Victorian Local Government

Women's Charter

Local government is in a unique position to be a lead player in achieving the global goal of gender equity for women. Gender equity is acknowledged as a powerful tool in changing social culture in relation to discrimination, harassment and all forms of violence against women

Recognising the need for equal participation by women in key decision-making forums and in democratic governance, we the local governments of Victoria, on behalf of our communities, support the principles of gender equity, diversity and active citizenship

Gender Equity

That women and men have an equal right to be representatives in local governments, committees and decision-making positions

Diversity

The inclusion of different experiences and perspectives in local government and community decision-making strengthens local democratic governance and helps build cohesive communities. Councils and communities encourage and welcome the participation of all women

Active Citizenship

Local governments will work with the community to increase the numbers and participation of women in public life, so that decision-making more clearly represents and reflects the interests and demographics of communities







This Charter is consistent with state, national and international protocols highlighting equal rights and opportunities as central to good local governance, including: Safe and Strong—A Victorian Gender Equity Strategy 2016; Victorian Human Rights and Responsibilities Charter 2006; 50:50 VISION A National Program for Gender Equity in Local Government ALGWA 2009; Paris Local and Regional Government Global Agenda for Equality of Women and Men in Local Life 2013