

MEDIA RELEASE

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Council to launch gender equality strategy

Melton City Council is launching the *Equality and Respect Strategy 2030* to help take a step toward gender equality.

The strategy recognises that gender inequality is the root cause of violence against women.

With the City of Melton having the fourth-highest rate of family violence in Victoria, Council wants to share its vision and plans around how gender equality might be achieved.

City of Melton Mayor, Cr Bob Turner, said the goal of the *Equality and Respect Strategy 2030* was for the City to be gender equitable, safe, and inclusive.

"The Strategy provides guidance on how we can make both our community and workplace gender equitable, safe and inclusive," Cr Turner said.

"It shows that we will work in partnership with residents and key government and community agencies, to not only prevent violence against women, but also promote gender equity."

Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence Natalie Hutchins will tomorrow (8 June) join Council in officially launching the strategy, at CS Gallery, Caroline Springs, at 10.30am.

"Local governments play a critical role in shaping the culture and attitudes that prevent violence against women and promote gender equality.

"It's great to see Melton City Council stepping up and taking a leadership role in releasing this strategy."

ENDS

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