

The Victorian Government is investing in the future of regional Victoria by establishing a new GovHub in the City of Ballarat. The GovHub will be home to up to 1,000 government employees and will drive economic growth in the city.

On 2 May 2017, the Victorian Government announced plans for new regional employment hubs including one in Ballarat.

The GovHub will accommodate up to 1,000 government employees including some of the 600 public sector positions being relocated from Melbourne. It will also stimulate long-term jobs growth, increase business confidence and attract new businesses and investment into the City of Ballarat.

In October 2018, the Victorian Government appointed a joint venture comprising Kane and Nicholson Construction – bringing national and local construction expertise together – to build the GovHub. Ballarat-based Nicholson Construction has 120 years of experience in regional Victoria. Kane is a national construction company based in Melbourne.





The Ballarat GovHub project is well underway and community input has been influential during the development phase. In late 2017, concept designs were unveiled to the community and local businesses to raise awareness of the project, gain feedback on the public's perception of the project, outline the proposed planning processes and provide evidence to inform the next level of detailed design.

The feedback gathered in late 2017 has played a significant role in ensuring the new GovHub reflects community values and complements the local heritage.

## The community feedback identified:

- Support for the opportunities and benefits that the project will bring to the City of Ballarat for both the economy and the community
- The importance of strong, well designed physical connections from the site to local services such as the train station and the CBD
- The need for the site to be accessible to all of the community
- The need to embed the community's strong cultural, historical and social values related to the site.



Development Victoria is leading the development of the Ballarat GovHub in partnership with Regional Development Victoria, the Department of Premier and Cabinet and the City of Ballarat. The new GovHub will cost around \$100 million dollars to develop and will combine government offices and council services.

In November 2017, the Victorian Government announced John Wardle Architects to design the new GovHub precinct. The design lead for the project is Ballarat local, Luke Jarvis and landscape design director Kirsten Bauer.

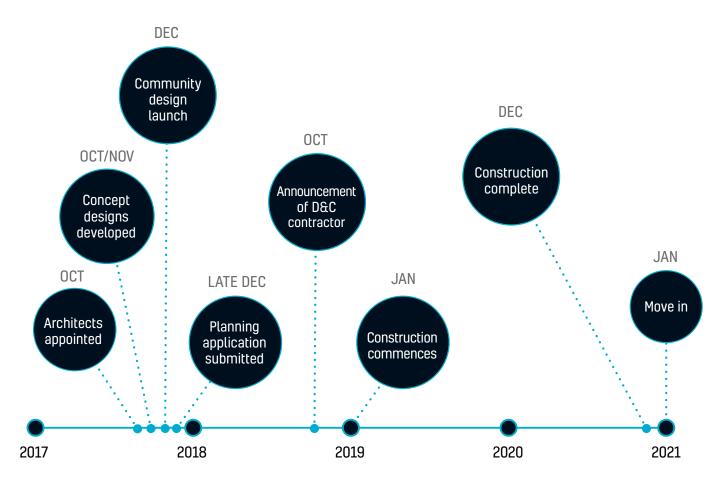
As part of the development of the GovHub, new parking will be provided in central Ballarat. The Victorian Government is providing \$2 million towards the City of Ballarat's Car Parking Action Plan, allowing the council to commence delivery of at least 1,000 car parking spaces nearby.

Expected to create up to 500 jobs during construction, the GovHub provides the opportunity for local workers and businesses to get involved and benefit from the project. Construction is expected to commence in early 2019 and completion anticipated in late 2020.

## The GovHub design includes:

- A glass conservatory between the Civic Hall and the GovHub that will create a strong public link between Civic Hall and the new building
- A reconstructed 'lower hall' space. This will be a shared space that can be used for a café/bar, gallery or live music venue
- A civic plaza on Mair Street and a central plaza that will connect the GovHub, Civic Hall and the library
- A ground floor with spaces for the community to access Victorian Government services
- Five storys of office space with large windows to the north and south offering natural light
- Basement carparking and end-of-trip facilities to encourage walking and cycling
- Strong pedestrian links to the Ballarat CBD and Ballarat Station.





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