

Media Release

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Hills Businesses Encouraged to Talk Equality, Discrimination at BizLink Expo

Small businesses in the Adelaide Hills and Mount Barker are being encouraged to learn more about the benefits of diversity and inclusion and how discrimination laws apply in the workplace at the BizLink Expo to be held at Auchendarroch House later this month.

The Equal Opportunity Commission is one of many local, state and federal government agencies attending the event, designed to help small businesses owners with their development and initiatives.

Staff from the Equal Opportunity Commission will be on hand to answer questions about how discrimination laws apply in the workplace, the positives that can come from a more diverse and inclusive workplace and the consultancy services it offers to businesses.

The Commissioner for Equal Opportunity, Dr Niki Vincent, said the Expo was an exciting opportunity for businesses to learn how positive workplace practices could help boost their bottom line.

“The business case for diversity and inclusion is compelling,” she said.

“Research by the European Commission found that diversity initiatives helped resolve labour shortages, improved staff loyalty, enhanced business reputation and image and improved innovation leading to new products and services and also access to new markets.

“On the other hand, those businesses that fail to embrace diversity and inclusion often fall victim to ‘groupthink’ – perpetuating unconscious bias and losing out on a diversity of views that can help keep the workplace vibrant and foster new ideas that can strengthen the business.”

The Equal Opportunity Commission offers consultancy services to small businesses to increase their understanding of equity and diversity in the workplace and how to implement positive changes that will support both staff and the business as a whole.

“Your business can benefit from this kind of cultural change, and my team will be more than happy to discuss positive workplace culture change – as well as the consulting services and advice we offer and how it can strengthen your business.

The BizLink Expo will be held at Auchendarroch House on Monday 29 May, from 6pm – 7.30pm. To register for the BizLink Expo visit, the Office of the Small Business Commissioner website sasbc.sa.gov.au/events or contact 8303 2026.

For consultancy enquiries and further information about Equal Opportunity for Business visit eoc.sa.gov.au/eo-business or contact 8207 1977.

For media enquiries contact the 24-hour AGD Media Line **0422 007 069**

