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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **ALRM APPLAUDS MOVES TO IMPROVE ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENT**

Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement welcomes the State Government's announcement of a new Aboriginal Engagement Commissioner and the establishment of the long awaited Aboriginal Advisory Council for South Australia.

ALRM Chief Executive Officer, Mr Neil Gillespie said the Advisory Council and the Aboriginal Engagement Commissioner's position are positive steps to improve consultations with Aboriginal people.

"These initiatives give Aboriginal people a voice from which to raise concerns and to advise on our priorities. It will also allow us to work more effectively with Government on solutions," Mr Gillespie said.

"Being able to provide high level advice directly to Government should result in improved services and policies for Aboriginal people. We look forward to Aboriginal people from a wide range of areas putting their hand up to participate," he said.

Mr Gillespie said ALRM was particularly pleased that Commissioner Wanganeen had identified the need to work closely with the Commissioner for Social Inclusion Monsignor David Cappelletti if there is to be improvement in the lives of Aboriginal people.

"On behalf of ALRM, I congratulate Klynton Wanganeen on his appointment as Aboriginal Engagement Commissioner and also Kerry Colbung on appointment as the Chairperson of the Advisory Council."

CEO ALRM, Neil Gillespie is available for comment:  
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FYI: The Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement Inc provides legal services and associated activities (legal aid and native title legal services, financial counselling, law reform and advocacy, the Aboriginal Visitors Scheme and community education) for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in South Australia. ALRM is an independent incorporated Aboriginal community organisation.