DIGITAL HUB INFORMATION

WHAT IS A DIGITAL HUB?

A Digital Hub is a co-working space that offers fast and reliable NBN internet, strong mobile phone coverage, technical facilities, charging stations, video conferencing, meeting rooms, dedicated work spaces and training spaces. A hub can be 1: a public internet access point, 2: an incubator/co-working space, 3: an advice, training and support space, 4: a sector-specific space, or a combination of all four.

WHO CAN USE A DIGITAL HUB?

Anyone can use a Digital Hub. Freelancers, entrepreneurs, small businesses, students, public sector and community groups. A Hub provides the opportunity to engage with other businesses, like-minded individuals and/or experts that could provide advice or training.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF A DIGITAL HUB?

A Digital Hub, with its shared services, focusses on creating a central point for connecting people, information and ideas. They have the potential to improve digital skills for individuals and businesses as well as foster business and community development.

- ✓ Hubs can build collaborative communities that foster both social connectivity and economic change.
- ✓ Hubs can attract diverse members who can collaborate and exchange knowledge.
- ✓ Hubs can localise global entrepreneurial culture, and support the diversification of rural economies.
- ✓ Hubs can facilitate creativity, giving individuals and businesses/entrepreneurs the chance to both learn and engage with digital technology for a range of skill levels.

Community members and businesses that live or work in and around Avoca and the northern part of the municipality will benefit from a Hub. Many are travelling to Maryborough, Bendigo or Ballarat for work. These people will have the opportunity to use the co-working space to enable them to work from the town (rather than travel to other regional centres), so they can be closer to their families, and so that they can start to build community connections in Avoca.

WHY IS THE AVOCA INFORMATION AND COMMUNITY CENTRE A GOOD PLACE FOR A DIGITAL HUB?

The Avoca Information and Community Centre is an existing highly utilised facility that provides library and visitor information services. It is in a central location in town and is close to public amenities (shops, food, entertainment, open space). There is ample parking available.