

Community Sponsorship Program

ITEM 11.3 12/02/2019
Council

Council Member
Councillor Dr Donovan

2018/02560
Public

Receiving Officer:
Mark Goldstone, Chief Executive
Officer

MOTION ON NOTICE:

Councillor Dr Donovan will move a motion and seek a seconder for the matter shown below to facilitate consideration by the Council:

'That Council:

1. Notes that globally, 65 million people are now forcibly displaced – including more than 22 million refugees, and wealthy countries like Australia need to create more opportunities for safe, legal and supported entry, and one evidence-based way to do this is through community-led sponsorship;
2. Recognises the significant success of the 'gold standard' community-led refugee sponsorship in Canada, in which tens of thousands of refugees have been successfully sponsored by the community, and through this community support have learned the new local language faster, found jobs faster and in greater numbers, and formed stronger bonds within their new communities than non-community supported refugees;
3. Supports an expansion and improvement to the Australian Government's version of this program, the Community Sponsorship Program; and
4. Requests that the Lord Mayor write to the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, calling on the federal government to improve and expand the Community Sponsorship Program to ensure the program:
 1. Does not take places from others in need
 2. Provides adequate support and services
 3. Limits the costs on sponsors
 4. Allows community, family and businesses to act as sponsors
 5. Creates more places for people in need of protection to settle in Australia.'

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT:

1. In August 2014, the City of Adelaide was declared a Refugee Welcome Zone, welcoming refugees and asylum seekers and acknowledging the difficult journey men, women and children make to Australia to seek our protection.
2. On 27 February 2018, the City of Adelaide became the first capital city in Australia to become a Welcoming City building on our status as a Refugee Welcome Zone to commit to welcoming all ethnically diverse communities.
3. These actions are consistent with Council's joint status as a Refugee Welcome Zone and as a Welcoming City.

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