



INNER WEST COUNCIL

Multicultural Advisory Committee

Thursday 9 September 2021

Microsoft Teams

Meeting summary

The meeting commenced at 6.35 pm on Microsoft teams.

Present

Staff	Community members	Councillors
Ingrid de Meyer (IDM) Convenor	Osmond Chiu (OC)	Clr Pauline Lockie (Deputy Mayor)
Olivia Wilson-Zarganis (OW-Z)	Rosanna Barbero (RB)	Clr Marghanita Da Cruz
Simon Watts (SW)	Vi Pham (VP)	
	Trina Supit (TS)	
	Marc Rerceretnam (MC)	
	Ernest Yung (EY)	
	Wael Sabri (WS)	
	Giladesi Namokoyi (GN)	

Chairperson – OC

Acknowledgment of Country – OC welcomed members to the meeting and provided an Acknowledgment of Country

Apologies – Susan Kumagaya

Disclosure of Interest – There were no disclosures or conflicts of interest.

Confirmation of Minutes:

- Confirmation of the minutes of the 15 July 2021 (RB) moved and (VP) seconded and were endorsed unanimously.

Discussion items

Item	Summary	Recommendation/action	Council response
<p>Item 1 IWC Cultural Strategy</p>	<p>Simon Watts presented a summary of the draft Cultural Strategy which is on public exhibition and closes 19 September 2021. Shaping arts and culture Your Say Inner West (nsw.gov.au)</p> <p>MAC members discussed the strategy, with questions and discussion some areas included;</p> <p>Existing cultural infrastructure and how does transient population tap into this? Diversity Arts Council of Australia – have they been consulted? Best practice resources and toolkits. Disparity between cultural grants and multicultural grants.</p>	<p>Discussion around this issue for young people living in the Inner West Local Government Area.</p> <p>The MAC advisory group thanked Simon and staff for all their work on developing the Cultural Strategy.</p>	<p>SW thanked the MAC for their time, and questions.</p>
<p>Item 2 Healthy Ageing Strategy and Action Plan</p>	<p>Simon Watts presented on the Healthy Strategy as well and key areas in relation to MAC which is also on public exhibition closing 19 September 2021 Creating a Healthy Ageing Strategy Your Say Inner West (nsw.gov.au)</p>	<p>MAC advisory has opportunity to further comment online via the link by 19 September 2021.</p> <p>The MAC advisory thanked Simon for his presentation and acknowledged the importance of having the Healthy Ageing Strategy.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p>Item 3 Situation in Afghanistan</p>	<p>Discussion on the situation in Afghanistan, and what other action can be taken?</p> <p>Australian Afghan Community Leaders with community are endeavouring to get visas for young women to get them to safety.</p> <p>Mahbobas' Promise are working with community in Afghanistan, are there on the ground and a reputable organisation providing food, shelter and support during this humanitarian crisis. Mahbobaspromise.org</p> <p>Clr Pauline Lockie and Clr Marghanita supported the motion. Clr Pauline Lockie suggested she take this as a Mayoral minute given the current crisis in Afghanistan.</p> <p>MAC members supported idea of having a speaker attend the motion suggested Tamkin Hakin be invited (Australian Afghani Community Leader).</p>	<p>The MAC recommends that Inner West Council passes the following motion as a mayoral minute:</p> <p>That the Inner West Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. recognises the rich social, cultural and economic contributions of humanitarian migrants from Afghanistan; 2. recognises the historical contribution of Afghan migrants to Australia 3. acknowledges the particular persecution, marginalisation and disadvantage now facing Afghans who worked with Australian forces over the past twenty years; 4. commits to working with the Afghan diaspora in the Inner West to provide appropriate social and community support; and 5. calls on the Australian Government to urgently: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) grant permanent protection visas to Afghan refugees who are on temporary visas already here; b) enable family reunification by granting financially accessible partner/family type visas; and c) establish a resettlement quota for Afghans most at risk from the current unrest in Afghanistan and assist with their emergency evacuation. 6. Increase the intake of Afghan refugees from 3,000 to 20,000 people on top of 	<p>IDM or OC chair MAC to forward resolution via email as requested.</p>
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		<p>our existing humanitarian intake.</p> <p>The MAC also recommends that the Inner West Council should use its communication channels, including social media and e-newsletters to promote charities doing work to support Afghan refugees.</p> <p>MAC unanimously endorsed and supported the above recommendation/motion</p>	
<p>Item 4 Multicultural Communities Updates</p>	<p>OWZ -Providing support and information to community through newsletter all Covid updates and translations. Supported and coordinated the vaccination messaging with cultural leaders in the IWC and in language for community.</p> <p>City of Sydney Racism Not Welcome signage went up this week in Iconic places in CBD – Town Hall; George Street the Rocks amongst others.</p> <p>Forum planned for anti- racism. Idea is to bring people together, NGOS and broader groups that want to eliminate racism, build relationships and a movement. Working group established. FECCA keen to be involved and facilitate a panel on the day.</p> <p>National FECCA conference is in Melbourne early March 2022.</p>	<p>Website: www.racismnotwelcome.com</p>	

<p>Item 5 IWMN/ Updates</p>	<p>IWMN – very functional and going from strength to strength 45 people attended yesterday online meeting. Dynamic group.</p> <p>Addison Road Community Organisation is providing food for 8,000 people per week. They prepare a variety of food including Asian and Middle Eastern Biggest demand is for contactless deliveries as people are either close contacts; or have infection. Volunteers still operating approx. 300 per week. Working mostly with civil society groups.</p> <p>With 660 home deliveries up 100 in the past day.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Item 6 General Business</p>	<p>No general business</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>7. Future Agenda items</p>	<p>Some discussion around ideas/topics such as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who are we as Australians? How do we define ourselves what does active inclusiveness look like in IWC local government area? • Talking points and places public meetings and where people can gather • Post Covid scenario – what fundamental changes do we need to make? Disparities that need to be addressed. Coming out of COVID • Data on the cultural make up of IWC work force/staff. 		

Next meeting: Thursday 11 November 2021 at 6.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.34 pm