

MEDIA RELEASE | 8 November 2023

New community service launched, helping residents plan for the future

A new community service has been launched that will equip people with the information they need to complete their own Advance Care Directive.

An Advance Care Directive empowers you to make clear legal arrangements for your future health care, end of life, preferred living arrangements and other personal matters. It can also give you peace of mind to know that your wishes are known and will be respected, if others need to make decisions for you.

Community members can now make a free appointment at the City of Victor Harbor, Yankalilla Library or Alexandrina Council to get their Advance Care Directive underway!

The free one-on-one appointments are provided by a Trained Peer Support Officer and offer information on how to navigate the Advance Care Directive Form.

Appointments usually take around 45 minutes, and you can book a follow-up appointment if you need further information. Appointments are available at the City of Victor Harbor Civic Centre, Yankalilla Library and Alexandrina Library.

City of Victor Harbor Mayor, Dr Moira Jenkins, said there is no such thing as being overprepared when it comes to planning for your future.

“There may be a time in your life when you can’t make your own decisions. An Advance Care Directive makes it easy for others to know what your wishes are if you are unable to make these decisions yourself,” said Mayor Jenkins.

“This volunteer service can help you understand Advance Care Directives and get some tips on how to make your own.”

“If you haven’t heard of an Advance Care Directive before, now is the time to learn!”

“Congratulations to the teams at Victor Harbor, Yankalilla and Alexandrina councils for getting this service up and running across the Fleurieu Peninsula. Furthermore, well done to the passionate volunteers who are delivering the one-on-one appointments.”

Appointments can be booked in Victor Harbor, Yankalilla, Strathalbyn or Goolwa. Simply use the contact details below based on where you would like your appointment:

- **City of Victor Harbor Civic Centre** (1 Bay Road, Victor Harbor) – email localgov@victor.sa.gov.au or call 8551 0500
- **Yankalilla Library** (181 Main South Road, Yankalilla) - email clairetaylor@yankalilla.sa.gov.au or call 8558 0200
- **Alexandrina Council** (11 Cadell Street, Goolwa and 1 Colman Terrace, Strathalbyn) - email alex@alexandrina.sa.gov.au or call 8555 7000

All appointments are subject to availability of volunteers.

The appointments are delivered by volunteers and provide information that is *general* in nature. If you require specific advice about the content, meaning and effect of the ACD Form you will need to seek support from professional services.

This service is coordinated by the City of Victor Harbor, District Council of Yankalilla and Alexandrina Council. The initiative is supported by Office for Ageing Well and Health Services Programs, SA Health.