



# The Hon Sonya Kilkeny MP

Minister for Corrections  
Minister for Youth Justice  
Minister for Victim Support  
Minister for Fishing and Boating

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Ref: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting me with your concerns about recreational fishing at our metropolitan parks.

I acknowledge there has been confusion around this important issue and greatly appreciate the opportunity to correct the record.

As you are aware, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) is asking people to have their say on how metropolitan and regional parks are managed under the proposed Crown Land (Reserves) (Metropolitan and Regional Parks) Regulations.

All existing arrangements for fishing access, fish stocking and fishing in metropolitan parks will be rolled over in any new regulations. There will be no change. The materials on the [engage.vic.gov.au](http://engage.vic.gov.au) and DELWP websites have now been updated to make this clear.

As Minister for Fishing and Boating, I understand that these waterways are highly valued by the community and continue to play a vital role in Melburnians being able to enjoy the health and wellbeing benefits of recreational fishing and the outdoors.

Under the Andrews Labor Government, Victoria has undergone a Fishing Revolution. Over the past 8 years, our Government has invested over \$81 million towards recreational fishing so all Victorians, as well as visitors, can enjoy the best of our world class outdoors and local communities receive the important investment through tourism and jobs.

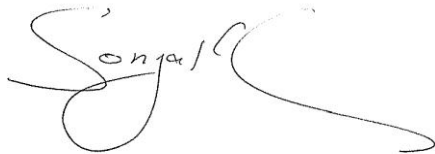
In July 2021, we established the Better Boating Fund which will provide over \$30 million each year for boating facilities and boating safety. To support the allocation of the fund, Victoria's first recreational boating strategy was launched in December 2021.

We are also improving recreational fishing through our \$35 million Go Fishing Victoria plan to get more people fishing more often in more places.

Thank you again for taking the time to write to me. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to respond and your feedback is highly valued by the Andrews Labor Government as we continue to work hard to improve fishing opportunities in Victoria.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sonya Kilkenny', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

**The Hon Sonya Kilkenny MP**  
Minister for Fishing and Boating  
9/08/22