



# STUART GRIMLEY MP

Member for Western Victoria  
State Leader of Derryn Hinch's Justice Party

## MEDIA RELEASE



### Grimley Welcomes Victorian Budget

20 May 2021

State Leader of Derryn Hinch's Justice Party, Stuart Grimley MP, has welcomed the announcement of funding for key projects and programs that he has advocated for in Parliament.

Mr Grimley has been calling on the Government to fund and build a **specialist family violence court in Geelong**. Today, the Government has announced that Geelong will share in \$78 million to build this much needed piece of infrastructure.

Derryn Hinch's Justice Party was founded on the need to protect and support children and victims from all types of abuse. Mr Grimley has consistently been lobbying the Government to include more funding to support children and victims since his election. Mr Grimley was pleased to see a huge investment of **\$1.2 billion to protect our children and help keep vulnerable families together**. This includes **246 extra child protection workers**, which is something Mr Grimley had called for.

The inclusion of **\$49 million to continue to support victim survivors** through targeted 24/7 crisis services is something Mr Grimley has been fighting for. As too is the \$44 million to support children and young people impacted by family violence and sexual assault, \$18 million to deliver perpetrator interventions, behavioural change programs and accommodation support for victim survivors, \$14 million to strengthen the legal systems response to family violence and \$2.3 million for youth programs supporting healthy relationships and preventing family violence.

The inclusion of **new mental health outreach and follow-up care services for Horsham and Hamilton** in the Budget will provide immense support to these regions. Mr Grimley has regularly spoken about the need for these services in regional and rural parts of his electorate in Parliament and says he is pleased the Government has been hearing his calls.

**\$11 million to deliver five new beds at the Mental Health Acute Inpatient Unit at Warrnambool** is only going to strengthen their ability to support people struggling with mental health issues. This is yet another program Mr Grimley has been supporting.

Mr Grimley has also made recent calls to have more alcohol and other drug services in regions. It is great to see **Corio receiving funding for more AOD rehabilitation beds**. It is unfortunate that Colac Area Health has missed out on funding this time around, however Mr Grimley will continue to fight for preventative and responsive programs in the area.

Regional Victoria struggles to attract specialised workers to our towns, the **\$11 million Rural and Regional Workforce Incentive Scheme** is a good start to attract and train mental health professionals to regional Victoria. Mr Grimley has been pushing this program since 2019 including for school teachers as well.

There are a range of other key projects Mr Grimley has been influential in achieving in this year's Budget including retaining train manufacturing in Ballarat, \$210 million towards fixing the backlog in



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our court system, public aged care funding, Live 4 Life funding to support mental health and wellbeing in regional Victoria and many more.

Other key funding announcements in Western Victoria include:

- A new Hospital in Torquay
- \$17 million in Portland and the Glenelg Shire for local freight road upgrades, Stage 2 of the Henty Employment Precinct Infrastructure upgrades and the Portland Diversification Fund.
- New VICSES Facility in Port Fairy
- Horsham School bus Services
- Lake Bullen Merri boating upgrade
- Maryborough hospital upgrade

### Quotes Attributable to Stuart Grimley MP:

"I have been fighting for more funding to go toward victim survivor support, prevention and education programs and I am glad to see the Government responding to these cries for help. For too long have victims sat in silence and been unsupported.

\$1.2 billion to expand the child protection workforce, out-of-home-care placements and a wide range of other supports for Victorian families is a huge investment. I have spoken about the need for more child protection services regularly since my election. A better trained and heavier resourced child protection service is good news for these vulnerable families.

I've also been advocating for important funding throughout the Western Victoria region. We received important funding for outreach mental health services in Horsham and Hamilton which is fantastic news.

It was also great to see investment in aged care services and a redevelopment design for aged care facilities in Camperdown.

It is extremely satisfying to see projects and funding programs that I have been fighting for come to fruition. There are other programs that need funding, and I am committed to continue to fight for these and for the Western Victoria Region."

*If you require quotes for specific projects that Mr Grimley has fought for in your region, please reach out.*

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