



Anthony Carbines MP

State Member for Ivanhoe

Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment

MEDIA RELEASE

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ANDREWS GOVERNMENT DELIVERING SHADE PROTECTION FOR HEIDELBERG.

The Member for Ivanhoe, Mr Anthony Carbines, today announced the local recipient of grants from the first round of the Andrews Labor Government's Community Shade Grants Program.

The Ivanhoe electorate has been awarded \$5000 by the Andrews Labor Government to provide much needed protection from harmful UV rays by increasing the provision of shade in the community.

Australia has the highest rates of skin cancer in the world and in 2014 melanoma was the fifth most common cancer in Victoria. It's estimated that 40,000 new cases of skin cancer are diagnosed in Victoria every year. Shade is a simple and effective way to protect ourselves from the sun and by doing so reduces the likelihood of deadly skin cancer.

The Andrews Government has committed \$15 million for skin cancer prevention initiatives, including \$5 million for SunSmart education campaigns and \$10 million in grants for shade in public places.

The Heidelberg United Football Club will receive \$5000 worth of grant funds to use to build new shade structures, repair existing shade structures, purchase portable shade structures or create natural shade by planting trees.

The grants can also be used to purchase hats and sunscreen to further protect the community from the harsh rays of the sun.

Priority for grants has been given to rural and regional areas with high rates of skin cancer and mortality and areas of socioeconomic disadvantage. At least one grant was awarded in each of the 79 Local Government Areas.

Quotes attributable to the Member for Ivanhoe, Anthony Carbines:

"We all love spending time outdoors but it is important we are adequately protected from the sun, especially between September and April when UV levels are high."

"Skin cancer is a major health issue for Victorians, yet it's mostly preventable. That's why people need to be sun smart."

"These grants will provide our community with more shaded areas so everyone can enjoy their time outdoors safely."