

Media Release



Peter Malinauskas MP
Premier

Zoe Bettison MP
Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Thursday, 9 March 2023

SA's first multicultural charter launches today

South Australia's vibrant and culturally diverse society is being recognised with the launch of the first South Australian Multicultural Charter – cementing the path for our future as a proud multicultural state.

The Multicultural Charter acknowledges our culturally diverse history and provides six principles to promote a unified, harmonious, and inclusive South Australian community that values, respects and supports diversity.

Today, the Malinauskas government is launching the inaugural Multicultural Charter in Parliament as a key part of bringing the *South Australian Multicultural Act 2021* to life for all South Australians.

The Multicultural Charter will guide South Australian government agencies, organisations, institutions, businesses, and communities and be a foundation for all South Australian service delivery, policy, and program development, by placing cultural diversity at the heart of decision making.

The Multicultural Charter was developed in consultation with a working group that includes South Australian Multicultural Commission members along with representatives from leading multicultural organisations, universities, government, and through wide public consultation.

View the South Australian Multicultural Charter and supporting resources at www.multicultural.sa.gov.au/Charter

Quotes attributable to Peter Malinauskas

Today is a historic day for our State and our multicultural communities.

We all have a responsibility to continue to build a culturally connected community.

I encourage South Australian organisations to promote the Multicultural Charter within their community and networks and to ensure the principles are at the heart of their decision making.

The Charter belongs to all South Australians.

Quotes attributable to Zoe Bettison

The Multicultural Charter will help organisations promote understanding and respect through increased cultural awareness and implement diversity and inclusion strategies.

The next stage of activating the Multicultural Charter is the development of the South Australian Ambassador Program, which will engage businesses and government agencies to actively consider the Charter's principles in everything they do.

Quotes attributable to Damien Walker, Chief Executive, Department of the Premier and Cabinet

For South Australian government agencies, the Act places a general duty on state authorities to 'have regard to and seek to give effect to the Charter in carrying out their functions or exercising their powers.

Multicultural Affairs in the Department of the Premier and Cabinet will engage with South Australian Government agencies to support the implementation of the Charter.

Quotes attributable to Adriana Christopoulos, Chair, South Australian Multicultural Commission

The Multicultural Charter builds on our strong commitment to multiculturalism and introducing interculturalism.

Interculturalism is about having a deep understanding of, and respect for, all cultures and a dynamic, inclusive interaction between diverse groups within the community.

The South Australian Multicultural Commission are delighted to have been involved in the development of South Australia's inaugural Multicultural Charter.

Quotes attributable to Tamara Stewart-Jones, CEO, Multicultural Youth SA

The Launch of the South Australian Multicultural Charter marks an important milestone for our multicultural communities and the government, business, not for profit and community sectors who work alongside them.

The Charter provides our sectors with a strong set of guiding principles which will ensure recognition, visibility and equitable access for all, including our newest arrivals. I would like to thank the state government for their action and in particular, acknowledge the leadership of Minister Bettison who spearheaded this initiative.