

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Youth



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YOUNG PEOPLE TO HAVE THEIR SAY ON VICTORIA'S FUTURE

Young people will be at the centre of a bold new strategy to best support young Victorians and address the challenges they face as we rebuild from the coronavirus pandemic.

Minister for Youth Ros Spence today launched a public consultation to inform Victoria's first-ever youth strategy.

2020 has been a particularly difficult year for young Victorians, who are telling us they feel uncertain about their future and are worried about their mental health, keeping up with their education and finding a job.

The new youth strategy will unify and strengthen the way the government works with young people across the state as we rebuild from the coronavirus pandemic.

Today marks the beginning of a long conversation between government and communities right across Victoria to build a strategy that will create real, meaningful change for all young people.

The Victorian Government is calling for all young people to have their say on what matters most to them and the co-designed and youth-led consultation process will be open for more than two months. A series of online youth and community forums will be held across the state, including in suburban, regional and rural areas.

The Government is partnering with youth sector organisations including the Youth Affairs Council Victoria, Koorie Youth Council, Centre for Multicultural Youth, Minus 18 and the Youth Disability Advocacy Service to make sure the forums include a diverse range of voices.

Victorians are also invited to contribute by responding to a short online survey or making a written submission by 14 December. The discussion paper and online survey is available at engage.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Youth Ros Spence

"I want to hear from young people right across the state – this strategy will be strongest if we engage with young people from all walks of life."

"We're developing a strategy that is for young people, by young people and we will work together every step of the way."

Quote attributable to Parliamentary Secretary for Youth Josh Bull

"This strategy needs to represent the diverse voices of all young Victorians – which is why we particularly want to hear from those who don't traditionally engage with government."

Quote attributable to Victorian Youth Congress co-chair Jack Smith

"We encourage young people to make their voice heard – join a forum, fill out the survey, or send us a message!"

Quote attributable to Victorian Youth Congress co-chair Marindi Jarrett

"As young people, it's our job to show Government how things can be done differently and meaningfully."

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