

East Metro & Murrindindi Network Strategy 2026 – 2028

Working Together for Better Care

In July 2025, Victorian health services were grouped into 12 Local Health Service Networks based on location. The **East Metro and Murrindindi Local Health Service Network (EMM LHSN)** brings together Alexandra District Health, Eastern Health, St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne and Yea and District Memorial Hospital.

By working together, we aim to deliver safe, high-quality care closer to home, make services easier to access, reduce duplication and improve people's experience of care. This strategy will continue to evolve and will be reviewed each year to reflect what we learn, including feedback from consumers, staff and the wider community.

What guides our work: Everything we do is based on shared values



RESPECT



EQUITY



INTEGRITY



PERSON CENTRED
CARE



COLLABORATION

Working together allows us to better meet community needs than working alone

Our Community

Our Network serves more than **one million people** across metropolitan Melbourne and rural Murrindindi, covering **nine** local government areas.

We know our communities are:

- **Growing and ageing**, with increasing demand for health services
- **Diverse, with different needs and health outcomes** across metro and rural areas
- **Experiencing gaps in access**, long travel times, and complex care pathways

Your Voice Matters

We have established a **Community Engagement Group** made up of community members from across our catchment.

Community input means:

- **Your voice** is heard and valued
- **Local experiences** help guide what we do
- **Services and information** feel more relevant and useful
- **Stronger relationships** with our communities built on trust and collaboration

Our Priorities For the Next Three Years 2026 – 2028



Increased Access, Equity and Coordination of Care

We will help people get the care they need, when they need it, with smoother movement between rural, metropolitan and specialist services.

What this means for you:

- Clearer referral and treatment pathways
- More care delivered closer to home, when possible
- Greater use of telehealth and virtual care
- Stronger coordination between services



A Strong and Sustainable Workforce

We're building a strong, flexible health workforce across metro and rural areas by supporting workforce planning, training, career pathways and easier movement across Network services.

What this means for you:

- More consistent staffing, especially in rural areas
- Easier access to skilled clinicians locally
- Improved continuity of care



Safe, High-Quality Care Everywhere

Providing safe, high-quality care across all services, supported by a strong culture of learning and continuous improvement.

What this means for you:

- Consistent safety and quality practices
- Sharing learnings from across the Network to improve care



Coordinated Shared Services

Working together to share systems and resources, delivering better value and more sustainable healthcare for the community

What this means for you:

- Streamlined information sharing between services
- Improved coordination of tests, treatments and support services