



MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 16 March 2021

MAJOR BOOST FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES IN ALTONA DISTRICT

Member for Altona District Jill Hennessy today announced the VICSES Hobsons Bay Unit, and the Altona Life Saving Club would both receive funding to provide essential operational equipment and minor facility improvements for local volunteers.

These projects are amongst 240 grants sharing in more than \$14 million in funding under the government's 2020-21 Volunteer Emergency Services Equipment Program (VESEP).

The VICSES Hobsons Bay Unit will use the funding to construct a storage shed for vehicles and trailers, whilst the Altona Life Saving Club will use its grant to undertake a number of projects, including installing a flo-fast fuel transfer, supporting fuel storage, purchasing an inflatable rescue boat, motor washing tank, equipment trailer and first aid patient trolley.

Under the program, the Victorian Government matches every \$1 paid by volunteer groups with a \$2 co-contribution up to \$150,000 per project. This brings the total investment in these local Altona District projects to \$184,899.

The annual grants program gives volunteer emergency service groups the opportunity to apply for grants of up to \$150,000 to purchase equipment including vehicles, trucks, tankers, watercraft and trailers, and for minor improvements including refurbishments and amenities, such as kitchens and change rooms.

For more information about the VESEP, visit the Emergency Management Victoria website – emv.vic.gov.au.

Quote attributable to Acting Minister for Police and Emergency Services Danny Pearson

"We're ensuring our emergency service volunteers are well resourced with the essential equipment they need to carry out their critical work."

Quotes attributable to Member for Altona District Jill Hennessy

"These important projects will give our hardworking SES and LSV volunteers in Altona District the equipment and amenities needed to effectively carry out their duties."

"I'd like to thank all of our volunteer groups for their hard work and congratulate the successful applicants in the 2019-20 round of VESEP grants."