



VICTORIA POLICE



### **Message from Victoria Police**

It gives me great pleasure to see the return of the African Music and Cultural Festival to Melbourne for the 11<sup>th</sup> year.

The Festival is a much-anticipated and loved event, bringing our city to life with so much including entertainment featuring cultural band performances; rhythm and dance; arts and fashion; market stalls; and delicious African street food.

I love that this wonderful celebration has the power to attract tens of thousands of visitors – including from interstate and overseas – providing an opportunity to immerse themselves in a three-day showcase of diverse African cultures in one place.

Victoria Police serves a community that has a rich multi-faith, multicultural and diverse tapestry – we celebrate its strength and value. It means everything to us. We are also proud to have a multicultural workplace, rich with people from different faiths, who speak different languages and have different ethnic backgrounds. Our African Employee Network is one of several networks, adding to that richness and helping create a culturally diverse workforce and enriching our community connections.

In that spirit, we are committed to strengthening our partnerships with local African communities across the State. The African Music and Cultural Festival represents what we can achieve when we work together.

Congratulations and Thank You to Fred Alale AM and the team of organisers for working their magic to make this wonderful festival happen and which our multicultural city loves to welcome each year.

I know this year's African Music and Cultural Festival will be even better than last year's and I wish everyone attending a safe and most enjoyable and fun-filled time.

**Shane Patton APM**  
**Chief Commissioner**