

Regional Precinct Partnership Program Stream 2 Delivery
Mansfield Emergency Services Precinct Stage 1

2025 and
beyond

Letters of Support Part 3 Government Package

Partners for a Resilient Community



Mansfield Shire

INDEX

- 1 Helen Haines - Federal Member Indi
- 2 Cindy McLeish - State Member Eildon
- 3 Department of Transport and Planning
- 4 Greg Leach CFA CEO
- 5. Fire Rescue Victoria
- 6 Emergency Management Victoria
- 7 DEECA Regional Office
- 8 Tourism North East
- 8 Community Broadcasting Assoc. Australia



Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development,
Communications and the Arts
GPO Box 594
CANBERRA ACT 2601

To whom it may concern

RE: Letter of Support – Mansfield Shire Council

I am pleased to offer this letter of support to the Mansfield Shire Council's application to stream two of the Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program for development and construction of stage one of the Mansfield Emergency Services Precinct (MESP). This project has been long in the planning and aims to serve and meet the needs of an expanding community, in conjunction with the Council's future planning projects.

The MESP is a project for the growth of the Mansfield Shire - a popular and steady choice for tree-changers, with persistent above average population growth in regional Victoria. Investing in this project will provide new Ambulance Victoria branch accommodation, a new HQ for VicSES volunteers and a modern centre for emergency training, management and infrastructure as well as support for community emergency preparedness, recovery and resilience in the Shire.

A successful grant will assist with delivery of this project addressing the urgent infrastructure needs of emergency services, enabling quick responses and establishing its future sustainability.

I am satisfied this project meets the funding aims of a partnership and place-based approach, and am therefore happy to support the Mansfield Shire's application to the Regional Precincts and Partnership Program and wish it well.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Helen Haines', written over a circular stamp or seal.

Dr Helen Haines MP
Independent Federal Member for Indi

30 May 2025

Ref: HH518533/SG

Dr Helen Haines MP

117 Murphy Street
Wangaratta VIC 3677
T 03 5721 7077
E helen.haines.mp@aph.gov.au
W helenhaines.org

@helenhainesindi



To whom it may concern,

Re: Mansfield Shire Council – Mansfield Emergency Services Precinct - Letter of Support

It gives me great pleasure to write in support of Mansfield Shire Council's application for the *Federal Government Regional Precinct Partnerships Program* grant. Mansfield Shire Council will use the funding to further their planning and construction of the Mansfield Emergency Services Precinct.

It is impressive that Mansfield Shire Council have taken the initiative to plan and begin building an emergency services precinct that will ensure they have the capacity to respond quickly to any emergency in the region and to assist disaster and emergency recovery efforts. This space will also give them an up-to-date training facility and coordination space that will facilitate emergency and disaster preparedness.

The Emergency Services Precinct is in the first stage of its planning which includes a new SES and Ambulance Victoria infrastructure to accommodate 24/7 operations and the Stage Two development of a CFA station.

This impressive initiative is supported by collaborative partnerships with all levels of government, the local community and businesses.

Mansfield is a town in my electorate that I look forward to visiting regularly. Its thriving arts and crafts community is a major draw as is the food and wine scene. There is a plethora of outdoor activities involving the snow, the bush and Lake Eildon that will, at times, need some assistance from emergency services. Mansfield has a warm and welcoming atmosphere and is the perfect destination for a day trip or a longer stay.

The delivery of this emergency services precinct will cater for the increase in tourism and influx of visitors and new residents to this vibrant regional town.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mansfield Shire Council on their application which I wholeheartedly support.

Sincerely,

Cindy McLeish MP
State Member for Eildon

29 May 2025



Department of Transport and Planning

Kirsten Alexander
Chief Executive Officer
Mansfield Shire Council
33 Highett Street
Mansfield VIC 3722

Sent via email: imad.khan@mansfield.vic.gov.au

Dear Kirsten Alexander ,

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE MANSFIELD EMERGENCY SERVICES PRECINCT (MESP)

I am writing on behalf of the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) to express our in-principle support for the Mansfield Emergency Services Precinct (MESP) project and to commend Mansfield Shire Council for their efforts in developing the initiative.

The MESP addresses a critical regional need by modernising emergency response infrastructure and co-locating essential services. This project responds to Mansfield's growing population, significant visitor numbers, and the increasing frequency of climate-related emergencies. The precinct will deliver fit-for-purpose facilities for the State Emergency Service, Ambulance Victoria, Radio Mansfield, and in future, the CFA, supporting coordinated response, preparedness, and recovery for the community.

Should you successfully secure funding for MESP, DTP would welcome a discussion regarding access to the Maroondah Highway. Basic safety and turning treatments are likely required to ensure a single, consolidated access point that supports emergency service vehicle movements to and from the highway. As such, this letter does not constitute consent or approval for any works.

We are eager to collaborate with Mansfield Shire Council to advance the emergency plan vision for Mansfield Shire and discuss the plan's next steps.

Yours sincerely,

Amanda Pagan

Director Regional Operations- Planning
Loddon Mallee Hume Region Department of Transport and Planning
17 June 2025





cfa.vic.gov.au

Patron: Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Margaret Gardner AC, Governor of Victoria

Office of the Chief Executive Officer | Headquarters
8 Lakeside Drive Burwood East Vic 3151
Tel 03 9262 8444

Ms Emma McPherson
Grants Project Officer
Mansfield Shire Council
Private Bag 1000
Mansfield VIC 3724

13 June 2025

Ref: PC25-123

By email: emma.mcpherson@mansfield.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms McPherson,

RE: Mansfield Shire Council Emergency Services Precinct funding application

Thank you for your letter dated 27 May 2025 requesting a letter from CFA in support of Council's funding application to the Federal Government Regional Precinct Partnerships Program (rPPP) for the Mansfield Emergency Services Precinct (MESP).

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mansfield Shire Council for allowing CFA to consult and have input into the initial feasibility study and Technical Advisory Group in scoping the Emergency Services Precinct. CFA is appreciative of the opportunity to secure a location for a future Mansfield CFA Fire Station in the MESP.

However, as you are aware, CFA made a significant investment into modifications of the existing Mansfield Fire Station in 2018. The station remains in good condition and adequately supports service delivery capability for the brigade. Based on current infrastructure planning, which includes growth projection modelling and regular service delivery risk assessment, this asset is fit for purpose to provide community protection for the medium to long term.

As such, CFA has no funding available or prioritised to support the relocation of the Mansfield Fire Station into the proposed Emergency Services Precinct. Therefore, CFA must regrettably withdraw from the MESP project at this time.

I wish the Shire Council all the best in its application to the rPPP and look forward to continuing the partnership between CFA and the Mansfield Shire Council in service delivery to the Mansfield community into the future.

Sincerely,


Greg Leach AFSM
Chief Executive Officer

CC: Deputy Chief Officer North East Region, Gavin Thompson
General Manager for Infrastructure Services, Paul Santamaria

Fw: Letter of Support Request - Funding Application for Mansfield Emergency Precinct.



INTERLIGI, Luisa <Luisa.Interligi@frv.vic.gov.au>

To  Emma McPherson

Cc  Commissioner;  MATTHEWS, Tony;  MOON, Chris



You replied to this message on 20/06/2025 10:19 AM.

If there are problems with how this message is displayed, [click here to view it in a web browser.](#)

[Click here to download pictures.](#) To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of some pictures in this message.

You don't often get email from luisa.interligi@frv.vic.gov.au. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Message: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not reply, click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Emma,

I'm responding on behalf of Commissioner Freeman and apologise for the delay in responding to you.

While FRV is interested in the proposal and keen to collaborate where possible, we are unable to commit at this stage.

However, as accommodation for regional offices is an ongoing challenge, we could consider participating in stage two, subject to alignment with our future plan for office locations.

In this respect, please let me know if you'd like to discuss further.

Kind regards

Luisa

Luisa Interligi

Director Accreditation

A/Executive Director Strategic Services

Fire Rescue Victoria

Corporate, Regulations and Strategic Services

Level 4, 215 Spring Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

T. 0439 617 139

E. luisa.interligi@frv.vic.gov.au

frv.vic.gov.au



We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the land, and pay our respects to their cultures and their Elders past, present and emerging.

Emergency Management Victoria

Emergency Management Commissioner

Level 23
121 Exhibition Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
Telephone: (03) 8685 1355
emv.vic.gov.au

Our ref: 25060453
Your ref: E12241

Emma McPherson
Grants Project Officer
Mansfield Shire

BY EMAIL: <EMMA.MCPHERSON@MANSFIELD.VIC.GOV.AU>

Dear Ms McPherson

Re: Mansfield Shire Council Mansfield Emergency Services Precinct (MESP) funding application

Thank you for your letter to the Emergency Management Commissioner on 27 May 2025 outlining MESP's proposed application to the Federal Government Regional Precinct Partnerships Program (rPPP). We appreciate you taking the time to share the details of this proposed project. This initiative has been thoughtfully developed, and I commend the commitment Mansfield Shire Council is demonstrating in advancing local emergency management priorities.

While we value the importance of supporting projects that aim to strengthen our emergency management responses in regional communities, the Commissioner has a long-standing practice of not endorsing or providing letters of support for individual applications. This approach ensures that he remains impartial and consistent, particularly when it comes to funding programs that attract interest from a wide range of worthy initiatives.

Please do not interpret this as a reflection on the merits of your proposal. We sincerely wish your team every success with your application to the rPPP and in your ongoing efforts to deliver meaningful outcomes for your community.

Thank you again for reaching out and for your dedication to this important work.

Yours sincerely



Allyson Lardner
Acting Deputy Commissioner, Operations
06/06/2025



Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action

Emma McPherson
Grants Officer
Mansfield Shire Council

Dear Emma

DEECA is responsible for suppressing bushfire on public land within the state of Victoria. This requires specific resources and infrastructure to support our legislative obligation.

The DEECA office and depot in Mansfield also serves as a level 3 Incident Control Center (ICC) and is available for all Victorian agencies to use in response and coordination to a range of emergencies. We are engaged in a redevelopment of this facility at the moment.

Emergency management can be quite complex and at times requires support from other agencies including the shire to assist in managing and supporting needs of the community. Any additional infrastructure to help support and increase resilience within the community during challenging times is strongly supported by DEECA.

The Council's current project to establish the Mansfield Emergency Services Precinct, collocating Ambulance Victoria and SES with new purpose built buildings and multi-agency training area alongside the Mansfield Resilience and Recovery Centre will be of great benefit to the community.

The use of the former saleyards site is endorsed as a centrally placed and most suitable site for this valuable resource to assist in effective and efficient emergency management response.

I wish Council success with your Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program submission.

Yours sincerely

John Towt
Acting District Manager - Goulburn

10.06.2025

Kirsten Alexander

Chief Executive Officer
Mansfield Shire Council
33 Highett St, Mansfield VIC 3722

Mansfield Emergency Services Precinct – Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program

Dear Kirsten,

As the Visitor Economy Partnership charged with developing the long-term and overarching strategic vision and direction for Victoria's High Country, it is with great pleasure that I write this letter in support of Mansfield Shire Council's application to the **Federal Government's Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program**, to deliver the Mansfield Emergency Services Precinct.

This project provides a significant opportunity to ensure the region's emergency services needs are met in a co-ordinated and sustainable way, fit for purpose with co-located services and infrastructure.

The Precinct will include:

- Resilience Recovery and Training Centre
- VicSES Local Headquarters
- Ambulance Victoria Station
- Radio Mansfield/ Emergency Broadcaster Home Studios
- Precinct Internet / NBN and Telecommunications
- Essential drainage, power and water connections
- Associated carparks, driveways, access points, signage and landscaping

The emergency services respond, not only within the Mansfield Shire, but also Mt Buller and the wider High Country serving and protecting both residents and visitors, often in remote and difficult to access locations. Mansfield itself is one of the High Country's most popular destinations and welcomes over 600,000 visitors each year, while the Mt Buller/Mt Stirling Resort generates around 550,000 visitor days each year.

This project will ensure the region's emergency services have capacity to respond quickly and assist disaster and emergency recovery, and the community are 'disaster prepared' with a purpose built training and coordination space.

Tourism North East is supportive of Mansfield Shire Council's submission to the Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program for this year-round tourism destination which has been impacted by flood, bushfire, heatwave and other climate impacts.

Should you need any further information regarding the initiative or its importance to the region, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Regards,



Gina Elliott
Industry and Product Development Manager

5th June 2025

To whom it may concern,

I write to express the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia's strong support for the proposed Emergency Services Precinct in Mansfield. This includes the Mansfield Emergency Resilience and Recovery Centre and new facilities for Radio Mansfield 99.7FM.

As the national peak body for community broadcasting, the CBAA recognises the vital role that accredited emergency broadcasters play during times of crisis. Radio Mansfield has a strong track record of public service and has demonstrated its commitment to community safety and resilience during past emergencies. It is well known locally and across the sector for stepping up when needed most.

The co-location of Radio Mansfield with the SES, CFA and Ambulance Victoria in a purpose-built integrated precinct is a forward-thinking approach. It will strengthen coordination between agencies and ensure the community receives timely, trusted and accessible emergency information. This is particularly important for vulnerable or remote residents who may not have access to digital channels.

We believe this project sets an important precedent for embedding community media into emergency response infrastructure. It aligns with national efforts to enhance disaster preparedness and build more resilient communities. We strongly endorse the vision for the Resilience and Recovery Centre and commend the inclusion of Radio Mansfield as a core component.

Yours sincerely,

Jon Bisset
Chief Executive Officer