proud to have fought with you for these outcomes. The Bellarine is growing, and it's important our infrastructure and services grow with it.

Through this year's Budget, that includes:

- Funding to support the Portarlington Ferry
- Half price public transport for the remainder of the year
- Improving pedestrian safety, including new pedestrian crossings
- Funding early intervention programs to help stop crime before it starts
- Strengthening palliative care services in Geelong
- Expanding specialist services at Geelong's Children's Emergency Department



- Funding to improve paediatric planned surgery and specialist services
- Expanding funding for Public IVF

I want to thank everyone across the Bellarine who continues to advocate so passionately for their local community. There is always more work to do, and I look forward to continuing that work with you.

