

7.6 MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE – APPOINTMENT OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

(D18-201238)

Responsible Committee: Multicultural Advisory Committee

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorses the appointment of the following ten (10) people to the Multicultural Advisory Committee, each for a two (2) year term:

- *Konstantina Kouroutsidou*
- *Shivam Arora*
- *Lena Kojadelian*
- *Richard Ng*
- *May Hu*
- *Theresa Ssali*
- *Harvey Foenander*
- *Isata Victoria Mandoh*
- *Balamurugan Krishnan*
- *Jian-Min Li*

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to recommend the appointment of ten (10) new members to the Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC).

BACKGROUND

The role of the MAC is to provide advice to Council on multicultural issues and on the implementation of Council's *A Healthy & Resilient Monash: Integrated Plan 2017 - 2012*. The Committee comprises of sixteen (16) members appointed by Council including three (3) Councillors. There are two remaining members on the committee (Esha Zahid and Nyangak (Lizzy) Kuoth) who are now in the second year of their two-year term in 2018. The MAC currently has eleven (11) vacancies.

DISCUSSION

Due to there being eleven (11) vacancies on the MAC, Council invited nominations from people living or working in the City of Monash who have:

- Knowledge and understanding of the needs and issues affecting Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities
- An interest and involvement in local and/or broader multicultural community affairs, advocacy and networks
- An interest and understanding of Local Government services and programs from a multicultural community perspective
- The ability to contribute to the strategic development of multicultural policy at local government level
- Direct links to local ethnic community populations and/or organisations
- Experience and/or understanding of the role of an advisory committee.

Council received a total of ten (10) nominations. All nominees were considered to offer the necessary requirements for the role, therefore all ten nominees were

invited to attend a group interview. The interview was conducted by Crs Klisaris (Chair), Saloumi and Pang Tsoi, with support from Officers.

The following ten (10) applicants are considered suitable for membership of the Committee:

- Konstantina Kouroutsidou
- Shivam Arora
- Lena Kojadelian
- Richard Ng
- May Hu
- Theresa Ssali
- Harvey Foenander
- Isata Victoria Mandoh
- Balamurugan Krishnan
- Jian-Min Li

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

A representative of a local multicultural agency/service provider will fill the eleventh vacant position on the Committee. In the past, the MAC has included representatives from organisations such as Micare (formerly New Hope) and the Migrant Information Centre, which reflect current organisational partners and/or stakeholders.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report is in line with Council's *A Healthy & Resilient Monash: Integrated Plan 2017 - 2021*.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Members of MAC contribute to the strengthening of Council's advocacy, policy development, service provision and program implementation for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

This report is in line with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 and in particular with the following rights: freedom of expression; and taking part in public life.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications resulting from this recommendation.

CONCLUSION

This report recommends the appointment of the following ten (10) people to the Multicultural Advisory Committee, each for a two (2) year term:

- Konstantina Kouroutsidou

- Shivam Arora
- Lena Kojadelian
- Richard Ng
- May Hu
- Theresa Ssali
- Harvey Foenander
- Isata Victoria Mandoh
- Balamurugan Krishnan
- Jian-Min Li

The eleventh vacant position will be filled by a representative from a local multicultural agency/service provider.