



# A Fair Classification for the Peninsula

Funding should follow need, not an outdated label

## Where I stand

The Mornington Peninsula doesn't fit neatly into a metropolitan box.

Our communities are spread across separate townships. Public transport is limited, our population is older and high visitor numbers put extra pressure on local roads, health services and infrastructure. Tourism, agriculture and hospitality are central to our economy, but we're often excluded from funding intended for regional communities.

A 2026 report commissioned by the Committee for Frankston and Mornington Peninsula compared our combined region with Geelong and Queenscliff. Across the previous three State Budgets, it estimated capital commitments of about \$4.2 billion for Geelong-Queenscliff and \$1.8 billion for Frankston-Mornington Peninsula.

That worked out to about \$14,400 per person in Geelong-Queenscliff and \$5,600 here.

Classification doesn't explain every funding decision. But the current system isn't delivering a fair result.

## What I'll do

### Fight for fair regional treatment

I'll fight for formal peri-regional treatment for the Mornington Peninsula. That means recognising that we sit between metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria, and giving us fair access to support based on our real needs.

I'll pursue:

- access to regional funding for housing, transport, tourism, workforce development and local infrastructure;
- regional housing and accommodation programs for key workers;
- the same payroll-tax treatment for eligible Peninsula employers as eligible employers in regional Victoria; and
- recognition of the extra pressure visitors place on local services and infrastructure.

If the government won't create a new category, I'll push to change each law, tax rule and funding program that produces an unfair result.

### Protect what makes the Peninsula special

Fairer treatment must not weaken our environmental protections or open the door to inappropriate development.



I won't support any change that weakens the Green Wedge, opens rural land to suburban development or removes access to metropolitan programs that benefit our community.

This is about getting the support we need, not turning the Peninsula into another growth corridor.

### **Show the funding gap**

I'll use questions in Parliament, motions and budget negotiations to expose the programs that exclude the Peninsula and demand clear answers from government.

Each year, I'll publish a Peninsula Fair Share report showing:

- what the government promised, funded and delivered;
- which regional programs still exclude us;
- progress on major Peninsula projects and services; and
- how our investment compares with similar Victorian communities.

### **What progress looks like**

Success means:

- the Peninsula can access funding that reflects our real needs;
- eligible local employers receive fairer payroll-tax treatment;
- the Green Wedge remains protected; and
- the gap between what our community needs and what the Victorian Government delivers begins to close.