Hume City Council

Multicultural Advisory Group (MAG)



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose & Scope	 The purpose of the Multicultural Advisory Group (MAG) is to Reflect community voices and act as a consultative and engagement platform on key issues, concerns and priorities of Hume's multicultural community members Initiate and collaborate on activities/ projects which meets the goals and objectives of the Multicultural Framework 2019, and are aligned with the Social Justice Charter 2021 and Council Plan 2021-2025.
Objectives	 The Multicultural Advisory Group (MAG) plays a strategic role in working with Council to Develop and maintain strong relationships with Council and the local multicultural community Assist Council to identify and remove barriers to appropriate and equitable access of Council services, facilities and programs for community members Provide feedback and advice to Council on its policies, plans and services relevant to multicultural communities Advocate to State and Federal Government, where necessary, on issues identified through the MAG that impact on Hume's multicultural community Collaborate on activities/ projects that contribute to improved outcomes for Hume's multicultural community.
Membership	 The MAG membership will consist of up to 15 members and will include representation from Community organisations and service providers delivering services and programs to multicultural communities in Hume Community groups representing multicultural communities Council Officers. MAG representatives should hold leadership roles within their organisations (or have capacity to make key decisions in relation to the MAG). All MAG positions are voluntary positions.
Roles and Responsibilities	 Contribute to agendas and meeting topics/ issues and actively participate in meetings Attend a minimum of 60% of all meetings (4 out of 6 meetings) Notify the meeting organiser prior if unable to attend a scheduled meeting, and assign a proxy to attend in place Respond to requests for input into and/or feedback on Council initiatives, policies and reports and ensuring that a cultural lens is applied Work together to address issues and barriers experienced by Hume's multicultural communities Facilitate Council's engagement with the multicultural community and assist Council to connect with multicultural organisations, people and networks Identify and drive opportunities for collaboration on activities/ projects.
Conduct of Members	Members are expected to act in a respectful and professional manner Behave with respect and openness by listening to one another and by allowing all members to have a voice

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	 All members commit to making cultural safety a key priority Not make improper use of their position or make improper use of information acquired because of their position (and declare conflict of interest as appropriate) Respect the confidentiality and sensitivity of information as appropriate. Members do not represent Council and are not authorised to speak to the media in respect of the group's activities and deliberations without permission. Council will provide an induction to new members and update members with information as appropriate.
Requirements for members (criteria)	 MAG members will be able to demonstrate Knowledge and understanding of the strengths, needs and issues affecting multicultural communities (local and broader) An interest and involvement in local and/or broader multicultural community affairs, advocacy and networks Ability and willingness to facilitate engagement with the local multicultural community and/or organisations An ability and willingness to contribute to the strategic development of multicultural policy and initiatives at local government level An interest and/or understanding of Local Government services and programs from multicultural community perspectives. Council aims to ensure that membership of the MAG reflect the diversity of the Hume community.
Terms of Appointment	 Appointment will be for a two-year term The MAG will be reviewed, with an Expression of Interest process every two years.
Working Groups and collaboration on events and activities	 The MAG may establish Working Groups to address specific issues as they arise or collaborate on events and activities Working Groups are time-limited and may comprise members of the MAG, and other relevant community organisations, service P\providers and community groups MAG events and activities are covered under Hume City Council Public Liability Insurance.
Executive Support	The Team Leader Community Development will act as the chairperson for the MAG.
	 Responsibilities includes Establish agendas and meeting topics/issues in consultation with members Guide the meeting according to the agenda and facilitate productive discussions within the scope of the MAG Ensure members understand their roles and responsibilities on the MAG. The Multicultural Community Development Officer will provide secretariat support to the MAG.

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	Responsibilities includes
	Act as the key contact for all members
	 Prepare agendas, keep minutes of the meetings, follow up on actions identified in meetings and reporting back.
Raising Concerns and Dispute Resolution	 Where the concerns or disputes are between members Firstly, those involved in the dispute will attempt to address the matter directly with the other party (if they feel comfortable or safe to do so) If matters are resolved at this stage, Council should be kept informed in writing what the issue was and the resolution If any matters remain unresolved, members should contact Council directly who will assist with addressing these concerns/ disputes. Where dispute resolution is required between Council and members, or between members Firstly, those involved in the dispute will attempt to address the matter
	 directly with the other party (if they feel comfortable or safe to do so) If matters are resolved at this stage, Council will document what the issue was and the resolution If a dispute remains unresolved, the parties involved will seek mediation alternatives such as the <u>Dispute Settlement Centre Victoria Council</u> to address the matter.
Meeting Dates and Times	 The MAG will meet bi-monthly for 1.5 hours. Meetings will alternate between Tuesdays and Wednesdays and usually occur on the last week of the month. Meetings can be held online or in person as determined by MAG members.
	 2023 Meeting Dates & Times Tuesday 28 February, 10am to 11.30am Wednesday 26 April, 10am to 11.30am Tuesday 27 June, 10am to 11.30am Wednesday 30 August, 10am to 11.30am Tuesday 31 Oct, 10am to 11.30am December meeting – To be confirmed.