



Multicultural Queensland Advisory Council

Meeting communiqué

The third meeting of the second term of the Multicultural Queensland Advisory Council (the Council) was held virtually on 9 April 2020.

The Council was provided with the latest advice regarding COVID-19 from Queensland Health and the Department of Home Affairs.

Council members spoke about how communities were coming together to assist vulnerable members and share information. Members also discussed some of the issues impacting on people from cultural and linguistically diverse backgrounds as a result of the virus, including:

- Increase in racism and discrimination targeted towards people of Chinese heritage
- Challenges with communicating messages to people who have difficulty communicating in English
- Lack of access to financial assistance for temporary migrants and people seeking asylum who have lost jobs, particularly in regions with a reliance on tourism
- Lack of access to electronic devices and the internet resulting in some refugee families struggling to home school and access information.

The Council reiterated that we are all in this together.

The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for May 2020 and will be held virtually.