

Georges River Council Multicultural Advisory Committee 2026-2027 Terms of Reference

Multicultural Advisory Committee

The Georges River Council (Council) Multicultural Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) is an advisory body that represents the interests of culturally and linguistically diverse people with a connection to Georges River.

Objectives

- Support Council with communication, consultation, and engagement with culturally and linguistically diverse communities.
- Provide a forum for raising concerns and recommendations to Council on the interests of culturally and linguistically diverse communities at a local level.
- Support Council's implementation of the Social Justice Charter Plan and other initiatives.
- Strengthen collaboration from groups and services that work with culturally and linguistically diverse communities.
- Celebrate the contributions and achievements of people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Membership

Membership is voluntary and will consist of up to 15 members at any one time. Membership is a two-year term.

Council will seek membership by Expression of Interest (EOI). The EOI will ask applicants to:

- Outline any knowledge, skills or experience relevant to the Advisory Committee.
- Identify important issues relating to culturally and linguistically diverse communities in Georges River.
- Suggest Council and community-led solutions to issues for culturally and linguistically diverse communities in Georges River.

Membership may include people with lived experience and people working with culturally and linguistically diverse communities, including established (for example, Chinese and Greek) and emerging communities (for example, Nepalese).

Council is also aware of the impact of intersections of being culturally and linguistically diverse with other identities and welcomes diverse representation. This may include people who identify as:

- d/Deaf or hard of hearing
- a person with disability
- LGBTQIA+
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- young people (18-25)
- seniors (55+)

Membership Criteria

All members must have a connection to Georges River. They may:

- live in Georges River.
- work, visit or use community services in Georges River.
- work or volunteer for an organisation that provides services to Georges River.

Members must identify as someone:

- from a culturally and linguistically diverse community or
- with skills and experience working or volunteering with culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Members must represent the views of their community, not their own personal or political interests. Members must show respect, foster inclusion and participation, and be non-judgemental.

Period of Membership

Members of the Advisory Committee will be appointed for a period of two years from January 2026 to December 2027. Membership is limited to no more than two consecutive terms, at the discretion of Council.

If members wish to end their membership, they must notify the Community Capacity Building Officer – Diversity and Inclusion as soon as possible.



Responsibilities of Members

- Attend the Advisory Committee onboarding program to understand the purpose, objectives and responsibilities of the Committee.
- Attend meetings and contribute ideas and concerns related to the meeting agenda.
- Provide advice and recommendations to Council on meeting agenda items.
- Share information to community networks about local issues, decisions and Council initiatives.
- Have a positive attitude and genuine desire to collaborate with Council.
- Respect and value the expertise of Advisory Committee members.
- Assist Council with the planning of capacity building initiatives throughout the year.
- Notify the Community Capacity Building Officer – Diversity and Inclusion if unable to attend a meeting.

If members are absent for three consecutive meetings without apology, and with no communication, their position will be made vacant. This will be recorded in the minutes of the next meeting.

Chairperson

- At the end of each meeting, a chairperson will be nominated for the next meeting. All members are expected to share this role.
- The minute taker for each meeting will be a Council officer.
- Attendees at each meeting will confirm the accuracy of the minutes from the previous meeting.

Meeting Procedure

- Meetings will be held every three months (quarterly).
- Meetings will be held online with opportunities to meet in-person.
- Terms of Reference will be reviewed every two years.
- The Advisory Committee will review the direction of the Advisory Committee annually.

