

## SELECT COMMITTEES ON ESTIMATES 2009-2010

### Question on Notice

#### Minister for Multicultural Affairs

#### Table of Contents

<b><u>QoN</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Page</u></b>
	Table of Contents.....	1
437	Multicultural Affairs Le Couteur.....	2
	Enhancing services for young people.....	2
438	Multicultural Affairs Le Couteur.....	3
	Integration.....	3
439	Multicultural Affairs Le Couteur.....	4
	Settlement services.....	4
440	Multicultural Affairs Le Couteur.....	5
	Multicultural Festival.....	5

*Enhancing services for young people*

Ms Caroline Le Couteur: To ask the Minister for Multicultural Affairs.

In relation to: Enhancing services for young people

1. How do you decide what youth services and centres are appropriate for young refugee and asylum seekers? What is the evaluation process?
2. How do you ensure that appropriate youth services for young refugees and asylum seekers are provided and supported across Government?

Minister Hargreaves : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. The Office of Multicultural Affairs has regular consultations with community representatives involved in resettling refugees and asylum seekers, including young people. Opportunities for such consultation includes the Refugee, Asylum Seeker and Humanitarian Coordination Committee and community consultation processes, such as Summits, ministerial forums, and the recent public consultation period on the draft *Multicultural Strategy 2009-2012*. Feedback received from such consultation helps inform what youth services and centres are appropriate for young refugee and asylum seekers.

The evaluation process involves formal feedback through the acquittal and accountability processes under funding agreements; and informal feedback by service providers and their clients.

2. To ensure appropriate youth services for young refugees and asylum seekers OCYFS funds the Youth Service Program (YSP) to the sum of \$5.5 million per year. 25 services provide a range of services including youth centres, case management, counselling and structured group programs for at-risk young people including young people who are refugees and asylum seekers from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Relevant programs are promoted to the community through such avenues as Companion House, Migrant and Refugee Settlement Services and at appropriate meetings.

*Integration*

Ms Caroline Le Couteur: To ask the Minister for Multicultural Affairs.

In relation to: Strengthening the integration of services

1. How does Community Affairs ensure that there is a consideration of the needs of new arrivals, migrants, particular ethnic communities, in the strategic plans across Government such as the Mental health strategy or Disability Plan?
2. Is there a record of what services are provided across government for women from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds?
3. Is there a record of what services are provided across government for seniors from CALD backgrounds?

Minister Hargreaves : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. Consultative and Government reporting processes ensure that consideration of the needs of new arrivals, migrants and particular ethnic communities is given in all strategic plans across Government. The Office of Multicultural Affairs participates on working groups that help to shape policy in the ACT that impacts on these minority groups. In the development of plans, consultation occurs with peak organisations such as the Canberra Multicultural Community Forum and the ACT Muslim Advisory Council for community responses.
2. Yes, there is a record and it is held by the agencies that deliver those services.
3. Yes, there is a record and it is held by the agencies that deliver those services.

*Settlement services*

Ms Caroline Le Couteur: To ask the Minister for Multicultural Affairs.

In relation to: Settlement services

1. \$.2 million has been allocated to the Migrant and Refugee Settlement Services, where is this additional money going to?

Minister Hargreaves : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

The Office of Multicultural Affairs is currently in consultation with the Migrant and Refugee Settlement Services to develop a Service Funding Agreement for the funding of \$50,000 in each of the next four years. As noted in Budget Paper 3, this initiative will assist to meet the needs of refugees and other migrants who choose to settle in Canberra with information, advocacy and referral services.

*Multicultural Festival*

Ms Caroline Le Couteur: To ask the Minister for Multicultural Affairs.

In relation to: Multicultural Festival

1. How is the Multicultural Festival monitored and evaluated? If so, can all relevant documentation be provided to the Estimates Committee?
2. Are there performance indicators that are used to measure the success of the Festival? If so can you provide them to the Committee?
3. How is subjective feedback from the festival documented? Do mostly participants or visitors of the Festival provide feedback, can the committee be provided with this documentation?
4. What is the criteria for community groups to be allowed to participate in the Festival?
5. Will the Fringe Festival be a part of the Multicultural Festival in 2010 and will the same level of financial support be granted to the Fringe Festival?

Minister Hargreaves : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. A formal survey and evaluation report was undertaken for the 2008 Festival and a copy is attached. An internal report is being prepared by the Office of Multicultural Affairs for the 2009 Festival and has not been finalised.
2. Yes. The performance indicators are at page 231 in Budget Paper 4, strategic indicator #6.
3. Feedback is received in writing and orally from participants and visitors. The Committee will cease to exist prior to final receipt of feedback.
4. All community groups are encouraged to participate in the Festival.
5. A decision in relation to the 2010 Festival program has not been made at this time and therefore funding allocations for the various elements of the event have not been determined.