

Christine Couzens MP

STATE MEMBER FOR GEELONG



8 October, 2020

GEELONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RECEIVES VITAL RECOVERY FUNDING

Geelong Chamber of Commerce members will benefit from \$50 000 awarded through the Victorian Government's Grants for Business Chambers and Trader Groups program.

The Geelong Chamber of Commerce provides critical advice, connections and resources to businesses in the Geelong region, and this grant will be crucial in helping them to support members' transition to COVID Normal.

The Government's \$3 million grants program provides funds of \$10,000, \$20,000 or \$50,000 to business chambers and trader groups across Victoria to help their local business communities recover and start to grow again.

Grant recipients can use funding towards business activation initiatives like facilitating members' adaptation to COVID Normal, "buy local" campaigns and improving access to programs and services focused on resilience and recovery.

The Grants for Business Chambers and Trader Groups program is part of the \$3 billion Business Resilience Package which aims to help businesses impacted by ongoing restrictions to keep going and prepare for COVID Normal operations.

Additional programs in the package include the \$822 million third round of the Business Support Fund, the \$100 million Sole Trader Support Fund and \$87.5 million to support hospitality businesses prepare for COVID Normal reopening across Victoria.

For more information about the Grants for Business Chambers and Trader Groups program, go to: business.vic.gov.au/businesschambers.

Quotes attributable to Member for Geelong, Christine Couzens

"The Geelong Chamber of Commerce is a strong advocate for the business community in the Geelong region, and this funding will be essential in helping local business recover and prepare for the new COVID Normal."

Quotes attributable to Member for Lara, John Eren

"We appreciate the role that business chambers and trader groups can play in helping local businesses recover – that's why it's important to back that leadership with funding for local solutions to this global pandemic."

Quotes attributable to Member for South Barwon, Darren Cheeseman

"We're helping businesses throughout the Geelong region get through to the other side of the pandemic and the Geelong Chamber of Commerce will be essential in the recovery effort."

Quotes attributable to Member for Bellarine, Lisa Neville

"The State Government is committed to helping businesses recover and grow, getting people back to their work and creating more jobs for others."