

South Asian Communities Ministerial Advisory Council

Terms of Reference

Purpose

The South Asian Communities Ministerial Advisory Council ('the Advisory Council') is established to adopt a whole-of-government response to key issues and challenges impacting South Asian communities.

The focus of the Advisory Council is to:

- engage and consult South Asian community members represented on the Advisory Council;
- consider issues and opportunities raised by a broader cross section of South Asian voices (including elders, women, young people, regional representatives) including through community engagement approaches with South Asian communities led by the Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC) and the Multicultural Affairs and Social Cohesion Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC);
- to develop a South Asian Communities Action Plan which will act as a roadmap for the future by identifying and addressing key issues to support greater economic and social participation in Victoria;
- co-ordinate Ministerial effort across portfolios and departments by utilising the Multicultural Leadership and Coordination Group which brings together senior executives together from across the Victorian Government; and
- support community led proposals that respond to identified challenges; and innovative approaches empowering marginalised people who identify as South Asian.

Membership

The Advisory Council will be chaired by the Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Richard Wynne with secretariat support provided by DPC.

Members of the Advisory Council will include:

South Asian Communities representatives

- 25 members representing age, gender balance and a diversity of South Asian cultural and religious backgrounds (including Indian, Sri Lankan, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Nepalese, Bhutanese, Maldivian)

Victorian Multicultural Commission

- VMC Chairperson or delegate



Department of Premier and Cabinet

- Executive Director, Multicultural Affairs and Social Cohesion Division
- Director, Community Participation Branch, Multicultural Affairs and Social Cohesion Division

As required, the Advisory Council will invite other representatives to attend, such as other portfolio Ministers, other South Asian community members and/or senior departmental representatives.

Community Engagement

Up to 12 community consultations and / or workshops will take place to develop the South Asian Communities Action Plan.