



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Ms Chiaka Barry MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Multicultural Affairs

In relation to: Ministerial Advisory Council on Multiculturalism and Annual Report status

Hearing: 12 November 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript p 43

Transcript provided: 18 November 2025

Answer Due: 25 November 2025

MS BARRY: Can I ask a really quick clarifying question? So just on that annual report for the multicultural council, so section 14, and please correct to me if I have misinterpreted, it is interpreted that the council must prepare a report. The Minister could issue a direction about the report based on the *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act*. Section 7 and 8 indicates that the Minister must present a notifiable instrument. So my question is, what is the status of the report? Has the minister issued a direction? If not, why?

Ms Bogiatzis: I will have to take that on notice. I do not have the information.

MS BARRY: Okay. Thank you.

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

The then Community Services Directorate provided advice to the Ministerial Advisory Council for Multiculturalism (MACM) advising that it could provide its annual report content to the directorate for inclusion in the directorate's Annual Report.

The Health and Community Services Directorate (HCSD) is currently seeking legal advice to determine if this approach is consistent with the requirements of the *Multiculturalism Act 2023* and the *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act 2004* (Annual Reports Act). I note that directions under the Annual Reports Act are made by the Minister for the Public Service.

Once this advice is received, HCSD will work with the Council to ensure its reporting obligations are appropriate.

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Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature: 

Date: 11-12-25

By the Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Mr Michael Pettersson MLA