

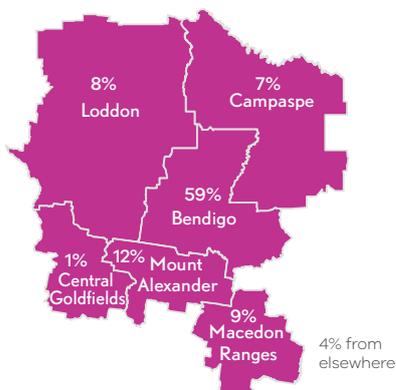
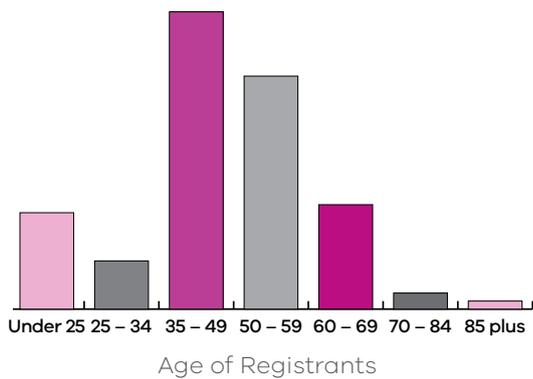
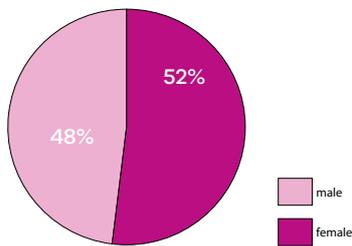


# 2017 Loddon Campaspe Regional Assembly

**Bendigo, 17 August 2017**

More than 200 attendees including Ministers & Partnership members.

## Demographics of registrants



56 per cent of those who registered were not on our original invitation list, likely meaning they were new to this consultation process.

## Main topics discussed

- Health
- Digital Connectivity
- Transport
- Environment and Renewable Energy
- Support for Early Years
- Skills and pathways to employment
- A Growing Economy



## Key messages from the Assembly include:

- Expansion of a youth mental health prevention program across the region
- Ensuring Maternal Child Health has more funding at an LGA level to assist early years development
- Bringing educators and business together to create authentic employment and career opportunities and options for young people
- Co-located new business parks and industrial estates with renewable energy sources and investments
- Build a regional logistics hub
- Work with traditional owners to learn how to manage our environment and increase our wellbeing from a healthy environment
- Provision of extra rail services between Bendigo and Melbourne, with reliable access to mobile connectivity
- Creation of digital community hubs
- Council planning to enforce a 'green energy requirement' on all new developments.



## 2017 Loddon Campaspe Regional Assembly



### Your voice making a difference

In 2016, following our Regional Assembly and consultation process, the Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership identified as a top priority the need to support a preventative approach to health issues in our region. Loddon Campaspe has higher rates of obesity, chronic disease, disability and high risk health behaviours, such as smoking, than many other regions of Victoria.

As a direct result of the Partnership's efforts, the Victorian Government allocated \$150,000 in the Victorian Budget 2017/ 18 for the "Healthy Heart of Victoria" initiative. The funding is being used for preliminary work to identify localised solutions to health and well-being issues which are community led and participatory.

Over the past two months, representatives from state and local Government, health providers and community health organisations, have taken part in a series of workshops to develop a co-designed health project which - with future funding - will see more local people getting more active, more often.

Partnership Chair Nigel McGuckian explained "the Healthy Heart initiative has been driven by people who are living and working in our region and are ready to take action and make a difference to some of our alarming health statistics."

### Feedback on the Assembly

Thirty- four people provided feedback on the Assembly and the engagement process. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with agreement that participants' voices were heard as part of the process and that everyone was provided the opportunity to participate in discussions.

### Moving forward

The Partnership is considering all information gathered at the Assembly and through our wider engagement activities. Our priorities will then be considered in the Government's Budget process.

