



Victor Dominello MP

Minister for Citizenship and Communities
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 24 September 2012

COMMUNITY LEADERS PRAISED FOR UNITED VOICE

The Minister for Citizenship and Communities Victor Dominello has commended Sydney's Muslim communities for their unity and leadership over the past week.

In the wake of the public unrest, Mr Dominello called an urgent meeting with Muslim leaders to discuss the event. The meeting was attended by 20 Muslim community leaders.

"I echo the Premier in his support of the Muslim leaders in condemning the public unrest," Mr Dominello said.

"I also join the Premier in his recognition of the Muslim leaders' efforts in working in partnership with NSW Police and other government agencies which ensured good coordination, a joint call for calm and as a result no repeat of the unrest.

"I commend the Muslim leaders for forming a group which represented a united front. This is a positive outcome for the whole community.

"There was broad agreement at that meeting that there needs to be a community structure put in place that will allow better communication between community groups if a similar situation occurs again. There was also agreement that youth-related issues need to be addressed.

"The decision of the leaders to work quickly to come together at such a difficult time is testament to their resolve to help ensure the scenes witnessed in the CBD are not repeated.

"The message is clear. The community leaders and the NSW Government want to ensure that the deplorable actions of a few should not affect adversely the lives of the majority of Muslims in NSW.

"I have every confidence that this will lead to better outcomes in the future," he said.

The NSW Community Relations Commission will work closely with Muslim leaders on the objectives outlined at the meeting.

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