

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Minister for Corporate and Digital Development, Minister for International Education, Minister for Disabilities and Minister for Multicultural Affairs – for all agencies falling under the Ministers' portfolios.

AGENCY ADMINISTRATION

Notes:

- The following questions can be answered from existing Agency data as at 31 March 2023.
- You have previously referred questions requiring a Whole of Government response to the Minister responsible at a time that enables a response within the same timeframe as the remainder of the questions.
- Further, you have previously inserted the question at the beginning of each answer.
- My Office would appreciate these practices being continued.

QUESTIONS 1-40 and 43-46

ANSWER

A single response will be provided for the Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities by the Minister for Territory Families under Written Question 548.

BOARDS / ADVISORY BODIES

41. Please detail all boards and advisory bodies in your Agency in 2022/23, also providing the following information:
 - a) The Terms of Reference, if changed from last year
 - b) The current members and when they were appointed
 - c) The total remuneration paid to each Board member during the 2022/23 financial year
 - d) The itemised total cost incurred by the Board during the 2022/23 financial year
42. The number of times the Board met during the period 1 July 2022 to 31 March 2023.

ANSWER:

NAME: DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE																														
41(a)	The Terms of Reference, if changed from last year.	No changes.																												
41(b)	The current members and when they were appointed.	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Chris Blackham-Davison</td> <td>03/12/2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lily Reid</td> <td>03/12/2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kate Jessica Ranford</td> <td>03/12/2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amy James</td> <td>29/11/2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Michelle Mayes</td> <td>01/10/2020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Christine Cumaiyi</td> <td>03/12/2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jameson Casson</td> <td>03/12/2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Christos Timotheou</td> <td>03/12/2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Callum Hooley</td> <td>20/03/2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kevron Foster</td> <td>20/03/2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Henbury School Student Membership</td> <td>03/12/2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Acacia Hill School Student Membership</td> <td>03/12/2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mick Fallon (NDS)</td> <td>Ex-officio</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nadia Lindop (MJD Foundation)</td> <td>Ex-officio</td> </tr> </table>	Chris Blackham-Davison	03/12/2019	Lily Reid	03/12/2019	Kate Jessica Ranford	03/12/2019	Amy James	29/11/2022	Michelle Mayes	01/10/2020	Christine Cumaiyi	03/12/2019	Jameson Casson	03/12/2019	Christos Timotheou	03/12/2019	Callum Hooley	20/03/2023	Kevron Foster	20/03/2023	Henbury School Student Membership	03/12/2019	Acacia Hill School Student Membership	03/12/2019	Mick Fallon (NDS)	Ex-officio	Nadia Lindop (MJD Foundation)	Ex-officio
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41(d)	The itemised total cost incurred by the Board during the 2022/23 financial year.	\$2,410.60																												
42	The number of times the Board met during the period 1 July 2022 to 31 March 2023.	3																												

NAME: MINISTER'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

41(a)	The Terms of Reference, if changed from last year.	Refer to Attachment A.																														
41(b)	The current members and when they were appointed.	<table><tr><td>Dr Edwin Joseph (MCNT)</td><td>Ongoing</td></tr><tr><td>Ms Mona (Jamuna) Ulak (MCSCA)</td><td>Ongoing</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Sachin Sharma (NT Police)</td><td>Ongoing</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Kwame Selormey (Melaleuca)</td><td>Ongoing</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Kon Vatkalis (LGANT)</td><td>Ongoing</td></tr><tr><td>Ms Krshna Capuque (MyNT)</td><td>Ongoing</td></tr><tr><td>Ms Emcille Wills</td><td>05/05/2022</td></tr><tr><td>Dr Devaki Monani</td><td>28/03/2023</td></tr><tr><td>Mrs Apajok Deng Bier</td><td>28/03/2023</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Ben Poveda-Alfonso</td><td>28/03/2023</td></tr><tr><td>Mrs Ushani Loku Arumage</td><td>28/03/2023</td></tr><tr><td>Ms Janine Andrews</td><td>28/03/2023</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Ronan Mackey</td><td>28/03/2023</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Ashish Jamarkattel</td><td>28/03/2023</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Manfred Mletsin</td><td>28/03/2023</td></tr></table>	Dr Edwin Joseph (MCNT)	Ongoing	Ms Mona (Jamuna) Ulak (MCSCA)	Ongoing	Mr Sachin Sharma (NT Police)	Ongoing	Mr Kwame Selormey (Melaleuca)	Ongoing	Mr Kon Vatkalis (LGANT)	Ongoing	Ms Krshna Capuque (MyNT)	Ongoing	Ms Emcille Wills	05/05/2022	Dr Devaki Monani	28/03/2023	Mrs Apajok Deng Bier	28/03/2023	Mr Ben Poveda-Alfonso	28/03/2023	Mrs Ushani Loku Arumage	28/03/2023	Ms Janine Andrews	28/03/2023	Mr Ronan Mackey	28/03/2023	Mr Ashish Jamarkattel	28/03/2023	Mr Manfred Mletsin	28/03/2023
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42	The number of times the Board met during the period 1 July 2022 to 31 March 2023.	1																														

Minister's Advisory Council on Multicultural Affairs

Terms of Reference

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1. Purpose of the Minister's Advisory Council on Multicultural Affairs

The Minister's Advisory Council on Multicultural Affairs (MACMA) was established to provide high level and strategic advice from the community to Government on matters pertaining to multicultural affairs. MACMA provides formal, ongoing and effective linkages between government and the multicultural community in order to improve policy and service delivery outcomes. MACMA will enable the participation of key stakeholders in the exploration and discussion of issues relevant to the social, economic and civic life of migrant and multicultural Territorians. Members will participate on a voluntary basis.

2. Authority

The MACMA is a non-statutory advisory group established by the Minister. It holds no delegated powers to act on behalf of the Minister, or to commit the Minister or government to any actions.

The Terms of Reference aligns to the [Northern Territory Government Boards Handbook](#) (the Handbook).

3. MACMA objectives

- **Provide advice to the Minister for Multicultural Affairs** on matters that **are of interest or emerging issues facing the multicultural community.**
- **Explore and discuss how the needs of the community can be effectively met by service providers**, so that people from the multicultural community **can fully participate in all aspects of life in the Northern Territory.**
- **Direct specific tasks to the relevant working groups**, to address issues such as employment, and community safety.
- Consider issues that the Minister for Multicultural Affairs may refer to the MACMA for advice.

4. Membership

4.1. Membership

Membership of MACMA includes community members and committee members or their representative of relevant organisations. Membership should provide a voice to the community. Representation can be demonstrated in several ways including involvement in a community association or demonstrated knowledge or experience in multiculturalism and migrant issue/s.

Community members will be selected by the Minister for Multicultural Affairs for their skills, experience and knowledge of issues in the multicultural community. There will also be fixed participation by key organisations that are service providers to refugees and migrants, which will be invited by the Minister as follows:

- Melaleuca Refugee Centre
 - Multicultural Council of the Northern Territory
 - Multicultural Youth NT
 - Multicultural Community Services of Central Australia
 - Northern Territory Police.
-

Minister's Advisory Council on Multicultural Affairs –

- Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (Observer)

As far as practicable, members will be appointed to reflect a range of cultural and settlement backgrounds and professional expertise, as well as age and gender. Similarly, regional representation for Big Rivers (Katherine), Barkly (Tennant Creek), East Arnhem (Nhulunbuy) along with Darwin and Central Australia (Alice Springs) will be ensured while appointing the members.

Community representatives may also co-chair working groups established by the MACMA. Other individuals or organisations may be invited to participate on the working groups or on an adhoc basis as appropriate.

4.2. Observer

Additionally, as observers the Australian Government (such as Department of Social Services, Department of Home Affairs), the Northern Territory Government (Skill and Employment), and other relevant organisations may be invited to attend MACMA from time to time as required. Local Government Association of the Northern Territory will have an ongoing observer member status due to its role in providing services to multicultural groups.

4.3. Term of appointment

Community membership is for a two (2) year term with the ability to be re-appointed by the Minister for Multicultural Affairs for a subsequent term, with fixed participants representing service organisations to remain as ongoing members. This model ensures continuity of knowledge of the issues discussed and builds the experience of the Council.

A review of the composition of community members will occur every two (2) years.

There is an expectation of Members' commitment to attend all MACMA meetings. Members who did not attend two (2) consecutive meetings will be requested, in writing, to resign from MACMA (unless there are extenuating circumstances) and be replaced with the appointment of another member. There will be a short reserve list of potential members who could be called upon to join MACMA to replace outgoing members.

4.4. Member selection and nomination

Nominations will be sought through a public expression of interest (EOI) process. In addition, the Minister can invite an individual or organisation to nominate. A selection panel will shortlist EOIs received and make recommendations on preferred nominees to the Minister for consideration, at least one (1) month before an existing community member position is due to expire.

A referee should be included in the application for MACMA membership.

4.5. Chair

MACMA is chaired by the Northern Territory Minister for Multicultural Affairs. The Minister can nominate and delegate the chairing authority to a Community MACMA member. The Chair will be selected for their skills, knowledge, experience and broader community representation.

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If nominated by the Minister, a MACMA member can hold the position of Chair for a maximum two (2) year term with the ability to be re-appointed by the Minister for Multicultural Affairs for a subsequent term.

Should the Chair be unavailable, the MACMA may nominate a member or the Departmental representative for facilitating and chairing the meeting.

5. Operation

5.1. Meetings

The MACMA will meet at a minimum of two times a year, or as required. Depending on budget availability, MACMA could meet in one of the regional areas.

Agenda and papers will be circulated to members no less than one week prior to the meeting.

Those organisations who are running programs relevant to the issues of interest for MACMA, such as migrant employment can be invited to attend MACMA meeting to provide updates.

Whenever possible, decisions of the MACMA are to be made by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, decisions will be made by a majority vote of those members present. The advice provided to the Minister will include the diverse range of opinions of members.

5.2. Quorum

A quorum is half the total members plus one. Observers or any visiting experts are not included in the count for a quorum, and cannot vote.

5.3. Regional Participation

Regional participation is encouraged and the Office of Multicultural Affairs will support the cost of the airfare, accommodation and allowances for the nominated representative from the Multicultural Community Services of Central Australia, and nominated members from the regions.

5.4. Proxies

Organisational members can provide a proxy if unable to attend. Proxies are not applicable to community members.

5.5. Apologies

If a member is unable to attend a meeting, they must submit an apology to the Secretariat. Apologies will be noted in the minutes. If a member fails to attend two consecutive meetings without leave approved by the Chair, their term may be cancelled by the Minister.

5.6. Secretariat

The Office of Multicultural Affairs will provide secretariat support for the MACMA, including organising invitations for meetings, venue, taking of and distribution of notes and documentation of information.

6. Working Groups

Working groups will be directed by and report to MACMA in order to facilitate operational outcomes. The scope, tasks and time limited nature of the working groups are to be reviewed by MACMA on an ongoing basis. Working groups consist of representatives of stakeholder agencies and organisations who provide relevant services. Working groups will inform MACMA and create coordinated outcomes to address these issues.

Working groups are co-chaired by a community member of MACMA and the most appropriate agency or organisation. The membership is focused on practitioners in the relevant field who deliver services to the community and are able to achieve improved coordination of outcomes. Working groups meet on a needs basis as determined by the co-chairs.

7. Confidentiality

Unless otherwise indicated, all papers and minutes are confidential, and the MACMA will determine what papers are marked for release at the end of each meeting, or in subsequent meetings.

Members may be provided with other confidential material, which they should treat with care and discretion and cannot disclose to anyone outside the MACMA.

8. Declaring conflicts of interest

A conflict of interest may occur where a member has a financial or other interest in issues under consideration by the MACMA. A member must disclose to the Chair, any situation or agenda item that may lead to a real, perceived or potential conflict of interest.

Declaring conflicts of interest will be a standing agenda item at the beginning of each meeting. The Chair will ask for any conflicts of against agenda items at start of the meeting, access the risk and address it when the item arises during the meeting.

9. Leave of absence

Members may apply to the Chair, through the Secretariat, for a leave of absence from their MACMA responsibilities for up to four months. For a period of absence of longer than four months, the request requires consideration by the Minister.

10. Resignation

Members may resign from the MACMA at any time. All resignations must be provided in writing to the Minister. Appointment of replacement members is at the discretion of the Minister.

11. Review of the Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed by the Minister for Multicultural Affairs in consultation with MACMA every two years.