



**GLEN EIRA  
MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

## **MINUTES**

**The Multicultural Advisory Committee meeting commenced at 6:07pm**

**Monday 20 February 2023**

***Duncan Mackinnon Reserve - Function Room (Upstairs)***

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Cr Li Zhang (Chair) Glen Eira Councillor Committee Member  
Cr Tony Athanasopoulos Glen Eira Councillor Committee Member  
Cr Simone Zmood (Arrived 6.11pm) Glen Eira Councillor Committee Member

**Community  
Representatives:**

Cesar Albarran Torres  
Regina Atzil  
Agnes Cheung  
Monica Espinosa  
Rabbi Yaakov Glasman  
Janeca Gross  
Elif Kurdoglu Sengoz  
Renee Leighton  
Deepa Mani  
Dr Priyadharshini Mendis  
Kaia Sun  
Pooja Gupta  
Dr Gamini Adikari (Sinhala Cultural and Community Services Foundation)  
Maureen Barten (Progressive Judaism Victoria)  
Sylvie Berchick (Good Vibes Society)  
Nick Chalas ('Lets Connect' Club)  
Hap Dan (Inner East Local Learning and Employment Network)  
Joshua Goodman (Jewish Community Councils of Victoria)  
Ann Manning (Glen Eira Adult Learning Centre)  
Cassandra Barrett (Jewish Care)  
Edward Xu (Bentleigh Chinese Community Association)

**Council Staff:** Mark Saunders Director Community Wellbeing  
Sharon Sykes Manager Community Development  
Victoria Tanner Coordinator Diversity and Inclusion  
Lana Cari Diversity and Inclusion Officer  
Rob Menzies Diversity and Inclusion Officer

**Guest:** Dee Brooks Jeder Institute

**Apologies:** Cr David Zyngier Glen Eira Councillor Committee Member

1. An Acknowledgment of Country was delivered by Cr Li Zhang.

2. **Conflicts of Interest Declaration** Nil

### 3. Welcome from the Chair of the Victorian Multicultural Commission

A video was presented to the Committee from Vivienne Nguyen, Chairperson of the Victorian Multicultural Commission, congratulating Council for the establishment of the Multicultural Advisory Committee and welcoming collaboration between the Committee and the Commission.

### 4. Items for Discussion

#### 4.1 'Discovering Our Priorities' workshop

Members of the Committee participated in a workshop to identify priorities to discuss and agree on priority actions for the next 12 months. The session was facilitated by Dee Brooks from the Jeder Institute to develop the action plan through understanding the priorities and strengths of the group and the steps to achieve these priorities.

Themes that emerged from the session discussion included:

- Expression of common values of respect, empathy, tolerance, harmony, collaboration, valuing diversity and equality.
- Determining the Committee's strengths to achieve its goals through recognising the diverse skills, cultural background of its members and their lived experience.
- Developing the community's understanding of various cultures through the delivery of intercultural and intergenerational activities, including education, arts and sporting programs.
- Working with Council and the community to develop collaborative approaches to plan and deliver multicultural activities.

It was agreed that officers will summarise the themes and findings from this workshop session and develop a list of priority actions that will be sent to Committee members for comment and feedback prior to being recommended to Council for endorsement. The draft actions will be discussed and finalised at the next meeting of the Multicultural Advisory Committee.

**Action:** Council Officers to prepare draft priority actions from the session for the Committee's review and feedback, prior to the next meeting.

### 5. Forward Meeting Schedule

Day	Date	Location	Officer / Member
Mon	27 March 2023 (TBC)	Glen Eira Town Hall	Sharon Sykes
Wed	TBC	TBC	Sharon Sykes
Mon	17 July 2023	TBC	Sharon Sykes
Wed	13 September 2023	TBC	Sharon Sykes
Mon	13 November 2023	TBC	Sharon Sykes

6. **Next Meeting:** Monday 27 March 2023 (to be confirmed)

7. **Closure of Meeting:** The meeting closed at 7.35pm