

## The Atherstone Exchange: local jobs for local people

**Melbourne, 15 September 2017:** The Melbourne community of Atherstone has celebrated the official opening of a new skills, jobs and enterprise initiative, The Exchange.

Providing access to local jobs for local people, The Exchange will act as a facilitator of training and skills development, connection to employment opportunities and information about businesses, social enterprises, community groups and services.

Lendlease is delivering The Exchange in partnership with Victoria University and Builders Academy.

“The Exchange at Atherstone is the second Exchange for the Lendlease Communities portfolio, reflecting our commitment to partnering with like-minded organisations to create places that promote growth and generate economic prosperity,” said Matthew Wallace, Managing Director of Lendlease’s Communities business.

“The Exchange will initially play an important role in connecting the community with construction employment opportunities, which may expand to different industry types as the community and local economy grows,” Mr Wallace said.

The development of the Atherstone community to date is estimated to have created over 240 jobs, with the aim of creating over 2400 jobs by the end of the project.

Lendlease hopes to further encourage associated networks such as sub-contractors and home builder partners to support local training and job creation in and around Atherstone.

Melton City Council Mayor Sophie Ramsey, together with training partners Victoria University and Builders Academy, officially launched The Exchange at the BACE at Atherstone on 14 September 2017.

Builders Academy will offer a Certificate 3 & 4 and a Diploma in Building and Construction at the BACE, located on Ferris Road, Melton. Builders Academy scope of training will extend in the future to skills for civil construction.

Victoria University is offering IT transition course well suited to the emerging Digital BACE network and the demand for skilled IT professionals across all industries.

The Exchange will promote these immediate opportunities as enrollments are still open to start courses during 2017 with expansion of programs planned for the new year.

“The partners of The Exchange are to be congratulated on this initiative and their commitment to making a difference in the lives those who live in and around the Atherstone community,” Mr Wallace said.

**ENDS**



**For more information please contact:**

Tessie Vanderwert  
State Manager, External Affairs – Victoria  
[tessie.vanderwert@lendlease.com](mailto:tessie.vanderwert@lendlease.com)  
Phone: 0428 483 828

**About Lendlease:**

Lendlease is a leading international property and infrastructure group with operations in Australia, Asia, Europe and the Americas. Our vision is to create the best places; places that inspire and enrich the lives of people around the world.

Headquartered in Sydney, Australia, and listed on the Australian Securities Exchange, Lendlease has approximately 12,350 employees internationally.

Our core capabilities are reflected in our operating segments of Development, Construction and Investments. The combination of these three segments provides us with a sustainable competitive advantage and allows us to provide innovative integrated solutions for our customers.

