

Our story, our future
 Queensland Multicultural Policy and Queensland Multicultural Action Plan 2016-17 – 2018-19
 ANNUAL REPORT
ELECTORAL COMMISSION QUEENSLAND

Background

- ‘Our story, our future’ is the Queensland Government’s multicultural policy promoting an inclusive, harmonious and united community for Queensland. The policy focuses Queensland Government action on three policy priorities for culturally diverse communities and Queensland as a whole – achieving culturally responsive government; supporting inclusive, harmonious and united communities; and improving economic opportunities.
- The policy is being implemented through a three year Queensland Multicultural Action Plan 2016-17 – 2018-19.
- The policy and action plan are a requirement of the *Multicultural Recognition Act 2016* (the Act) and represent one of three key provisions of the Act – together with establishing the Multicultural Queensland Charter and Multicultural Queensland Advisory Council.
- Section 24 of the Act requires entities with actions in the action plan to report publicly on an annual basis. The attached report fulfils this requirement for **Electoral Commission Queensland**.

Priority area 1: Culturally responsive government

Culturally capable services and programs	Raise awareness of voting and democratic processes within culturally diverse communities through a tailored democracy education program.	Agency: ECQ	Timeframe: 2016–19	Progress: On track	<p>ECQ has produced a <i>Multilingual Guide to Voting</i> for use at the next State general election. It aims to educate culturally diverse communities about the electoral process in Queensland while removing language barriers and allaying fears about voting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The guide is written in 27 of the most widely spoken languages in Queensland (based on 2016 Census results) • It includes a brief overview of elections and highlights that voting is a secret process which ensures no one can see how another person votes • It explains how to cast a valid ballot using the full preferential voting system • The guide will be available at all polling booths. It will also be distributed to peak community groups prior to the election to promote a more inclusive democracy.
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