



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Reference: HCSD

Hearing: 12 November 2025

In relation to: CALD - Work Experience and Support Program

Question received: 14 November 2025

Answer Due: 27 November 2025

1. What long-term initiatives is the Government implementing to improve daily life for CALD communities?
2. For example, how is the Government expanding or strengthening successful programs like the Work Experience and Support Program, which reported a 92% completion rate?
3. Will such programs be expanded or tailored to areas with high multicultural populations to support employment and inclusion year-round?

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

1. The ACT Government has a range of initiatives intended to strengthen and support the lives of the multicultural community of Canberra. They can be found here: [Multicultural Communities](#).
2. The Work Experience and Support Program (WESP) is a highly successful program which has been running for 28 years. In 2023, the program was independently reviewed. The ACT Government has strengthened the WESP by implementing several of the review's recommendations.
3. WESP is delivered in collaboration with the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT), and 2 rounds of the program is provided each year to promote participation. WESP welcomes all ACT residents from a multicultural background and does not target individuals from specific ACT regions.

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Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'MP', written over the printed name.

Date: **22-12-25**

By the Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Mr Michael Pettersson MLA