

## **Multicultural Subcommittee**

### **OPEN MINUTES**

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**Date:** Friday 28 July 2017  
**Time:** 1.10pm  
**Venue:** Committee Room 1, Level 2, Civic Offices,  
53 Hereford Street, Christchurch

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#### **Present**

Chairperson	Councillor Jimmy Chen
Members	Councillor Mike Davidson
	Councillor Anne Galloway
	Councillor Glenn Livingstone

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In Attendance: CCC - Claire Phillips, George Patena and Liz Ryley; Plains FM 96.9 – Nikki Reece; Interpreting Canterbury – Maria Fresia; Citizens Advice Bureau – Vivian Shurmer and Sally Carlton; Nawawi Centre – Asayal Almutairi; Office of Ethnic Communities DIA – Candy Zhang and Deborah Lam; Muslim Association of Canterbury – Ahmed Akdelrahim, Muhammad Abdus Samad and Gamal Fouda; and NZ Immigration – Tony McNeill

**28 July 2017**

Claire Phillips  
Principal Advisor  
Tel: 941 5408

Liz Ryley  
Committee Advisor  
941 8153  
liz.ryley@ccc.govt.nz  
[www.ccc.govt.nz](http://www.ccc.govt.nz)

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- Part A**      **Matters Requiring a Council Decision**  
**Part B**      **Reports for Information**  
**Part C**      **Decisions Under Delegation**
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The agenda was dealt with in the following order.

A round of introductions was undertaken.

## **1. Apologies**

**Part C**

There were no apologies recorded, as all members were present.

## **2. Declarations of Interest**

**Part B**

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

## **3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

**Part C**

**Committee Resolved MCSC/2017/00002**

**Committee Decision**

That the minutes of the Multicultural Subcommittee meeting held on Friday, 26 May 2017 be confirmed.

Councillor Galloway/Councillor Davidson

**Carried**

## **4. Deputations by Appointment**

**Part B**

There were no deputations by appointment.

## **5. Presentation of Petitions**

**Part B**

There was no presentation of petitions.

## **6. Updates from Mandated Groups**

**Part B**

**Community Language Information Network Group**

- Maria Fresia of the Community Language Information Network Group (CLING) provided the Committee with information about CLING, its background from its formation in 2011, and the inclusion of Culturally and Linguistic Diverse communities in the region and their right to equal access to information, communication, and services.

Maria reiterated that the Christchurch City Council's Multicultural Strategy was good for their group and CLING was keen to collaborate with the Council on this.

Maria referred to CLING's main message, to be curious and interested in the diverse communities, to get to know each other, and to facilitate inclusion, participation etc.

Maria and members of CLING responded to questions from the Subcommittee members. Discussion was held about liaison with Civil Defence around emergency planning and preparedness through the Community Resilience Plans and good messaging. Staff will liaise with the Civil Defence Emergency Management team about CLING as advisors to that planning process.

## Part C Recommendation

### Committee Resolved MCSC/2017/00003

That the Multicultural Subcommittee:

1. Receive Maria Fresia's report and thanks her for updating the Subcommittee about the Community Language Information Network Group's status and future plans.
2. Request staff to engage with the Community Language Information Network Group for the implementation of the Christchurch Multicultural Strategy, including the Community Language Information Network Group's concerning issues.

Councillor Chen/Councillor Galloway

**Carried**

### Muslim Association of Canterbury and Nawai Centre

- Ahmed Abdelrahim (Social Secretary), Muhammad Abdus Samad, and Gamal Fouda of the Muslim Association of Canterbury (MAC) updated the Subcommittee about the new Executive Committee members and the diversity of the Muslim community present in Christchurch. They invited the Subcommittee members to attend the Al Noor Mosque on Deans Avenue during Islam Week in August 2017, and asked the members to refer any questions they have about Islam to them. They responded to questions from the Subcommittee members, noting that challenges they faced included maintaining the Arabic language and use of the English language and communication issues.

### Nawawi Center

- Asayal Almutairi updated the Subcommittee on the history and work of the Nawawi Center that was started by three siblings from Singapore when they moved to Christchurch and wanted to develop stronger relationships with people. She spoke to a PowerPoint presentation titled "An Introduction to Nawawi Center". The Center is a non-profit organisation that builds positive relationships amongst Muslims and New Zealand's other diverse communities.

## Part C Recommendation

### Committee Resolved MCSC/2017/00004

That the Multicultural Subcommittee:

1. Receive the Muslim Association of Canterbury's report, and thanks them for updating the Subcommittee about the new Executive Committee members and the diversity of the Muslim community present in Christchurch.
2. Request the Social and Community Development Committee recommends to the Council that it encourage staff to work to the principles of the Best Practice Guidelines/Findings of 'Engaging with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities in times of Disaster'. Staff are encouraged to report to the Subcommittee on examples of best practice.
3. Receive the Nawawi Center's report and thanks Asayal Almutairi for updating the Subcommittee about the history and work of the Nawawi Center.
4. Request staff investigate the potential for the Nawawi Center to access funding through the Community Resilience Partnership Fund.
5. Link with the Multicultural Advisor to work on identifying internship opportunities within the organisation for Muslim graduates.

Councillor Livingstone/Councillor Davidson

**Carried**

An adjournment was taken from 2.47 to 2.58pm.

## 7. Staff Update to the Multicultural Subcommittee - 26 May 2017

George Patena updated the Multicultural Subcommittee on:

- **Draft Implementation Plan**  
This is an ongoing journey and discussions will be held with the Community Governance Managers/Wards and following that with Council's Units about the key areas of the Implementation Plan, priority areas, timelines and aspirations.
- **Hagley Community College Multicultural Centre funding request**  
George advised he had met with this group, and Opus, about the correct detail to include in a Feasibility Study. The College has submitted a Discretionary Response Fund application. A Feasibility Study would give the College the opportunity to approach other stakeholders about the project.
- **Strengthening Communities Fund**  
George reported on the number of applications received to the Strengthening Communities Fund. Discussion was held about events organisation. Staff will liaise with ChristchurchNZ™ about a matrix of events.

**Committee Resolved MCSC/2017/00005**

**Part C**

That the Multicultural Subcommittee:

Request staff engage with ChristchurchNZ™ regarding multicultural events and the rationale for funding, and provide information about this to the next Multicultural Subcommittee.

Councillor Chen/Councillor Davidson

**Carried**

**Meeting concluded at 3.48pm.**

**CONFIRMED THIS 27TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2017**

**COUNCILLOR JIMMY CHEN  
CHAIRPERSON**