

Media Release

The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP
Minister for Veterans
Minister for Small Business
Minister for Youth



Wednesday, 2 October 2024

EMPOWERING YOUTH TO LEAD AND ADVOCATE

Young Victorians now have access to an expanded online platform which supports them to participate, lead and advocate for their communities, delivered with the support of the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Youth Natalie Suleyman today celebrated the launch of the upgraded Youth Affairs Council Victoria (YACVic) Youth Engagement Resource Platform (YERP).

The Labor Government invested \$200,000 to support the upgrade of the platform which has been co-designed by young people.

The platform seeks to support and empower young people with information in articles, videos, photos and infographics about safety and support, building skills, getting involved, being an advocate and sharing their experience.

It also supports Victorians who work with young people or are looking to work with young people in the future with information about youth participation, safety, becoming a youth worker, developing their practice of youth work, diversity and inclusion, lived experience and peer work.

The YACVic YERP, first developed in 2013, was upgraded in consultation with 10 young co-designers from across Victoria who brought their perspective, lived experience and expertise to the project.

The funding of the platform is part of the Labor Government's long partnership with YACVic and support for the wellbeing and development of Victoria's young people through delivery of the *Our promise, Your future: Youth Strategy 2022-2027*.

Form more information, or to try the platform, visit yacvic.org.au/yerp.

Quote attributable to Minister for Youth Natalie Suleyman

"We are pleased to have supported this upgrade of a fantastic platform that provides the tools needed for young people to shine."

"We continue to invest in young Victorians having support and opportunities to build their leadership skills, feel heard and create positive change in their communities."

Quotes attributable to YACVic Chief Executive Officer Mary Nega

"We are thrilled to unveil YERP – a dynamic resource platform co-designed by our incredible youth leaders. This upgrade offers fresh ideas and tools for young people to step up and create meaningful change in their communities."

"For those working with young people, YERP illuminates the vital importance of young voices and provides practical ways to engage them."

Media contact: Georgina King 0419 001 409 | georgina.king@minstaff.vic.gov.au