

May 2025

Victoria's 30-Year Infrastructure Strategy (2025- 2055)

ENQUIRIES

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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

La Trobe University welcomes the opportunity to participate in this consultation on Victoria's Draft 30-Year Infrastructure Strategy (the Strategy).

As an anchor institution in Melbourne's north and regional Victoria, La Trobe is uniquely positioned to partner with the Victorian Government to deliver this vision. Strategic infrastructure investment, particularly in transport, digital connectivity, health and sustainability, has the potential to unlock the full value of La Trobe's education and innovation capabilities and deliver significant returns across Victoria.

Universities are hubs for strategic thinking, innovation, and living laboratories for trying different technologies acting as key partners for the state government to deliver its infrastructure priorities and innovation agenda. As Victoria's only state-wide higher education provider, La Trobe University is deeply invested in contributing to the state's infrastructure priorities whether the focus is on Melbourne's fast-growing northern suburbs (home to our main Bundoora campus) or one of the regions where our Albury-Wodonga, Bendigo, Mildura and Shepparton campuses are situated. La Trobe is committed to embracing innovation and supporting growth, education, health and employment across all the Victorian communities we serve.

Our most immediate and urgent request is to significantly improve public transport access to our campuses - in particular our Bundoora campus. Despite being Victoria's third oldest University, La Trobe will be the last of all of Melbourne's universities to have access to trains. Current public transport options are simply not meeting the needs of our growing student cohort nor the increasing demands from industry and community to access our campus and facilities.

Our key recommendation is for an immediate and significant improvement to the bus connections to our Bundoora campus. This recommendation is achievable, cost-effective and will make an immediate impact to Melbourne's North by making access to university significantly easier for thousands of students, staff, community members (particularly those accessing our state-of-the art sports facilities) and our industry partners some of whom are co-located on our Bundoora campus.

In tandem with seeking these short-term solutions to provide an immediate access to education in Melbourne's North, we are progressing the implementation **of our University City in Melbourne's North which will see our campus and Melbourne's northern suburbs transformed into a hub of economic development.** Investments in infrastructure and connectivity to support La Trobe's precinct will have direct benefit via high value employment and economic activity which is estimated to boost annual GSP to \$718 million by 2040¹. The project includes plans to create housing for 15, 000 residents with 9,000 dwellings, including 10% affordable dwellings and creating over 30,000 job opportunities. This has been a long-standing focus for La Trobe University and we look forward to publishing the third evolution of the Masterplan for our Bundoora campus. Rezoning, as recommended by the Strategy, is however not the only pre-requisite to enable the progressing of such projects that would lead to more home choices. We argue that policy parameters should be in place to incentivise, enable and facilitate the use of land for public benefit.

In line with the Strategy's call for expansion of access to tertiary education in Melbourne's North, La Trobe warmly welcomes the Strategy's recommendation to establish **a new post-secondary education facility in Melbourne's North Growth corridor.** To that end, La Trobe University and Melbourne Polytechnic are exploring the opportunity to establish a future campus in Melbourne's outer north centred around the Cloverton Metropolitan Activity Centre to meet the tertiary education needs of a rapidly growing population. We look forward to working with Infrastructure Victoria and the Victorian Government to achieve this goal.

¹ Economic Benefits Study – University Uni City of the Future project, KPMG Economics, 2024 (A copy of the report can be provided upon request.)

La Trobe supports the vision and the objectives of this Strategy. In Section B, we outline how the Victorian Government can partner with La Trobe University to deliver the Strategy. In Section C we provide further commentary on select recommendations while Section D highlights elements that can be strengthened. We note that with the almost exclusive focus on physical infrastructure, there is a need for the Strategy to identify the enablers that will be required to achieve the Strategy's goals such as the training of the future workforce. The Strategy would also benefit from a stronger focus on the specific needs and infrastructure requirements (especially digital infrastructure) of regional Victoria as well as the need for improved connectivity between the State's infrastructure assets which would minimise the duplication of investment.

We strongly support the Strategy's ambition to create a more connected, sustainable and resilient Victoria and welcome the Strategy's focus on the potential to **expand digital healthcare** and its showcasing of La Trobe's award-winning partnership with Northern Health to deliver the Victorian Virtual Emergency Department. In line with La Trobe's recently funded Care Economy Co-operative Research Centre, we believe there is a potential for a rethink of the approach to health infrastructure and delivery through diversifying and transforming care services. This will require investment in critical enabling technologies which will underpin a more connected and adaptable workforce with improved technology skills and capability.

B. EMBEDDING LA TROBE UNIVERSITY IN THE STATE'S INFRASTRUCTURE AGENDA

The Strategy provides a welcome opportunity to align long-term infrastructure investment with the capabilities of anchor institutions like La Trobe. By embedding universities like La Trobe in the infrastructure agenda, Victoria can accelerate innovation, boost regional resilience and equip the next generation with the skills to shape a prosperous future.

La Trobe recognises a number of opportunities for partnering with Victorian Government for a smarter, more inclusive and connected future:

- **Infrastructure as a Catalyst for Precinct-Led Innovation**
 - La Trobe's Melbourne (Bundoora) campus is home to a growing Research & Innovation Precinct with strengths in health and wellbeing, digital transformation, food and agriculture and environmental resilience.
 - The Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) as well as complementary transport investments such as rapid buses will significantly improve accessibility, attracting more research talent, students and industry partners.
 - Continued investment in digital infrastructure will enable precinct expansion, supporting commercialisation, start-up growth and collaborative R&D aligned with government priorities.
- **Developing the Future Workforce through Infrastructure-Enabled Education**
 - As one of Victoria's largest producers of graduates in health, education, agriculture and technology, La Trobe plays a critical role in preparing the workforce that will design, deliver and maintain Victoria's future infrastructure.
 - Infrastructure investment in housing, mobility and digital systems will support inclusive access to higher education especially for underrepresented communities.
- **Supporting Regional Infrastructure for Economic and Social Equity**
 - La Trobe's campuses in Shepparton, Bendigo, Mildura and Albury-Wodonga serve as regional innovation and education hubs.

- Investments in regional transport, health infrastructure, and telecommunications will improve service access, support student retention and allow for the co-location of research and workforce development that is tailored to local economies.
 - Our campuses are ready to partner in delivering place-based solutions from rural health innovation to sustainable agriculture, regional entrepreneurship and post-secondary education with partners like Melbourne Polytechnic and Kangan Institute.
- **Shared Value Through Strategic Collaboration**
 - La Trobe is ready to collaborate with government, industry and communities to:
 - Co-invest in infrastructure-enabled research and innovation
 - Pilot new technologies and delivery models through its precincts and regional campuses
 - Serve as a living laboratory for sustainable urban and regional development

C. LA TROBE'S RESPONSE TO SELECT RECOMMENDATIONS

Victorians have good access to housing, jobs, services and opportunities

Recommendation 1: Build more social housing

Recommendation 7: Rezone locations near existing infrastructure for more home choices

Future option: Mandate more affordable homes near existing infrastructure

La Trobe fully supports these recommendations and Future Option. We argue that policy parameters should be in place to incentivise, enable and facilitate the use of land for public benefit. With respect to Recommendation 7 for instance, rezoning is not the only pre-requisite to enable the progressing of projects that would lead to more home choices.

As outlined in our introduction, we are progressing our [University City in Melbourne's North](#), which will see our campus and Melbourne's northern suburbs transformed into a hub of economic development. Investments in infrastructure and connectivity to support La Trobe's precinct will have direct benefit via high value employment and economic activity. Our University City in Melbourne's North is designed to increase economic growth, educational attainment and community participation in the campus. This will bring direct benefits to Melbourne's northern suburbs as well as to the state more broadly through a 'market and shovel-ready' development pipeline of housing, research and innovation, commercial and retail uses. The project includes plans to create housing for 15,000 residents with 9,000 dwellings, including 10% affordable dwellings and creating over 30,000 job opportunities.

Our University City project will demonstrate how social housing can be incorporated into major developments. Building on our track record of delivering [five star sustainable student housing](#), La Trobe will be able to provide a test case of how to address housing challenges while simultaneously adopting innovation in building design.

None of this is however possible without the adequate and immediate support and investment, including in enabling infrastructure such as adequate public transport connectivity to the campus as well as digital infrastructure, points which we will address in further detail in other parts of this submission.

Recommendation 2: Facilitate markets and invest in kindergarten infrastructure

Recommendation 3: Plan and deliver expanded and new schools

La Trobe fully supports these recommendations. That said, a plan to increase education infrastructure must be accompanied by a plan to deliver the workforce required to work in kindergartens and schools. With its leading [School of Education](#), La Trobe will continue to partner with the Victorian Government to help train the early childhood educators and teachers who will work on these new schools and kindergarten. Further, La Trobe can assist with the design of such infrastructure, ensuring that the design is optimal for learning and inclusivity.

Home to the highly-successful **NEXUS** program, the **SOLAR** labs and the **SOME** labs, there are opportunities to further expand these programs across Victorian state schools. There are also opportunities to establish early learning and schools within universities, providing opportunities for applied learning.

It is also crucial that the design and delivery of expanded and new schools accommodates evolving digital infrastructure that will be needed in light of technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, as recommended in the '**Study Buddy or Influencer: Inquiry into the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in the Australian Education System**' report.

Recommendation 4: Expand TAFE in Melbourne's growth areas and some large regional centres

La Trobe is a State-wide university covering central and northern Victoria with campuses at Albury-Wodonga, Bendigo, Mildura and Shepparton. Three of our regional campuses are co-located with TAFEs, with which we enjoy strong and long-standing partnerships. This has enabled a number of pathway projects in which we work with regional schools, TAFEs and other community groups to raise aspiration and improve transition to post-school education. We therefore strongly support the Strategy's proposal for an expansion of the Bendigo Kangan Institute.

In line with the Strategy's call for expansion of access to tertiary education in Melbourne's North, La Trobe warmly welcomes the Strategy's recommendation for Melbourne Polytechnic to establish a new post-secondary education facility in in Melbourne's Northern Growth suburbs. In fact, **La Trobe University and Melbourne Polytechnic are exploring the opportunity to establish a future campus in Melbourne's outer north centred around the Cloverton Metropolitan Activity Centre to meet the tertiary education needs of a rapidly growing population.** To service this need, La Trobe and Melbourne Polytechnic have formed the Cloverton Working Group and are working together to develop a business case to assess the feasibility of establishing a campus presence in Melbourne's outer north. The business case will explore the potential for co-location as well as an integrated model of TAFE and University teaching. We are currently seeking \$2 million in funding to support this business case development to ensure people living in Melbourne's outer north have the skills and expertise to support the growth in jobs across the community.

Recommendation 9: Run faster, bus services, more often, in Victoria's largest cities

Recommendation 10: Build a new bus rapid transit network

Recommendation 12: Run more bus and coach services in regional Victoria

La Trobe supports all of these recommendations and notes the criticality of equitable access to transport across the state. The importance of improving bus connections to Melbourne's North East and to our regional campuses including Mildura, has already been extensively covered in earlier consultations on the **Victoria's Bus Network Reform** carried out by the Victorian Government in 2022.

La Trobe supports the proposal in the Strategy to introduce a rapid bus network from Mernda to Northland via La Trobe University as outlined in the Strategy's Figure 7. However, this is insufficient. It is estimated that during the teaching semesters, La Trobe University's Bundoora campus sees over 30,000 daily visitors, including students, staff, and on-site partners. To facilitate access to the Bundoora campus, we urgently call for:

- An increase in the frequency of Route 301 to provide a service every 5 minutes
- Route 301 to operate every day of the year (or at least every weekday)
- The creation of a 'Suburban Rail Loop Bus' (SRLB) route to 'mimic' and prepare for SRL North – this could see routes such as the 301 subsumed into it.
- An addition of cross-corridor bus services to remove cars from the congested North-East Link (NEL) works area during NEL construction which could then take advantage of the new links created post the opening.
- The investigation into simple, win-win, efficiency gains and the re-investment of the resources into Route 301 improvements and extension to Heidelberg:

- Route 561 route alignment and run time efficiencies
- Route 382 route alignment and run time efficiencies
- Route 566 route alignment and run time efficiencies
- The removal of the duplicative Route 550 which has very minimal unique catchment

Further information about La Trobe's proposals for improvement to bus routes to our Bundoora campus can be provided upon request.

La Trobe's concerns about access to public transport are shared by all of La Trobe's industry partners including NORTH Link and the Mayors and CEOs of the eight Northern Councils. In 2024, all of these partners agreed that implementing a bus mimicking the route of the Suburban Rail Loop would have immediate and multiple benefits helping people to get to critical employment and education centres, improving cross-corridor connectivity and reducing road congestion. More detail can be found [here](#).

The improvement of public transport connectivity would in the first instance benefit the multiple users of our Bundoora campus. We however also know from experience around the world that infrastructure and connectivity are fundamental to the success of Innovation Precincts and therefore the development of high value employment and innovation. Victoria has world-class, established innovation precincts across the state, including seven National Employment and Innovation Clusters which include Bundoora as well as sector-specific innovation precincts emerging in some regional centres. La Trobe, like all Victorian universities, benefited from several investments as part of the Victorian Higher Education State Investment Fund. La Trobe selected to nominate projects that were aligned with Precinct activation and economic development of the state. It is our strong recommendation that we continue to leverage these existing investments - and ensuring connectivity to our campus and precinct is a key contributor to their continued success. The more people come together, the greater the innovation.

Victorians are healthy and safe

Recommendation 16: Help government schools share their grounds

La Trobe strongly welcomes this recommendation but argues that it should go beyond schools to include universities. Each of our campus masterplans as well as our soon-to-be released regional growth and innovation strategy focus on the importance of making our campuses open to the public. Funding for maintenance and upkeep will be required to ensure the campus facilities can be made accessible to the public.

As an example, our co-investment with Victorian Government in the [La Trobe Sports Park](#) and related facilities, is specifically designed to increase community access and participation in sport. Our Sports Park has 460,000 community users each year. La Trobe is home to the Matildas and invests extensively in women's sports research as well as research into ageing. La Trobe is uniquely placed to work with government to leverage the value of these public facilities beyond providing a space to exercise. In promoting health and well-being and creating open, inclusive and safe communities, these places lead to other health outcomes such as helping to reduce the social and economic burden of loneliness, depression and non-communicable disease.

Recommendation 17: Invest in maintenance, upgrades and expansions of community health facilities

As one of the largest educators of community nursing, allied health and rural health professionals in Australia, La Trobe is uniquely positioned to contribute to this recommendation. With deep partnerships across local health networks and community organisations, not only can La Trobe contribute to workforce readiness and service innovation, but our R&I Precinct and University City master plans also have capacity to accommodate expanded community health facilities. La Trobe currently runs occupational therapy, audiology and autism services on campus and with co-investment from government, can expand and develop these community health facilities in partnership with our extensive clinical networks. As an example, La Trobe's **Bouverie Centre** is the world's largest specialist family therapy centre combining clinical family therapy, academic teaching and workforce development combining world leading research and community education in one integrated service.

Our partnership with Northern Health in the design and development of the Victorian Virtual Emergency Department, showcased in the Strategy, is another example of where infrastructure investment can make a significant and immediate impact on keeping Victorians healthy and safe.

Recommendation 18: Build more residential alcohol and other drug treatment facilities

La Trobe strongly agrees with these recommendations and is uniquely positioned to support this recommendation. La Trobe can offer expertise via its [Centre for Alcohol Policy Research \(CAPR\)](#) - a world-class academic unit at the forefront of alcohol research. Our discoveries are used to promote and inform the development of evidence-based, effective alcohol policy in Australia and internationally.

Recommendation 19: Invest in digital healthcare

Infrastructure investment in digital healthcare is vital to the growth and effectiveness of health care for all Victorians. High quality digital healthcare relies on robust infrastructure to enable remote care, data driven decision making and integrated health services. As a leader in digital healthcare, La Trobe strongly welcomes this recommendation and the Strategy's focus to expand digital healthcare including its showcasing of La Trobe's **award-winning partnership** with Northern Health to deliver the Victorian Virtual Emergency Department.

While La Trobe is already working with industry and health services and has established capabilities in telehealth, data analytics and digital health innovation, this growing field requires further investment to create a scalable, inclusive, equitable digital health ecosystem for Victoria. In line with La Trobe's recently-funded \$129 million 10-year [Care Economy Co-operative Research Centre](#), we believe there is a potential for a rethink of the approach to health infrastructure and delivery through diversifying and transforming care services. This will require investment in critical enabling technologies which will underpin a more connected and adaptable workforce with improved technology skills and capability. This is one instance where the Strategy could explore more in-depth the potential expansion of these technologies to regional Victoria. There is also an opportunity to leverage existing assets and investments such as the [La Trobe Digital Innovation Hub](#) and [Research and Innovation Precinct](#) to achieve wider economic, social and health benefits to the state.

Aboriginal people have self-determination and equal outcomes to other Victorians

La Trobe fully endorses this objective and its recommendations including to ensure that "Victorian infrastructure reflects respectful engagement with Aboriginal communities, draws on their knowledge, and celebrates their history, culture and values." There is significant potential for infrastructure investments to play a transformative role in improving health, education, economic participation, secure housing and cultural well-being for First Nations. However, the infrastructure must be designed and delivered in partnership with communities and grounded in principles of self-determination and local need. This reflects the approach adopted by La Trobe University including:

- A long-standing contractual agreement with Narrup Team (part of Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation) since 2018 to assist with land management and biodiversity projects at Bundoora campus including restoration and regeneration of landscapes, management of biodiversity corridors, managing impact of feral animals and invasive plant species, environmental weed control and ecological / cultural burns.
- A formal agreement with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to assist in the preparation of the Bundoora campus masterplan.
- Working with DJANDAK as representatives of the Dja Dja Wurrung Corporation in relation to the landscape design and architectural elements of the new Nursing, Midwifery, Dental and Oral Health facilities in Bendigo.

- La Trobe's strategic partnership with Munarra Limited and our commitment to support the Munarra Centre of Regional Excellence – in Shepparton. The University would welcome the provision of support to the Munarra Centre as one example of a community-led First Nations centre.

Recommendation 22: Invest in secure homes for Aboriginal Victorians**Recommendation 23: Fund better health and wellbeing infrastructure Aboriginal Victorians**

La Trobe fully supports these recommendations. The University supports a number of community-led health interventions including the leading Baggarrook Yurrongi maternal health program which has significantly improved health outcomes for First Nations mothers and newborns. There is no doubt that secure housing plays a pivotal role and directly impacts health, education and employment outcomes. As noted earlier, the activation of the University City precinct, could provide a further opportunity to advance equitable outcomes for Indigenous people in Victoria.

Victoria has a thriving natural environment**Recommendation 24: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from infrastructure**

La Trobe fully supports this recommendation. In 2019, La Trobe University made a significant \$75 million commitment to become carbon neutral by 2029. In 2023, the university's four regional campuses had already achieved this target with the University's new Shepparton campus, launched in February 2025, becoming its first-fully electric campus. Another major milestone has just been reached with the switching of a 3.5 hectare solar farm, [Victoria's largest urban solar farm](#), at its Bundoora campus – the landmark project in the Net Zero program.

La Trobe has reduced its energy emissions by more than 50 per cent since the commencement of the Net Zero program in 2019 and, as such, is ideally placed to partner with the Victorian Government to share its lessons-learned as it transitions to being carbon-neutral. Further information about La Trobe's path to Net Zero can be obtained [here](#).

Recommendation 25: Advance integrated water management and use more recycled water

Again, through its expertise in this area, La Trobe's academics can contribute to the design of these projects. La Trobe's Centre for Freshwater Ecosystems delivers world-leading research focused on healthy freshwater ecosystems providing critical knowledge that supports the [sustainable management of these important ecosystems](#). Further information can be obtained [here](#).

La Trobe's Melbourne campus is also home to [Nangak Tamboree](#), a biodiverse waterway corridor which links La Trobe University to the wider community and environment. Connecting with Darebin Creek in the south, it runs through the Bundoora campus to the Wildlife Sanctuary and beyond to the north. A long-term project as part of the University's Master Plan will see this neighbourhood enhanced and protected over the coming years for the benefit of the University and its neighbours. During the Spring of 2018, the University engaged with the students, staff and the Indigenous community to name the Nangak Tamboree, creating an identity which reflects its Indigenous heritage. The principles that were adopted in the Nangak Tamboree project could be adopted in the management of waterways in other parts of the state.

Recommendation 26: Better use government land for open space and greenery

La Trobe supports this recommendation but argues that it should specifically reference the need to preserve biodiversity.

Victoria is resilient to climate change and other future risks

La Trobe supports this objective and its recommendations and is currently conducting research which could be of assistance to the Victorian Government in delivering this objective:

- In 2023, La Trobe established the [Climate Change Adaptation Lab](#) (CCAL) to drive interdisciplinary research and advance climate change research and action, in society as well as at the university. Further information and opportunities to work with La Trobe's CCAL can be obtained [here](#).
- La Trobe's [Gabra Biik, Wurruwila Wutja \(Clever Country, Clever People\)](#) Indigenous Research Centre is currently working with Transport NSW to improve the resilience of the transport corridor network through the integration of Aboriginal Cultural Landscape Management (ACLM) practices. This project will investigate ways in which cultural and traditional land and water management practices can be incorporated into TfNSW vegetation management assessment processes and management standards to achieve the dual aims of increasing resilience (decreasing vulnerability) of the transport corridor to natural hazards (notably bushfire) and incorporating Indigenous cultural values into management and practice more broadly. Further information can be obtained [here](#).

Victoria has a high productivity and circular economy

Recommendation 35: Prepare and publish infrastructure sector plans to shape Victoria's cities

La Trobe supports this recommendation and is keen to work with the Victorian Government on its vision for transforming Melbourne's North into an economic hub as outlined in the Introductory section.

Similarly, La Trobe is keen to work with government on its plans for Bendigo, Mildura, Shepparton and Wodonga. In particular, it is crucial to have an agreed set of assumptions for 'land use' which will enable other entities such as universities to advance their own infrastructure and development plans. However, existing legislation and planning and zoning restrictions are currently standing in the way of such processes. The Strategy needs to more clearly identify the stumbling blocks to unleashing the development of infrastructure.

D. WHAT IS MISSING FROM THE STRATEGY?

A sharper focus on regional Victoria including access to digital infrastructure

The strategy is still very Melbourne-centric and would benefit from deeper consideration of how regional Victoria can also drive economic activity and how the state can improve connectivity between its infrastructure assets as well as maximise return from these investments.

In the regional communities we serve, we see a dearth of childcare centres, schools and a digital divide which is entrenching disparity in metropolitan and regional educational outcomes from early ages. A particular area of focus should be equal access to digital infrastructure across Victoria. As outlined in the [Australian Digital Inclusion Index](#), which is the primary measure of digital inclusion calculated by looking at access, affordability, and digital ability across Australia's population, [regional Victorians are lagging behind metropolitan Victorians](#) in terms of digital inclusion. One of our recommendations and offers to the Victorian Government is to work together to leverage existing assets. One example is the Digital Innovation Hub (funded by the VHESIF) which will provide better access to digital infrastructure in our regional towns.

More broadly, and as outlined in Section B, there are several opportunities for the Victorian Government to partner with La Trobe to support regional infrastructure for economic and social equity:

- o La Trobe's campuses in Shepparton, Bendigo, Mildura and Albury-Wodonga serve as regional innovation and education hubs
- o Investments in regional transport, health infrastructure, and telecommunications will improve service access, support student retention and allow for the co-location of research and workforce development that is tailored to local economies
- o Our campuses are ready to partner in delivering place-based solutions for pressing challenges, from rural health innovation to sustainable agriculture, regional entrepreneurship and post-secondary education with partners like Melbourne Polytechnic and Kangan Institute

A disconnect between the required physical infrastructure and the enablers

The Strategy usefully outlines the key infrastructure priorities for the next thirty years. It could however benefit from a clearer focus on the enablers that will be required to achieve the Strategy's goals such as the training of the future workforce. It is also crucial to ensure that the design of the infrastructure is in itself an enabler for optimal outcomes. A key question is how infrastructure can be designed in a way which ensures equal outcomes for equity groups such as disability groups, Indigenous and culturally and linguistically diverse people.

A more focused and deliberate initiative to connect and complement infrastructure across precincts

There are considerable benefits to Victorians and the state if we can reduce the duplication of infrastructure across Victoria and indeed Australia ensuring our precincts are distinctive, innovative and support Victoria's economy now and into the future. Consideration of policy levers to encourage precincts, universities and industry to share infrastructure, invest in complementary assets that build scale and reduce duplication would be welcome. This would not only utilise the assets more effectively - it would also build scale and breadth of capability that is likely to attract domestic and international investment from industry. Ensuring connectivity and better access to infrastructure across the state will also improve equity and inclusion of currently underserved communities.

A good example of this is the state's investment in complementary biotechnology manufacturing in Victoria activating La Trobe's Bundoora Precinct with the co-location of BioNTech and Monash's Clayton Precinct with Moderna. This has created scale and capability bringing international investment and positioning Victoria as a premier destination for biotech and MedTech around the world.