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For the past 18 months, the rise in antisemitism here at home has shocked our community to its core. At the same time, we have seen the rights of LGBTQIA+ people come under attack around the world.

To the Aleph Melbourne community and LGBTQIA+ Jews, it has been undoubtedly hard.

Using our voices as allies has never been so important – everyone deserves to know they are supported, loved and protected.

Our country is at it's best when everyone, regardless of who they are, what they believe in or who they love, is respected and treated with kindness. That is my commitment to you.

When you come for one community, you come for us all.

At Midsumma, Pride Shabbat at TBI, In One Voice, and events across our community – I see people who are proud of their Jewish identity, proud to be LGBTQIA+ and proud to celebrate that diversity with all.

We have done a lot of work to combat the rise in hatred and protect our inclusivity.

In our recent hate speech laws that we passed in the federal parliament we included protected attributes based on people's gender, sexuality or religion to ensure everyone has protection against dangerous vilification.

I know there is more work to do, and that's what I intend to do.

To the entire Aleph Melbourne community, thank you for all you do. For your advocacy inside the Jewish community and in the LGBTQIA+ community.

I want the community to know that you have friends and allies across the Parliament. I see you, I hear you, and I will always stand alongside you.