



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: Representation of Multicultural Communities

Question received: 14 November 2025

Answer Due: 27 November 2025

1. What specific steps is the government taking to ensure that CALD communities who are not currently receiving grants or not participating in events have equitable access to funding, decision-making and year-round support?
2. What steps are taken to ensure equitable access to multicultural services across multicultural communities?
3. Has the government identified what percentage of known CALD communities are represented, and how many are missing or under-represented, particularly any newer, or emerging communities?

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

1. The ACT Government strives to engage all multicultural communities in the ACT. Grant opportunities and events are promoted widely to encourage broad and diverse participation. Specific actions include:
 - a. Holding public information sessions on grant processes to encourage engagement with the process and answer questions from the community.
 - b. Broadly publishing and promoting event information through several outlets, including (but not limited to) social media, newsletters, the ACT Government website and directly to community leaders.
 - c. Funding community organisations and groups to have a stall or deliver a performance at the National Multicultural Festival.

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2. The ACT Government funds a [range of services and programs](#) to respond to the unique needs of the multicultural community. These services and programs strive to promote inclusion and do not discriminate based on race or cultural identity.
3. The ACT Government is informed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics Census of Population and Housing data to understand the composition of Canberra's multicultural communities.

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