



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 Inaugural consultation event

Hearing: 12 November 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp 37-38

Transcript provided: 18 November 2025

Answer Due: 25 November 2025

MS BARRY: Okay, thank you. The next question I have while I wait for the response for that one is, how did the council decide who to invite to its Inaugural Community Consultation Forum?

Ms Bogiatzis: So the Ministerial Council on Multiculturalism encourages engagement with community, so anyone can contact the council with their publicly available email address, which is ma@act.gov.au. And they host that forum and promote the forum to ensure that there is broad representation. I have information on their engagement. So they independently liaise and engage regularly with community service providers, community organisations, peak bodies and businesses. And this can be done through routine meetings with community organisations or specialised—sorry, I am getting information. Just trying—

MS BARRY: Yes, that is okay. So, my apologies, the specific question was for the Inaugural Community Consultation Forum. I understand that they have got the email for people to reach out to them, but how do they go about inviting people to that forum? If the answer is they did not, that is okay.

Ms Bogiatzis: Yes, I am not sure. I would need to take that on notice.

MS BARRY: Thank you.

Ms Bogiatzis: And in relation to the annual report, that is input that is provided that contributes to the minister's ministerial statement.

Ms Connor: Yes, and I can probably answer that question that you just had which is around the most recent community consultation on 2 August.

MS BARRY: Yes, thank you. The inaugural one, yes.

Ms Connor: So that is promoted widely. So it would have been promoted via the MACM as well as Multicultural ACT and the other communication channels that we use across the directorate. So that includes other diversity offices as well, and our general comms channels. So for that forum there

were 43 participants from diverse cultural backgrounds. So there was no particular—I am not sure if your question was about the particular targeting or—but it was just a broad advertisement.

MS BARRY: So if they were having an inaugural meeting I would anticipate that they will have an attendees list and then they would reach out to those organisations or individuals to say, “We are having this. Come along,” and then promote the event through the other channels. So are you saying there was no list?

Ms Connor: ...(indistinct)... [3.01.28] yes.

Ms Bogiatzis: We will take on notice, if there was an invitation list, how that was settled; or if it was an open forum where people could just turn up and participate.

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

For the inaugural community consultation event held in August 2024, the Ministerial Advisory Council for Multiculturalism (MACM) developed an invitation list of key community representatives from across their networks to participate in the consultation.

Promotional activities were conducted by the Council, with the support of the Secretariat in the then Community Services Directorate, through their community networks, connections across the multicultural sector, universities, non-government and government networks. During these conversations and networking opportunities, if members of the community expressed an interest, the MACM extended an invitation to them. Participants were required to register their interest through an online booking system.

For the second community consultation forum held in August 2025, the MACM, with the support of the Secretariat, promoted the consultation widely, including email invitations to community members that had previously engaged with MACM, via the Multicultural ACT eNews and through MACM’s community networks, across the multicultural sector, universities, non-government and government networks inviting any interested Canberrans to attend. Participants were required to register their interest through an online booking system.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:



Date: 27.11.25

By the Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Mr Michael Pettersson MLA