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| **Local Government Mayoral Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum**  **Minutes – Meeting No. 37 – Wednesday 7 August 2024**  1pm-1.55pm via Microsoft Teams |
| **Chairperson:** Mayor Cr Liz Pattison (Surf Coast)  **Attendees:**  John Drennan (Ballarat), Pradeep Peteti (Casey), Peter Johnstone (CGD), Ann Ly (CGD), Thiviya Nagenthiram (CGD), Mayor Cr Susanne Newton (Darebin), Mayor Cr Ben Ramcharan (Nillumbik), Mayor Cr Jenna Davey-Burns (Kingston), Suzanne Bray (Kingston), Mayor Cr Adam Pulford (Merri-bek), Emma Sampson (Merri-bek), Kate Wijeyesinghe (Monash), Jenna House (Wyndham), Karla Collrick (Hume), Dalal Sleiman (Whittlesea), Cr Anab Mohamud (Yarra), Amani Nyikang (Yarra), Michael Maxwell (Blacktown), Cr Marghanita Da Cruz (Inner West), Cr David Mallard (Orange).  **Apologies:**  Mayor Cr Jason Hamling (Orange), Catherine Davis (Orange), Mayor Cr Philipa Veitch (Randwick), Cr Kym Chapple (Randwick), Cr Rafaela Pandolfini (Randwick), Mayor Cr Dallas Tout (Wagga Wagga); TAS: Lord Mayor Cr Anna Reynolds (Hobart), Alison Hines (Hobart), Cr Jo Armstrong (Ararat), Mayor Cr Bob Sanders (Ararat), Mayor Cr Tom Melican (Banyule), Celia Chang (Hume), Kara Barnett (Melbourne), Nelum Buddhadasa (Merri-bek), Lisa King (Banyule), Mayor Cr Liz Pattison (Surf Coast), Mayor Cr Nicky Luo (Monash), Mayor Cr Naim Kurt (Hume), Raewyn Afu (Brimbank), Alicja Clisby (City of Port Adelaide Enfield), Mayor Cr Annette Death (Macedon Ranges), Lisa King (Banyule), Amy Bennett (Bass Coast), Mayor Cr Jack Kowarzik (Cardinia), Shabaz Fattah (Darebin), Ben Pollard (Hobsons Bay), Jess Smith (Kingston), Mayor Cr Cuc Lam (Maribyrnong), Kelsey Laffy (Maribyrnong), Anni Gallagher (Orange), Cr Michael Olive (Randwick); Mayor Cr Claire Boan (PAE), Theresa Brown (PAE), Angelo Cadiz (PAE), Lisa Davis (Newcastle).Mayor Cr Lana Formoso (CGD), Mayor Cr Ross Ebbels (Queenscliffe), Stephen Sibanda (Brimbank), Cr Belinda Moloney (Geelong), Punam Pun (Hume), Cr Hadi Saab (Kingston), Amey Rountree (Monash), Cr Rose Iser (Moonee Valley), Cristina Del Frate (Yarra); Mayor Cr Jennie Barrera (Wyndham), Josephine Frawley (Ararat), Mayor Cr Des Hudson (Ballarat), Suzannah Burton (Ballarat), Mayor Cr Andrea Metcalf (Bendigo), Nikki Williams (Bendigo), Pinar Maher (Bendigo), Mayor Cr Ranka Rasic (Brimbank), Lynley Dumble (Brimbank), Cr Gaetano Greco (Darebin), Sally Beck (Geelong), Mayor Cr Matt Tyler (Hobsons Bay), Julie Andrews (Hume), Susan Quach (Kingston), Jennifer Anderson (Macedon Ranges), Catherine Dwyer (Maribyrnong), Mayor Cr Kylie Spears (Maroondah), Chris Riseley (Maroondah), Paul MacDonald (Maroondah), Lord Mayor Sally Capp (Melbourne), Deputy Lord Mayor Nicolas Reece (Melbourne), Cr Elizabeth Mary Doidge (Melbourne), Cr Rohan Leppert (Melbourne), Cr Roshena Campbell (Melbourne), Cr Kevin Louey (Melbourne), Cr Philip Le Liu (Melbourne), Cr Jamal Hakim (Melbourne), Cr Dr Olivia Ball (Melbourne), Cr Jason Chang (Melbourne), Cr Davydd Griffiths (Melbourne), Petr Svoboda (Merri-bek), Mayor Cr Pierce Tyson (Moonee Valley), Sally Abbott (Moonee Valley), Mayor Cr Simon Brooks (Mornington Peninsula), Chris Munro (Mornington Peninsula), Deputy Mayor Cr Geoff Paine (Nillumbik), April Wilson (Nillumbik), Mayor Cr Heather Cunsolo (Port Phillip), Ewa Zysk (Port Phillip), Mayor Cr Ian Bye (Wellington), Mayor Cr Denise Massoud (Whitehorse), Zoe Quinn (Whitehorse), Cr Sahana Ramesh (Wyndham), Liana Thompson (Wyndham); Mayor Cr Kylie King (Albury), Mayor Cr Bilal El-Hayek (Canterbury Bankstown), Graeme Beattie (Canterbury Bankstown), Garry Starr (Canterbury Bankstown), Mayor Cr Sarah McMahon (Hawkesbury), Danielle Wheeler (Hawkesbury), Mary Lyons-Buckett (Hawkesbury), Mayor Cr Darcy Byrne (Inner West), Cr Pauline Lockie (Inner West), Cr Justine Langford (Inner West), Cr Elizabeth Adamczyk (Newcastle), Melanie Hill (Newcastle), Petria Jukes (Newcastle).  **Guests:** Rebecca Langton (Refugee Council of Australia), Mayor Cr Jude Dwight (Knox City Council). |

| **Agenda Item** | **Action** |
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| 1. **Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country**   Chair welcomed attendees, guests and acknowledged Country. | - |
| 1. **Endorsement of Minutes of Previous Meeting**   Previous minutes endorsed. | - |
| 1. **Review of Outstanding Action Items**  * Membership Update: Resignation from West Torrens * Brainstorm session from last Taskforce meeting – updates from members. * Secretariat presented a Roadmap for Taskforce until December 2024 – key activities will be promoting the BYN petition and ongoing member recruitment. | All members to explore listing Back Your Neighbour to Council websites using provided template. When published, notify Secretariat to link on ww.backyourneighbour.com.au/supporters. |
| 1. **Back Your Neighbour campaign – Spreading the word about the petition – Roundtable discussion**  * Local event opportunities – are you hosting any multicultural events where you can promote BYN as Taskforce Members?   + Merri-bek Council’s Spring – Summer festival program   + Whittlesea - Nepalese Teej festival contact * Community and refugee groups contacts – what groups are active in your LGA which you can connect CGD with?   + Surf Coast RAR Aireys Inlet/Greater Geelong   + Rural Australian for Refugees or Ballarat Refugee and Asylum Seeker Support Network * Community/Service provider networks – can you share BYN information with local services and invite them to become a Supporter organization? Example from Merri-bek City Council.   + Hume - BYN at local networks and in newsletters | All members to promote BYN via local relevant networks. Resources can be provided by Secretariat. |
| 1. **Tanck Refugee Sector Advocacy – Update**   Taskforce participation in sector advocacy planning led by the Refugee Council of Australia and consultancy Tanck the past 3 months. This has resulted in comprehensive quantitative mapping of stakeholders and Federal seats with high number of refugee supporters. Policy briefs for MPs have been drafted and will be finalized for the pre-election campaign phase. | - |
| 1. **BYN Social Media: Monash University Student Placement – EOI Opportunity for lived experience**   Greater Dandenong has commenced a BYN media project and there is opportunity for lived experience (permanent visa holders who have a recent experience of seeking protection), to feature in digital content for BYN social media. The aim is to raise awareness about the Taskforce’s advocacy and shift the public narrative via positive stories. Participants will be reimbursed accordingly. | Should members have suitable talent, please notify Secretariat. |
| 1. **Other Business**  * Multicultural Framework Review – response to Taskforce submission from Department.   For further information concerning the Multicultural Framework Review, including; the Review report, the Government response, submissions, translated report summary and government response summary, and to view the online art exhibition displaying over 100 artworks submitted by children and young people representing their vison of a Multicultural Australia, please see: [Multicultural Framework Review - Australian Government Response (homeaffairs.gov.au)](https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/about-us/our-portfolios/multicultural-framework-review/australian-government-response) | - |
| 1. **Next Meeting**  * Wednesday 11 September 1pm-3pm Chair Mayor Cr Lana Formoso (NSW Caretaker period) * Wednesday 16 October 1pm-3pm; NSW Mayors will be available and VIC Officers (VIC Caretaker period) * Wednesday 4 December, 1pm-3pm, in-person in VIC and hybrid in NSW/SA. VIC location TBD. | - |
| 1. **Meeting closed 1.55pm.** | - |