The Hon Victor Dominello MP
Minister for Citizenship and Communities
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

MEDIA RELEASE

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MULTICULTURAL HUB STUDY FOR SYDNEY

Minister for Citizenship and Communities Victor Dominello MP today announced that the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government will determine the value of establishing multicultural and community ‘hubs’ in Sydney.

The Multicultural and Community Hubs Study will: identify if there is need for shared facilities across different community groups; identify possible locations for such shared facilities or hubs; establish types of activities hubs could support, and; look for cooperation opportunities with the private sector and local government.

“Sydney is one of the most culturally diverse cities in the world and a leading destination for migrants. With more than 200 different cultural and 200 languages spoken, there’s growing demand for appropriate venues and facilities. Multicultural and community hubs may be another way to claim the opportunity that is our diversity and all the social, cultural and economic benefits that flow from it,” Minister Dominello said.

“By providing access to different groups from diverse backgrounds, we can bring people together, showcase diversity, promote cooperation and understanding, and put the focus on what binds us together, such as our shared Australian democratic values. We all have a great deal to share and teach each other,” Minister Dominello said.

A multicultural and community hub could be a dedicated facility where different ethnic and other community groups can: stage cultural or faith-based events, exhibits, food fairs, and performance classes; conduct educational activities, and hold community meetings – for their own communities, with other communities, and involving the broader public.

A multicultural and community hub, which could leverage existing publicly owned assets, could be in a central location where the rich cultural diversity of Sydney can be on display. A hub’s activities and events could attract people from around the state, around the nation and around the world, including tourists.

Through such hubs, there can also be new opportunities for schools, non-government organisations such as youth and seniors groups, and the private sector who may need them. This could include developing greater cultural understanding through education opportunities with community cultural organisations at a hub.

“Our friends in the Victorian Government have positive reports about hubs there, while over 16 years, the former Labor Government here failed to take the initiative. We are getting on with the job of determining feasibility and affordability because we want the same opportunities to exist here in the most diverse city in Australia,” Minister Dominello said.