

## **CUMBERLAND COUNCIL CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE (CALD) ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday, 14 March 2019 at 6.00pm in the Committee Rooms, Council Administration Building, Merrylands.

### **1. Open of Meeting**

Clr Kun Huang gave an Acknowledgement of Country and welcomed meeting attendees to the CALD Advisory Committee of Cumberland Council.

### **2. Record of Attendance, Introductions and Apologies**

#### **Attendance List:**

Clr Kun Huang	Councillor and Committee Member
Clr Ola Hamed	Councillor and Committee Member
Amir Mekhael	Committee Member
Aurelia Rahman	Committee Member
Ernest Yung	Committee Member
Maie Sufan	Committee Member
Margaret Nekeare Cowan	Committee Member
Maria Teresa Ciaccia	Committee Member

#### **Council Staff in Attendance:**

Adama Kamara	Acting Manager, Community Development and Planning
Christina Halligan	Children's Programs Coordinator
Marika Kahle	Community Education Officer
Marion Winkler	Resource Recovery Engagement Officer
Merryn Howell	Acting Group Manager, Community and Culture
Sara Imanian	Community Project Officer

#### **Apologies:**

Julie Tai	Committee Member
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### **3. Conflicts of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

### **4. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the last meeting held on 29 November 2018, were passed and adopted as a true and accurate record. Moved by Maria Teresa Ciaccia and seconded by Amir Mekhael.

### **ITEMS DISCUSSED BY COMMITTEE:**

#### **5. Business Arising**

##### Committee Membership

The CALD Advisory Committee has 3 vacancies. Twelve Expressions of Interest have been received. Logessan Pillay's forfeited position was also noted.

### Adoption of Revised Terms of Reference

The amended Terms of Reference with recommendation to hold CALD Advisory Committee meetings every four months was adopted by Council.

#### **6. *Children and Families Strategy***

Council is in the process of developing a Children and Families Strategy. Consultations have been undertaken with families in the Local Government Area with face to face surveying of children and adults as well as an in-depth online survey. Two community consultations are scheduled in Auburn and Pemulwuy in March 2019. Families are invited to attend the consultation with their children, to ensure their voice is reflected in the Strategy.

The Strategy will focus on four areas: education and care, child protection, health & inclusion and community connection.

#### **Feedback from Committee:**

- Council to engage with Pacific Islander families, as the community faces a number of challenges, and to consider holding a consultation in Granville.

#### **Actions or Recommendations Arising:**

6.1 Committee members to promote the community consultations through their networks.

#### **7. *Children Services' work with Refugee and Asylum Seeker Families***

Council's new Children's Services Community Projects Officer's role is to connect with families from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds and link them to education and care services. Lack of awareness of the available childcare services and their cost have been identified as a barrier. As an entry point, the occasional care service The Sometimes Centre in Merrylands has been identified, offering bi-lingual educators and flexible child care for \$10/hour.

#### **8. *Upcoming Feasibility Study into Food Donations in the Cumberland LGA***

Council has been awarded a grant by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) as part of the Waste Less, Recycle More initiative, funded from the waste levy, to undergo a feasibility study, to explore how the amount of food waste going to landfill can be minimised and to provide food relief to the community

The study will take place from April to October 2019. It will include consultations with local businesses and the community to understand the volume of food waste, the need for food relief, barriers and gaps to food donations as well as to explore practical solutions.

Following the gained knowledge from the feasibility study, community groups, organisations or Council could apply for funding for required infrastructure to facilitate food support programs in the future. The grant opportunity will open in August 2019.

Council is seeking Expressions of Interest of community members and businesses to be participate in surveys and interviews.

Council has a campaign focusing on reducing food waste at a household level, called 'Love your Leftovers'. This project provides practical tips and recipe ideas, utilising left over food.

**Actions or Recommendations Arising:**

- 8.1 Interested Committee members are invited to contact Marion Winkler by email:  
[marion.winkler@cumberland.nsw.gov.au](mailto:marion.winkler@cumberland.nsw.gov.au).

**9. Update on Civic Education Program**

Six Bi-lingual Community Educators have been trained to deliver the Discover Cumberland project. In February 2019 three bus tours were delivered during Senior's Festival, in English, Arabic and Mandarin. In addition, a Discover Cumberland workshop was held.

Numerous community groups and organisations have expressed an interest in the program. Two further bus tours and three workshops are already booked till June 2019, while additional programs planned.

Council was awarded a grant (\$75,000) from NSW Attorney General for the Living Safely in Cumberland Personal Safety Workshops. The project will involve the design and delivery of interactive bi-lingual community safety education programs that aim to:

- Raise awareness and educate community members on how to be safe
- Encourage reporting of issues to Police
- Deliver 40 workshops (in English and community languages) targeting different demographic groups
- Workshops will be delivered by 6 bi-lingual community educators in 12 languages, coordinated by Council's Crime Prevention Officer in partnership with the local Police Area Commands

**Feedback from Committee Members:**

- Two Committee Members attended a Discover Cumberland bus tour. They provided feedback that the tour was informative and they discovered places and landmarks in the Cumberland LGA that they were not previously aware of before. They also found out about the wide range of Council services and promoted these to others.

**10. Update on the Draft Cumberland Cultural Plan**

An update was provided on the Draft Cumberland Cultural Plan 2019 - 2029, which was distributed to Committee members, and key highlights from the background report, *The State of Culture in Cumberland*. Some of the key themes emerging from the community engagement included:

- Strength in cultural diversity and in people coming together
- Cumberland's culture is defined by our unique people and places
- Food, music and dance bring people together
- Affordable, quality and multipurpose places and spaces
- Free, safe, activated and inclusive streets and civic spaces

The Plan identifies five priority areas to guide Council's planning of programs, services, activities and infrastructure in arts and culture over the next ten years.

The five priority areas include:

- PRIORITY 1: Recognising Cumberland's Aboriginal cultural heritage
- PRIORITY 2: Celebrating strength in diversity
- PRIORITY 3: Improving cultural facilities, spaces and streets
- PRIORITY 4: Enhancing place identity and activation

PRIORITY 5: Supporting cultural groups and individuals  
The Draft Plan will be reported to Council on 3 April 2019.

**Feedback from Committee:**

- The Draft Plan is very comprehensive.
- All cultures were addressed.

**Actions or Recommendations Arising:**

10.1 Council to distribute the Draft Cultural Plan to the Committee during the public exhibition period and invite any further feedback.

**11. General Business**

Auburn South Community and Recreation Centre

Council is developing a new multi-purpose community facility at 179 Chisholm Road, Auburn (the former Auburn RSL Bowling Club site) called the 'Auburn South Community and Recreation Centre'. The new facility will deliver much needed additional meeting, event and activity spaces for residents and community groups and provide five outdoor synthetic multi-purpose sport courts.

Feedback was sought from the Committee on the concept designs.

**Feedback from Committee:**

- There is lots of open space and parking and the Centre is in close proximity to the local public school.
- Consideration of inclusion of a small reflection/prayer room.
- The kind of programs and services that members would like to be delivered from the site include: childcare facilities, out of school hours service, programs for mothers, sports and recreational activities, futsal, arts and craft programs and spaces and programs for community groups to meet and run their own programs and events.

Refugee Camp in My Neighbourhood

The Refugee Camp in My Neighbourhood project is a simulation of the journey and experiences that a refugee overcomes before coming to Australia. The interactive exhibition will take place from 29 July to 9 August 2019 at the Auburn Centre for Community. The project offers educational tours to school students, professionals as well as the public.

A five year longitudinal evaluation of the social impact of the project has been undertaken. Copies of the report are available from the Council website or [www.refugeecampauburn.com.au/about-2/](http://www.refugeecampauburn.com.au/about-2/).

Neighbour Day

Neighbour Day is an initiative led by Relationships Australia which encourages people to get to know their neighbours. Council is promoting the event across the LGA to encourage community cohesion.

Five Neighbour Day events are scheduled:

- Council's Senior Units in Auburn & Lidcombe - 28 and 29 March 2019
- Guildford Community Centre - 25 March 2019
- Auburn Centre for Community - 27 March 2019
- Berala Community Centre - 29 March 2019

### Ekushey Corners

- Ekushey Corners have recently been established across all 8 Council libraries. The corners aims to assist in the preservation of Mother Languages. Corners provide information, referral and create awareness of Mother Languages, and promote the diverse languages spoken in the Cumberland area. A directory of the community language schools run in
- A launch of the initiative was celebrated at Auburn Library on International Mother Language Day on 21 February 2019. The launch and celebration included food, dance, poetry and music from a range of cultural performers.

### Building Cultural Capacities training

Council is organising Building Cultural Capacities training. The interactive forum will be held on 26 March 2019 for local workers to improve their professional practice in working with the diversity of their communities.

### Clubs for Cumberland ClubGRANTS

The ClubGRANTS funding scheme will open from 2 April 2019. Organisations can access free information sessions, grant writing workshops and receive tailored advice on their project at an advisory desk session.

For more information is available from [www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au/clubgrants](http://www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au/clubgrants).

### Ramadan Street Food Festival

The Cumberland Ramadan Street Food Festival will be held in Auburn Town Centre on Saturday, 18 May 2019. Council is inviting Expressions of Interest from food stall holders to participate. A consultation will be held with community groups in the next two weeks to provide input into the design and development of an interactive community space to be incorporated into the Festival. The space would aim to provide an opportunity for interfaith dialogue and opportunities for people to learn about Ramadan, how it is celebrated in different parts of the world, to interact with different communities and to learn about the work of local community groups operating within Cumberland.

### **Feedback from Committee:**

- Signage for the event should be in both English and Arabic.

### **Actions or Recommendations Arising:**

11.1 Council to distribute food stallholder EOI's and information about the community consultation to Committee members.

### **12. Close of Meeting**

Meeting closed at at 7.26 pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, 13 June 2019 in the Committee Rooms, Council Administration Building, Merrylands.