



Shared values. Shared success. Stronger together.

Your vote matters

Learn what this merger means for you.



Member Information Booklet for the proposed merger of Hume Bank and Geelong Bank.

This document supports the Member Information Document and should be read in conjunction with that document.



Introduction from the Board Chairs

A stronger foundation to support our members

Geelong Bank and Hume Bank are proposing a merger that will create a stronger, customer-owned bank while keeping our local heart.

On behalf of both Boards, we are pleased to present this Member Information Booklet highlighting the key information points about proposed merger of Geelong Bank and Hume Bank.

Shared values and deep regional roots

Geelong Bank has been part of the Geelong community since 1974, while Hume Bank has proudly served regional Victoria and Southern New South Wales since 1955. Together, we share deep roots, strong member relationships, and an unwavering commitment to customer-owned banking.

Long-term sustainability and success

The banking environment, however, has changed significantly. Smaller institutions face increasing pressures from regulation, technology investment, cyber security and competition. The Boards of both Geelong Bank and Hume Bank have concluded that standing alone is not the best way to protect and grow member value over the long term.

The merged entity will have over 60,000 active members, assets exceeding \$2.4 billion, 16 branches, and around 200 staff. This scale provides greater resilience, capacity to invest, and ability to deliver on what members need now and into the future.

Stronger together

Both banks are customer-owned. Members of Geelong Bank will automatically become members of the merged entity with voting rights and member obligations. Your ownership, your voice, and your access to services will remain.

After a detailed process of due diligence, consultation and strategic assessment, both Boards are unanimous in their recommendation: we strongly encourage you to vote in favour of this merger.

We believe this is the most appropriate path to secure the sustainability, strength, and member benefits of customer-owned banking in our region for decades to come.



Allison Batten
Chair - Geelong Bank



Kerry Grigg
Chair - Hume Bank



Proposal overview

By pursuing a voluntary merger with a like-minded customer-owned bank, Geelong Bank will build a secure future.

Why merge?

Challenges of staying small

-  **Narrow product offering** - fewer choices for our members.
-  **Limited pricing power** - slower to respond to rate shifts.
-  **Reduced ability to innovate** - digital tools could lag behind others.
-  **Fewer growth pathways** - limited options for career development.
-  **Smaller community impact** - support spread thin across needs.

Opportunities through merging

-  **Expand product choice** - with access to business banking, credit cards, insurance and more.
-  **Provide improved services** - through access to new technology and enhanced customer support.
-  **Offer competitive rates** - keeping fees fair and rates sharp.
-  **Invest in the future** - with stronger digital banking, security and innovation.
-  **Grow its local presence** - supporting the Geelong region for the long-term.
-  **Support our people** - protecting local jobs and creating new opportunities for staff.
-  **Give back more** - through a dedicated Geelong Community Impact Fund supporting local initiatives.

How the merger will benefit you

More choice. More value.

Everything you have today — plus more tomorrow.



More choice



Excellent value



Reduced fees



Business banking



Local continuity



Community investment



Strong voice



Digital innovation

One of the most immediate benefits of the proposed merger is the expanded range of products and services that will be available to Geelong Bank members.

More ways to borrow and grow

From bridging finance and line of credit loans to business overdrafts and bank guarantees, members gain access to loan products and features not previously available, while keeping all the core home and personal loan options you know today.

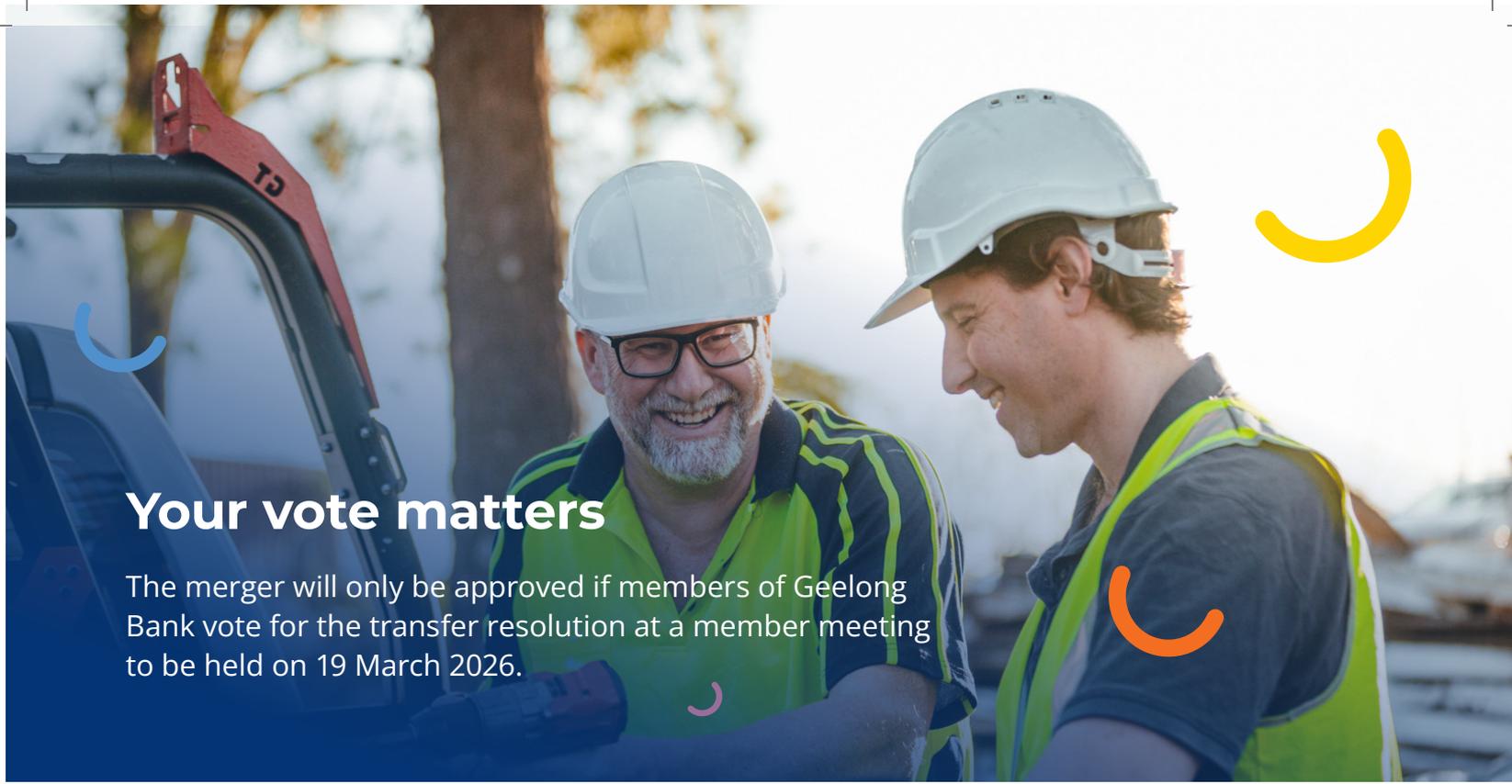
Protection and peace of mind

A full suite of insurance products - from home, car and landlord through to caravan and boat cover - all available under the merged bank, giving members the ability to do more

with one trusted banking partner. In short, members will keep what they have today - and gain so much more.

Fees cut or removed altogether

Most of the everyday fees Geelong Bank members pay today are being cut - or removed altogether. Hume Bank's Essential Account includes zero account-keeping fees, unlimited fee-free transactions and withdrawals, and all the access features members expect, including digital wallets and EFTPOS.



Your vote matters

The merger will only be approved if members of Geelong Bank vote for the transfer resolution at a member meeting to be held on 19 March 2026.

Each adult member of Geelong Bank is eligible to vote on the merger.

To approve the merger proposal, a special resolution must be passed. This means that at least 75% of the votes cast by members must be in favour of the special resolution. Members must be eligible to vote and be present at the meeting (that will be held both physically and online), either in person or by proxy.

Notice of Special General Meeting

A Notice of Special General Meeting is provided with a copy of the Member Information Document.

Members can vote:

- **In person:** Please arrive early if you decide to attend the member meeting, as you will need to register your attendance on arrival.
- **Online:** If you wish to attend online you will need to pre-register prior to the meeting by the date and time specified in the meeting notice.
- **By proxy:** Even if you cannot attend the member meeting, you can vote by completing the Appointment of Proxy form and returning it to Geelong Bank. Voting by proxy is simple and is explained in the Appointment of Proxy form.

If you wish to vote by proxy, please read the Appointment of Proxy form carefully before completing it. It is important that you complete the Appointment of Proxy form correctly otherwise your vote may not count.

Frequently asked questions

Will my branch close?

The Geelong Bank branch will remain open. The merged entity has a strong commitment to face-to-face banking and will continue to support Geelong customers through a local branch presence.

Will staff change?

Geelong Bank staff will continue to serve members locally, with opportunities for growth and development within a larger organisation. On the transfer date, all Geelong Bank employees (with the exception of the CEO) will become employees of Hume Bank, with their continuity of service fully recognised. They will retain all benefits accrued during their employment with Geelong Bank and will continue to be employed by Hume Bank.

Will the bank's name change?

The Geelong Bank brand will be preserved and continue to be used in customer-facing contexts - including branch signage, website, customer communications, and community engagement - until such time as a considered future brand decision is made. This decision will be informed by strategic, operational, and regulatory considerations, as well as customer feedback and the outcomes of integration activities.

How can members have their say in this decision?

The merger will only be approved if members of Geelong Bank vote for the transfer resolution at a member meeting to be held on 19 March 2026. Your support will help ensure a stronger, more sustainable future for Geelong Bank.

When will the merger take effect?

The merger is anticipated to take effect in May 2026, pending regulatory approvals and member vote.

How will this affect my accounts?

There will be no immediate impact to how you access your accounts, branch services or staff as Hume Bank will continue to operate the Geelong Bank business as it currently operates for an initial period following the transfer date, while it makes the necessary integration plans and arrangements to fully integrate Geelong Bank with Hume Bank. Members will receive further communications about the integration after the transfer has taken effect.

What will be the impact on my member rights and obligations?

Both Hume Bank and Geelong Bank are customer-owned banks, and all members will continue to have ownership, voting rights, and access to banking services after the merger. As part of the merger, Geelong Bank members will become members of Hume Bank with the same rights and obligations as existing Hume Bank members. As both banks are customer-owned, there are no external shareholders - members remain at the heart of decision making.

How can I stay informed?

If you need help with further questions, go to geelongbank.com.au or contact us at any time via AskUs@geelongbank.com.au or by calling 1300 361 555.



More information

To help you make an informed decision, we've made the information straightforward and accessible.



Detailed information about the proposed merger, the resolution and the effects of the passing of the resolution are set out in the Member Information Document which is available on our website at geelongbank.com.au.

You should read this booklet document carefully before deciding how to vote on the merger resolution.

All information in this Member Information Booklet and the associated Member Information Document is accurate at the date of issue but is subject to change.

If you need help with further questions, go to geelongbank.com.au or contact us at any time via askUs@geelongbank.com.au or by calling 1300 361 555.

