MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP
(EG: ETH2)

Responsible Committee: Multicultural Advisory Committee

Responsible Director: Julie Salomon

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. Approves the appointment of Lam Paul Gak, Navneet Rewal, Carolyn Poljski, Sandeep Bhagat, Alan Dew, Serajul Hoque and Danny Ong to the Multicultural Advisory Committee for a two (2) year period.

2. Approves the re-appointment of Ngatuaine Hosking, Candy Deepika Kuruppu, Sue Herbst and Ross Buscemi for a further two (2) years to the Multicultural Advisory Committee.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to formally recommend the appointment of seven (7) new members to the Multicultural Advisory Committee and the re-appointment of four (4) current serving members for another two (2) years.

BACKGROUND

The role of the Multicultural Advisory Committee is to provide advice to Council on multicultural issues and on the implementation of Council’s Multicultural Action Plan.

DISCUSSION

Due to nine (9) vacancies on the Multicultural Advisory Committee, Council invited nominations from people living or working in Monash who have:

a) an understanding of the needs and issues affecting communities from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds;
b) an interest and involvement in local and/or broader multicultural community affairs;
c) an interest and understanding of Local Government services and programs from a multicultural perspective;
d) an ability to contribute to the strategic development of multicultural policy as local government level;
e) have direct links to multicultural community populations and/or organisations; and
f) experience and understanding of the role of an advisory committee.

Council received a total of eight (8) applications and following an assessment process which included a group interview of all applicants by Cr Jieh-Yung Lo and Cr Bill Pontikis with Officer support, the following seven (7) applicants were recommended for membership of the Committee:

- Mr Lam Paul Gak;
- Mr Navneet Rewal;
- Ms Carolyn Poljski;
- Mr Sandeep Bhagat;
- Mr Alan Dew;
- Mr Serajul Hoque; and
- Mr Danny Ong.

All recommended applicants met the Multicultural Advisory Committee membership criteria and offer a broad range of skills, experiences and educational qualifications to that of the existing membership.

The remaining two (2) vacancies will be re-advertised and expressions of interest sought.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS
The Multicultural Advisory Committee provides Council with the opportunity to directly engage and communicate with representatives from a cross section of the Monash community who provide advice to Council on multicultural issues; have broader input into the development of other Council policies and strategies; and support and advise Council with the implementation of the Multicultural Action Plan. It also serves as a structure that enables relationship building and trust between Council and the culturally, linguistically and religiously diverse community of Monash.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS
This report is consistent with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 and in particular it relates to the following rights: (viii) freedom of expression and (xi) taking part in public life.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
There are no financial implications resulting from this recommendation.

CONCLUSION
The applicants recommended for appointment to the Multicultural Advisory Committee have a wide range of experiences, backgrounds, skills and educational qualifications and meet the criteria as outlined in the Committee’s Terms of Reference.