

Monday, 1 June 2026

ARAS Announces Appointment of new Chief Executive

Aged Rights Advocacy Service (ARAS) is pleased to announce the appointment of Anna Barton as its new Chief Executive. The announcement was made by ARAS Chairperson, Anne Burgess AM, who confirmed that Ms Barton's appointment will take effect from 4 July 2026.

Ms Barton brings extensive leadership experience and a deep commitment to social justice, having worked in senior management roles for over 30 years across both government and not-for-profit sectors. Her career spans a diverse range of service areas, including employment services, youth services, family mental health support, Veterans' Affairs, community development, and aged care advocacy. She has delivered services in rural and metropolitan communities, supporting mainstream populations as well as First Nations peoples.

Ms Barton joined ARAS in September 2018 as Operations Manager, where she has played a key role in strengthening organisational performance, stakeholder engagement, and the delivery of high-quality advocacy services. Her appointment as Chief Executive reflects her significant contribution to ARAS and her strong alignment with the organisation's mission and values.

Ms Barton holds a Master of Business Administration and is committed to applying her knowledge and experience to advance ARAS' strategic and operational objectives in support of older South Australians.

"Anna's extensive experience, leadership capability, and strong values-based approach make her an outstanding choice to lead ARAS into its next phase. Her deep understanding of our organisation, stakeholder connections, and the communities we serve positions her well to continue strengthening our impact." Ms Burgess said.

"I am honoured to lead ARAS and to continue working alongside our dedicated team and partners to advance the rights, wellbeing and dignity of older people across South Australia." Ms Barton said.

ARAS has been supporting older people in South Australia to uphold their aged care and human rights since 1990