

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

MARCH 2018

## UNITED VISION DRIVING OUR COMMUNITY FORWARD



It's an incredibly exciting time to be in the Valley with so much work already having a huge impact on shaping the future of our region.

As we transition to a sustainable and diverse economy there will be changes in our workforce needs. The Worker Transition Service has supported more than 1,100 workers and their families and we'll continue to do this as these changes occur.

Our community leaders, business, education and government organisations are working together, building on our strengths and focussing on things that are most important to our community and will have the most impact.

At the same time, many of our local businesses are increasing their capability and finding new ways of doing business. So far 437 people have been employed through the Back to Work Scheme and 18 local businesses have secured funding to help them grow from Regional Development Victoria's Economic Facilitation Fund – resulting in 469 new jobs.

There are many more businesses with expansion plans underway, particularly in areas of strength and competitive advantage such as food and fibre, health, energy production and advanced manufacturing.

We are also working with our education providers to ensure local people are connected to training and programs that give them the best chance of successful, fulfilling employment now and into the future.

We will continue to focus on building strong, healthy, resilient and well-connected communities with attractive facilities, a vibrant local culture and events that draw people to visit, bringing valuable tourism dollars.

By working together on this united vision, and welcoming new ideas and solutions, we will create a bright future for our region.

**Karen Cain**

CEO, Latrobe Valley Authority

### PROGRESS TO DATE

**469**

jobs created in 18  
businesses through  
RDV's Economic  
Facilitation Fund

**437**

people employed  
through the Back  
To Work Scheme

**20**

business projects  
reimbursed  
government fees  
and charges

**55**

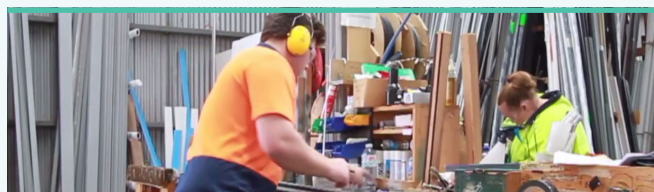
businesses in  
Hazelwood's supply  
chain supported to  
plan for a new future

**56**

community  
groups funded to  
upgrade facilities  
and hold events

**1,141**

workers and  
families supported  
through the Worker  
Transition Service



Morwell based **Valley Windows** has purchased new equipment to help them expand their operations and create 19 new jobs with support from Regional Development Victoria's Economic Facilitation Fund.

*"It's bringing new technology for our timber windows and doors, and it's going to allow us to adapt quickly to emerging product types"*  
— Valley Windows Managing Director,  
Peter Garth.



The first group of Worker Transition Service clients to undertake the Certificate III in Non-Emergency Patient Transport completed their training last month.

It was offered by Federation Training in partnership with the Royal Flying Doctor Service to meet the growing needs of non-emergency transport in Gippsland.