

22 December 2021

## JOIN A LGBTIQ+ ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Council is establishing an LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee to provide it with advice on programs and services to improve inclusion throughout the Shire and nominations are now open.

Mayor, Cr Tim Drylie, said that Council is proud of its diversity and believes that communities are enriched when people regardless of their background or identity are embraced and supported to participate and contribute to community life.

“Membership on the committee will represent the range of interests and needs of LGBTIQ+ people in the Hepburn Shire. We want diversity, including culture, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, employment, life stage, and community groups,” said Cr Drylie.

The objectives of the LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee are to:

- Advocate on behalf of LGBTIQ+ people within the Hepburn community and beyond
- Provide feedback and advice to Council on its policies, plans and services that impact on the LGBTIQ+ community
- Consider and provide advice on key government initiatives, programs and reviews that impact on LGBTIQ+ communities
- Consider funding and other opportunities as they may arise
- Assist Council to promote the benefits of diversity and enhance understanding about the barriers to equality facing LGBTIQ+ communities, and
- Promote and assist Council to celebrate LGBTIQ+ days of significance and events.

The LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee is a reference group and not a decision-making body.

Community members are encouraged to submit an Expression of Interest form by 27 January 2022.

Find more information and an application form at <https://participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au/lgbtiqa-advisory-committee>.

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