

V I C T O R I A N

Y O U T H

S T R A T E G Y :

H A V E Y O U R S A Y

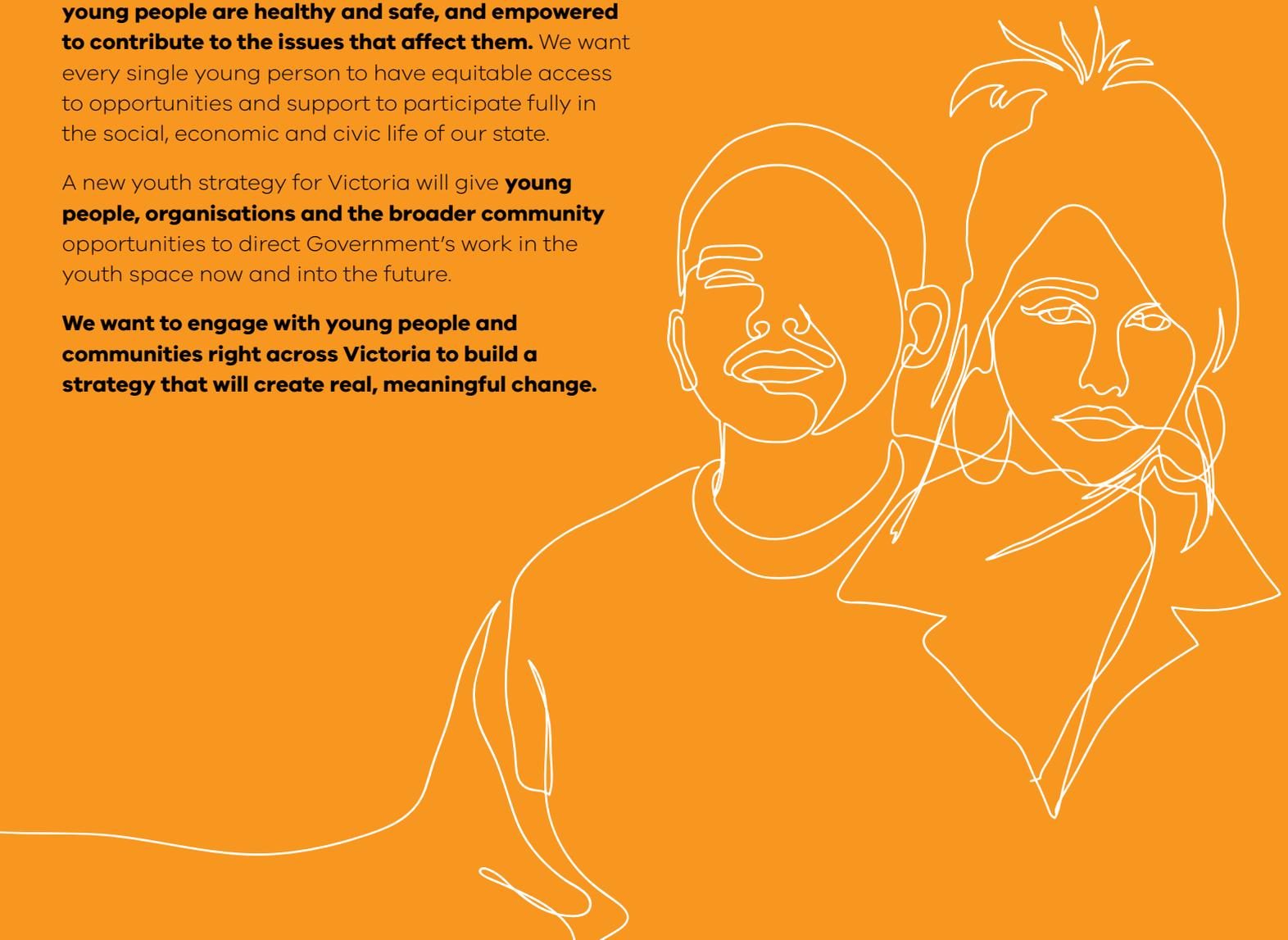
WHAT ARE WE DOING?

The Victorian Government is developing a **new state-wide youth strategy** to make our state the best place to be for young people.

We are committed to creating a Victoria where all young people are healthy and safe, and empowered to contribute to the issues that affect them. We want every single young person to have equitable access to opportunities and support to participate fully in the social, economic and civic life of our state.

A new youth strategy for Victoria will give **young people, organisations and the broader community** opportunities to direct Government's work in the youth space now and into the future.

We want to engage with young people and communities right across Victoria to build a strategy that will create real, meaningful change.



WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

No two young people are the same.

They represent a wide range of identities, personalities, experiences and communities. A youth strategy must recognise that young people have multiple experiences and characteristics that combine to influence their journey through life.

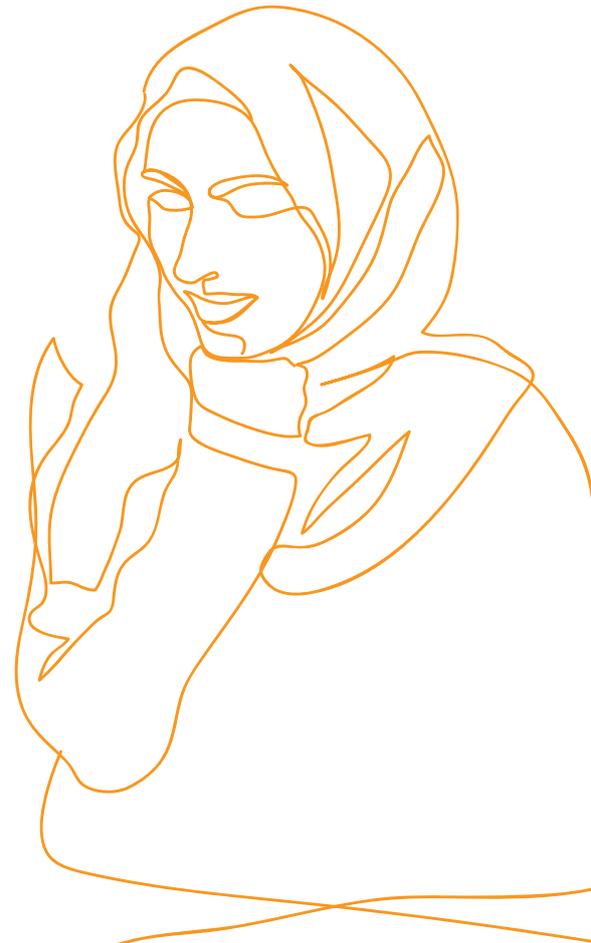
We want to hear about what matters most to young Victorians, and what we can do together to improve the lives of all young people.

Young people in Victoria are the **most diverse generation** in our state's history. They are leaders in our schools, workplaces and communities, and they are making Victoria **stronger, fairer and more sustainable**.

At the same time, **many young people are anxious about their future**. They're juggling numerous responsibilities while trying to seek out a fulfilling career and prioritise their mental health and wellbeing.

Unprecedented events over the past 12 months, including bushfires and the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, have made things much tougher for young people.

Every aspect of their lives has changed; and their education opportunities, employment prospects, housing security, mental health and connection to community are all taking a massive hit.



HOW CAN YOU HAVE YOUR SAY?

From October to December 2020, the Victorian Government is inviting you to have your say by:

- responding to an online survey hosted on the Engage Victoria consultation platform, go to: engage.vic.gov.au/victorian-youth-strategy
- making a written submission to youth@dpc.vic.gov.au
- participating in a youth or community forum to be hosted online.

To register for a youth or community forum, and to find out more information about creative ways to contribute to the youth strategy consultation process, go to: yacvic.org.au/youth-strategy.

If you represent an organisation, we encourage you to share this discussion paper and key links with your networks and/or the young people you work with so they can get involved.

We welcome ideas, stories, poetry, artwork and examples that can build our understanding of what it's like to be a young person in Victoria.

