

Friday, 17 August 2012

ANNE GALE TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMISSIONER

Anne Gale has been appointed as South Australia's next Commissioner for Equal Opportunity.

Acting Attorney-General Patrick Conlon said Ms Gale brings to the role a wealth of experience, having worked with the disadvantaged, particularly in aged care and homelessness.

Ms Gale – who is currently the Deputy Commissioner for Consumer Affairs - also has a proven track record in policy analysis and project delivery during her many years in the South Australian public sector.

“Ms Gale's leadership skills - gained through significant experience in senior and executive roles - will serve her well in her new role,” Mr Conlon said.

“Her strong strategic and analytic abilities, as well as her compassion and innate sense of fairness, will also make her an outstanding Commissioner.

“South Australia can expect total dedication to advancing equal opportunity and combating discrimination.”

Before being appointed Deputy Commissioner for Consumer Affairs in 2009, Ms Gale was Deputy Chief Executive of the Department for Families and Communities.

From 2005, Ms Gale was Executive Director of the Office for the Ageing, where she was responsible for implementing the SA Ageing Plan - *Improving with Age*.

Ms Gale said she looked forward to taking on the challenging role.

“Equal opportunity is something we need to continually work on and develop - it needs vigilance,” Ms Gale said.

“We all have a role to play to ensure that as a community we work to eliminate discrimination and promote equality opportunity and a fair go for all.”

Ms Gale has served in a range of other roles in other agencies over nearly two decades, including Department of Premier and Cabinet, Human Services, and the South Australian Housing Trust.

The appointment was made following a merit-based selection process involving a strong field of candidates. Ms Gale replaces Anne Burgess who has been Acting Commissioner, and will take up the five-year term on 17 September.

