



Community Mental Health Expansion Program Grant Guidelines 2023-24



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Application link

The link to the Community Mental Health Expansion Program application can be found on the department's SmartyGrants page https://dhhs.smartygrants.com.au

Timeline

Applications open: 22 March 2024

Applications close: 5:00 pm on 29 April 2024.

Introduction

In 2021, the Victorian Government committed to the expansion of community mental health service capacity, supporting the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System recommendations to direct care away from inpatient settings (as clinically appropriate) and close the gap between current and required services.

With sustained investment, mental health community service activity continues to grow. However, growth has been slower than the targeted rate due to the availability of appropriate accommodation.

The Community Mental Health Expansion Program has been established to fund the accommodation requirements for Area Mental Health Services to unlock the capacity of mental health community services.

Program objectives

In line with the recommendations from the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System, the key objectives of the Community Mental Health Expansion Program are to support:

- the increase of community mental health service activity by Area Mental Health and Wellbeing Services through expansion of space through minor capital works and/or fitting out owned or leasehold premises.
- enhancement of community mental health service capacity and delivery of contemporary models of care.

Funding will be provided to proposals that refurbish, remodel, or modify/expand space to meet clinical or administrative needs to expand the community mental health service.

Program design

The fund is designed to assist public Victorian Area Mental Health and Wellbeing services and expand their community mental health services in line with Royal Commission recommendations. Funding will be provided to complete minor construction, remodelling, and refurbishment capital works across the following key areas:

	Expansion: fit-out works and renovation of existing or new spaces to optimise space and increase service hours.
4	Service efficiency and demand pressure: increase the efficiency of the service to better address demand pressures, including waiting times
$\prec \Rightarrow$	Healthcare quality and safety improvement: works that best mitigate the risk of serious incidents occurring and balance the need to provide safety with service provision in a therapeutic and least restrictive environment.
	Environmental sustainability: improve the asset's environmental sustainability and indoor environment quality to promote the health and well-being of consumers and healthcare workers/staff. Foster environmentally sustainable uses of resources and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change adaptation.

Projects must be completed within 18 months of notification of funding approval.

Asset management requirements

The Program aligns with the Department of Treasury and Finance's and VHBA's *Asset Management Accountability Framework* and asset management policy, ensuring assets are appropriately managed and consistently applied over an asset's whole lifecycle to realise the full value from assets in supporting service delivery objectives.

The principles and practices are available at:

- Asset Management Accountability Framework https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/infrastructure-investment/asset-management-accountability-framework
- VHBA Asset Management Policy < https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/assetmanagement>, and summarised below:
 - The intent of the government's asset management policy is to achieve service delivery objectives and it creates an obligation for both the department and VHBA (from a system perspective) and health services (from a local perspective).
 - Asset management is a whole-of-asset-lifecycle obligation requiring an understanding of need, capacity, condition, opportunity, and risk to drive value-for-money service outcomes.
 - Appropriate local and central governance arrangements oversee asset planning, and investment prioritisation of in-scope items on the basis of risk and, in the case of health services, oversee the replacement process.
 - Accurate and timely reporting of expenditures enables analysis of future investment needs, reporting to the government on expenditures consistent with the defined purpose of the funding provision, and provides a robust information base for program audit.
 - Health services asset replacement determination needs to be based on departmental frameworks and guidelines for prioritisation, risk management, and service planning, as well as the service's role within the health system.

General eligibility criteria

Funding is available to all Victorian Area Mental Health and Wellbeing Services that deliver a community mental health service. A list of eligible agencies is in Appendix 2.

Mandatory eligibility criteria include confirmation that the service:

- is an incorporated legal entity, compliant and accredited to relevant Department of Health requirements, and
- is already providing community mental health services.

Eligible activities for funding include, but are not limited to:

- · consultancy fees for due diligence
- design
- building services
- project management and certification, including interior design,
- · construction.

For eligible services

Health services are not limited in the number of submissions they can make.

Each submission should be for one site only. Please do not include multiple sites in one submission as this makes project readiness and delivery assessment harder and leads to delays. The submission will be rejected if it includes multiple sites.

Regardless of the number of submissions a health service makes, the sum of the submissions should be between a minimum of \$100,000 (excluding GST) and a maximum of \$6 million (excluding GST).

The following are examples of items which may be included in funding applications:

- fit out of leased or owned premises
- remodelling and refurbishment projects that will support additional FTE growth and/or additional consulting rooms to maximise community mental health and meet universal design standards
- construction minor infrastructure including remodelling and refurbishment projects to address aged building fabric, compliance, and demand issues

Ineligible and excluded items

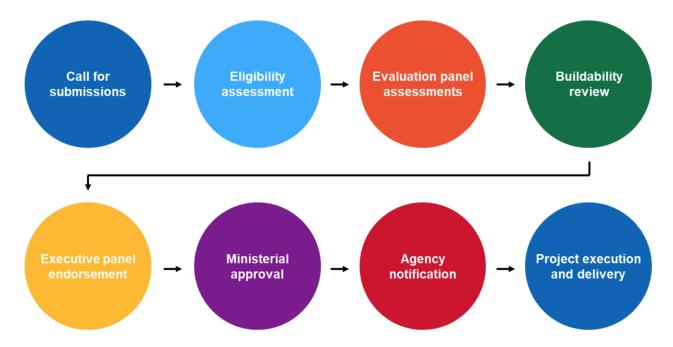
- funding for capital projects at community mental health service sites that have already been completed, for example if a newly leased building has already been fitted out through a capital project paid for by the health service
- operational funding, including lease costs
- refurbishment, fixtures, fittings and furniture not associated with a community mental health growth project. Routine replacement of furniture and fittings that are worn is the responsibility of agencies to manage as part of their existing maintenance and replacement program
- motor vehicles
- projects that are additional stages of previously funded projects will be de-prioritised.

Submission process

The submission process is as follows:

- 1. Call for submissions
- 2. Eligibility assessment
- 3. Evaluation panel assessments
- 4. Buildability review
- 5. Executive panel endorsement
- 6. Ministerial approval
- 7. Agency notification
- 8. Project execution and delivery.

Figure 1: Eight-step submission process



Submission requirements

VHBA is using a web-based online application process.

The application should address the selection criteria and include a full description of the key deliverables, funding sought (excluding GST), likely benefits, and how key risks should be mitigated. The following supporting documentation is required:

- Detailed design drawings, documents, and technical specifications beyond the conceptual, sketch, or preliminary documentation phase.
- Detailed cost plan from an independent professional quantity surveyor or cost planner, which
 includes associated decanting costs, infrastructure connection/upgrade costs, site/infrastructure
 costs, demolition, and fees, which includes acceptable allowances for design, construction
 contingencies, escalation, and cost risk
- Realistic timeframes for completion, accompanied by an appropriately detailed program and timeline predictions in line with VHBA milestone dates
- Regulatory approvals (planning, building, etc) are in place and conditions able to be satisfied within Total Estimated Investment (TEI)
- quotes for supply/installation including a provision to 'make good'
- independent reports highlighting risk and/or compliance issues including proposed solutions
- the online portal, SmartyGrants, will be the means of submission.
- the web address to seek information about <u>SmartyGrants</u> is <www.smartygrants.com.au>.
 You will be required to create a password-protected log-in to access the application form.
 The portal access is located at https://dhhs.smartygrants.com.au/CMHEP23-24

All applications must be:

- from an eligible agency
- endorsed by the Chief Executive Officer
- submitted via the online portal SmartyGrants application form and include relevant supporting documentation (e.g. business case, design drawings, photos, cost plans, quotations, and other supporting information)
- received no later than the SmartyGrants closing date and time.

Unless exceptional circumstances apply, applications received after the specified time and date are deemed ineligible for consideration.

Consultation and advice

Applicants are encouraged to seek assistance when preparing applications by emailing mhfrf@health.vic.gov.au, or via the VHBA website grant programs page https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/grant-programs>.

SmartyGrants technical assistance regarding the completion of the online form can be obtained through the <u>Help Guide for Applicants</u> https://applicanthelp.smartygrants.com.au/help-guide-for-applicants/ or contacting <u>SmartyGrants via email</u> service@smarty.grants.com.au or calling (03) 9320 6888.

Design guides and technical references

See Appendix 1 - Construction Projects in Victoria - references and links for VHBA design and technical guidelines and an overview of the requirements for government-funded projects in Victoria.

Assessment criteria

Applications will be assessed in a panel arrangement using a defined set of assessment criteria. Submissions should reflect agreed policy objectives and demonstrate how the proposed works will meet the objectives of better health for people in Victoria.

Applications should demonstrate how the proposal will:

- increase community mental health service hours, including:
 - additional FTE (discipline, grade, and fraction)
 - additional community mental health service hours each FTE will provide yearly, and total hours
 - additional consumers are projected to be seen under the submission yearly
 - additional consumer spaces, such as additional consulting rooms, group therapy rooms, etc
 - additional sam.
- addresses one or more of the following:
 - service capacity and growth expansion (for example, increased space for additional community mental health workforce (FTE), improved service options, reduced service fragmentation)
 - Consideration of fit-out costs as a value-for-money measure against increased contact hours.
 - demand pressure
 - models of care (for example, contemporary models of care/improved services closer to home).
- · addresses one or more of the following:
 - · regulatory compliance
 - standards compliance
 - patient and staff amenities
 - safety and quality risk.

Evidence of how the proposed changes will improve the asset's environmental sustainability and indoor environmental quality, including completion of the checklist in *Environmental sustainability* requirements and checklist. Describe the benefits your project is expected to achieve supported by metrics/data to measure current performance and targeted outcomes, with timelines based on the successful delivery of the project.

Health services must demonstrate their ability to separately fund lease costs and make good provisions associated with lease or tenancy agreements.

These criteria will be applied to assess the application and will be considered with the evidence provided. Applications that address multiple criteria are at a distinct advantage. It is expected that all design solutions will be consistent with VHBA's design guidelines and Health Technical Advice.

Submissions should reflect agreed policy objectives and demonstrate how the proposed works will meet the objectives of increasing accessibility to service for people in Victoria.

Project readiness and past delivery performance are key determinates and may influence the overall success of the application to receive funding.

High-quality submissions will demonstrate:

- A clear and concise narrative of the current situation/problem/risk/opportunity that is facing the Health Service;
- Comprehensive and detailed supporting evidence of the situation;
- · Detailed and specific deliverables that are expected from the project;
- A clear statement of the benefits/outcomes that are expected from the project including performance metrics before and after the project in areas such as:
 - Improved patient experience & quality of care
 - Increased system efficiency and enhanced service capacity
 - Improved workforce experience and safety
 - Improved regional communities and economies;
- A detailed description and understanding of the project risks/dependencies and the associated mitigation actions;
- · A detailed description of the governance and project monitoring activities and
- Compliance with the requirements detailed in these guidelines

The following criteria will be applied to assess the application and will be considered with the evidence provided. Applications that address multiple criteria are at a distinct advantage. It is expected that all design solutions will be consistent with VHBA's design guidelines and Health Technical Advice.

Table 1: Assessment criteria

No	Criteria	Descriptor	Weighting
Criterion 1	Project readiness	Organisational readiness to implement the project, including key milestones and the expected timeframe for completion. Relevant supporting documentation as outlined in the submission requirements section of this document must be provided. All project dependencies must be listed including their potential impact on the project cost, schedule, scope, and benefits.	Projects will be assessed as ready, partially ready, or not ready
Criterion 2	Governance	The degree to which health service/agency governance structures and processes are in place to oversee the proposed project development, implementation, monitoring & reporting. This relates to the governance framework supporting transparency, probity, and accountability relating to the delivery of this proposal.	Project governance will be assessed as strong, good, or inadequate
Criterion 3	Strategic alignment	Alignment with the Community Mental Health Facilities Expansion Program objectives:	40%

		 increase community mental health service activity by Area Mental Health and Wellbeing Services through expansion of space by fitting out owned or leasehold premises prioritise eligible services that have not received additional funding for community mental health capital projects in the past 3 years prioritise investments that will deliver the greatest gain in community mental health service hour growth relative to eligible services' current performance enhance community mental health service capacity and delivery of contemporary models of care alignment with key drivers for community mental health investment. 	
Criterion	Service	Addresses one or more of the following:	40%
4	efficiency and demand pressure	service capacity and growth expansion (for example, increased space for additional community mental health workforce (FTE), improved service options, reduced service fragmentation)	
		consideration of fit-out costs as a value-for-money measure against increased contact hours	
		demand pressure	
		models of care (for example, contemporary models of care/improved services closer to home).	
		Note to facilitate an equitable comparison of submissions, health services will be asked to provide the following information in a standard format via the submission form (with supporting attachments showing detailed workings):	
		additional FTE (discipline, grade, and fraction)	
		additional community mental health service hours each FTE will provide yearly, and total hours	
		additional consumers are projected to be seen under the submission yearly	
		additional consumer spaces, such as additional consulting rooms, group therapy rooms, etc	
		additional sqm.	
Criterion 5	Healthcare quality and safety improvement	Addresses one or more of the following: regulatory compliance standards compliance patient and staff amenities safety and quality risk.	10%
Criterion 6	Environmental sustainability	Alignment with the applicable environmental sustainability initiatives in environmental sustainability requirements and checklist.	10%

Conditions of funding

- 1. The funds that will be provided are based on the approved project scope as identified within the funding approval letter and funding agreement/deed.
- 2. Funds are provided only for the approved project and scope including generic type, functionality, and number of items in the approved allocation, and must not be used for any other purpose.
- 3. Any changes to scope, cost, or timeframes will require departmental approval. Any increased costs associated with the project will be the responsibility of the health service/health agency.
- 4. If only specific elements of an application have been approved (partial funding), the health service /health agency must ensure that funds are used only for the approved elements.
- 5. Where projects are funded from multiple sources, and the additional source of funding is no longer available, the Victorian Government is not obliged to provide any additional funding and VHBA may recommend to the Minister that funds be recalled and reallocated.
- 6. Funding provided for any nominated assets must be expended by a health service/health agency in accordance with the notification letter.
- 7. Applicants should demonstrate that project viability is not dependent on continuing or recurrent State Government funding.
- 8. Capital works and equipment acquisitions shall not require any growth in recurrent funding from VHBA.
- 9. The agency must agree to hosting events related to funding. Milestone celebrations will be offered to the Ministers for Mental Health and Health. The Ministers for Mental Health and Health reserve rights to promote projects and their milestones on social media and websites.
- 10. Funding is not available for projects previously funded or already approved for funding from another source. Funding will not be provided for additional stages or cost overruns of projects. Final payment will be made in accordance with the milestones and payment criteria relevant to the project approval as defined in the grant submission. All non-construction projects must be completed within 18 months. Construction projects must be completed in accordance with the signed Project Agreement.

Asset management

- 11. On completion of the project, health services are required to update asset registers, maintenance, and asset management plans and provide details of the testing and commissioning plans (including for decommissioning and disposing of the item/infrastructure replaced). Similarly, 'new' acquisitions (outside of the initiative and irrespective of the funding source) are to be included on the asset register and incorporated into future asset management planning.
- 12. Health services reporting on asset replacement under the initiative are required to demonstrate financial and asset accountability and reporting and investment against asset management plans for engineering infrastructure and medical equipment replacement under these programs.
- 13. Medical equipment items proposed must be approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (including any hybrid technologies) and replacement engineering infrastructure and medical equipment are to comply with Australian Standards, regulations, and guidelines.

Governance

- 14. Capital delivery under this initiative requires works program management, governance, and internal controls by health services to be consistent with capital project management policies and tailored to the scope and size of the capital expenditure program. Governance processes need to be in place to ensure procurement of the approved asset is consistent with the scope agreed upon and approved by VHBA and communicated during the procurement phase so that the purchase remains in scope and procured within the financial year.
- 15. Assets put forward for funding must have satisfied health service/ agency governance requirements including that: projects have been appropriately scoped in accordance with the program requirements; projects have the required internal personnel available to deliver the approved asset; and project governance and reporting is in place for these projects.
- 16. The project(s) will be directly managed by the health service in a manner that reflects departmental guidelines relating to probity, financial reporting, and project completion information.

Payments and reporting milestones

- 17. All agencies will initially be informed of the outcome of their submission by email. Successful applicants will receive a letter that confirms the scope of funded works, terms of payments, and delivery timeframe. This letter will have an attachment that must be signed by the CEO and returned to the Executive General Manager, Asset Strategy VHBA, prior to any payments being made.
- Once the signed letter has been received by the Executive Director, of Asset Development and Infrastructure Advisory Services. VHBA will make project payments in the below framework.

Assessment Outcome and Payment Milestones

- 19. All agencies will initially be informed of the outcome of their submission by email. Successful applicants will receive a letter that confirms the scope of funded works, terms of payments, and delivery timeframe. This letter will have an attachment that must be signed by the CEO and returned to the Executive Director, Asset Development and Infrastructure Advisory Services, VHBA, prior to any payments being made. The letter will outline a summary of payment milestones aligned to project phases and gateways.
- 20. Following receipt of the signed letter, VHBA will need to be kept apprised of the project status to approve the allocated payments in accordance with the agreed terms and milestones. Completed and signed claim forms submitted to VHBA must include supporting invoices (and purchase orders).
- 21. For construction projects greater than \$2 million, a Funding Agreement will be developed and documented in consultation between the Health Service and VHBA Asset Development and Infrastructure Advisory Services to outline the following requirements:
 - agreed on project scope
 - agreed project timeframe and payment milestones
 - project governance framework and reporting requirements
 - confirmation that project works will be undertaken by appropriately qualified contractors in accordance with all regulations and standards applicable to the works
- 22. Funding may be recalled by the department if projects do not proceed or are not completed in a timely manner.

Reporting

- 23. A monthly report on the status of the project will be provided to VHBA as well as at agreed project milestones and the completion of the project.
- 24. Agencies are required to liaise with their project manager on tender specifications and project deliverables.
- 25. A completion report is required to be submitted. The template will be provided during the project.
- 26. VHBA must be notified if there is to be a prolonged delay in the procurement of assets, installation, or minor capital works.

Procurement

- 27. Any proposed changes in scope must be agreed in writing prior to purchase commitment and may be subject to funding reallocation and the need to re-apply in future rounds.
- 28. Health services must comply with government policies and guidelines in their procurement activities including the <u>Social Procurement Framework</u> https://www.buyingfor.vic.gov.au/social-procurement-victorian-government-approach (where applicable).
- 29. VHBA requires health services to work collaboratively with Health Share Victoria to maximise value-for-money procurement of medical equipment or plant items and deliver the most efficient purchasing arrangements, including bulk purchasing to achieve economies of scale. For further information refer to the procurement and purchasing requirements on the Health-Share-Victoria website healthsharevic.org.au/
- 30. Health services should include the use of Jobs Victoria in any procurement tenders. More information is available Jobs Victoria https://jobs.vic.gov.au>

Disposal

- 31. Medical equipment/plant / engineering infrastructure replaced must be decommissioned and disposed of in accordance with appropriate and required standards. For further details on decommissioning and disposal refer to the Medical equipment asset management framework Medical-equipment-asset-management-framework
- 32. The finance register, asset register, equipment and engineering registers, and asset management plans will be updated by the agency for both the disposal of the replaced asset and the acquisition of the replacement asset including the date of disposal.

Appendix 1 - Construction projects in Victoria - references and links

The following sites provide an overview of the requirements for government-funded projects in Victoria.

Department of Families, Fairness and Housing website

Australasian Health Facility Guidelines https://healthfacilityguidelines.com.au/

<u>Fire Risk Management</u> https://providers.dffh.vic.gov.au/fire-risk-management-procedures-and-guidelines

Addressing violence in Victorian healthcare settings https://www.health.vic.gov.au/patient-care/addressing-violence-in-victorian-healthcare-settings

Victorian Health Building Authority website

Property https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/property>

Design guidelines < https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/design-guidelines>

Universal design https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/universal-design

Technical Guidelines https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/technical-guidelines

Mental Health Prevention and Recovery - Health facility briefing and planning

https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-10/VHHSBA-Mental-Health-Prevention-and-Recovery-Care-Part-B-Health-facility-briefing-and-planning_0.pdf

Mental Health tribunal room – Standard component

https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-10/Mental-Health-Tribunal-Hearing-Room-Standard-Component-with-elevations-rom-data-sheet-VHHSBA-180904.pdf

Alcohol and Other drug - Health facility briefing and planning

https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-10/VHHSBA-Alcohol-and-Other-Drug-Part-B-Health-facility-briefing-and-planning_0.pdf

New planning guidelines for alcohol and other drug residential rehabilitation facilities

https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/news/new-planning-guideline-alcohol-and-other-drug-residential-rehabilitation-facilities>

Guidelines for sustainability in capital works

https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.vhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.yhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.yhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.yhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.yhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.yhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.yhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.yhba.vic.gov.au/resources/environmental-sustainability>">https://www.yhba.vic.gov.au/resources

Department of Treasury and Finance website

<u>Delivery of Government Funded projects in Victoria</u> https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/infrastructure-investment/public-construction-policy-and-resources

Ministerial Directions and Instructions – Public Construction Procurement

https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/public-construction-policy-and-resources/ministerial-directions-and-instructions-public-construction-procurement

<u>Practitioners Toolkit</u> https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/public-construction-policy-and-resources/practitioners-toolkit

<u>Construction Supplier Register</u> https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/infrastructure-investment/construction-supplier-register https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/infrastructure-investment/construction-supplier-register

Full Business Case Template https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/investment-lifecycle-and-high-value-high-risk-guidelines/stage-1-business-case

Local Jobs First website

<u>Victorian Industry Participation Policy</u> https://localjobsfirst.vic.gov.au/about/local-jobs-first <u>Major Projects Skills Guarantee</u> https://localjobsfirst.vic.gov.au/agency-guidance/major-project-skills-guarantee

Jobs Victoria website

Jobs Victoria https://jobs.vic.gov.au

Commonwealth policies and procedures

Federal Safety Commissioner Act 2022

https://www.legislation.gov.au/C2016A00087/latest/text

Australian Government Building and Construction Workplace Health and Safety Accreditation Scheme https://ablis.business.gov.au/service/ag/australian-government-building-and-construction-workplace-health-and-safety-accreditation-scheme/301 >

National Construction Code https://ncc.abcb.gov.au/

Appendix 2: List of eligible services

The following services and agencies are eligible to apply to the Community Mental Health Expansion Fund.

Metropolitan health services

Alfred Health

Austin Health

Eastern Health

Melbourne Health

Mercy Health

Monash Health

Northern Hospital

Peninsula Health

Orygen

The Royal Children's Hospital

St Vincent's Health

Western Health

Victorian Institute of Forensic Mental Health (Forensicare)

Regional services

Albury Wodonga Health

Barwon Health

Bendigo Health

Goulburn Valley Health

Grampians Health Services

Latrobe Regional Hospital

Mildura Base Hospital

South West Healthcare

Appendix 3: Environmental sustainability requirements and checklist

This list of business-as-usual sustainability requirements is a sub-set of the requirements in VHBA's *Guidelines for sustainability in capital works* that are most applicable to the types of projects supported through the mental health and alcohol and other drugs facilities renewal fund.

Applicants are encouraged to refer to VHBA's *Guidelines for Sustainability in capital works* for broader environmental sustainability principles and other initiatives that may be applicable.

Applicants are required to complete the environmental sustainability requirements checklist available from the VHBA website and upload it in their SmartyGrants submission. Initiatives that are included in the proposal are to be marked 'Yes'. Initiatives that are not applicable can be marked 'NA'. The submission is to provide reasoning for any initiatives that are applicable but are not included.