

Michael Pettersson MLA

Minister for Business, Arts and Creative Industries

Minister for Children, Youth and Families

Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Minister for Skills, Training and Industrial Relations

Member for Yerrabi

RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**Questions on Notice Paper No 7****Friday, 16 May 2025****Question No. 444****MS BARRY:** To ask the Minister for Multicultural Affairs —

1. Given that subsection 11(4) of the *Multiculturalism Act 2023* requires that the Minister must take all practicable steps to ensure that membership of the Ministerial Advisory Council for Multiculturalism reflects diversity, including by having regard to (a) gender identities, (b) age groups, (c) residency or immigration status and (d) generations of migrants and their families, can the Minister provide a table showing all names of current members of the Ministerial Advisory Council for Multiculturalism and the information they provided in their applications in relation to the four diversity elements referred to in parts (a) to (d)?
2. Can the Minister provide copies of documents setting out deliberations the Minister took to meet the requirement that all practicable steps were taken to ensure that membership of the Council reflects diversity requirements?
3. Has the Minister given the Council a direction in relation to the procedures of the council, and can the Minister advise whether that direction was published for community consultation before it was made, and provide a copy of the current direction?
4. Can the Minister provide a list of all ACT administrative units showing dates each unit consulted with the Council about how the administrative unit can promote multiculturalism, and the method by which that feedback was sought?
5. Can the Minister provide copies of advice provided by the Council to each ACT administrative unit?



Michael Pettersson MLA - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. Diversity information for Ministerial Advisory Council for Multiculturalism (MACM) members is as below:

Name	Gender identities (a)	Age group (b)*
Ms Izabela Barakovska	Female	25-34
Dr Shanti Reddy	Male	55-64
Mr Arun Bharatula	Non-binary	25-34
Ms Sukriti Kapoor	Female	25-34
Ms Zakia Patel	Female	35-44
Ms Lew Ching Yip	Female	Under 25
Dr Sultana Lubna Alam	Female	45-54
Mr Efe Momoh	Male	25-34
Ms Ivapene Seiuli	Female	45-54
Ms Chin Wong	Female	65 plus
Mr Irina Samsonova	Female	25-34

**at time of application.*

All MACM members are either first generation migrants or from second generation migrant families.

2. A dedicated community consultation process informed the development of the Terms of Reference for MACM.

An independent selection panel was formed to undertake a robust recruitment process to ensure that the 11 members were recruited and appointed in accordance with the Terms of Reference representing the diverse cultural, gender, age, residency and immigration status and generations of migrants who call Canberra home.

In accordance with the ACT Government's Governance Principles for Appointments, Boards and Committees, a Cabinet process was undertaken before the appointments were made on 25 July 2023.

3. Providing directions to the MACM by the Minister is an ongoing process and occurs in multiple mechanisms:
 - At council meetings attended by the Minister;
 - At one-on-one meetings between the MACM Chair, Deputy Chair and the Minister;
 - As part of MACM's annual workplan development and endorsement process;
 - As part of community consultation undertaken by the MACM in partnership with the Minister.

Directions provided by the Minister are captured formally in the annual workplan developed by the MACM. The [workplan](#) is available on the MACM webpage on the Community Services Directorate website.

4. Information relating to the administration units that MACM have engaged in 2023-24 can be found on page 46 of the [2023-2024 Community Services Directorate Annual Report](#).
5. Engagement with administrative units has been through participation and presentations at meetings, workshops and consultations. Outcomes of these engagements are documented by the relevant administrative unit to inform their policies or programs they brought to MACM for advice.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.



Michael Pettersson MLA
Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Date:24/6/25.....

This response required 335 mins to complete, at an approximate cost of \$608.61.