



Engaging and responsible council

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, Asexual and Aromantic communities (LGBTIQA+)

Merri-bek

Our Ask:

Ensure anti-discrimination and anti-vilification legislation are being effectively enforced to protect transgender and gender diverse people across all settings and services.

Merri-bek has a large and diverse LGBTIQA+ population. Council is committed to working with our LGBTIQA+ communities through both our Human Rights Policy and LGBTIQA+ Action Plan to amplify the voices and advocate for our LGBTIQA+ population.

Council encourages Victorian government to continue to support LGBTIQA+ programs, strategies and plans, including activities associated with the Pride in our Future Victoria's LGBTIQA+ strategy 2022-32. We encourage the government to maintain its support for Safe Schools, to ensure our school communities are safe and inclusive for all.

Merri-bek is concerned by an increase in violence and discrimination directed at LGBTIQA+ people in public places and urge the Victorian government to work collaboratively with local LGBTIQA+ organisations, leaders and communities to ensure our communities are safe and free from violence.

Council remains concerned about the increasing barriers facing our transgender and gender diverse population. This has seen a rise in discrimination, violence and vilification directed towards transgender and gender diverse people in health settings, the public domain, employment and education. Merri-bek calls on the state government to ensure anti-discrimination and anti-vilification legislation are being effectively enforced to protect transgender and gender diverse people across all settings and services.