Motion for submission to the MAV State Council 17 May 2024

Title

Rainbow Alliance for Local Government

Motion

That the Municipal Association of Victoria establish a Rainbow Alliance Network for local government.

Rationale for Motion

Why is this a state issue and why should this be endorsed by the MAV? (Maximum 300 words)

The Municipal Association of Victoria is committed to supporting inclusive communities, including support for people who identify as LGBTIQA+ and provides suggested actions that Victorian councils can take in providing this support.

In October 2017, the MAV reaffirmed its commitment to marriage equality ahead of the national postal vote through a MAV State Council motion: "That the MAV recognises, in its marriage equality policy, that marriage equality is a human rights issue. We support full and equal human rights for all people and extend our support to the LGBTIQ community."

At the LGBTIQ+ Community Safety Roundtable on 9 August 2023 hosted by the Minister for Equality and attended by the then Acting CEO of the MAV, one of the opportunities raised through discussions was for the MAV to consider formalising a network for the sharing of expertise and capacity building around risk management and LGBTIQA+ and intersectional inclusion in the face of threats to safety. This would represent coordination and partnership between local government authorities to address community safety matters and third-party protections.

The establishment of a Rainbow Alliance for Local Government would provide a forum for like-minded councils across Victoria to share learnings and to support each other to respond to the diversity of their communities.