



CHRIS CREWTHER MP
Member for Dunkley

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$150,000 Announced to Assist Local Environmental Groups in Dunkley

On Wednesday 17th of March, Chris Crewther MP, Federal Member for Dunkley, and Melissa Price, Minister for the Environment, visited several community environmental groups to announce the first grants of the Federal Government's Communities Environment Program.

At Animalia Wildlife Shelter, in Frankston, Chris and Minister Price announced the Federal Government would contribute \$10,000 to their organisation.

Following this, they travelled to Boggy Creek, in Langwarrin, to announce that they would contribute \$7,500 to Friends of Langwarrin Outdoors and Waterways to assist in their efforts.

Travelling to Downs Estate in Carrum Downs, Chris and Minister Price announced \$10,000 in funding for the project.

The last announcement was made at South Eastern Centre for Sustainability, where Chris and the Minister announced \$20,000 for the Centre's project.

Minister Price explained that this funding "was meant to support small environmental groups, because they are the ones doing a lot of the work and yet they often don't get a cent. And good local members like Chris have identified a number of really good environmental projects that they believe need the support of the Federal Government".

Chris Crewther pointed out that "the great thing about the program is that it does not require matched funding from state or local governments, meaning that the organisations can begin to use the funds for what they most urgently need".

This funding is a part of \$22 million in 2019-20 to deliver a wide range of on-ground projects that conserve, protect and sustainably manage our environment.

Under the Communities Environment Program, each federal electorate can receive up to \$150,000 in grant funding for small-scale, community-led projects nominated by the local Member of Parliament in consultation with the community will focus on environmental priorities such as:

- waste and litter reduction
- protecting native animals, including our threatened species
- addressing weeds and pest animals
- restoring and improving coasts, wetlands, riverbanks and waterways
- greening parks and urban areas.

This program aims to support the environmental priorities of local community

and environment groups in their regions and neighbourhoods. It aims to not only recover and strengthen our environment, but also to build and strengthen our communities.

Each electorate can receive funding for up to 20 projects, with the minimum grant amount being \$2500 and the maximum grant amount set at \$20,000. And sitting Members of Parliament will consult with their community to identify potential projects for their respective electorates.

A broad range of organisations will be eligible to put forward projects to their local Member of Parliament. This includes community clubs (including Lions clubs, rotary clubs, sports clubs), not-for-profit organisations such as Indigenous organisations, Landcare groups (including bushcare, coastcare, 'friends of' groups), schools and other community and conservation groups
(ENDS)

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