



What is Welcoming Cities

Welcoming Cities is an initiative that supports local councils, and their communities, to become more welcoming and inclusive. We are creating a national network of cities, shires, towns and municipalities who are committed to an Australia where everyone can belong and participate in social, economic and civic life.

Why Join

Welcoming Cities supports local councils, and their communities, to work towards greater social cohesion and economic success.

There are numerous campaigns and initiatives that support the development of communities where all residents can have a sense of value and belonging through social, economic and civic opportunity and engagement.

But how do we know if we're being successful? How do we benchmark and advance this work?

Welcoming Cities recognises that, of all tiers of government, local councils are best placed to understand the complexity and diversity of their communities. However, they often engage in this work with limited resources and support.

How We Help

Welcoming Cities supports local councils, and their communities in four key areas.



Knowledge Sharing

Supporting local governments and communities to learn from each other and access resources, research, policies, and case studies.



Standard + Accreditation

Setting the National Standard for cultural diversity and inclusion policy and practice in Local Government.



Partnership Development

Brokering meaningful multi-sector partnerships that foster a sense of belonging and participation for all members of the community.



Celebrating Success

Showcasing leading practice through case studies and a national award that acknowledges welcoming efforts.

Welcoming Works

The continued success of multicultural Australia will depend on our ability to foster social cohesion as our population and cultural diversity grows.

Welcoming is about inclusion at all levels. It is a process by which all people can develop a sense of belonging. When people feel welcome they will participate in community life. Welcoming is the means by which local councils, businesses and communities can embrace and integrate migrant communities for greater social cohesion and economic success.

Economic Benefits

Over the next 35 years, migration will drive economic and skills growth in Australia. Migrants will contribute 1.6 trillion dollars to Australia's GDP, and 10 per cent more to the economy than existing residents.

Social Benefits

Currently, 100 Australian towns and regional centres are facing significant population, and economic decline. Migration and settlement are helping to:

- Increase local populations and add to the cultural vibrancy
- Revitalise local businesses and services
- Attract increased funding and investment.



Website: www.welcomingcities.org.au

Email: info@welcomingcities.org.au

Phone: 07 3160 3793