

MEDIA RELEASE

4 June 2020

What does a future Melton Hospital look like to you?

City of Melton Mayor Councillor Lara Carli is encouraging residents and those from surrounding areas to have their say on a new Melton Hospital.

With planning for the hospital underway, the Victorian Government has released a survey this week asking the community what sort of health care they would like to see in the future, which services they think need to be improved, and more.

The government is in the midst of a \$2.4 million project to start planning the range of services that would be delivered by a new Melton Hospital and how they'll link with other healthcare facilities in the region.

The process, including community feedback, will help form a business case that will outline to the government the issues, solutions, timeframes and costings for a new hospital in Melton.

City of Melton Mayor Cr Lara Carli urged people to take the opportunity to share what they need most in local healthcare.

"This is a really important part of the planning process where you have the opportunity to help shape a future Melton Hospital around the healthcare priorities of you and your family," Cr Carli said.

"More than 21,000 people in the Melton community supported Council's campaign to build a Melton Hospital – an incredible and unprecedented joining of forces which helped champion the need for the Victorian Government to undertake a business case. Now, residents have the chance to help ensure a future facility delivers the best possible care and services for our community.

"It's really exciting to see that planning for this critically needed hospital is progressing. We're very grateful to the State Government and look forward to the next steps, in particular the acquisition of land in Cobblebank which we are asking the government to urgently prioritise."

Council continues to advocate to the government to acquire land in Cobblebank in 2020, begin construction in 2022, and to have a fully operational hospital by 2026.



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The State Government has indicated that the business case is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

To take the survey, visit <u>engage.vic.gov.au/future-health-care-melton</u> (closes Monday 3 August, 9am).

ENDS

Melton City Council media enquiries (not for publication): Kylie Kitchen – Media and Communications Officer on (03) 9747 7132.